

# Chapter 17

## Reconstructing the State

### Chapter Preview

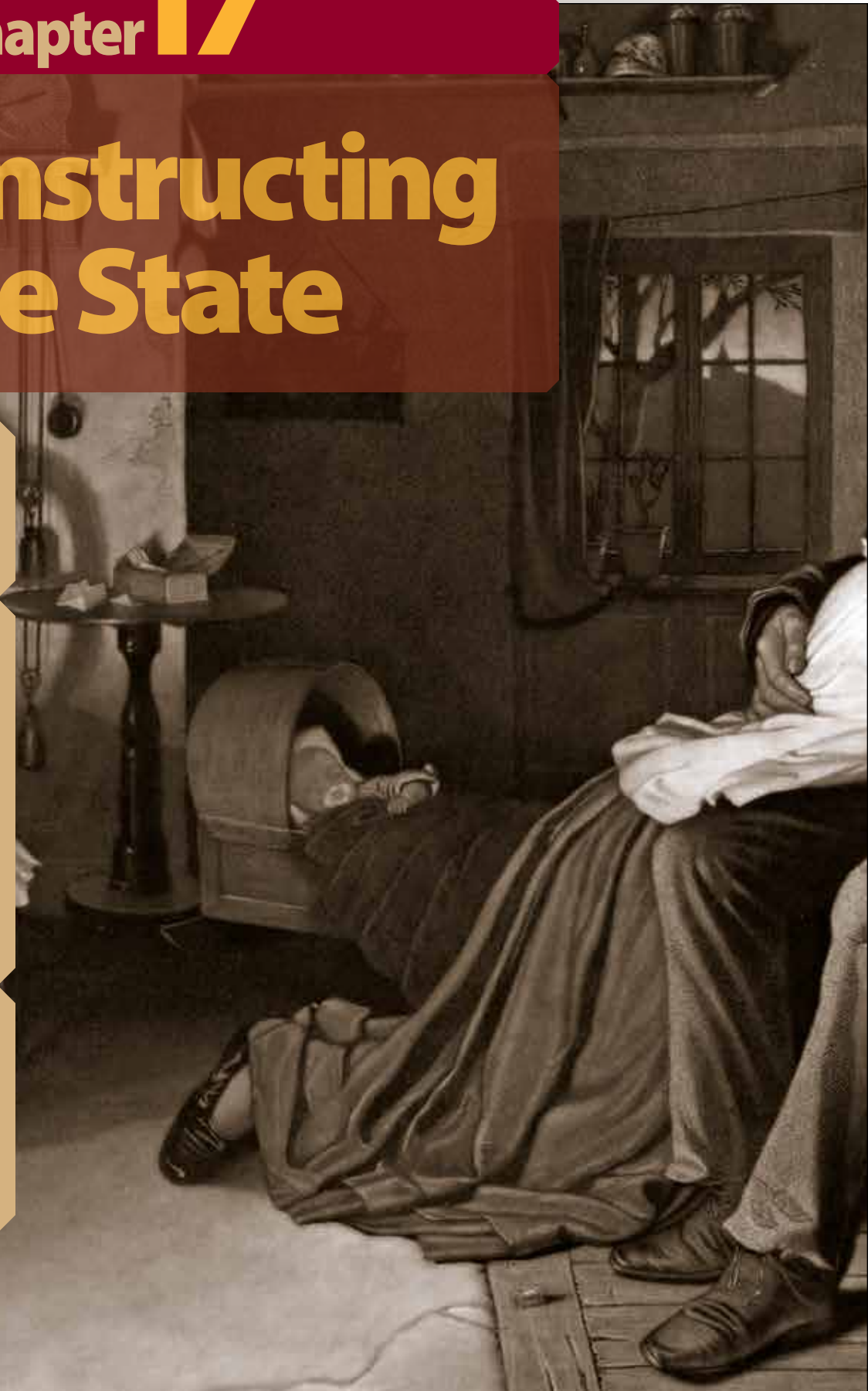
#### TERMS

Reconstruction, freedmen, Thirteenth Amendment, Black Codes, Fourteenth Amendment, carpetbagger, scalawag, Ku Klux Klan, Fifteenth Amendment, Redeemers, poll tax, discrimination, white supremacy, Freedmen's Bureau, tenant farming, sharecropping, crop lien, convict lease system, segregate

#### PEOPLE

Andrew Johnson, James Johnson, Charles Jones Jenkins, Herschel Johnson, Henry McNeal Turner, William Felton, Alfred Colquitt, Oliver O. Howard

**Right:** The end of the Civil War was a time for many tearful reunions on both sides of the conflict as soldiers returned to their homes.





**A**fter four long years of bloodshed, the U.S. Civil War ended in the late spring of 1865. The southern states were in chaos without stable governments. Crops and buildings lay in ruins in many areas. Soldiers struggled to get home, while anxious families waited. Many African Americans set out in search of family or work or simply to exercise their freedom.

Many questions faced the nation and the South. How would the two sections of the country be reunited? How would the South's economy be rebuilt, and how would southerners make their living? What would happen to the almost four million slaves who were now free, but who had no land and, in most cases, no education? How would the new southern society be structured? There were many different opinions on how these questions should be answered. For over a decade, different forces would try to control the direction of the South.

In 1865, the North and the South began the difficult work of bringing the southern states back into the Union. They also had to rebuild the southern states in all areas of life—politics, the economy, and the society. The North's involvement in these efforts lasted only a few years. By 1877, northerners and the national government were focused on other issues. The South was left to its own solutions. In this chapter, we will explore the developments in politics, the economy, and the society and culture as Georgia and the rest of the South recovered and rebuilt following the Civil War. This period of **Reconstruction** from 1865 to 1877 set Georgia on the path it would follow for many decades.

# Section 1

## Political Reconstruction

### As you read, look for

- the presidential plans for Reconstruction,
- the impact of the Black Codes,
- the actions taken by the state to rejoin the Union,
- the Reconstruction amendments,
- the end of Reconstruction,
- terms: freedmen, Thirteenth Amendment, Black Codes, Fourteenth Amendment, carpetbagger, scalawag, Ku Klux Klan, Fifteenth Amendment, Redeemer, poll tax, discrimination.

**Figure 33**  
**Timeline:**  
**1865 to 1877**



**1867**  
Georgia put under military rule; constitutional convention

**1865**  
Charles Jones Jenkins elected governor

**1868**  
New constitution adopted; State ratified 14th Amendment; Georgia readmitted to Union

**1869**  
State returned to military rule

**1870**  
Georgia ratified 15th Amendment and readmitted to Union

**1871**  
James Smith elected governor

**1876**  
Alfred Colquitt elected governor

**1877**  
New constitution written

1865

1870

1875

1880

**1866**  
Congress passed 14th Amendment

**1865**

President Lincoln assassinated; Andrew Johnson became president; Freedmen's Bureau founded

**1868**  
President Andrew Johnson impeached but acquitted by one vote

**1870**  
First national weather bureau established

**1872**  
Yellowstone Park, world's first national park, created

**1875**  
Aristides won first Kentucky Derby

**1877**  
First Flag Day held



**One of the major issues at the end of the war** was how the Union and the former Confederacy would be recombined. The South had considered itself a separate nation during the war. If that logic was followed, then it was a conquered nation at the end of the war and could have been considered “territory.” However, the United States government had not considered secession to be legal, so it did not look at the South as a conquered nation but an area that had been in rebellion. At the end of the war, it no longer was. Getting the former rebel states reunited with the northern states and constructing loyal governments in those states was the task facing the national government.

The return of Georgia to the Union is a confusing story because two sides were trying to gain power. One side wanted Georgia after the war to be as much like Georgia before the war as possible. The other side wanted Georgia to go in a new direction. For several years, power went back and forth between them. Finally, those wanting less change gained power for good.

## Presidential Reconstruction

Before the Civil War ended, President Abraham Lincoln had begun preparing for the South to return to its “proper relationship” with the rest of the country. As he said in his second inaugural address in March 1865, he wanted Americans to “bind up the nation’s wounds.”

Lincoln believed that this process, called Reconstruction, should be directed by the president. His goal was a quick and easy reunion. He was willing to pardon almost any rebel southerner who renounced secession

**Above:** During his second inaugural address, on March 4, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln expressed his desire that the nation could reunite “with malice toward none.”



## Figure 34 The Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

**Section 1.** Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

### Something Extra!

President Andrew Johnson did not object to the Black Codes of Georgia or any other southern state.

and accepted the end of slavery. Under Lincoln's Reconstruction plan, after 10 percent of the voters in a former Confederate state had taken an oath of loyalty to the United States, the state could begin to form a new government. Many northern leaders thought that Lincoln's "Ten Percent" plan made it too easy for ex-Confederates to return and that it did not call for any guarantees for rights for the **freedmen** (the newly freed slaves).

In July 1864, the U.S. Congress offered a plan that required more. At least 50 percent of the former Confederates in each state would have to take the loyalty oath, and each new state constitution would have to be written by those who had not participated in the rebellion. Congress's plan also contained guarantees of rights for African Americans. Lincoln did not sign the Wade-Davis Bill, which outlined Congress's plan, so it did not become law. Lincoln continued to conduct Reconstruction in his own way, but he never had the chance to see it through. On April 14, 1865, southerner John Wilkes Booth entered the Ford Theatre in Washington, D.C., where President and Mrs. Lincoln were watching a play, and shot the president. Lincoln died a few hours later.

Vice President Andrew Johnson became the president. He had been an interesting choice as Lincoln's vice presidential running mate in the 1864 election. He was a Democrat, while Lincoln had been a Republican. He was also from the South, a Tennessean, who had opposed secession and the war, which he blamed on the planter class of the South.

Like Lincoln, Johnson also wanted a quick and easy Reconstruction for the South. Since Congress had adjourned in March 1865 and would not meet again until December, Johnson believed he had several months to carry out his own Reconstruction plan. That plan included renouncing both secession and the debts owed by the Confederate government and ratifying the **Thirteenth Amendment** to the U.S. Constitution. That amendment made it unconstitutional for anyone to be held in "involuntary servitude," which was another way of saying "slavery." Although Johnson disliked southern planters, he pardoned most of those who applied and returned to them lands that had been taken away in the war.

In June 1865, President Johnson appointed Columbus attorney and Unionist James Johnson as provisional governor. That October, white male

voters elected delegates to a state constitutional convention. Many of those elected to the 1865 convention had initially opposed secession. The delegates passed the president's requirements, although some did not like having to do it. For example, they repealed the ordinance of secession but refused to say that they did not have the right to secede. These delegates also wrote a new constitution. It outlined citizens' rights in Article 1 and, in following articles, established the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government and outlined their powers. Article V held "miscellaneous" provisions. One provision listed the laws in force in Georgia as those of the Constitution of the United States, the laws and treaties of the United States government (unless they violated the U.S. Constitution), the national laws, or the Constitution of 1865 that they were writing. There were some restrictive provisions. One said a requirement for voting was to be a free white male. Another said that no one could hold office unless he was eligible to vote. A third provision made the marriage of a white person to a "person of African descent" illegal.

That November, voters chose Charles Jones Jenkins of Richmond County as governor and elected a new General Assembly. This legislature, after some debate, ratified the Thirteenth Amendment. Many white Georgians, like other white southerners, thought that the status of the freedmen would be similar to the status of free blacks before the war. The new state constitution said that the General Assembly had "to provide by law for the government of free persons of color." As a result, the legislature passed **Black Codes**, laws that applied specifically to the freedmen. Georgia's Black Codes were milder than those in other southern states, but they still denied freedmen the right to serve on juries, testify against whites, or marry a white person. Nor were black men allowed to vote.

In special elections in the fall of 1865, white southerners, who considered themselves "reconstructed" under Johnson's plan, elected representatives to the U.S. House. Their state legislatures chose senators. Many of those chosen were ex-Confederate military officers or former members of the Confederate government. Georgia was no different. It chose as its two senators Alexander Stephens (former vice president of the Confederacy) and Herschel Johnson (a former Confederate senator).

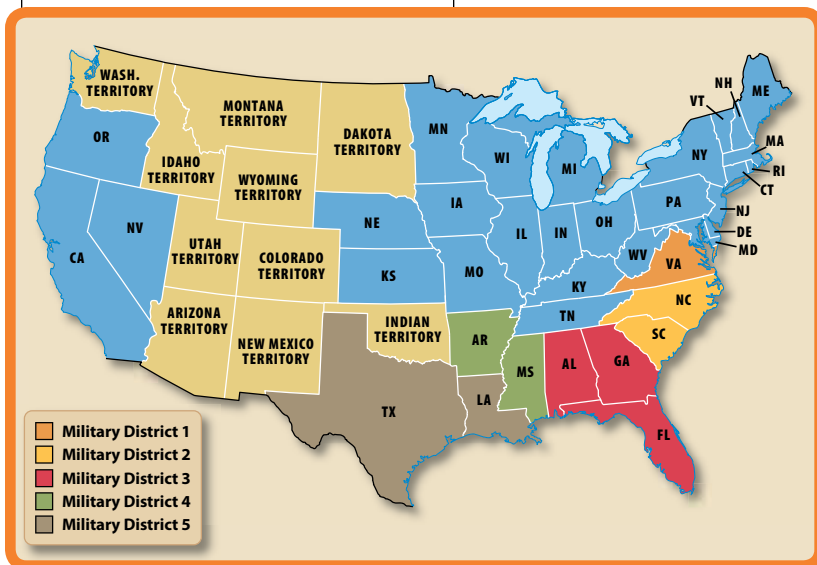
Many northerners, including those in the national government, saw the election results and the South's passage of Black Codes as insults to the many Union soldiers who had fought and died in the Civil War. They believed that



**Top: President Andrew Johnson (opposite page, above) appointed James Johnson provisional governor. Above: In 1865, former vice presidential candidate Herschel Johnson was chosen as one of Georgia's two senators.**

## Figure 35 The Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

**Section 1.** All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.



### Map 35 Military Reconstruction Districts

**Map Skill:** To which district did Georgia belong?

white southerners were trying to re-create a system close to slavery with the Black Codes. Northern senators and congressmen also believed that men who only months before were leading the war against the Union should not become representatives in the U.S. government so quickly.

### Congressional Reconstruction

The Republican-controlled U.S. Congress sent the southerners home and began a takeover of the Reconstruction process. Overriding Johnson's veto, Congress passed a Civil Rights Act in 1866, guaranteeing rights to the freedmen. That summer, Congress passed the **Fourteenth Amendment** to the Constitution, making anyone born or naturalized in the United States a citizen of the country with certain citizenship guarantees. The amendment prevented any person who had taken an oath as a federal or state official and then "engaged in . . . rebellion" from holding high office in the U.S. government. States were also forbidden from repaying the Confederacy's debts or compensating owners for freed slaves.

These actions began a fight between President Johnson and the Republicans in Congress for control of Reconstruction. The elections for the U.S. House in the fall of 1866, in which the ex-Confederate states did not participate, showed that the public supported Congressional Reconstruction. Southern whites remained defiant, however, and all of the former Confederate states except Tennessee rejected the Fourteenth Amendment. Tennessee alone was readmitted to the Union.

In March 1867, the other former Confederate states, including Georgia, were divided into five military districts, each of which was occupied by U.S. troops. General John Pope was appointed as the first military commander of the district that included Georgia. The U.S. military commanders of the districts oversaw voter registration in each state, including registration of the male freedmen. (Women were still not allowed to vote.) In April 1867, over 100,000 whites and almost 100,000 African Americans registered to vote. Eligible voters then chose representatives to state conventions to write new state constitutions that guaranteed all men the right to vote. The voters

in the states then had to ratify (approve) the new state constitutions and the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

## The Constitutional Convention of 1867

Governor Charles J. Jenkins had been elected in November 1865 after having taken part in the convention that drafted the 1865 constitution. He had worked hard in his two years as governor to get Georgia's finances in order. In 1867, the governor went to Washington, D.C. to ask the Supreme Court to stop military Reconstruction. He was unsuccessful. Back in Georgia, many conservative white politicians urged voters to vote "no" on whether to have another constitutional convention.

Many conservative whites boycotted the vote for the constitutional convention. For African American males, this was the first time they were able to vote. They and some Republican whites supported it. Voters agreed to the convention by a vote of over 100,000 for and a little over 4,000 against. Of the 169 delegates elected, 37 were African Americans. Most of the convention delegates were members of the new Republican Party of Georgia. This party's members included African Americans, northerners who had come to the South, and some southern whites. Conservative whites had nicknames for those last two groups: the northerners were called **carpetbaggers**, and the southern whites who became Republicans were known as **scalawags**. Both names were meant to be negative.

General George Meade became the military commander in Georgia in January 1868. When he said the state had to pay the \$40,000 cost for the convention, Governor Jenkins refused. Meade removed him from office. Jenkins then left the state, taking with him both the seal of the governor's office and his official documents. The state treasurer took \$400,000 of the state's money to a bank in New York. Jenkins went overseas, where he stayed until 1870.

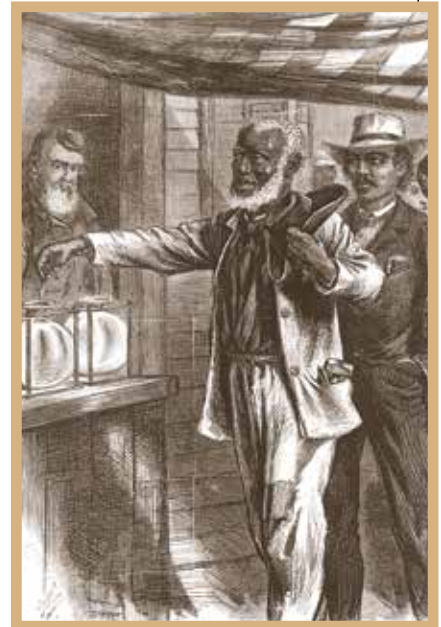
Meanwhile, the new state constitution the delegates wrote was a progressive one. One of the most important features was the requirement that the Georgia legislature establish a system of free public schools for all of Georgia's children, black and white. This constitution of 1868 also guaranteed African American men the right to vote and allowed married women to control their own property.

### Something Extra!

Northern whites were called "carpetbaggers" because they often arrived with all their belongings in a bag made of carpet material.

### African American Legislators

Georgia's voters approved the new constitution and elected African Americans to both houses of the General Assembly. One of the African American men elected was Henry McNeal Turner, a minister at the African Methodist Episcopal



**Top:** General John Pope was the first military commander of Military District 3, which included Georgia, Alabama, and Florida. **Above:** African Americans in Georgia were able to vote for the first time on the question of a constitutional convention. Because most whites boycotted the election, it passed overwhelmingly.





**Above:** African Methodist Episcopal minister Henry McNeal Turner, having served at the 1867 constitutional convention, was elected to the state legislature in 1868, but denied his seat by the white majority.

## Something Extra!

Turner Theological Seminary in Atlanta is named in honor of Henry McNeal Turner.

Church in Macon. Born in South Carolina as a free person, Turner felt called to the ministry. During the war, he became the first African American chaplain in the U.S. Army. After the war, he, along with many African Americans, had joined the African Methodist Episcopal Church. This northern denomination helped establish Methodist churches for African Americans in the South. Turner came to Georgia after the war and was active in politics, serving as a delegate to the 1867 constitutional convention and later in the legislature.

One of the first acts of the new legislature was to ratify the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in July 1868. With this requirement met, Congress allowed Georgia back into the Union. The state's elected senators and representatives, however, had to wait until the next Congress met to take their seats.

Thinking they were safely back in the Union, the Democrats in the Georgia legislature, with the cooperation of about thirty white Republicans, removed the African American legislators from both houses of the General Assembly. They claimed that having the right to vote did not mean that African Americans had the right to hold office. Black leaders were

horrified. They felt betrayed by the Republicans, whom they had trusted. Henry M. Turner spoke before leaving the House: "No man has ever been more deceived than I have been . . . the treachery . . . has shaken my confidence more than anything that has come under my observation from the day of my birth." Turner called for a meeting of the expelled legislators in Macon. They founded the Civil and Political Rights Association and turned to the national government for help. Tunis Campbell and others traveled to Washington, D.C., to plead their cases with U.S. senators and congressmen.

### The Ku Klux Klan

Meanwhile, the summer of 1868 and the year 1869 were periods of violence. With the beginning of military Reconstruction, a terrorist organization known as the **Ku Klux Klan** (KKK) came to Georgia. Founded by former Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest in Tennessee in 1866, the Klan became an organization that tried to frighten those it considered enemies—carpetbaggers, scalawags, and African Americans. By the summer of 1868, the KKK had spread throughout Georgia, especially in the rural areas. The Klan worked mainly at the local level, where local leaders picked their targets and planned their violent acts. Ku Kluxers, as they were sometimes called, used intimidation and outright violence to try to defeat the Republican Party, maintain white control, and control African Americans both in their work and their personal lives. Between the spring election of 1868 and the

presidential election that fall, the KKK was very active, and many African Americans and white Republicans became too frightened to vote. African Americans who ran for public office were in constant danger.

Political participation was not the only activity that might draw the anger of the Klan. African Americans who did well economically or whites who helped them might be beaten. Blacks who did not move over on the sidewalk for whites to pass or who wore clothing considered too “fancy” often found themselves targeted. Any behavior that whites saw as “uppity” could result in a visit from the Ku Kluxers. The Klan saw itself as keeping African Americans “in their place.”

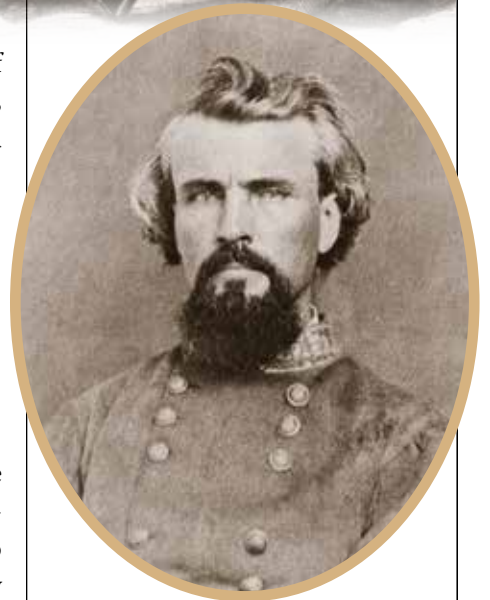
The fall 1868 election was characterized by violence, including a terrible incident in September 1868 that became known as the “Camilla Riot.” A group of blacks marched from Albany to Camilla to join a Republican rally. They were fired upon by whites in the Camilla town square and then chased down as they tried to return to Albany. Several African Americans died, and many were injured.

### Military Reconstruction Again

The U.S. House of Representatives responded to the actions of the Georgia legislature by removing Georgia’s representatives in March. The Senate did not even allow Georgia’s senators to take their seats. In December 1869, after months of Klan violence and upon the recommendation of Governor Rufus Bullock, who had been elected governor in 1868, the U.S. government reestablished military rule in Georgia while Georgia underwent further Reconstruction. Georgia was the only state that had to be readmitted twice.

After being placed back under Military Reconstruction, Georgia joined the three southern states that had not yet been readmitted. Georgia and these states were now pressured to ratify the **Fifteenth Amendment**. That amendment guaranteed that no one could be denied the right to vote because of race or color. This is sometimes called the “voting rights amendment.”

The writers of the Fourteenth Amendment had tried to encourage the southern states to allow African American voting. That amendment provided that any group of adult males who were left out of voting were not to be counted as part of the state’s population when determining how many representatives that state would have in the U.S. House. Because three-fifths of the slaves had been counted in the population before the Civil War, not allowing African American men to vote now would mean fewer representatives. That provision, however, had not ensured voting rights for African Americans. The Fifteenth Amendment did. In fact, when ratified by the states, this amendment opened voting to African Americans not only in the South, but also in the northern states that had not previously allowed them



**Founded by Nathan Bedford Forrest** (above) the most feared cavalry officer in the Confederate army, the Ku Klux Klan used unusual costumes (top) and violence to intimidate African Americans and white Republicans.



1 Resolving Emancipation Proclamation 2 Life Liberty and Independence 3 Unite the Brethren of Fellowship 4 Our Charter of Rights the Holy Scriptures 5 Education will give the Equality the Deaf 6 Liberty Phrases the Mortgage Act 7 Celebration of Liberty Amendment May 20 1870 8 The Bible Book is open to all 9 Our representative sits in the National Legislature 10 No bill ever on a Florida 11 The Right of Citizens of the U.S. never shall not be denied or abridged by the U.S. or any State on account of race color or previous condition of servitude 12 Freedom within the Family Circle 13 We will protect our Country and defend our Rights 14 Our Gift of Godliness of heretics is the Amendment

## Figure 36 The Fifteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

**Section 1.** The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.

**Above:** This lithograph celebrates the passage of the Fifteenth Amendment, giving African American men the right to vote. **Opposite page, above:** Jefferson Franklin Long was the first African American congressman to give a speech on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. **Opposite page, below:** James Smith was elected governor in 1871, replacing Rufus Bullock.

from the General Assembly in 1868. He then removed twenty-nine whites who were not eligible to hold office under the military Reconstruction Act because they had fought against the Union. With the ex-Confederates removed, the majority of this new legislature favored the Fifteenth Amendment and ratified it. Congress then readmitted Georgia to the Union for a second time in July 1870.

Among the congressmen chosen for the December-March session of the U. S. Congress was African American Jefferson Franklin Long of Macon. Although a slave before the Civil War, Long was a tailor whose owner had allowed him to operate his own shop. As a free person at the end of

to vote. Because the amendment did not say that voting could not be denied based on sex, however, women of all races still did not get the right to vote. This was a disappointment to those who had worked hard to see women included.

In January 1870, the new military commander of Georgia, General Alfred H. Terry, restored the seats of the African Americans who had been removed

the war, he did well economically, became an active member of the Republican Party, and traveled throughout the state urging African Americans to register to vote. Long became the first African American to make a speech on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives when he urged the House to reject a bill that would change the oath required of ex-Confederates. Long did not think it should be easier for these men to hold political office.

Another election marred by violence took place in December 1870. Democrats won a majority of both houses of the General Assembly, although their terms did not begin until Fall 1871. Governor Bullock asked the U.S. government to place Georgia under military rule once again, but this time he was unsuccessful. Accused of corruption by his opponents who were returning to power, Governor Bullock left the state in 1871. Democrat James Smith was elected in a special December 1871 gubernatorial election.



## Redeemers and Independents

In 1872, with a Democrat elected as governor and Democratic majorities in both houses of the General Assembly, Georgia was back in the control of conservative white southerners. They believed they had “redeemed” or “saved” the state from the North’s Reconstruction policies. These Democrats became known as the **Redeemers**. With Redeemers in control, political gains that African Americans had made began to disappear. In 1872, only four African Americans were elected to the General Assembly, compared to thirty-two in 1868. Governor Smith and other Democratic leaders set about reversing some of the changes made during Reconstruction. Also in 1872, former Governor Jenkins, who had come back to Georgia in 1870, returned the items he had fled with in 1868. He trusted them to the government controlled by Redeemers.

Some Democrats split from the party and became Independents. In 1874, the voters of the Seventh District, located in north Georgia, elected Independent Dr. William Felton to the U.S. House of Representatives. Many in that northern area, which had more yeoman farmers than planters, had been antisecession. They reelected Felton as an Independent in 1876. So the Independent movement had some success for a short time.

## The End of Reconstruction

In 1876, the Republicans hoped that they might have a better chance in the election. Their nominee for governor was Jonathan Norcross, who had been mayor of Atlanta before the Civil War. However, Norcross lost to Democrat Alfred Colquitt by almost 70,000 votes. The Republican Party was losing influence in Georgia politics. As we will see in the next chapter, many Republicans began to support the Independents in the 1880s because they had so little power of their own.

In 1877, some Georgians wanted a new constitution. Even though the last constitution had been written only a few years before, many ex-Confederates



### Something Extra!

From the election of James Smith in 1871 through 2002, Georgia’s governors were Democrats. It was not until 2003 that a Republican was elected to the governor’s office.



**Above:** Robert Toombs was a leader of the 1877 constitutional convention. A wealthy planter, he had been one of Georgia's most powerful politicians since the 1830s, serving as a U.S. senator and later as the first secretary of state for the Confederacy. After the end of the war, he escaped to Europe, returning in 1867. Because he refused to request a pardon from Congress, he never regained his American citizenship, remaining "unreconstructed" until his death.

saw it as the work of Republicans. In June 1877, Georgians voted for a new constitutional convention by a small margin. Robert Toombs and Charles Jones Jenkins led the convention that kept some of the aspects of the constitution of 1868, but also made some significant changes. The new constitution set up a weaker state government and increased the power of the rural areas of Georgia. Representation in the Georgia House was divided so that the top six counties in population had three representatives each, the next twenty-six counties had two each, and the remaining 105 had one. With this division, the rural counties could always outvote the urban counties. The judicial and executive branches became weaker, while more power went to the legislature. The governor lost the power to appoint judges; that power went to the General Assembly. The governor's term was reduced from four years to two. Six-year terms were established for the justices of the Georgia Supreme Court. The constitution also established a **poll tax**, which had to be paid in order for a citizen to vote. That made it difficult for poorer people to vote, affecting both poor whites and most African Americans.

The year that Georgia completed its new constitution is the year that Reconstruction officially ended. In the early 1870s, the Republicans of the North had hoped to stop the violence of the KKK by passing the Ku Klux Klan Act. They also tried to stop discrimination in public places by making it illegal in the 1875 Civil Rights Act. (**Discrimination** is the unfair treatment of a person or a group because of prejudice.) But enforcement of those two laws was not possible in states where the Redeemers controlled law enforcement and the judicial system. The North was losing its will to change the South.

On the national level, the results of the 1876 presidential election were disputed when the electoral votes in several states were challenged. The U.S. House of Representatives established an Electoral Commission to determine the outcome. An agreement known as the Compromise of 1877 settled the election. Republican Rutherford B. Hayes became president by agreeing to remove the remaining U.S. troops in the South, thus ending Reconstruction. The South once again controlled its own politics.

### Reviewing the Section

1. Define: freedmen, Black Codes, carpetbagger, scalawag.
2. How did President Johnson's plan for Reconstruction differ from Lincoln's plan?
3. Why do you think the majority of southern states refused to ratify the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution?
4. If you had been a freedman in this period, would you have gone to the polls to vote? Why or why not?

# Georgia Portraits

## Tunis Campbell

**Born in 1812 in New Jersey as a free black, Tunis Campbell was educated in the North, became an African Methodist Episcopal minister, and earned his living in hotels in New York and Boston. He even wrote a handbook for hotel workers. He also became an abolitionist.**

In 1863, U.S. Secretary of War Edwin Stanton sent Campbell to work among the slaves in coastal South Carolina.

Freed slaves there had begun to settle on islands that whites had abandoned during the war. When Congress established the Freedmen's Bureau in 1865, Campbell moved to Georgia as an agent to oversee five Georgia sea islands. Under Campbell's leadership, the African American community on St. Catherines Island formed its own democratic government. The residents cultivated the farmland, began their own schools, and established a militia for protection. Campbell's wife and sons came from the North to teach, and Campbell put his own money into helping fund the schools on the islands.

After the war, when those lands were returned to the original owners, Campbell arranged for the purchase of a 1,250-acre plantation in McIntosh County from a sympathetic northerner. He divided the land into parcels and established a black landowners' association.

When the Republicans came into power in 1867, Campbell became active in state Republican politics, the beginning of a remarkable and controversial political career in Reconstruction Georgia. He registered African Americans to vote, became a justice of the peace, and served as a delegate to the convention that wrote the Constitution of 1868. With the



new government in place, his district elected him to the Georgia Senate.

When the white conservatives removed black members from the Georgia Assembly, Campbell protested that the removal was "illegal, unconstitutional, unjust, and oppressive. . . ." Campbell and his son, who had been removed from the Georgia House, traveled to Washington, D.C. to protest

the action. In January 1870, under U.S. supervision, Campbell and the other African American legislators resumed their seats. He introduced fifteen bills to try to guarantee African American rights and equality.

In Darien, Campbell used his position as justice of the peace to protect African Americans, even having whites arrested if they abused blacks. In his area, the African Americans were well organized both to participate in politics and to protect themselves and Campbell from white threats. Afraid that physical harm to Campbell would result in an uprising, whites resorted to other methods to get rid of him. According to historian Russell Duncan, these included "frauds . . . jury-tampering, and unrelenting persecution by a racist judge." In January 1876, the sixty-three-year-old Campbell ended up in the convict lease system. His supposed offense was false imprisonment of a white man.

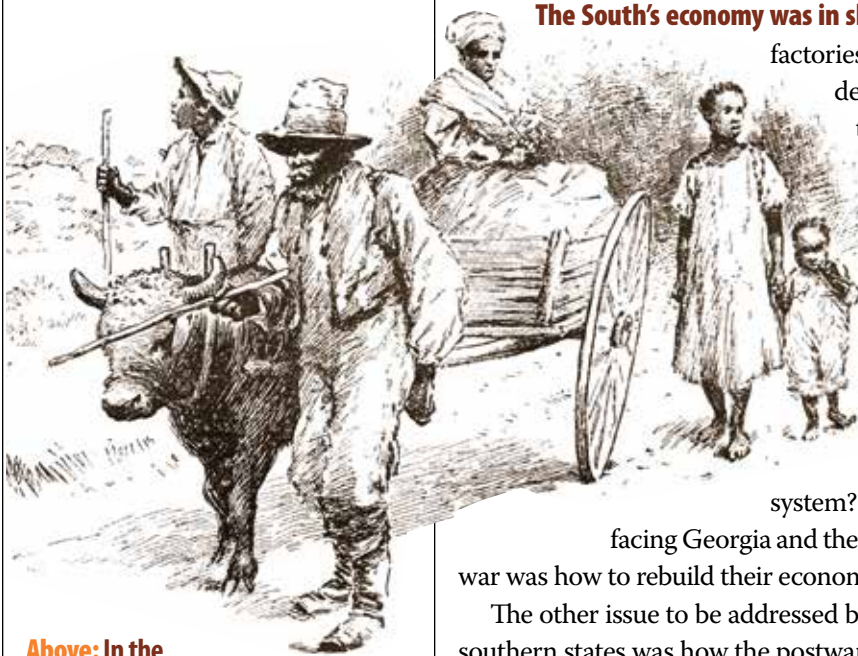
When he was released a year later, Campbell moved to Washington, D.C. Without Campbell's leadership in McIntosh County, planter whites regained control. The African American community, however, remained united and continued to elect a black representative for many years.

## Section 2

# Economic and Social Reconstruction

### As you read, look for

- the purpose of the Freedmen's Bureau,
- the development of the tenant farming and sharecropping systems,
- the steps taken to rebuild Georgia's economy,
- Reconstruction's effect on Georgia's culture,
- terms: **white supremacy**, **Freedmen's Bureau**, **tenant farming**, **sharecropping**, **crop lien**, **convict lease system**, **segregate**.



**Above:** In the aftermath of the Civil War, families of former slaves could sometimes be found traveling around the countryside, exercising their freedom but uncertain about the future.

**The South's economy was in shambles** at the end of the war. Many factories and businesses had been damaged or destroyed. As a result of many years of the Union blockade of southern ports, trade had been totally disrupted. Many men had died in the war, leaving widows and children to support themselves. With the end of slavery came the end of the plantation system as it had operated before the war. The slaves had their freedom but needed to earn their living. What would replace the plantation system? One of the most important problems facing Georgia and the other southern states at the end of the war was how to rebuild their economies.

The other issue to be addressed by the people of Georgia and the other southern states was how the postwar society would be structured. African Americans and some northern reformers hoped to create a society where there was equality for all. Most white southerners and many white northerners, however, did not believe that blacks and whites were equal. Most white southerners hoped to maintain **white supremacy** (white control of government and society based on the belief that the white race is superior to any



other race). They differed over how many rights to allow African Americans. Over the next decade, patterns of life emerged that determined Georgia's economic path and social structure for several generations.

## The Freedmen's Bureau

One of the most important actions taken by the federal government during Reconstruction was the establishment of the **Freedmen's Bureau**. Founded in March 1865, the Bureau was led by Oliver O. Howard (for whom Howard University in Washington, D.C., was named). Officially named the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, this agency provided help to the ex-slaves as they adjusted to their freedom and to the responsibility of providing all the necessities of life for themselves. The Bureau also provided assistance to poor whites who were struggling after the war. Both received the rations the Bureau made available.

As the economy developed in the postwar period, the Bureau was there to try to help protect the freedmen and poor whites from employers who tried to take advantage of them. For example, the agency set rules for written contracts and wage scales. The Bureau also coordinated efforts to provide hospitals for African Americans. One of the most significant areas of the Bureau's work was in education. Working with northern churches, missionary societies, and other aid groups, the Bureau helped bring literacy and education to those who had been legally denied those benefits before the Civil War. The Bureau funded the buildings, sometimes through purchase and other times through construction, while the northern groups usually sent and paid the teachers. Georgia had dozens of Freedmen's Bureau schools.

**Above: Many teachers and missionaries came from the North to help set up and staff Freedmen's Bureau schools to teach the former slaves to read and write, something that had been forbidden to them before.**

## Something Extra!

**General Oliver O. Howard fought at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, took part in the Atlanta Campaign, and led one wing of Sherman's army on his March to the Sea.**





**Above:** The George Clark house, on display at the Agrirama in Tifton, is an example of an 1870s subsistence farmer's house in the wiregrass region. Subsistence farming means being able to produce only enough to feed your family, with little or nothing left over to sell at market.

## Agriculture

When soldiers returned home as the war came to an end in the spring of 1865, many Georgians worked to get crops planted and harvested. They went back to planting the crops they knew: corn for food and cotton for cash. The harvest for that year was far less than normal. The state produced less than 10 percent of the cotton it had produced in 1860 and far less corn and wheat as well. Cotton production did rise over the next few years, but cotton prices did not reach their pre-Civil War levels. Nevertheless, cotton continued to be “king” in Georgia’s Black Belt or Cotton Belt, that rich band of soil through the state that was good for growing cotton. Rice production had peaked right before the Civil War. Production dropped after the war and continued to drop in the late 1800s as rice grown in Asia took a larger share of the market.

In the first year or two after the war, many freedmen had migrated to the towns, and larger planters did not have enough workers. African Americans along the coast did not want to continue to work in the swampy rice-growing area. And throughout Georgia, many freedmen believed rumors that they would receive land of their own. This “forty acres and a mule” idea came from an order General Sherman issued in January 1865 saying that freed slaves could receive title to abandoned lands along the coast. But in the fall of 1865, President Johnson had overruled Sherman. The idea of taking away the property of those who had fought for the Confederacy was rejected, and “forty acres and a mule” never became a reality.

Plantation owners still had their land, but they needed workers. Most freedmen, on the other hand, had no land but knew how to grow the crops. The two groups needed each other. The most obvious way to bring workers to the land was for landowners to pay wages. The Freedmen's Bureau set standards for wages. Wages, however, varied. In the northern and middle parts of Georgia, landowners were supposed to pay male workers around \$12 per month and females about two-thirds of that. Along the coast, rates were a little higher.

Some landowners had little cash after the war, especially if they had invested heavily in the Confederacy. Confederate money was no longer legal money, and, under the rules of Reconstruction, the debts the Confederacy owed were not to be paid back. If the crop was not good in a year, the landowner probably did not make a profit (the amount left over after costs are subtracted from the sale price). Another problem with wage labor was that the freedmen found that working in the fields for wages was somewhat like the gang system under slavery. Everyone worked in a group with strict supervision. Many freedmen wanted to work more independently, even if it also meant more economic risk if the crop was bad.

As a result, another system began to emerge called **tenant farming**. (A *tenant* is someone who rents land or living space from an owner.) Under this system, the tenants usually owned some agricultural equipment and farm animals, such as mules. They might also buy their own seed and fertilizer. Sometimes, the tenant paid a fixed amount of rent for the use of the owner's land. Because most tenants had no cash, this was not the most common arrangement.

Some tenants paid the landowner a share of the crop. This system was known as **sharecropping**. If the tenant had the animals, tools, and supplies needed until the crop came in, the tenant paid the landowner a smaller share of the crop, one-fourth to one-third. Most freedmen and many poor whites did not have much except their own labor. The landowner provided the land, a place to live, mules, tools, seed, and fertilizer. In return, the landowner's share of the crop was larger, usually one-half.

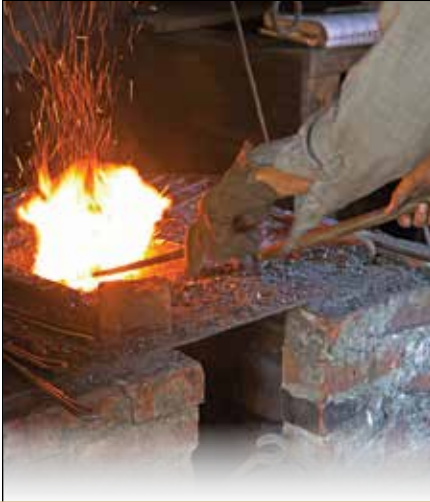
Most tenant farmers and sharecroppers had to buy what they needed for the upcoming year—such as seed, clothing, and even food—on credit. Sometimes landowners had their own stores from which the tenants had to buy. Sometimes merchants in town sold to the tenants. In either case, the landowner or merchant had to be paid the amount owed, plus interest, before the tenant saw any money from the sale of the crop. If the tenant did not make enough money to pay back the entire debt, the unpaid amount was added to next year's loan. Many tenants, including sharecroppers, found themselves in debt year after year. If the weather or other factors resulted in a poor harvest, the sharecropper went even further into debt. There were many problems with this system, known as **crop lien**.



**Above: African American sharecroppers earned their livings from their labor, as they had as slaves. They still depended on the white landowner for tools and supplies. This system prevailed until well into the twentieth century, coming to an end around the time of World War II.**

## Something Extra!

In 1880, 32 percent of all the farms in Georgia were worked by sharecroppers. In 1910, the percentage rose to 37 percent.



The life of a tenant farmer or sharecropper was difficult. Sharecropper cabins were often shacks, including some that were former slave cabins. The landowner determined the crop that was grown. In the areas where sharecropping was highest, that crop was cotton. One advantage of cotton was that it would not spoil before it could be sold. Because landowners wanted the most profit they could make, some did not even allow tenants to use any of the land for their own vegetable gardens. Many tenants became malnourished. In spite of the disadvantages of sharecropping, there seemed to be little alternative during the Reconstruction period. Landowners often had little money to pay and both landowners and sharecroppers needed to make a living. Their major resource was the land, so sharecropping provided a way for both to benefit from it.

## Commerce, Industry, and Transportation

In Georgia's towns, merchants and artisans continued to operate their businesses during Reconstruction. Blacksmiths, carpenters, bakers, and other entrepreneurs supported themselves. Many African American artisans who had practiced their crafts on the plantations now moved to the towns and set up shops. African American women found work as seamstresses and laundresses. Former men and women house slaves worked as paid butlers, cooks, housekeepers,



**Top:** Blacksmiths and other artisans continued to ply their trades after the war. You can see this blacksmith at work at the Agrirama. **Above:** Many former African American house servants continued to do the same jobs after the war, often for the same families.

gardeners, and coachmen, some with their former masters; others moved on to find positions with new employers.

Because Georgians had done without goods for a long time, many needed or wanted the merchandise that began to appear on store shelves at the end of the war. Some of the northerners who came to Georgia and other southern states during Reconstruction brought goods and opened stores. Other merchants were native southerners who often got goods on credit from northern suppliers. This trade helped towns begin to recover from the war.

Georgia's industry began to recover as well. Some of the manufacturers that had produced military supplies closed. For example, the Confederate Powder Works in Augusta shut down; it was eventually torn down, except for its tall chimney. Flour mills, sawmills, and other factories that produced goods needed in peacetime continued or resumed operating. Cotton mills had been the major industry before the war and remained so after the war. Manufacturing, however, required more money than retail stores. With the shortage of money in the South, investment money often had to come from the North. Although some expansion began in the Reconstruction period, the real growth came after Reconstruction in the 1880s.



Whether the products were agricultural or industrial, they had to get to market. Before the Civil War, Georgia had almost 1,500 miles of railroad lines to carry those goods. After the war, hundreds of miles of track had to be rebuilt or repaired. Needing money to do this, the railroads got help from the government of Georgia when the state backed the bonds of the private railroad companies. By 1872, when the Redeemers came to power and stopped state help, the railroads had been repaired, and over seven hundred additional miles of track had been laid.

In 1866, during Presidential Reconstruction, Georgia had passed a law to help the state save money. Instead of keeping those convicted of crimes in prison, the state leased (rented) them out to private companies, including the railroad companies. The leasing company had to pay all the expenses for housing, feeding, and guarding the prisoners. In return, the prisoners did the work the company needed. Over time, this **convict lease system** became very brutal. The companies, which were in business to make a profit, spent very little money providing food, clothing, and shelter for the convicts. In spite of its problems, however, this system stayed in place for several decades.

Georgia's state-owned Western and Atlantic Railroad, which ran from Atlanta to Chattanooga, was heavily damaged in the war. Its rebuilding, however, was marked by corruption. In 1870, the legislature decided to lease the railroad to a private company, which paid the state \$25,000 a month in rent. Even so, the company made a profit from it.

**Above:** The depot at the Agrirama was originally built in Montezuma for the Atlanta, Birmingham and Atlantic Railroad. The rapid rebuilding and expansion of the rail system in Georgia was key to recovery after the war.

## Something Extra!

The first company to rent the Western and Atlantic Railroad was headed by Georgia's Civil War governor, Joseph E. Brown.

Darien is home to two historic African American churches. St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church (below) was built by former slaves in 1876. The walls are made of tabby. Needwood Baptist Church (bottom) was organized in 1866 on the nearby Broadfield rice plantation. This building, which dates from the mid-1870s, was moved from the plantation to this location in 1886.

All areas of the economy—farming, industry, and retail—suffered when the nation went into a depression beginning in 1873 and lasting until the late 1870s. Cotton prices went down, affecting not only sharecroppers but also landowners. Less money for the farmers meant that the effects were felt by those who sold them goods or provided services to them. Many throughout the state suffered as Reconstruction ended.

## Religion, Education, and Culture

The Civil War had affected and disrupted all the institutions in Georgia and the South. That included churches, schools, and clubs and other organizations. The churches usually managed to stay open during the war to serve those who remained at home. Schools, however, often closed, and civic and social clubs for men did not meet. Women had formed organizations to help the war effort, but those became unnecessary with the end of the war.

### Religion

The issue of slavery had divided the Baptists and Methodists into northern and southern branches in the mid-1840s. The war itself had split other denominations. While Catholics throughout the country remained in the Catholic Church, most southern Catholics supported the South. Would the churches reunite now that the war was over? Episcopalians from throughout the South met in Augusta, Georgia, and voted to return to the U.S. church. Southerners who were Methodists, Baptists, and



Presbyterians stayed in their separate churches.

Before the Civil War, most blacks belonged to the churches of their owners. Because the largest denominations for southern whites were Baptist and Methodist, the majority of African Americans also belonged to them. After the war, some African Americans remained with the churches they had attended before the war. Whites in those churches, however, did not give their African American members leadership roles. Many churches, especially Protestant ones, kept the separate seating arrangements that had existed before the war.

Churches became the first institutions to **segregate** (to separate by race), as African Americans broke away to establish churches of their own. They wanted to worship in their own way, to select their own ministers, and to have some power in governing their own churches. In fact, their churches became a training ground for black leaders.

Sometimes whites helped found these churches, donating land or funds. Other help came from northern missionary societies, both black and white.



For example, the American Missionary Association provided funds for building churches and sent ministers and teachers. The African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church and the African Methodist Episcopal Zion (AMEZ) Church founded churches in the South. Some African American southerners founded their own Methodist denomination, the Colored Methodist Episcopal (CME) Church, now known as the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. Presbyterians and Episcopalians also allowed separate black churches. Former slaves of the Baptist faith founded dozens of new churches throughout the state, often with help from northern missionary groups. Black churches became the center of life for many. It was from these churches that other organizations often emerged including schools, social clubs, and mutual-aid societies.

## Education

Education was a major issue after the war. In antebellum Georgia, learning to read had been illegal for blacks, although a few secret schools had existed. After the war, African Americans were eager to be *literate* (able to read and write). For some, their religion was the major push; they longed to be able to read the Bible for themselves. The majority of whites, not only the very poor but also yeoman farmers, were poorly educated. White leaders in Georgia wanted to make sure that if African Americans became educated, whites did not lag behind.

Before the Civil War, Georgia did not have a public school system. During Presidential Reconstruction, Georgia passed a law for a public school system for whites. During Congressional Reconstruction, the law required a public

**Below: Called for in the 1868 constitution, the first public school system in Georgia was established by an act of the legislature in 1870. In separate schools, black and white children learned the basics for a few months each year. You can visit an example of an early public school, the Sand Hills School, relocated to the Agrirama.**





**Above:** Emory College in Oxford had been established in 1836 by the Methodist Church. The college was closed during the Civil War as most of the students went off to fight. Reopening in 1866, the college struggled until being endowed by New York Methodist and philanthropist George Seney beginning in 1881.

system for *all* children of the state. From the beginning, however, the school system was segregated.

The system provided a primary (elementary) education only and had a three-month school year. Those who wanted a secondary, or high school, education had to attend private schools, which meant only those who could afford to pay could receive that education. In 1872, Gustavus J. Orr, a professor at Oglethorpe College, became what we now call the superintendent of schools. He actually established the system of public schools in the state, although it was barely operating by the time Reconstruction ended. However, it was the foundation that over the years supported more schools, longer terms, more grades, and more standards for schools and teachers.

A college education was basically for the upper classes. Before the war, private colleges were run by religious denominations, and the state operated what is now the University of Georgia. All of these schools were closed during the war. After the war, they reopened at various times. The University benefited from a national law that had been passed while the state was out of the Union. The 1862 Morrill Act provided funds for state colleges based on the proceeds from the sale of national lands. In 1872, the University established a college on its Athens campus for the study of "Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts." In 1871, the state had also founded the North Georgia Agricultural College in Dahlonega as the beginning of a program to have colleges closer to students in various geographic areas of the state.

The church colleges also reopened when the war ended. The Presbyterian Oglethorpe College moved to Atlanta in 1869 after a fire burned its Milledgeville campus. Mercer, a Baptist institution, moved from Greene County to Macon in 1871. The Methodists reopened Emory College after the war. The Methodists also operated the only college for females before the war, now known as Wesleyan, in Macon. After the war, the Baptists founded Cherokee Baptist Female College in Rome. (It is now named Shorter College.)

All of these colleges, state and church, were for whites only. During Reconstruction, the state of Georgia did not address higher education for African Americans. Private institutions did. The American Baptist Home Missionary Society founded Augusta Institute at the Springfield Baptist Church in Augusta in 1867. It was led by William Jefferson White, a minister and later publisher of a newspaper for African Americans. After Reconstruction, this school moved to Atlanta, where it became Morehouse College. The American Missionary Association chartered Atlanta University in 1865; it began classes in 1872. The Methodist Episcopal Church, North, founded Clark University in 1870.

While Atlanta University offered college-level work from the beginning, the others offered high school level work for a few years before they awarded their first college degrees. The Reconstruction era laid the groundwork for more education for Georgia's children, but it would be decades before opportunities grew for both black and white Georgians.

## An Evaluation of Reconstruction

In many ways, Reconstruction was a failure. By 1877, southern states were once again controlled mainly by elite whites. The gains that African Americans had briefly made in voting and holding elected office were undermined, often by the violence of groups such as the KKK. Poor whites and blacks alike suffered under tenant farming and sharecropping. Any hope for equality disappeared as efforts to create separate spaces for the races began to emerge. In Georgia, cotton remained the most important crop even though it was hard for a middle-class farmer, much less a sharecropper, to make a decent living.

In spite of these failings, Reconstruction left behind some accomplishments. Former slaves were free and no longer burdened by the fear of forced family separation. African Americans had churches that provided spiritual comfort and uplift. For whites and blacks, Reconstruction brought the framework for an educational system in Georgia.

Although African Americans and whites went to separate schools from the beginning, not all aspects of life became segregated until a decade or more after Reconstruction ended. With the exception of first class railroad cars, streetcars in cities and trains were not segregated. Blacks and whites still lived in the same neighborhoods in cities and towns and on the same farms and properties in the countryside. However, southern whites wanted to maintain a society where blacks and whites were not social equals. They expected blacks to occupy a place of inferiority and, as we have seen, the KKK was often active in making sure that it was so.

For all the states, Reconstruction brought three major constitutional changes. The Thirteenth Amendment protected against a return to total slavery. The Fourteenth gave blacks citizenship and the hope of equality. The Fifteenth said race could not be used to deny voting. Although ignored or undermined during Reconstruction and the years following it, future generations were eventually able to use these constitutional guarantees to overcome the legacy of the late 1800s.



**Above:** Founded in 1865 by the American Missionary Association, Atlanta University is one of the oldest historically black universities in the United States. Stone Hall, above, built in 1882 and later renamed Fountain Hall, was the main administrative building of Atlanta University. In 1988, Atlanta University merged with Clark University, founded in 1870, to form Clark Atlanta University.

### Reviewing the Section

1. Define: white supremacy, segregate.
2. Why was there a labor shortage after the war?
3. What were the major accomplishments of Reconstruction? Its major failures?



# Discovering Georgia

## Georgia's Capitals

No town was more important to Georgia's economic recovery during Reconstruction than Atlanta. During the war, Sherman's Atlanta campaign had left much of the city in ruins. But Atlanta rebuilt quickly and became the center of economic growth in the region. With railroads coming in from all directions, it was also the transportation center. That attracted businesses, which attracted more people, which brought the growth of more business and professional opportunities.

One important part of Atlanta's growth was the decision to move the state government to Atlanta. As you have read, Georgia has had several different

capital cities. The colonial capital was Savannah. During the Revolution, the Patriot capital was in Savannah until the British retook it. During the British occupation, the Patriot capital moved to Augusta. When Augusta fell into Loyalist hands, the government moved to Heard's Fort for a time and then to undetermined places. After the war, the government alternated between Savannah and Augusta before moving the capital to Augusta for ten years. As the state's population shifted west, the government

**Below:** The old State Capitol in Milledgeville is now a school.

**Opposite page:** The Atlanta Capitol was completed in 1889.





needed to be located further inland than Savannah or Augusta.

In 1786, the legislature appointed a commission to find a site for a permanent, centrally located capital. The commission purchased 1,000 acres of land near Galphin's old trading post. It named the new city "Louisville," to honor King Louis XVI of France for his help in America's Revolutionary War. From 1796 until 1808, Louisville served as the capital.

As Georgia's citizens continued to move west, they wanted a capital that was more convenient for the western part of the state. In 1804, the legislature voted to build a new capital city in Baldwin County and name it "Milledgeville" in honor of Governor John Milledge. Milledgeville served as the state's capital for sixty years, except for the brief period of evacuation in the Civil War.

As early as the late 1840s, some Georgians had called for another new capital. During Reconstruction, U.S. military authorities had their headquarters in Atlanta. When the new constitution was ratified in 1868, Atlanta became the capital. In July 1868, the legislature officially met in the new capital city for

the first time at the city hall/courthouse building. The city of Atlanta offered the legislature the larger Kimbrell Opera House Building, which served for many years. As Reconstruction was ending, many Georgians pushed to move the capital back to Milledgeville, which still had its government buildings. This would also remove the state's government from the center of Reconstruction in the state.

The constitutional convention of 1877 agreed to let the citizens decide. Meanwhile, as both sides debated, the Atlanta City Council offered to give the state free land and to build a capitol building that would be as grand as Milledgeville's. In the end, the vote of the citizens was clear; Georgians kept their capital in Atlanta.

Twelve years later, in 1889, the Georgia legislature moved from the Kimbrell Opera House headquarters to its grand new Capitol building with its foundation of Georgia granite and interior floors of Georgia marble. In the 1950s, the dome received its first gilding with Georgia gold. Today, the state government occupies many buildings, creating an entire complex of government operations.

# Chapter Review

## Chapter Summary

### Section 1 Political Reconstruction

- The period after the Civil War was called Reconstruction, as the southern states began rebuilding.
- First President Lincoln and then President Johnson worked to restore the southern states to the Union. Congress did not agree with their plans and began taking over Reconstruction in 1866.
- Congress passed and required all of the returning Confederate states to ratify the Thirteenth (abolishing slavery), Fourteenth (granting citizenship to the freedmen and guaranteeing equal protection under the law), and Fifteenth (guaranteeing the right to vote) amendments to the U.S. Constitution.
- During Presidential Reconstruction, Georgia and most southern states enacted Black Codes, laws aimed at restricting the rights of the freedmen. The Fourteenth Amendment negated them.
- Georgia wrote and adopted new constitutions in 1865, 1868, and 1877.
- The Ku Klux Klan used intimidation and violence to control African Americans and regain control of the government for white southerners.
- During Reconstruction, Georgia fell under federal military rule three separate times before finally gaining readmission to the Union in 1870.

- Democrats regained control of the state government in 1872. The conservative white southerners were called “Redeemers.”
- Reconstruction ended in the South in 1877.

### Section 2 Economic and Social Reconstruction

- In 1865, the federal government established the Freedmen’s Bureau to help the former slaves adjust to their new freedom and to protect them from being taken advantage of.
- Because of a shortage of money and labor after the war, a system of tenant farming and sharecropping developed. Because agriculture was struggling, tenant farmers and sharecroppers found it difficult to stay out of debt.
- Commerce, industry, and transportation slowly recovered, often with the help of northern investors.
- To help save money, the state leased its convicts to various companies, who were supposed to pay the expenses of feeding, clothing, and housing the prisoners.
- After the war, blacks often established their own churches.
- During Reconstruction, Georgia established a state-funded public school system for all the state’s children. The schools were, however, segregated.
- Colleges, both state-sponsored and private, reopened gradually after the war. They too were segregated.



## Understanding the Facts

1. Describe the origin and actions of the Ku Klux Klan.
2. Define *Freedmen's Bureau*, and explain who and how it was intended to help.
3. Explain the difference between a cash tenant farmer and a sharecropper.
4. Why did many freedmen become sharecroppers after the war?
5. Describe the convict lease system.



## Developing Critical Thinking

The criteria that President Lincoln established for readmitting the rebellious states to the Union were criticized by many northerners. Explain why you think the president set easy requirements. Secondly, list the arguments that other northerners used to make readmission much more difficult.



## Writing Across the Curriculum

The Thirteenth and Fourteenth amendments to the U.S. Constitution were ratified during this era. Choose one of these amendments and write a summary of what the amendment required and what the effects of the amendment were on the political and social atmosphere in post-Civil War Georgia.



## Extending Reading Skills

According to the information in this chapter, what *effect* did the Black Codes have on Reconstruction plans?



## Exploring Technology

Use a search engine to locate newspaper articles written about President Lincoln's assassination. If possible, find an article from one southern and one northern newspaper and compare the content and tone of the articles.



## Practicing Your Skills

Research the dates when the Confederate states reentered the Union. Construct a timeline that shows the readmission dates in order. Does the length of time required for all the states to reenter the Union surprise you? Why or why not?