

ANNOTATED LIST OF SOUTHERN CULTURE LINKS

Agrarian South

Jamestown

<http://www.apva.org/>

This is an excellent site on early Jamestown (early 1600s) and provides a good insight into how archeology is done and what we can learn from archeological investigations. The site is regularly updated as new discoveries are made.

Thomas Jefferson

<http://www.monticello.org/house/index.html>

This is the Web site for Monticello, an historic site dedicated to preserving Thomas Jefferson's famous house and telling his story.

The Small Farm Before the War

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/fpn/carroll/menu.html>

This site contains the autobiography of John Carroll of Henderson, Tennessee. This is a good account of the life of a small farming family in the years before the Civil War.

<http://www.ibiblio.org/maggot/dukehome/homstead.html>

This is a link to the Duke Homestead site. Duke Homestead, located in Durham, North Carolina, is the family home of the Duke family. The Dukes were a major force in the tobacco industry that emerged after the Civil War. The site provides an overview of life on a small family farm during the mid decades of the 1800s and a good account of the development of the tobacco industry.

The Plantation Before the War

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/fpn/avirett/menu.html>

This site contains James Battle Avirett's reminiscence *The Old Plantation: How We Lived in Great House and Cabin Before the War*. Battle's account has some good detail about plantation life before the Civil War, although like many such accounts, it very clearly reflects the perspective of a planter who mourns his "lost" world.

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/fpn/felton/menu.html>

This site contains Rebecca Latimer Felton's account of growing up in rural Georgia. Felton's account has to be read with a particularly skeptical eye; she was a major political figure in turn-of-the-century Georgia (unusual for a woman at that time) and a major advocate of segregation.

Slavery

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/index.html>

This Web site has a number of biographies of former slaves. They're organized by state (look in the index under Slaves—biography).

The New South

<http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/5745>

This site contains the text of Henry Grady's famous "New South" speech, delivered in the late 1880s, which urged Southerners to embrace industrialization.

On textile workers and mill towns, see the "Like a Family," Web site at

<http://www.historians.org/tl/LessonPlans/nc/Leloudis/index.html>

The Southern Oral History Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill maintains a large collection of interviews with Southern workers (textile workers primarily). Some of the interviews are with people active in the union movement.

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/sohp/searchresults.html?ClustersCB=4-Piedmont%20Industrialization>

Sharecropping

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/reconstruction/sharecrop/>

This PBS site presents a multi-media overview of the sharecropping system. It has several good primary sources and video clips.

On sharecroppers see "Farmers without Land,"

<http://mshistory.k12.ms.us/features/feature50/farmers.htm>

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/wpaintro/wpahome.html>

The American Life Histories Web site (Library of Congress) contains hundreds of interviews with Southern sharecroppers, millworkers, planters, and others during the 1930s. The interviews were conducted by the Federal Writers' Project.

Migration

For an excellent site that explores the cultural consequences of the migration of African Americans out of the South, see <http://northbysouth.kenyon.edu/>

<http://oit.vgcc.edu/his132>

This site is a case study that explores the migrations sweeping the South by examining three counties in North Carolina and exploring the ebb and flow of migration into and out of those counties. It has links to a number of other good sites on migration in the South.

The Contemporary South

The Southern Oral History Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill maintains a large collection of interviews with Southern business leaders who discuss the economic transformation of the region (the focus is on the Piedmont).

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/sohp/searchresults.html?ClustersCB=4-Piedmont%20Industrialization>

<http://www.rtp.org/>

This is the official site of Research Triangle Park, the center of "high tech" research and

development in North Carolina and a major factor accounting for the rising level of prosperity in North Carolina.

<http://www.cocacola.com/museum/>

This is a site dedicated to one of the South's major corporate citizens--the Coca Cola Company.

<http://www.mdcinc.org/home/>

This is the Web site of MDC, a think tank based in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, that conducts economic and social studies of the contemporary South. *The State of the South: Shadows in the Sunbelt Revisited*, a report issued in 2002, is particularly useful. It focuses on the economy, trends in education, changes in the job market, and social change and is intended to serve as a guide for political decision-makers.

Social Class

Before the War

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/southlit/hundley/hundley.html>

H.R. Hundley's *Social Relations in Our Southern States*, written on the eve of the Civil War, is an interesting analysis of class and race in the South. Hundley has a decided upper class perspective and has less than complimentary things to say about some of the folks he judges to be lower on the social scale than himself. Still, a good source.

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/fpn/avirett/avirett.html>

This site contains James Battle Avirett's reminiscence *The Old Plantation: How We Lived in Great House and Cabin Before the War*. Battle's account has some good detail about plantation life before the Civil War, although like many such accounts, it very clearly reflects the perspective of a planter who mourns his "lost" world.

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/southlit/fitzhughcan/fitzcan.html>

This is an electronic edition of *Sociology for the South, or, The Failure of Free Society*, by the Southern philosopher George Fitzhugh, in which he defends slavery, describes how disastrous abolition would be, and suggests slavery might not be a bad idea for some whites. (He suggests it as an option for the poor in Europe.)

<http://www.ibiblio.org/maggot/dukehome/homstead.html>

"A Tour of the Homestead" provides a description of a typical Southern home of a small farmer (Duke Homestead in Durham, NC) of the 1800s and the tobacco farming methods used at that time.

After the War

On sharecroppers see "Farmers without Land,"

<http://mshistory.k12.ms.us/features/feature50/farmers.htm> and "Sharecropping,"

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/reconstruction/sharecrop/>

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<http://docsouth.unc.edu/sohp/searchresults.html?ClustersCB=4-Piedmont%20Industrialization>

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/wpaintro/wpahome.html>

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<http://library.thinkquest.org/12111/girl.html>

“Growing up White in the South in the 1930s” is an interview with a woman from a prominent Southern family who discusses her family’s attitudes towards blacks, poor whites, and the social expectations placed on “ladies.”

The Contemporary South

The State of the South: Shadows in the Sunbelt Revisited is a report issued in 2002 by MDC, a think tank based in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, about the contemporary South. The report focuses on the economy, trends in education, changes in the job market, and social change and is intended to serve as a guide for political decision-makers. Other informative studies may also be found at this site.

http://www.mdcinc.org/docs/sos_02.pdf

www.southernliving.com/southern/

This is the site of *Southern Living* magazine, an icon of upper-middle class Southern culture, containing information on the latest trends in food, landscaping, and home decorating.

<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~MA97/price/open.htm>

“White Trash: The Construction of an American Scapegoat” explores aspects of the lifestyle of working class whites in America, including elements of culture that define them as a distinct subculture (religion, race relations, and work) and their stereotypical portrayal in the media.

Race

Slavery

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/snhtml/snhome.html>

This online collection of the Library of Congress, *Born in Slavery: Slave Narratives from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936-1938*, has an extensive collection of interviews with former slaves and provides good insights into slavery from the slaves’ point of view.

Some of the better interviews are with the following: Hal Hutson, Sam Mitchell, Frank Gill, and Mary Frances Webb.

Harriet Jacobs and Fredrick Douglass authored the two best known (today) autobiographies of former slaves. Both autobiographies (and a number of others, too) are available in print and at the Documenting the American South Web site. Go to <http://docsouth.unc.edu/index.html> This site also contains a number of biographies of former slaves. They're organized by state (look in the index under Slaves—biography).

The Confessions of Nat Turner, the Leader of the Late Insurrection in Southampton, Virginia is the transcription of the “confessions” of the leader of the most famous American slave insurrection. It is our best source on both Nat Turner and the revolt he led. Go to <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=rbcmisc&fileName=ody/ody0108/ody0108page.db&recNum=0&itmLink=/ammem/aahtml/exhibit/aopart1.html@0108&linkText=9>

The relationship between Thomas Jefferson and a slave woman, Sally Hemmings, and whether he fathered one or more children by Hemmings has been the subject of speculation for 200 years. Now, thanks to DNA testing, the relationship has been established as, if not a fact, at the least a strong possibility. For more on the story, go to the Monticello Web site at http://www.monticello.org/plantation/hemingscontro/hemings-jefferson_contro.html

White Supremacy

The doctrine of white supremacy justified the subjugation of blacks by whites during slavery and segregation eras. George Fitzhugh was a major proponent of white supremacy before the Civil War. His most important works are *Sociology for the South* and *Cannibals All! Or Slaves without Masters*. Both are available at the Documenting the American South Web site at <http://docsouth.unc.edu/> Ben Tillman was one of the leading white supremacists during the late 1800s and early 1900s and one of the creators of Jim Crow segregation. He gave a speech on the floor of the U.S. Senate justifying white supremacy, segregation, and lynching which may be found at the History Matters Web site at <http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/55/>

The Long Civil War

The causes of the Civil War have long been debated, but ultimately slavery was what led to the war. Even when the official war ended in 1865, violence continued during the Reconstruction era and even as late as the 1890s. The issue after the war was what “place” African Americans would occupy in the South—free men and women or people with reduced rights and privileges. The introduction of Jim Crow segregation in the 1890s would settle this question. Two excellent PBS Web sites, created to accompany televised series, explore the Civil War and Reconstruction. See <http://www.pbs.org/civilwar/> and <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/reconstruction/>

Sharecropping

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/reconstruction/sharecrop/>

This PBS site presents a good overview of the sharecropping system. It has several good primary sources and video clips.

Creating Segregation

Race riots broke out across the South in the late 1890s and early 1900s. A general overview of the Wilmington (NC) race riot (1898) containing some primary sources may be found at <http://www.mith.umd.edu/courses/amvirtual/wilmington/wilmington.html>

See also the Wilmington Race Riot Commission's report issued in 2006 at <http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/1898-wrrc/> Walter White's account of the Atlanta race riot (1906) may be found at <http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/104/>

The Without Sanctuary Web site is a graphic exploration of lynching by way of picture postcards. (Warning—pictures are very graphic!) <http://www.withoutsanctuary.org/>

This Web site contains Booker T. Washington's "Atlanta Compromise" speech. <http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/88/> His autobiography, *Up from Slavery*, may be found at the Univ. of Virginia American Studies Web site at <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/WASHINGTON/cover.html>

W.E.B. Dubois's most famous book, *The Souls of Black Folk* may be found at <http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/DubSoul.html>

Civil Rights Movement and the Changing Role of Race

The Southern Oral History Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill maintains a large collection of interviews about the Civil Rights Movement at http://docsouth.unc.edu/sohp/civil_rights.html

The *Seattle Times* maintains a good site on the Civil Rights Movement that includes transcripts and audio excerpts of some of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s most famous speeches. <http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/mlk/>

The Greensboro (NC) sit-ins are explored at <http://www.sitins.com/>

"Letter from Birmingham Jail" and his "I Have a Dream" speech encapsulate the philosophy that guided Martin Luther King, Jr., during the Civil Rights era. http://www.stanford.edu/group/King/popular_requests/frequentdocs/birmingham.pdf <http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/mlkihaveadream.htm> (You can hear and read the speech at this site.)

The African American Odyssey Web, a part of the Library of Congress American Memory site, provides a good general overview of the Civil Rights Movement. <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/aahtml/exhibit/aopart9.html>

Family and Gender

Family and Gender Before the War

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/southlit/hundley/hundley.html>

H.R. Hundley's *Social Relations in Our Southern States*, written on the eve of the Civil War, is an interesting analysis of the class and race in the South and has much to say about family and gender. Hundley has a decided upper class perspective and has less than complimentary things to say about some of the folks he judges to be lower on the social scale than himself. Still, a good source. Check out his chapter on "The Southern Bully."

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/nc/johnson/johnson.html>

Guion Giffis Johnson's *Antebellum North Carolina: A Social History* has good chapters on marriage and courtship and family life.

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/fpn/burton/menu.html>

This is the online text of Annie Burton's "Memories of Childhood Slavery Days." Born circa 1858, Ms. Burton describes both happy and horrific experiences while growing up in a slave family in the last few years before the Civil War. On pp. 7-8, she specifically discusses the effects of miscegenation. See also Harriet Jacobs's autobiography at the same Web site. (Go to the index.) This Web site also contains other biographies of former slaves. They're organized by state (look in the index under Slaves—biography).

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/snhtml/snhome.html>

This online collection of the Library of Congress, *Born in Slavery: Slave Narratives from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936-1938*, has an extensive collection of interviews with former slaves. Many provide good insights into the family lives and gender roles of people in slavery and gender roles of folks in slavery. Some of the better interviews are with the following: James Bolton, Sara Byrd, and Ike Thomas.

Family and Gender After the War

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/nc/roberson/roberson.html>

This site provides the text of the article, "The Organized Work of Women in One State," by Nellie Roberson from *The Journal of Social Forces*, 1922-23. The article describes the impact of women's organizations in North Carolina as they addressed "women's issues," including poverty, sanitation, and education.

The Southern Oral History Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill maintains a large collection of interviews with Southern women at

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/sohp/searchresults.html?ClustersCB=5-Southern%20Women>

<http://www.eagleforum.org/>

This is the official Web site of the Eagle Forum, a conservative political group led by Phyllis Schlafly. It is an example of both the conservative political views common in the South and the surprising power of women in political movements.

The U.S. Census Bureau has huge amounts of data on marriage trends, family patterns, etc. Go to <http://factfinder.census.gov>. The Kids Count Web site is another good source. <http://www.aecf.org/MajorInitiatives/KIDSCOUNT.aspx>

MDC is a think tank based in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, that conducts economic and social studies of the contemporary South. MDC's reports generally address family and gender issues. *The State of the South: Shadows in the Sunbelt Revisited*, a report issued in 2002, is particularly useful. <http://www.mdcinc.org/home/>

Religion

Religion in the Early South

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/church/index.html>

"The Church in the Southern Black Community" is a collection of autobiographies, biographies, church documents, sermons, histories, etc. that begins with the earliest involvement of African Americans in the church and trace the evolution of black evangelical Christianity.

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/nc/johnson/chapter13.html>

This is in electronic edition of the 13th chapter of *Ante-Bellum North Carolina: A Social History*, by Guion Griffis Johnson, in which she describes and analyzes camp meetings in the early 1800's before and during the Great Revival.

Religion After the Civil War

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/church/index.html>

"The Church in the Southern Black Community" is a collection of autobiographies, biographies, church documents, sermons, histories, etc. that begins with the earliest involvement of African Americans in the church and trace the evolution of black evangelical Christianity.

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/pnp/det/4a30000/4a31000/4a31400/4a31436r.jpg>

This is a link to a photograph of an African American church group holding a traditional riverside baptism by immersion ceremony.

<http://www.iphc.org/>

This is the official Web site of the International Pentecostal Holiness Church. It includes the theology and history of the Pentecostal Holiness Church, including their 2006 Holiness Manifesto.

<http://religiousmovements.lib.virginia.edu/nrms/Snakes.html>

This informative site from the University of Virginia, entitled "Serpent Handlers, aka Snake Handlers and the Signs Following Movement," provides basic information about the movement's origins, beliefs, and practices.

Religion in the Contemporary South

<http://www.csmonitor.com/2002/1010/csmimg/amreligions.pdf>.

“Charting America’s Religious Landscape” provides a map of the distribution of the most common religions in America, clearly showing how the South is distinct in its preponderance of a single religion (Baptist).

The Religious Movements Web site (sponsored by the University of Virginia) is a rich resource on religion in the contemporary South and U.S.

<http://religiousmovements.lib.virginia.edu/> See also the Religious Freedom Web site (also at UVA). <http://religiousfreedom.lib.virginia.edu/>

<http://www.sbc.net/bfm/> is the official Web site of the Southern Baptist Convention, a powerful force in the South. It contains links to various portions of “The Baptist Faith and Message,” which was adopted in 2000 to clarify the doctrines of the Southern Baptist Church.

<http://www.time.com/time/time100/heroes/profile/graham01.html>

This is *Time* magazine’s tribute to Billy Graham, the Southerner whose crusades affected people world-wide.

<http://www.falwell.com>

The official Jerry Falwell Ministries Web site includes statements of the Ministries’ beliefs and mission, as well as links to merchandise and information about Liberty University in Lynchburg, Virginia.

<http://www.cbn.com>

Official Web site of the Christian Broadcasting Network and the 700 Club, founded by Pat Robertson, this site contains information about CBN and its mission as well as many links to articles about CBN’s perspective on contemporary issues.

<http://www.creflodollarministries.com/>

This is the Web site of Creflo Dollar Ministries, an organization headed by Creflo Dollar and his wife, Taffi, whose message is that through Christian faith and giving money to God (possibly through the Dollar Ministries), a true believer will receive prosperity. Many services and products are advertised.

http://www.nhc.rtp.nc.us/tserve/twenty/tkeyinfo/chr_right.htm

This essay on “The Christian Right” by a professor at Duke’s Divinity School defines this religious/political movement and discusses its history, beliefs, and concerns.

Politics

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/sohp/searchresults.html?ClustersCB=6-Southern%20Politics>

Interviews with notable Southern politicians (George Wallace, Bill Clinton, and Jimmy Carter among others) from the Southern Oral History Collection at UNC-Chapel.

The Southern Oral History Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill also maintains a large collection of interviews about the Civil Rights Movement at http://docsouth.unc.edu/sohp/civil_rights.html

For information on the 2004 presidential election (turnout, voting patterns, etc.) see <http://www.cnn.com/ELECTION/2004/>

Populism is alive and well at the Southern Studies Web site (sponsored by *Southern Exposure* magazine) at <http://southernstudies.org/> and at Jim Hightower's site at <http://www.jimhightower.com/>

The Creative South: What People Made with their Hands

Cooking

The Southern Foodways Alliance has an excellent Web site on Southern cuisine full of interviews, pictures, and recipes. <http://www.southernfoodways.com/>

The Feeding America Web site has a collection of digitized cookbooks from the 18th century to the early 20th century, some of them by Southern authors. <http://digital.lib.msu.edu/projects/cookbooks/index.html>

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/fpn/burton/menu.html>

The Documenting the American South Web site (at UNC-Chapel Hill) has a number of works that address cooking and the other folk arts. See for example, James Battle Avirett's *How We Lived in the Great House and Cabin before the War* and Frederick Law Olmsted's *The Cotton Kingdom*.

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/snhtml/snhome.html>

This online collection of the Library of Congress, *Born in Slavery: Slave Narratives from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936-1938*, has an extensive collection of interviews with former slaves, and a number of them address cooking and the other folk arts. See for example, interviews with Bill Heard, Annie Huff, and Annie Stephenson.

Pottery

<http://www.seagrovepotteryheritage.com/>

This site is a good introduction to the potteries of the Seagrove area in North Carolina, one of the prime pottery-producing areas of the South.

<http://www.folkpottery.com/>

This site, Folk Pottery Museum of Northeast Georgia, is a good introduction to the potteries of North Georgia, one of the prime pottery-producing areas of the South.

Architecture

Resources on Southern architecture can be found at a variety of sites sponsored by historic preservation organizations, historical societies, privately run museums, and state agencies. One good example is a Web site sponsored by a variety of state and federal agencies features homes and other buildings found in Southeastern Louisiana.

<http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/travel/louisiana/index.htm>.

The state of North Carolina maintains a number of historic sites, many of them historic homes, large and small, rural and urban, from different eras. The Web sites of some of these sites are quite good. Go to the index at:

<http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/sections/hs/sites.htm>

In Virginia, Gunston Hall, the home of George Mason, has a Web site that provides good descriptions and pictures of the architectural features of this 18th century home. Go to <http://gunstonhall.org/tour/welcome.html>. A Web site featuring Bacon's Castle (in Virginia) briefly describes the history of the house and provides several photographs of the house and grounds. <http://www.apva.org/baconscastle/> The Monticello Web provides a good overview of the house complete with pictures and a virtual walking tour. <http://www.monticello.org/>

Furniture

This site features an online collection of Southern furniture from the Colonial Williamsburg Collection. <http://www.chipstone.org/framesetspecialprojects.html>

Quilting

A nice site on Southern quilts by a Univ. of Va. student.

<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~UG97/quilt/opening.html>

Art

The Morris Museum in Augusta, Georgia is dedicated to Southern art and artists. Its Web site features the work of many of the artists exhibited in the museum.

<http://www.themorris.org/>

The Ogden Museum in New Orleans is dedicated to Southern art and artists. Its Web site features the work of many of the artists exhibited in the museum.

<http://www.ogdenmuseum.org/>

The Creative South: Words, Notes, Myths, Icons

Southern Dialect

"Do you Speak American?" is a PBS Web site that explores American dialects and has a nice segment on Southern dialect.

<http://www.pbs.org/speak/seatosea/americanvarieties/southern/>

Music

A good overview of Southern music is John Reed's "Sounds of the South" at <http://www.unc.edu/depts/csas/socult/music/soundsouth.html>

Elvis's official Web site, <http://www.elvis.com/>

On country music, see the online exhibit at the UNC-Chapel Hill Folklife Collection "Hillbilly Music: Source and Symbol," <http://www.lib.unc.edu/mss/sfc1/hillbilly/HTML/Home/Home.htm>. See also the Folklife Collection's exhibit on Louisiana's Goldband Records at <http://www.lib.unc.edu/mss/sfc1/goldband/>

The Blues, a PBS Web site, is a good place to start for online sources on blues music. <http://www.pbs.org/theblues/>

Literature

<http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/railton/index2.html>

This Web site is a comprehensive compendium of material on Mark Twain from the scholarly to the not so scholarly. The site features essays on his writings, biographical information, pictures, and complete texts of many of his speeches and written works (including *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*).

<http://www.mcsr.olemiss.edu/~egjbp/ Faulkner/faulkner.html>

This Web site is a comprehensive compendium of material on William Faulkner. The site features essays on Faulkner's writings, biographical information, and background information on Mississippi and other places he lived. It also features a glossary of characters, places, and terms found in Faulkner's work, many good pictures, and links to a number of other sites.

<http://www.ibiblio.org/wpercy>

"The Walker Percy Project" includes information, biography, and photos of Percy, as well as essays about his work and a discussion forum.

Many Southern authors are the subjects of small Web sites. See, for example, the small site dedicated to Zora Neale Hurston at http://voices.cla.umn.edu/vg/Bios/entries/hurston_zora_neale.html The Mississippi Writers Page features pages on a number of Mississippi writers including Eudora Welty and Richard Wright. http://www.olemiss.edu/mwp/dir/_authors/index.html

Myths and Icons

A number of sites explore the icons and myths of the South in ways ranging from the informative, to the humorous, to the contentious. The Confederate battle flag has generated hundreds of Web sites. Wikipedia's is a good place to start.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confederate_flag

Elvis's official Web site, <http://www.elvis.com/>

The Grits Web site features grits and other food icons of the South. <http://www.grits.com/>

The Lorraine Motel in Memphis, where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was assassinated, is now part of the National Civil Rights Museum. <http://www.civilrightsmuseum.org/>