

OUR STATE
and OUR NATION

Georgia Studies

UNIT 8



Modern Georgia

1945 - Present

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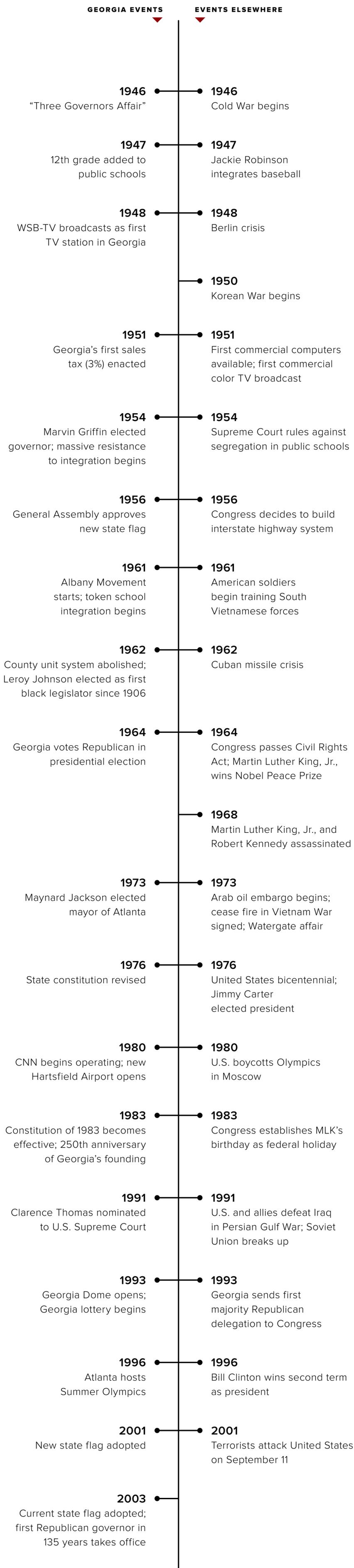
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Chapter 19

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Chapter Outline

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Politics in the New Era

Growth and Change in Metropolitan Atlanta

SS8H10

Evaluate key post-World War II developments in Georgia.

- Explain how technology transformed agriculture and created a population shift within the state.
- Explain how the development of Atlanta under mayors William B. Hartsfield and Ivan Allen, Jr. impacted the state.

SS8E2

Evaluate the influence of Georgia-based businesses on the State's economic growth and development.

- Evaluate the economic impact of various industries in Georgia including agricultural, entertainment, manufacturing, service, and technology.



After World War II, the growing use of mechanical harvesters made farming more efficient.

CHAPTER 19

AT FIRST GLANCE

This chapter describes how, at the end of World War II, many returning GIs chose to relocate in Georgia's cities rather than return to farm life. This factor and the modernization of agriculture contributed to a decline in the state's rural population. Also, tractors and other mechanized implements made farming more efficient, resulting in the need for fewer farmers. As urban areas grew and rural areas declined, a transformation in state politics resulted. At first, rural areas were able to hold onto power through an apportionment scheme that favored small counties and through the county unit system, which is described in a special feature in the chapter. The rapid growth of Atlanta, however, brought an end to rural dominance, and in the 1960s, the county unit system was abolished. These circumstances, together with "one person, one vote" rulings by the U.S. Supreme Court, meant that urban areas were able to exert more and more influence over state government. Also included in Chapter 19 is a Georgians in History feature on Atlanta educator Benjamin Mays.

Georgia Moves into the Modern Era

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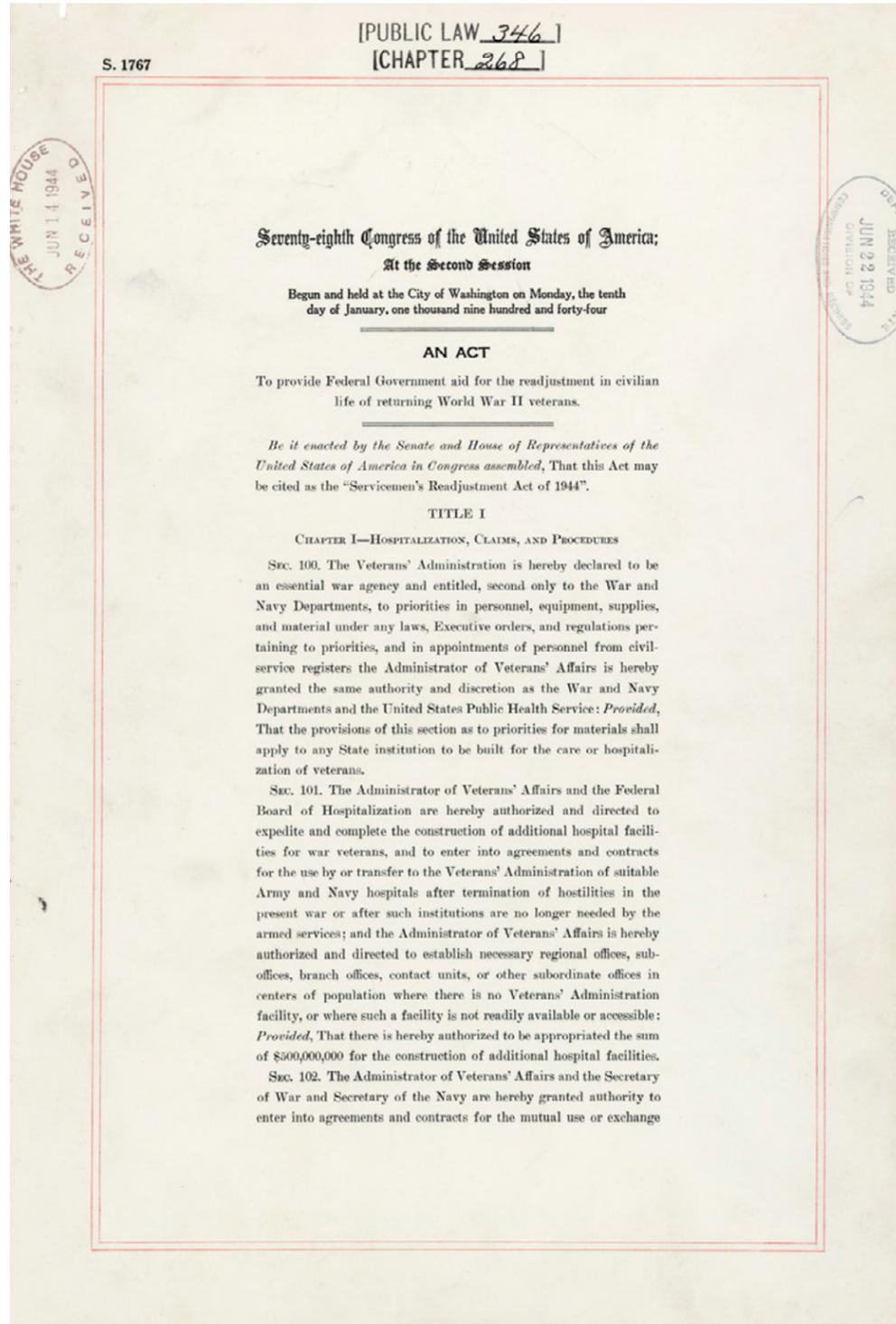
In the fall of 1945, war-weary Americans looked forward to the return of a peacetime economy. People were hungry for consumer goods that they could not get during the war. Factories that once turned out guns, tanks, and uniforms now began producing tools, trucks, and clothing.

One consumer item in great demand was the automobile. With the war over and gasoline no longer scarce, owning a car was a dream come true for many Georgians. Drive-in restaurants, drive-in movies, and even drive-in banking became popular. Paved highways replaced dirt roads, allowing people who worked in the city to live in the countryside. Soon housing subdivisions and shopping centers covered what once was farmland. Suburban growth skyrocketed, particularly in the Atlanta region.

To ease the GIs' return to civilian life, Congress provided several important benefits in legislation known as the GI Bill of Rights. Among these were four years of college education and low-interest loans to buy a home, farm, or business. GIs were also entitled to \$20 a week in unemployment benefits (for up to a year) and help in finding a new job. These benefits were extremely popular with ex-servicemen, giving them the security to marry, buy a home, and start a family. In fact, so many births took place in the years right after the war that people described the period as a "baby boom."

For many, the GI Bill changed their lives. By the thousands, veterans enrolled in Georgia's colleges and universities. At the University of Georgia, enrollment jumped from 1,836 students in 1944 to 6,643 students in the fall of 1946. Of these, more than 4,000—some 60 percent of the student body—were veterans.

The Disappearing Farmer



Between 1945 and 1950, almost 28,000 Georgia families—mostly tenant farmers—left agriculture. Altogether, between 1920 and 1950, the number of Georgia farms decreased by more than 100,000.

The number of farmers in Georgia decreased for many reasons. Thanks to the GI Bill, young men who had farmed before the war now had new opportunities. Also, agriculture was undergoing great changes in the state.

Big improvements had been made in seed technology, fertilizer, and pesticides. Farmers were being encouraged to practice crop rotation, terracing, and erosion control to preserve topsoil and land fertility. Agricultural extension agents from the University of Georgia informed farmers of new technology and research. Also, more and more farmers were able to afford tractors and harvesters.

◀ The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 (GI Bill of Rights).

President Franklin D. Roosevelt signing the GI Bill of Rights. It allowed thousands of former soldiers to attend college following World War II.





The days of mule-drawn plows and hand-picked cotton were not entirely over, but they were fast coming to an end. As farming efficiency improved, two important things happened. Crop yield per acre increased. At the same time, tractors and other motorized implements allowed a single farmer to work larger plots of land. Farmers were becoming so efficient that they were producing too much. This further reduced the need for farmers. In an effort to keep food prices from falling, the federal government began paying farmers

not to plant on some of their land.

Also contributing to the decline of farming was the clothing industry's growing use of synthetic fibers instead of cotton. The peak year for cotton had been 1911, when 2,769,000 bales were produced. During the five years after World War II, the harvest fell from 669,000 bales in 1945 to 490,000 bales in 1950. Farmers turned to such crops as peanuts, soybeans, tobacco, corn, and wheat, as well as to noncrops, such as poultry and livestock.

◀ Tractors and other mechanized farm equipment reduced the need for farm laborers.

In 1928, Georgia peach production reached an all time high of nearly 8 million bushels.



Also replacing cotton was another “crop”— pine trees. The demand for pine wood to produce pulp for paper, as well as lumber and plywood, encouraged landowners to become tree farmers. As a result,

thousands of acres of what once had been cotton land were now covered with pine trees. Forestry was becoming an important part of Georgia’s economy.

Total Number of FARMS IN GEORGIA



Even though the numbers of farms decreased, the average farm size (acreage) increased. New varieties of crops, improved farming techniques, and increased mechanization allowed fewer farmers to produce greater yields.



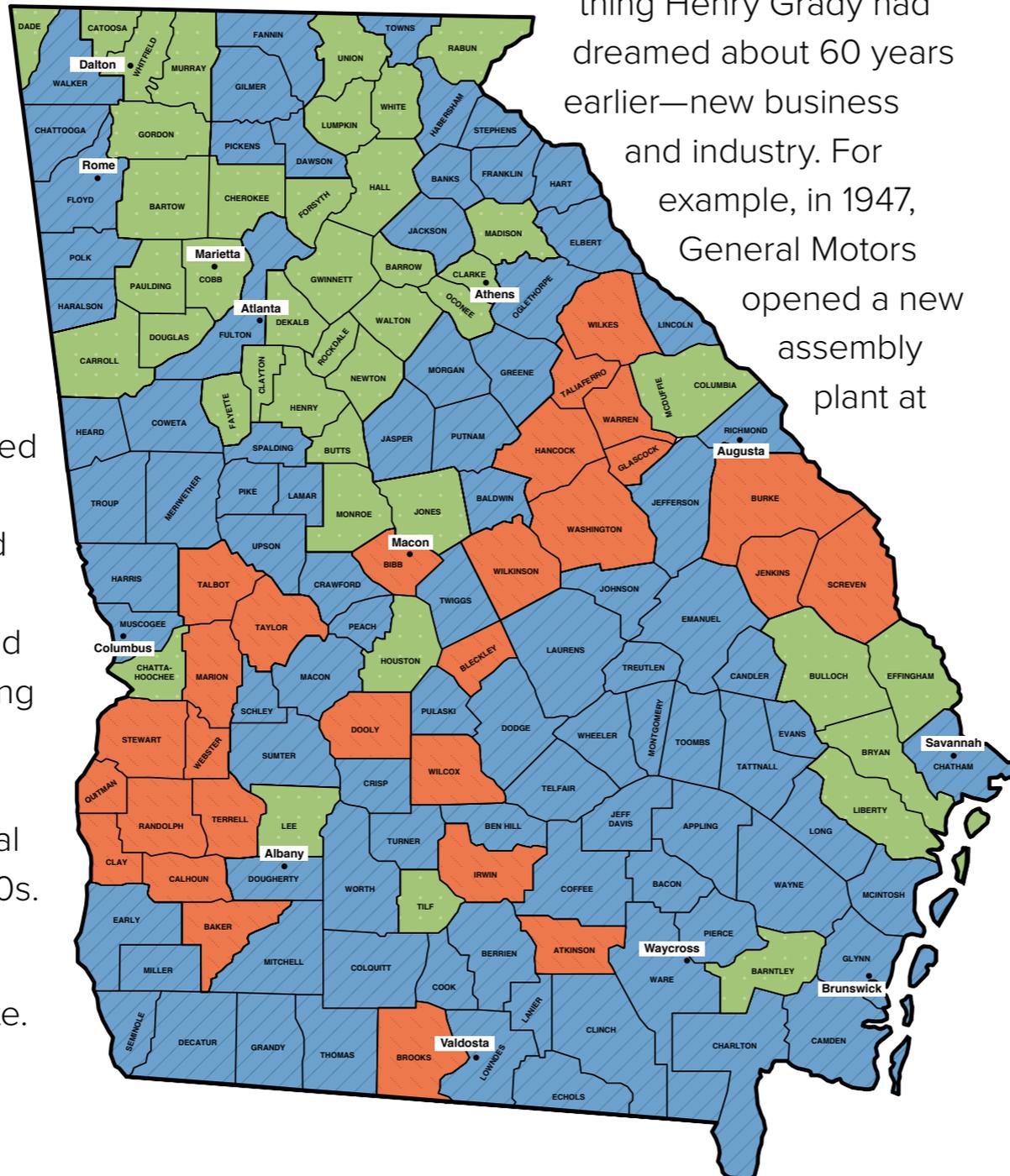
► Compare the number of farms in **1945** to the number in **1974**. How many fewer farms were there in **1969** than in **1950**?

◀ Compare the number of farms in 1945 to the number in 1974. How many fewer farms were there in 1969 than in 1950?

Population Shifts

As tenant farming declined after World War II, 91 of Georgia's 159 counties—all rural—*lost* population. Where were rural Georgians going? Many moved to other states. The 1950 census showed that 1.2 million people born in Georgia now lived in other states. Many of these were black Georgians who had migrated to the large cities of the North in search of jobs and greater opportunities. This trend of black migration had begun in the 1880s, resulting in a continuing drop in the percentage of African Americans in Georgia's total population up until the 1970s. However, not all rural migrants moved out of state.

Many moved to the city. Helping account for Georgia's city growth was the very thing Henry Grady had dreamed about 60 years earlier—new business and industry. For example, in 1947, General Motors opened a new assembly plant at



POPULATION CHANGE 1960 - 1980

- Gained More
- Gained Less
- Lost

◀ Average growth for the state was 38.6 percent. Which parts of the state grew at a greater rate?

Doraville. Ford responded with a new plant at Hapeville. Other factories came to Georgia as well. In the decade after World War II, the Atlanta region became home to 800 new industries and 1,200 regional offices for out-of-town companies.

Other urban areas in Georgia also benefited from postwar industrial growth. During the 1940s and 1950s, almost every Georgia city with at least 10,000 residents gained population. Older cities such as Atlanta, Macon, and Savannah were growing at healthy rates, but the most dramatic increase was in the newer cities of Atlanta's suburbs. During the 1940s, the city of Atlanta grew by 10 percent, but nearby College Park grew by 77 percent, Marietta by 139 percent, and Forest Park by 360 percent.

What accounted for the rush of business and industry to the state? There were many reasons. Atlanta continued to develop as the transportation hub of the

Southeast. Except for summer Georgia had a favorable climate, and the growing use of air conditioning after the war made even the summer heat bearable. For the most part, Georgia workers were not unionized, and thus labor was cheap compared to other parts of the country. Low state and local taxes in Georgia also meant higher profits than in the North or Midwest.

The two decades after World War II brought more change to Georgia than the previous two centuries. Accepting that change was another matter. As rural populations decreased, urban politicians looked forward to a greater voice in state political affairs. Rural politicians, however, prepared to defend Georgia's traditional way of life. ■

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 **Identify:** GI Bill of Rights, baby boom
- 2 What are some changes automobiles made in how and where Georgians lived after the war?
- 3 What effect did new agricultural technology have on Georgia farmers?
- 4 What were some of the crops Georgia farmers switched to after the war? Why?
- 5 What conditions made Georgia attractive to new businesses and industry?

America in the Cold War

Americans had entered the post–World War II era with new hopes for world peace. For the time being, the United States was the only nation with the atomic bomb. Also, a new international organization—the United Nations—had been created to prevent aggression and resolve disputes among nations.

But by 1946, the United States was at war again. This time, it was not a fighting war. It was a political war in which the two most powerful nations in the world—the United States and the Soviet Union—competed for the loyalty of other nations. Nations aligned with the Soviet Union were known as the “East,” while America and its allies were known as the “West.” In this **Cold War**¹, as it was called, tensions were high, but no direct fighting occurred between the two superpowers.

The Cold War began soon after the end of World War II. The Soviet Union took

political control of several countries of eastern Europe. As the Soviets attempted to spread their influence into other countries, the United States adopted a policy of containing (preventing the spread of) **communism**²—the political system of the Soviet Union. Communism is a system in which goods, property, and capital are controlled by the central government rather than the individual or businesses.

At home, there was increasing concern that agents of the Communist party were actively at work in the United States. Watching as

B-29 bombers assembled at Marietta. This Lockheed plant was Georgia’s largest war production facility.





the Soviets took over eastern Europe, some Americans began to wonder if this country would be the next target. That fear was reinforced by some politicians who charged that Communist agents, or those who sided with them, were everywhere. Many people who worked in government, labor unions, civil rights organizations, colleges, and the entertainment industry found themselves being suspected of having Communist ties.

In 1948, the Cold War almost became a shooting war over the issue of Berlin. After World War II, Germany had been divided into four zones. Each of the four major

victors—the United States, Great Britain, France, and the Soviet Union—was given one of the zones to control. Berlin, the capital of Germany, was also divided into four zones.

Berlin lay far within the zone of Germany that was controlled by the Soviet Union. The Soviets had promised the other three powers highway access to the city. In 1948, however,

the Soviet Union changed its policy, blocking roads to western access. When food and supplies began to run out in Berlin's western zones, the United States began a massive airlift. Gen. Lucius Clay, a Georgian,



◀ General **Lucius Clay**



[Transcript](#)

▼
A merchant in Barrow County gives cigars to the first group of Georgia men leaving to serve in the Korean War.

commanded the relief operation. For 11 months, U.S. planes flew in more than 2 million tons of needed food and supplies. Eventually the Soviets were forced to lift their blockade.

Within two years of the Berlin crisis, the Cold War began to heat up in the Asian country of Korea. In 1910, Japan had seized control of Korea, holding it until the end of World War II. After Japan's defeat, the United Nations temporarily divided Korea into two parts. Until the country was reunited, North Korea would be aided by the Soviet Union, and South Korea by the United States.



In June 1950, North Korean soldiers, supplied by the Soviets, invaded the south. The United Nations voted to help defend South Korea,

but could not assemble a military force quickly. When it appeared that South Korea would fall, President Truman sent U.S. troops to defend its ally. A three-year war followed, in the end involving Chinese Communist forces. At times, people feared that the fighting

would escalate into another world war. Although both sides suffered numerous casualties, the conflict finally ended in 1953 with neither side claiming a victory.



◀ Line of Demarcation of Korea

During the Korean War, Marietta's Bell Aircraft plant, which had closed in 1946, was reopened by the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation. There, Georgians built and modified B-29 bombers, still America's largest bomber. After the war, Lockheed continued operating its huge facility as a producer of military aircraft. ■

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 Define:** Cold War, communism
 - 2 Identify:** East, West, Berlin airlift
 - 3** Why were Americans concerned about Communist agents at work within the United States?
 - 4** How did the Korean War start?
-

Vocabulary

- 1 Cold War** - The rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union after World War II for international advantage using diplomatic, undercover, and economic means rather than warfare.
- 2 Communism** - Political system in which the central government, not the individual, controls goods, property, and capital.

Georgia Politics in Action

While the Cold War was changing the course of world affairs, an old era was about to end in Georgia. Although old-style Georgia politics were alive and well, power was shifting away from the rural areas of the state. In addition to the growth of cities, events were taking place that would change the nature of state politics.

During World War II, Gov. Ellis Arnall had worked hard to modernize Georgia, changing the way state government operated. By the end of the war, he was speaking out for political equality for black Georgians. Though not opposing segregation, Arnall argued that blacks were entitled to equal opportunities. He believed that one way to improve race relations in Georgia was to attack poverty. In fact, if economic growth could eliminate poverty, he suggested, everyone's lot would be improved.

Both black and white workers in Georgia and other southern states were poorly paid compared to workers in other regions of the country. In 1940, for example, the average income for a Georgian was only about half the national average. One reason for low wages was a lack of **labor unions**¹ (organizations of workers who bargain as a group with employers over salaries and working conditions). Governor Arnall was among those urging Georgia workers to unite and join labor unions. Many black leaders agreed.

Generally, labor unions had never been popular in the South. Higher wages meant less profits for mill and factory owners, who sometimes threatened to close their plants if workers unionized. Union organizers from the North were often viewed as “outside agitators.” Also, union organization was hurt during the Cold War era by charges that Communists were involved in the labor movement. The effort



◀ In 1946, a record number of black citizens in Fulton County registered to vote. The line of people waiting to register circles the courthouse.

to expand labor unions in the South had only limited success.

After World War II, black Americans looked for ways to improve their lives. Increasingly they adopted political and legal strategies to fight the **discrimination**²—deliberate unequal treatment—they faced. One strategy was to mobilize black voters. In large cities, to which more and more African American families were moving, voter registration drives met with some success. By 1946, Georgia’s white primary and poll tax had been eliminated, and over 100,000 blacks across the state were registered to vote. That year, black voters in Georgia had their first chance to influence an election since Reconstruction. When a vacancy occurred in the congressional seat representing Atlanta, Helen Mankin, a white woman, ran to fill the remainder of the term. Actively seeking black support, she won, becoming the first Georgia woman *elected* to Congress.

Despite the success of black voter registration in Atlanta, statewide the picture was far different. Out of every 100



◀ Atlanta Congresswoman **Helen Mankin**. What was special about her election?

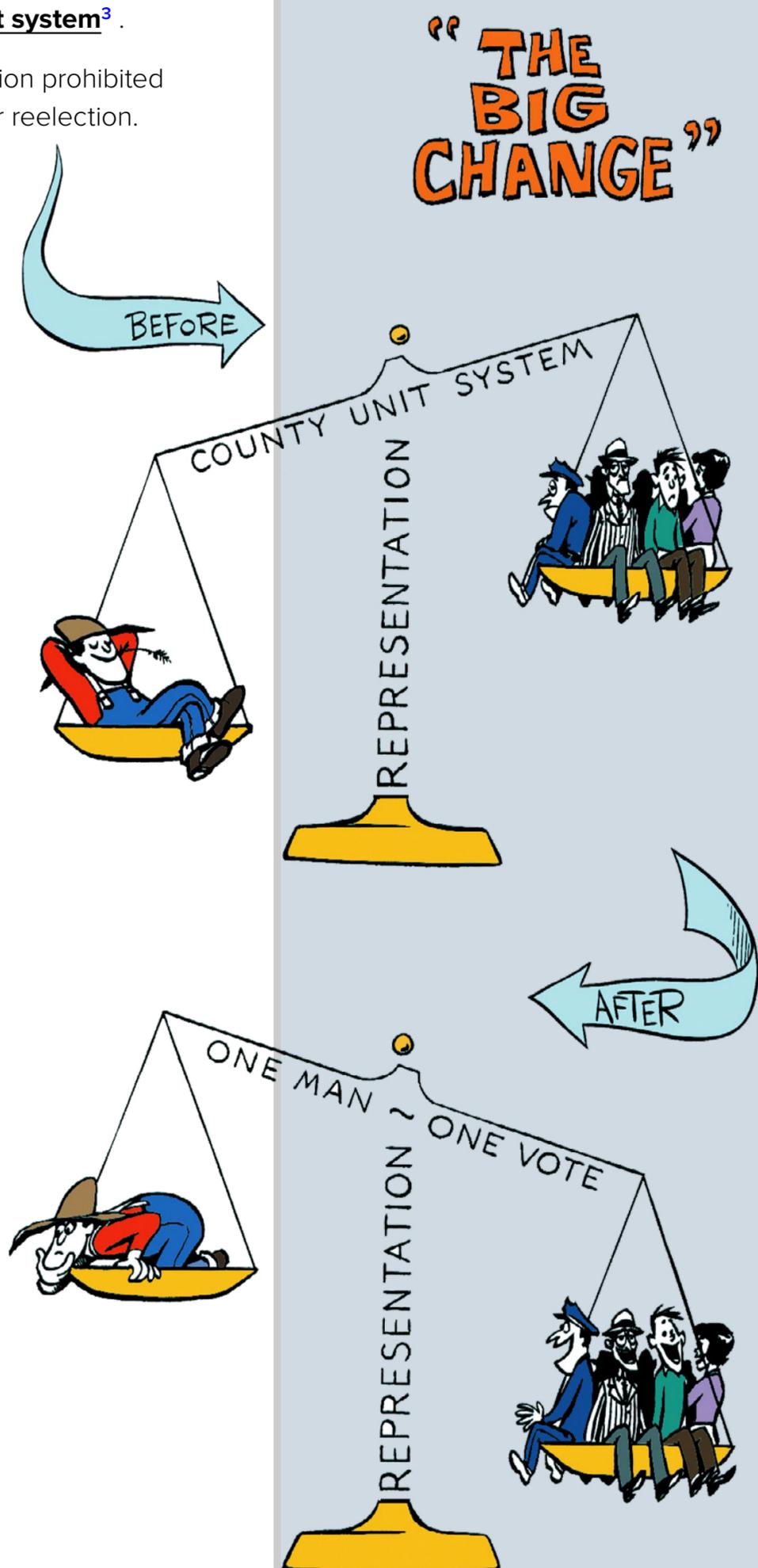
Georgia blacks of voting age, fewer than 5 were registered to vote. In rural areas, this figure was even lower. Even though some legal barriers had been eliminated, others remained. For example, blacks attempting to register to vote still faced a literacy test requiring them to read and interpret a section of the state constitution. Also discouraging blacks from voting were threats and various other pressures by whites, especially in rural areas.

THE 1946 GOVERNOR'S RACE

Former governor Eugene Talmadge was shocked that Atlanta's black voters had been able to swing the election to Mankin. Deciding it was time to act, Talmadge announced he would run again for the office of governor. His campaign called for bringing back the white primary, maintaining white supremacy, and protecting Georgia from Communists and other outside agitators.

This platform was not particularly popular in Atlanta and other large cities. But Talmadge was not campaigning for the urban vote. He was appealing to white voters who lived in rural counties. Talmadge was able to ignore city voters because of the **county unit system**³.

In 1946, Georgia's constitution prohibited a governor from running for reelection. Arnall gave his support to James Carmichael, head of Bell Aircraft at Marietta, in that year's Democratic primary. With no white primary to exclude them, thousands of black Georgians participated, helping give Carmichael a victory in the popular election. But Talmadge pulled ahead in the county unit vote and claimed victory.



The primary victory ensured Talmadge's election as governor. At the time, only the Democratic party nominated candidates in Georgia.

THE THREE GOVERNORS CONTROVERSY

Eugene Talmadge's primary win came at a cost. He was in ill health before the race, and his condition worsened during the hectic campaign. Some of his supporters now feared that Talmadge was dying. Even though no Republican was running against him in the general election, what would happen if he were to die before being sworn in?

Georgia's constitution provided that if no candidate for governor received a majority of the votes in the general election, legislators should choose from the two candidates with the highest number of votes. But in 1946, only one candidate's

name was on the ballot—Talmadge. Some of Talmadge's supporters decided to write in the name of his son, Herman Talmadge, on their election ballots. Write-in votes were cast for other names as well.

In the November 1946 general election, Eugene Talmadge won the uncontested race for governor, though several thousand write-in votes were cast for other candidates. Among these were 669 votes for James Carmichael, 637 votes for Republican D. Talmadge Bowers, and 617 votes for Herman Talmadge. Voters in 1946 also elected M. E. Thompson to the newly created post of lieutenant governor.

After the death of governor-elect Eugene Talmadge in December 1946, there was a debate as to who would serve as governor. This led to the "Three Governors Controversy."

Gov. Ellis Arnall (shown here signing document) decided to continue in office until the courts settled the matter.





Talmadge the next governor.

Georgia went into an uproar. M. E. Thompson, the newly elected lieutenant governor, claimed he should be governor. Governor Arnall agreed with Thompson and refused to give up the office to Talmadge until the issue was settled in court.

A month later, before either could be sworn in, Eugene Talmadge died. No one was sure who was to be governor. Talmadge supporters said that the General Assembly had to choose the write-in candidate with the most votes. Suddenly 58 uncounted write-in votes were “discovered” in Telfair County—Talmadge’s home county. All were for Herman Talmadge, giving him 675 total votes. The General Assembly then declared Herman

One night, Talmadge forces seized the governor’s office in the state capitol and changed the locks. Arnall set up in another office, while Thompson was in another. Georgia had three governors! Secretary of State Ben Fortson refused to let any of the three use the official state seal on government documents. Thus little official action could be taken.

After two months of confusion, Georgia’s

◀ Citizens in Hartwell follow the local vote count in the 1948 governor’s race. Acting Gov. M. E. Thompson lost to Herman Talmadge. How would voters get this information today?

Supreme Court ruled that Lt. Gov. M. E. Thompson should be acting governor until the next general election in 1948. Arnall then resigned, and Thompson was sworn in. Herman Talmadge gave up the governor's office but promised to take the case "to the court of last resort . . . the people of Georgia." ■

GOVERNORS AT MIDCENTURY

Herman Talmadge did come back, defeating Governor Thompson in 1948 in a special election to fill the remaining two years of his father's term. In the campaign, civil rights emerged as the main issue. Talmadge, like his father, promised the return of the white primary. Once elected, Talmadge fought hard to preserve segregation of the races, but he was unable to restore the white primary. At the same time, he sponsored programs to develop Georgia and improve the life of its people.

One of Talmadge's greatest achievements was passage of the Minimum Foundation Program for Education Act in 1949. After his reelection in 1950, Talmadge also pushed through Georgia's first sales tax. The 3 percent tax was needed, he argued, to improve public schools. Just one year after the tax went into effect, state funding of public education increased by an amazing 74 percent! Black and white schools were still unequally funded, but



LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 **Define:** labor unions, discrimination, county unit system
- 2 Why did Governor Arnall want labor unions in Georgia?
- 3 How did the election of Helen Mankin help bring Eugene Talmadge back on the political scene?
- 4 How did Georgia have three governors at one time?

◀ Supporters celebrated **Herman Talmadge's** 1948 win as governor. After serving another full term as governor, Talmadge went on to serve four terms in the U.S. Senate.

state support for teacher salaries no longer differed by race.

In 1956, the popular ex-governor decided to run for the U.S. Senate seat of Walter George. George was widely recognized as one of the most powerful members of the Senate, having served there for 34 years. Failing health, however, forced him out of the race, and Talmadge won the election easily.

Following Talmadge as Georgia's chief executive were Marvin Griffin and Ernest Vandiver. These three governors served during a time of great social, political, and legal changes in America. Blacks, increasingly supported by the federal government, began the movement for civil rights. In the South, many white political leaders responded with a policy of "massive resistance." Candidates expecting to be elected had to publicly pledge their support of segregation. They also had to oppose federal interference

in state affairs. State legislatures across the South passed laws to keep the races separate, especially in the public schools.

RURAL/URBAN POWER STRUGGLES

Not all Georgians defended segregation. Support for civil rights was greater in the rapidly growing urban areas than in rural areas. By the mid-1950s, a majority of Georgians lived in urban areas, but rural Georgia continued to control state politics into the 1960s. This was possible because of the county unit system, which allowed rural counties to control the election of the governor and other statewide officials. Also, election to the House of Representatives in the General Assembly was based mainly on counties, not population. Every county in the state—no matter how small—had at least one representative. No county—no matter how large—could have more than three.

In *Gray v. Sanders* (1963), Georgia's county unit system was declared unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court. The decision said that the votes of rural citizens could not count more than those of urban citizens. According to the ruling, the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution is clear in requiring "one person, one vote."



The Potbellied Pig Rufus

[Transcript](#)

Vocabulary

- 1 Labor unions** - Organizations of workers who bargain as a group with employers over wages, benefits, and working conditions.
- 2 Discrimination** - Withholding rights, privileges, and equal treatment from minority groups.
- 3 County unit system** - A formula for determining statewide races in Democratic party primary elections that placed political power in the hands of rural counties. Used from 1917 to 1962. Winners were selected by county “unit” votes rather than the statewide popular vote.

EVENTS IN HISTORY

Georgia’s County Unit System

The county unit system was a special formula for counting votes in primary elections of the Democratic party. It applied only for statewide races, such as governor and U.S. senator. Enacted by the General Assembly in 1917, the county unit system was intended to keep political power from shifting from rural areas to the growing urban centers.

Under the system, the candidate who won the most popular votes in a county won that county’s “unit” votes. These unit votes, rather than the total statewide vote of the people, determined the winner of the Democratic primary.

Under the county unit system, a county’s vote in statewide races depended on the number of members it had in the state House of Representatives. State law provided that the eight most populated counties were entitled to three representatives. The 30 next-largest counties had two each, and all the remaining counties had one representative. For each representative, a county could cast two unit votes. Here’s how the breakdown looked:

UNIT VOTES

Counties According to Population	Unit Votes per County	Total Unit Votes for Group of Counties
8 largest counties	6	48
30 next-largest counties	4	120
121 remaining counties	2	242

In races for governor and U.S. senator, a majority of county unit votes was needed. This meant at least 206 of the total 410 county unit votes. For other statewide races, a **plurality**¹ (more votes than any other candidate) was needed.

How did the county unit system help rural counties and hurt larger, urban counties? Two out of every three voters in Georgia lived in the 38 largest counties. Yet these counties were entitled to only 168 county unit votes. The 121 remaining counties, however, got 242 unit votes. This meant that one-third of the voters controlled 60 percent of the total county unit vote in the state.

Defenders of Georgia’s county unit system pointed out that the system protected the small rural counties from being controlled by the large cities, particularly Atlanta. Opponents, however, pointed out that the system violated the voting rights of Georgians who lived in urban counties. For example, in 1940, Fulton County had 392,886 residents but was entitled to just 6 unit votes in statewide races. In contrast, Quitman, Echols, Towns, Long, Glascock, and Dawson counties had total populations of 23,966 residents, but got 12 unit votes—twice as many as Fulton. In the case of the smallest county, Echols County got one county unit vote for each 1,247 residents. Fulton, in contrast, got one unit vote for each 65,481 residents.

Another problem of the county unit system was that it was possible—as had happened in 1946—for a candidate for governor to receive a majority of the popular vote in Georgia but lose the election. This could happen if another candidate won a majority of the county unit votes.

In April 1962, a federal district court struck down Georgia’s county unit system, saying it violated the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. The case was appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, which in 1963 confirmed the lower court’s decision. In so ruling, the high court established its famous “one person, one vote” rule. No matter where you live, one person’s vote cannot count any more than any other person’s vote.

INTERPRETING THE SOURCE

- 1 Define: plurality
- 2 What was the purpose of the county unit system?
- 3 Why was the county unit system unfair to the individual voter? to urban areas?

Vocabulary

- 1 **Plurality** - In elections with three or more candidates, winning more votes than any other candidate, but less than a majority.

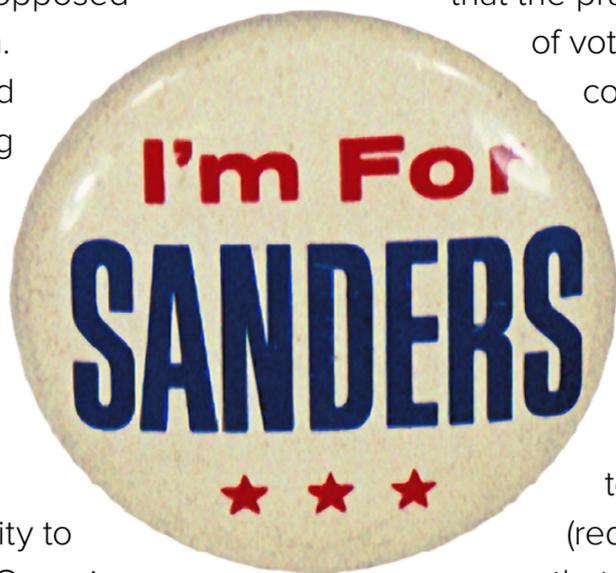
Politics in the New Era

In 1962, the death of the county unit system changed Georgia's political scene. In the Democratic primary, former governor Marvin Griffin opposed Carl Sanders of Augusta. While Griffin campaigned in the old way, appearing at county courthouses or barbecues in rural areas, Sanders went on television to appeal to urban voters. Sanders easily won the election, becoming the first resident of a large city to be elected governor of Georgia. For the first time, Georgia's rural counties had not determined the outcome of the governor's race.

In 1964, another Supreme Court ruling, *Reynolds v. Sims*, led to more change. Rural control of the General Assembly had continued because the state constitution

guaranteed each of the state's 159 counties at least one state representative. The U.S. Supreme Court, however, ruled that the practice violated the rights of voters in more populous counties. The Court said that legislative districts must be drawn solely on the basis of population. This decision forced Georgia's General Assembly to **reapportion**¹ (redraw) election districts so that each consisted of similar numbers of people. Since more Georgians lived in cities, urban areas gained and rural areas lost representatives.

Reapportionment not only affected rural-urban political power. It increased the variety of people elected to the General

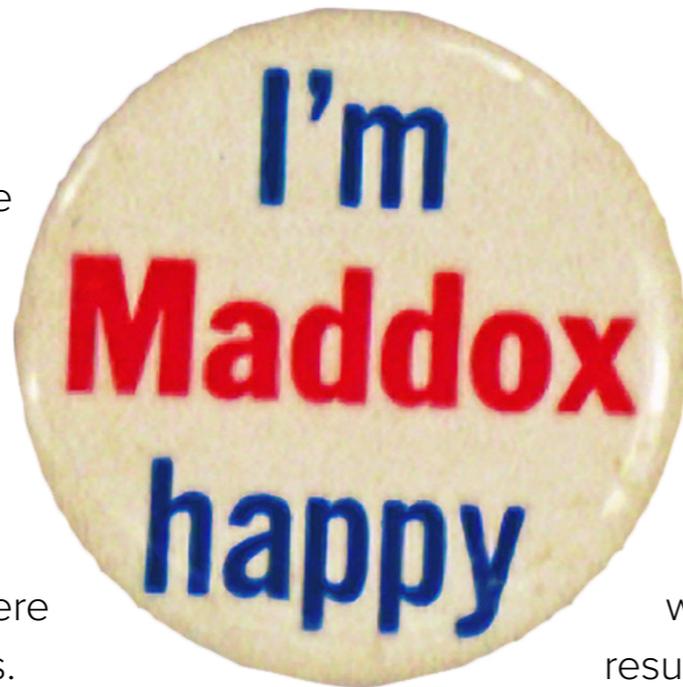


◀ **Carl Sanders** was Georgia's first governor to use television extensively in his campaign.

Assembly. No longer would state legislators be all male, all white, and all Democrat. In 1962, Atlanta voters elected Leroy Johnson, the first black legislator since 1906. In a few years, other black legislators were elected from urban areas.

Women and Republicans also gained additional representation in the chambers of the state capitol.

Carl Sanders had campaigned for governor on the idea of a “new Georgia.” Once elected, he tried to avoid the open appeals to racism that had been part of Georgia’s politics since Reconstruction. His stress was on the need for progress in Georgia. To move the state ahead, he encouraged business and industry from other states to invest in Georgia. Governor Sanders worked to improve the state’s public colleges and universities. He also



tried to improve Georgia’s relations with the federal government. But presidents Kennedy and Johnson, Congress, and the federal courts took actions in support of civil rights that angered many white Georgia citizens. As a result, in the 1964 presidential

election, a majority of Georgia voters supported Republican Barry Goldwater in his failed bid to defeat Pres. Lyndon Johnson.

Two years later, federal support of civil rights was still on the minds of many Georgia voters. Governor Sanders was prohibited by the state constitution from running for reelection. Democratic contenders included ex-governor Ellis Arnall, Atlanta businessman Lester



Maddox, and state legislator Jimmy Carter from Plains. In the primary, voters chose outspoken segregationist Lester Maddox, who had closed his restaurant rather than serve black customers.

In the general election, for the first time in almost a century the Republican party had a serious candidate for governor—Howard “Bo” Callaway. In 1964, Callaway had been elected Georgia’s first Republican congressman since Reconstruction. Like Maddox, he defended segregation and opposed federal attempts to enforce civil rights.

In the 1966 general election, Callaway got more votes than Maddox. But because 7 percent of the voters had written in Ellis Arnall’s name on their ballots, Callaway did not receive a majority of the total vote. According to the state constitution, the General Assembly had to choose between the two highest vote-getters. Even though Callaway had received the most popular

votes, the Democratic legislature chose Maddox.

The 1966 election proved to be an important turning point in the relationship between the governor and General Assembly. Until then, a newly elected governor got to name the speaker of the House of Representatives and the committee chairmen. As a result, the legislature tended to be a “rubber stamp” for the governor. But when the General Assembly met after the 1966 general election to choose a governor, for the first time they were free to name their own officers. After that, no governor would dominate the legislature as before. ■



LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

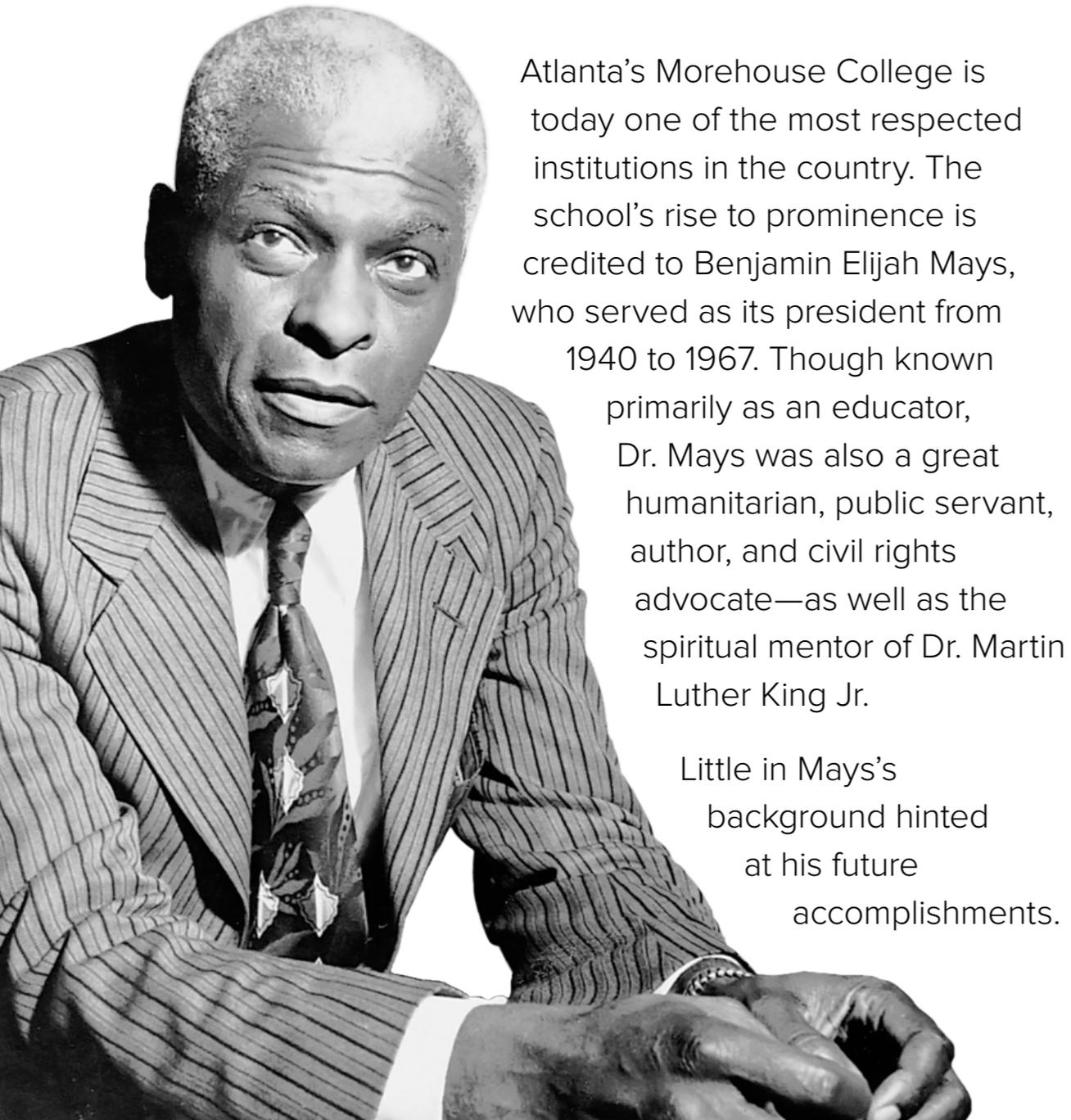
- 1 **Define:** reapportion
- 2 **Identify:** “one person, one vote”
- 3 What were the benefits from the new sales tax that began during Gov. Herman Talmadge’s administration?
- 4 How did the end of the county unit system change Georgia’s political scene?
- 5 What was Carl Sanders’s idea of a “new Georgia”?

Vocabulary

- 1 **Reapportion** - To redraw election districts for representative bodies, such as Congress and the General Assembly.

GEORGIANS IN HISTORY

Benjamin Elijah Mays



Atlanta's Morehouse College is today one of the most respected institutions in the country. The school's rise to prominence is credited to Benjamin Elijah Mays, who served as its president from 1940 to 1967. Though known primarily as an educator, Dr. Mays was also a great humanitarian, public servant, author, and civil rights advocate—as well as the spiritual mentor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Little in Mays's background hinted at his future accomplishments.

He was born in 1895 in rural, impoverished South Carolina. His parents were former slaves turned tenant farmers. As an adult, he would tell a story about praying while he plowed. In his prayers, he would ask God to help him receive an education during a time when most blacks couldn't read.

At 22, Mays was graduated first in his class at the high school department of South Carolina State College. He enrolled in an all-black Virginia college, then transferred a year later to previously all-white Bates College in Maine, graduating with honors in 1920. He went on to the University of Chicago for further study. When his funding ran out, he left the school and held a variety of jobs—including teaching and pastoring—before earning his doctorate from Chicago in 1935.

Mays served as dean of Howard University's School of Religion for six years before moving to Morehouse. While he was president, Morehouse's enrollment doubled and its endowment quadrupled. It was at Morehouse that he first met a bright eleventh grader who would become one of America's greatest

Morehouse College.
Graves Hall building

leaders—Martin Luther King Jr. He became his friend and mentor, and suggested that King study the nonviolent teachings of Gandhi.

Mays was also involved in unraveling segregation. He filed a lawsuit in 1942 that ended the practice of separated dining cars on Pullman trains. In 1954, he told the American Baptist Convention that the Christian church was America's most segregated institution. In 1960, Mays encouraged students to hold sit-ins at public establishments across Atlanta to protest segregated conditions.

At age 72, two years after retiring from Morehouse, Mays was elected to the Atlanta Board of Education, serving 12 years as its president. During that time, he was instrumental in gaining support for a compromise desegregation plan and averting a strike by teachers and employees.

Mays was recognized widely for his contributions, receiving 49 honorary doctorate degrees from 1945 to 1981. An Atlanta street and a public high school are both named for him. He died in 1984, at the age of 89.



Growth and Change in Metropolitan Atlanta

Just as politics had changed, life for Georgia's people went through great changes in the decades after World War II. One big change was Atlanta's rapid growth. Helping contribute to this growth was the decision by Congress in 1956 to

build a 41,000-mile national network of interstate highways. Atlanta was chosen as the southeastern hub on which the national interstate system would be built. It would become one of only five cities in America served by three separate



◀ Atlanta changed dramatically during the late 1950s and decade of the 1960s. Its first regional shopping mall, Lenox Square, opened in 1959. About the same time, construction began on a new modern terminal for the Atlanta Airport, which was completed in 1961. During the 1960s, Atlanta's skyline saw significant changes.

interstate highways—I-75, I-85, and I-20. The addition of I-285 (a perimeter freeway around the city) further attracted business, industrial, and transportation facilities to Atlanta. Then came new industrial parks, warehouses, office complexes, shopping centers, and a boom in housing and apartment construction.

During the 1950s and 1960s, the Atlanta metropolitan region—an area consisting of Fulton, DeKalb, Cobb, Gwinnett, and Clayton counties—grew rapidly. Easy access to Atlanta by train, truck, or plane was a major reason for that growth. Railroads and superhighways extended out in every direction from the city.



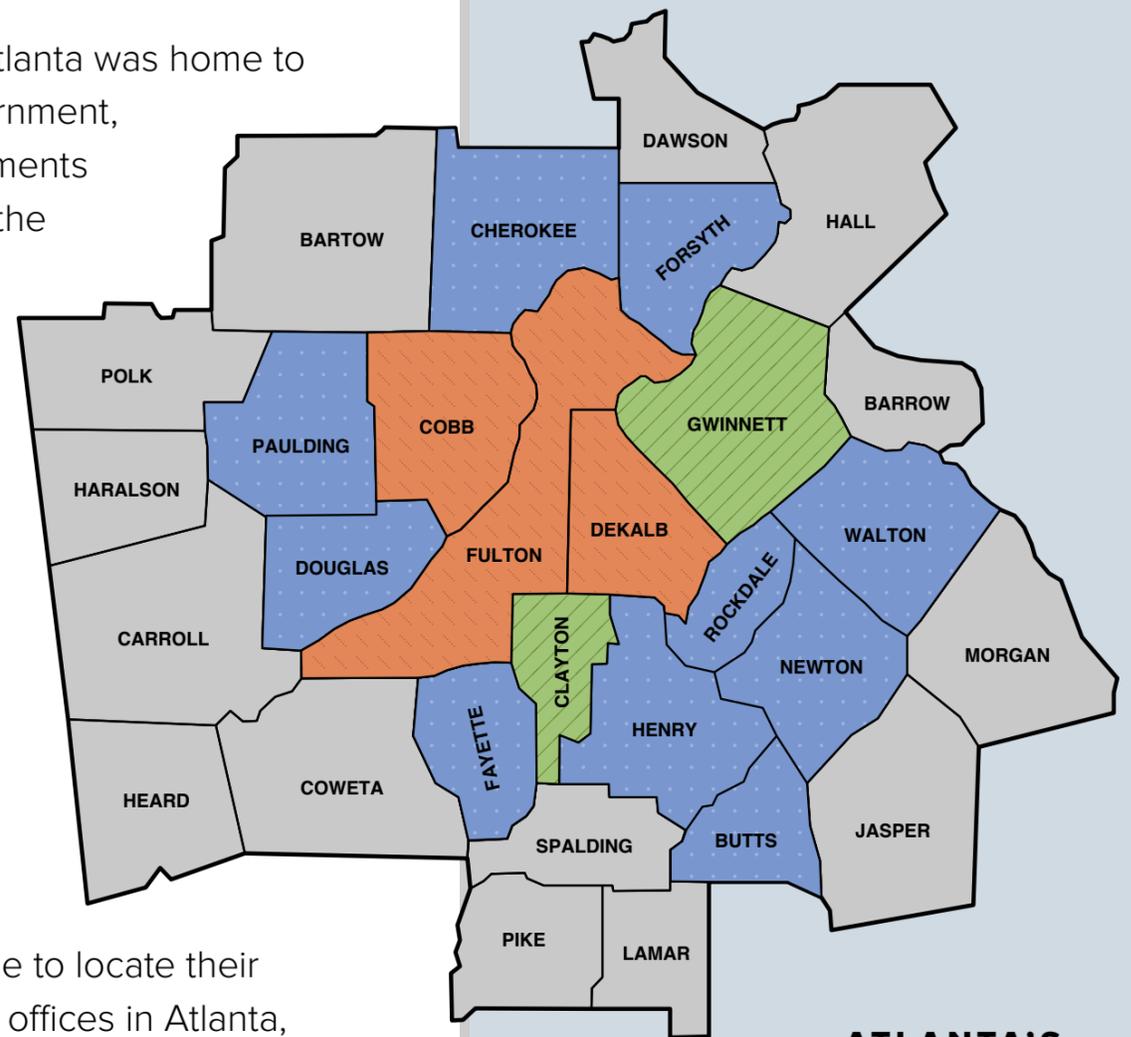
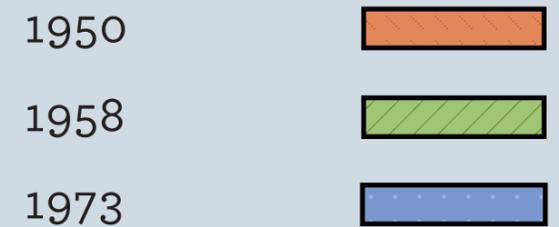
- ◀ During the 1960s, Atlanta mass transportation consisted of city buses. But in 1964, voters approved creation of the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority. In 1979, MARTA's first rapid rail service began.

About one in five Americans lived within overnight delivery of goods shipped from Atlanta by truck. In 1961, a new \$20 million terminal helped make Atlanta’s airport one of the busiest in the nation. Led by Delta, Eastern, and Southern Airways, Atlanta was the heart of air transportation in the Southeast.

Atlanta was enjoying a diversified economy, with a good mix of manufacturing and industry, banking, business, and services. A healthy industrial sector included such transportation giants as Lockheed, Ford, and General Motors. Atlanta was recognized as the most important business and financial center of the Southeast. By the 1960s, a majority of the nation’s 500 largest corporations had offices in Atlanta, and 8—including Coca-Cola and Delta Airlines—had their headquarters there. Metropolitan Atlanta also was strong in the service industry. Law, insurance, real estate, accounting, and other professional firms prospered.

Other services were provided by hotels, restaurants, wholesale and retail businesses, and the communications, transportation, utilities, and entertainment industries.

In the public sector, Atlanta was home to a very large city government, as well as the governments of Fulton County and the state of Georgia. Also important to the economy were several independent authorities, notably those to build and operate Grady Hospital, the Atlanta–Fulton County Stadium, and Atlanta’s public housing. Many federal agencies chose to locate their southeastern regional offices in Atlanta,



ATLANTA'S POPULATION

Atlanta’s metropolitan region grew dramatically every decade. In contrast, the population actually living within Atlanta’s city limits grew more slowly, with much of the growth during the 1950s due to annexing new land to the city. The largest annexation came in 1952, when 92 square miles were added. This not only tripled the land area of Atlanta, but gave the city 100,000 new residents.

Year	METROPOLITAN ATLANTA		CITY LIMITS	
	Total Population	Percent Black	Total Population	Percent Black
1940	442,294	29.3	302,288	34.6
1950	671,797	24.7	331,314	36.6
1960	1,017,188	22.8	487,455	38.3
1970	1,390,164	22.6	496,973	51.6

too. Other important federal facilities in Atlanta included Fort McPherson, the Federal Reserve Bank, the Centers for Disease Control, and the Atlanta Federal Penitentiary. The federal district court for Georgia's northern district was also located in Atlanta.



Atlanta public and private colleges and universities also helped contribute to the growth of the region. By the 1950s and 1960s, several had attained national reputations. The Georgia Institute of Technology was recognized for its engineering and technology programs. Emory University was known for its liberal arts and theology programs, medical school, and hospital. The Atlanta University Center (which included seven associated colleges) was famous as the leading center for African American higher education in the United States.

During this era, the Atlanta Division of the University of Georgia, created in 1949, became the Georgia State College of Business Administration in 1955 and Georgia State College in 1961. The college was elevated to university status in 1969. Several Atlanta-area junior colleges were also created in the 1960s.

In part, Atlanta's success was due to the efforts of its business and political leaders

◀ Mayor **Ivan Allen Jr.**

to promote the city’s future. In 1961, for example, Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr., launched a “Forward Atlanta” program (similar to that led by his father in the 1920s). Atlanta’s ability to attract new business and industry, Allen believed, depended on achieving these goals:

- 1 Completion of the interstate highways that served the city
- 2 A new sports stadium
- 3 Professional baseball and football teams for the city
- 4 Rapid rail as part of the public transportation system
- 5 Keeping the public schools open at a time when some politicians were calling for closing schools rather than integrating them

During the first three years of Forward Atlanta, 173 new plants and 323 branch offices opened in Atlanta, creating an

estimated 70,000 new jobs. By the end of the decade, the city had professional baseball, football, basketball, and hockey teams. Atlanta also had a perimeter expressway around the city, six four-lane highways to enter and leave downtown, and a new Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA).

At the same time, Atlanta was undergoing a major change in the makeup of its population. Large cities such as Atlanta, Savannah, and Augusta provided African Americans with more opportunities than they had found in rural areas, including a growing number of jobs that came with new businesses. As a result, during the 1960s, some 70,000 blacks moved into the city. During the same period, 60,000 whites left the city, often settling in the suburbs to the north and east of downtown. By the late 1960s, blacks were a majority of Atlanta’s population. ■

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 What decision by Congress helped make Atlanta a transportation hub in the Southeast?
- 2 Were the goals of Ivan Allen Jr.’s Forward Atlanta program met?
- 3 How did the population makeup of Atlanta change during the 1960s?



CHAPTER 19 QUIZ

Text Version

Chapter 20

Foreword

Georgia Standards of Excellence
Correlations ▼

[SS8H11](#)

[SS8H12](#)

Chapter Outline

Civil Rights and the Law

- School Desegregation
- Desegregation of Public Facilities
- Attitudes toward Civil Rights Progress

Civil Rights Movement Grows

- Students Join the Movement
- Increasing Violence
- The Albany Movement
- Birmingham and Beyond
- The March on Washington

The Federal Government Acts

- Voting Rights

Efforts Continue

- The Focus Changes

SS8H11

Evaluate the role of Georgia in the modern civil rights movement.

- Explain Georgia's response to *Brown v. Board of Education* including the 1956 flag and the Sibley Commission.
- Describe the role of individuals (Martin Luther King, Jr. and John Lewis), groups (SNCC and SCLC) and events (Albany Movement and March on Washington) in the Civil Rights Movement.
- Explain the resistance to the 1964 Civil Rights Act, emphasizing the role of Lester Maddox.

SS8H12

Explain the importance of developments in Georgia since the late 20th century.

- Explain how the continued development of Atlanta under mayors Maynard Jackson and Andrew Young impacted the state.



The March on Washington, 1963 was led by civil rights groups with the support of religious organizations and labor unions.

CHAPTER 20



Georgia World War II, Segregation

◀ [Transcript](#)

AT FIRST GLANCE

This chapter explores the civil rights movement, beginning with the initial protests to segregation laws and practices around the turn of the century. World War II produced a new determination among African Americans to resist discrimination, laying the groundwork for the civil rights movement. Landmark events in that movement such as the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, the Montgomery bus boycott, sit-ins, the Albany Movement, and the March on Washington are described in the chapter. A primary source interview with Rosa Strickland, a black school teacher and principal in the 1940s, describes the poor conditions at her school. Other primary sources include excerpts from the writings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and from Ralph McGill. Dr. King is the subject of a Georgians in History feature. The chapter concludes with an examination of key legislation enacted by the federal government and a look at how the civil rights movement has changed.

The Civil Rights Movement

[Civil Rights and the Law](#)

[Civil Rights Movement Grows](#)

[The Federal Government Acts](#)

[Efforts Continue](#)

At the time America entered World War II, segregation of the races was still a way of life in most of the United States. This was particularly true in the South, the region of the nation with the highest percentage of African Americans. Reminders of America’s dual society were common, especially in public places. Signs reading “White” and “Colored” marked water fountains, restrooms, movie theater entrances, and places to sit on the bus and train.

In Georgia, blacks had organized early to protest laws that discriminated against them. Resistance to segregation dated back to the late 1890s and early 1900s. Black leaders in Atlanta, Augusta, Rome, and Savannah had organized boycotts to protest new laws requiring segregation on streetcars. But their efforts were unsuccessful, and blacks were forced to ride in the back of the streetcars.

World War II was a turning point for race relations in the United States. During the war, many young Americans of both races served in the armed forces. Though assigned to segregated units, black soldiers fought and died just like white soldiers. After the war, some black war veterans began to challenge the segregated society back home. Also, many black workers were not willing to accept lower pay for doing the same jobs as whites.

During the Cold War era, the United States presented itself to the world as the defender of freedom and democracy. Yet how could a country make this claim and still practice racial discrimination at home? In 1947, President Truman appointed a civil rights commission to recommend ways to ensure equality for all Americans. The next year, he issued an order to end segregation in the armed forces.

Most white southerners feared ending the only way of life they had ever known. But by the 1950s, black Americans, and some whites, were showing a new determination to break down the barriers to equal opportunity in America. Their determination became the force behind the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s.

Civil Rights and the Law

Segregation laws during the first half of the twentieth century were possible because of the 1896 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in the case of *Plessy v. Ferguson*. This ruling (described in Chapter 15) said that segregation was legal as long as blacks had access to facilities equal to those

for whites. Under this separate but equal doctrine, however, facilities for blacks were seldom comparable to those for whites.

In the decades that followed, black leaders debated the best approach for gaining social and political equality. In



◀ Signs enforcing segregation were a common sight in every community.

1910, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was established. Its approach was to secure **civil rights**¹—the protections and privileges given to all citizens by the Constitution—for blacks through the nation’s courts. The NAACP frequently filed lawsuits against discriminatory laws and practices. ■

**Hands that pick cotton...
now can pick our public officials**



Register And Vote!

SCHOOL DESEGREGATION

In the late 1940s, lawyers for the NAACP and other civil rights groups went to court. Their targets were the dual school systems set up by law in Georgia and other states. They argued that although black people paid taxes just like white people, they did not receive the same services from government. In Georgia, for example, state government spent over four times as much to educate a white student as it spent to educate a black student. White teachers’ salaries were more than double those paid to black teachers.

With black and white schools so clearly unequal, the legal basis for separate but equal began to crumble. Courts began ruling that educational opportunities for blacks had to be improved.

Even segregationists began to approve of spending more money on black schools. Perhaps in that way, they thought,

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 **Define:** civil rights
- 2 Why was World War II a turning point in race relations in the United States?
- 3 How were segregation laws in the first half of the twentieth century influenced by an 1896 Supreme Court decision?



separate schools could be maintained. In Georgia, more money was pumped into public education for blacks and whites. However, inequalities still existed. In 1954, Georgia spent \$190 to educate each white child, \$132 on each black child. Through an order of the U.S. Supreme Court, those conditions were about to change.

On May 17, 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down a historic decision. The case, *Brown v. Board of Education*, wiped

out the legal basis for racial segregation in public education. According to the Court, segregation laws were unconstitutional; they violated the Fourteenth Amendment, which guarantees all citizens equal protection (or treatment) under the law. Said the Court, “We conclude that in the field of public education the doctrine of ‘separate but equal’ has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently [by nature] unequal.” The ruling threw the weight of the nation’s highest court behind the movement to give all citizens equal rights. In time, the entire federal government would uphold this principle.

The *Brown* ruling did not set a date for achieving the integration of public schools. In the South, most government and school officials opposed it. Georgia’s Governor Talmadge denounced the Supreme Court’s decision, saying it had reduced the Constitution to “a mere scrap of paper.” An *Atlanta Constitution* editorial advised that this was no time to encourage agitators on

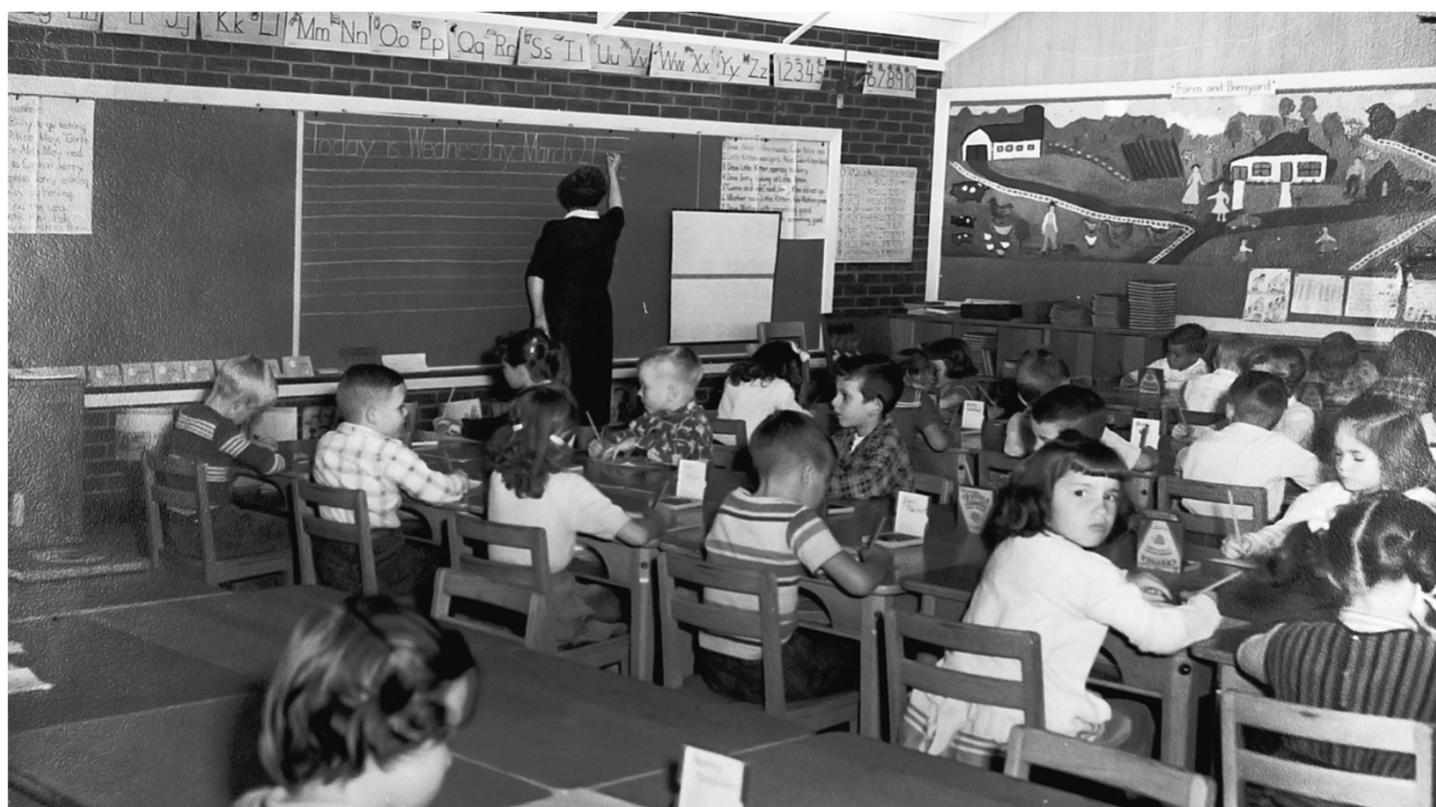
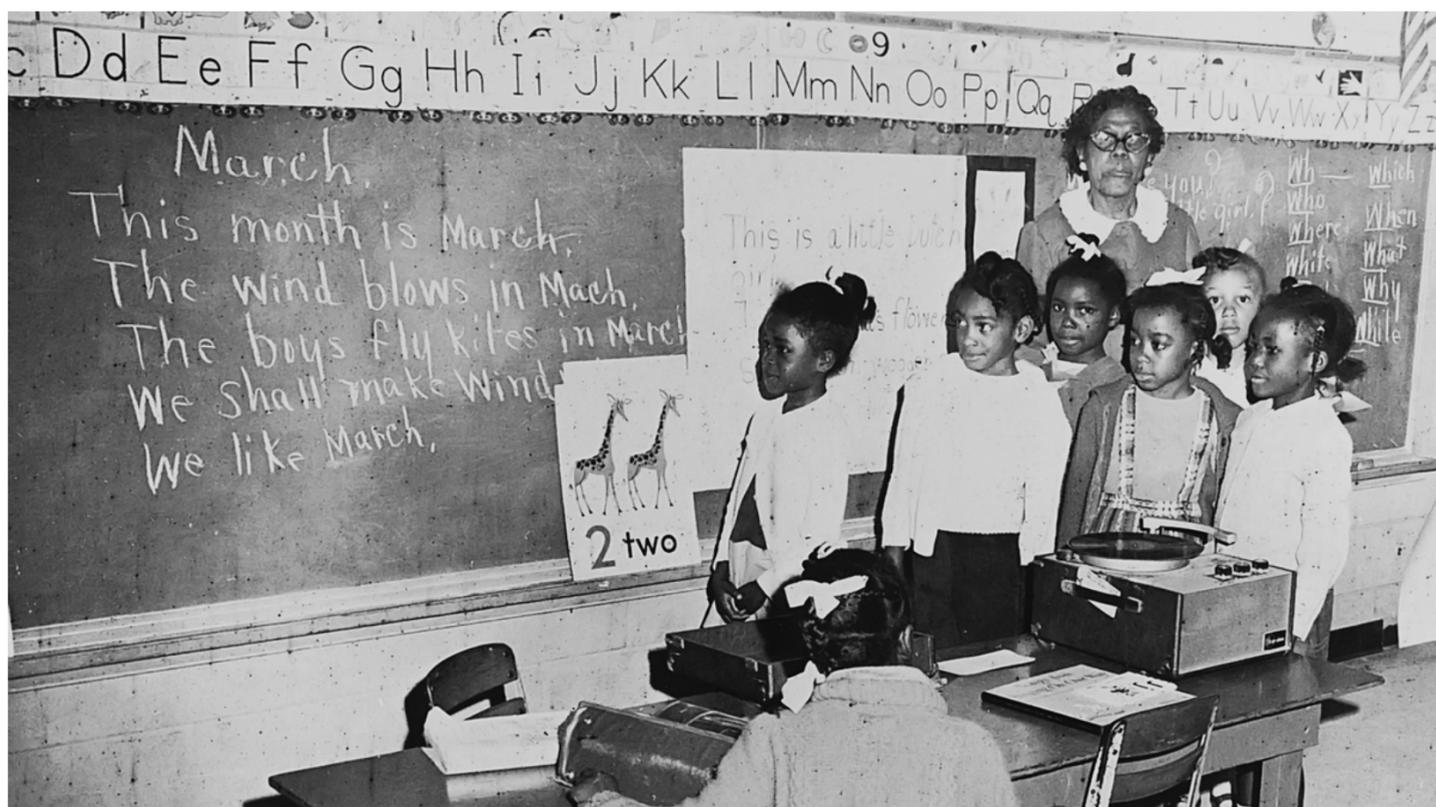
- ◀ In May 1955, the U.S. Supreme Court ordered that segregated schools be ended. Public schools had to take immediate steps to desegregate.

either side “or those who are always ready to incite violence or hatred. . . . It is time for Georgians to think clearly.”

In May 1955, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a second ruling in the *Brown* case. The court now ordered that segregated schools be ended “with all deliberate speed.” Public schools had to take

immediate steps to **desegregate**² (enroll black and white students in the same schools).

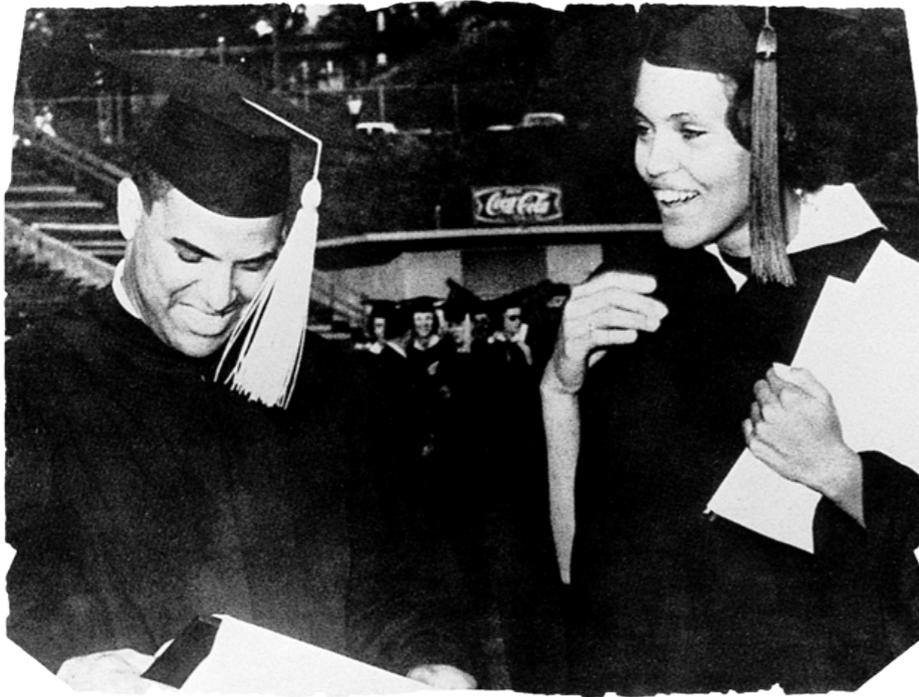
Across the South, reaction was immediate. Most white politicians and newspaper editors expressed outrage with the Supreme Court, calling its action unconstitutional. Georgia’s new governor,



◀ Separate schools for blacks and whites, like these in Chatham County and Camden County, existed in Georgia for many years after the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* decision.

Marvin Griffin, spent most of his four years in office (1955–1959) pushing a program of “massive resistance” to the two *Brown* decisions. Officials thought that a massive effort to avoid enforcing the court’s decision would result in the federal government changing its position on segregation. The General Assembly even went so far as to pass laws that would abolish Georgia’s public schools if need be. It voted to support private schools, to close schools that desegregated, and to prosecute local school officials who permitted desegregation. These laws were never enforced.

Eventually, change did come. As the



1960s began, some Georgia political leaders, including Gov. Ernest Vandiver, called for the schools to be kept open, even in the face of desegregation. After

holding hearings around the state, the Sibley Commission recommended leaving desegregation in the hands of local school systems. In 1961, token integration of Atlanta public schools began.

DESEGREGATION OF PUBLIC FACILITIES

The schools were only one type of public, or tax-supported, facility segregated by law. After the *Brown* ruling, civil rights

◀ In 1961 **Hamilton Holmes** and **Charlayne Hunter** became the first black students to be admitted to the University of Georgia. They graduated in 1963 and went on to successful careers, Holmes as an Atlanta physician and Hunter (now Charlayne Hunter-Gault) as a journalist.

lawyers challenged segregation in other areas, such as public transportation, libraries, auditoriums, parks, and beaches. In a series of rulings, federal judges struck down segregation of these facilities, too.

While the courts were considering these cases, blacks—and whites who supported their cause—began using other methods to arouse public support. In 1955, Rosa Parks, a department store seamstress in Montgomery, Alabama, tired from a long day at work, refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white passenger. She said she had paid the same fare as everyone else and had a right to a seat. Following her arrest, the black community, led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., organized a boycott of the Montgomery bus system.

King, who was born and raised in Atlanta, was the new pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery. His role in the bus boycott established him as a national civil rights leader. He advanced the cause of civil rights through the use

of a technique called nonviolence. His followers might choose to disobey laws they felt unjust and fill up a community's jails by doing so. They might resist—and take abuse—when ordered to move on. But they would be peaceful. There would be no violence on their part.



◀ Until 1947, professional baseball, like other aspects of American life, was segregated, with black and white ballplayers in separate leagues. On April 15, 1947, Georgia-born Jackie Robinson, wearing a Brooklyn Dodgers uniform, took his position at first base—breaking baseball's so-called color barrier forever. His courage in the face of intense racism, as much as his athletic ability, distinguished him throughout his baseball career and life. Why were people like Jackie Robinson important to black Americans? To white Americans?

For over a year, black residents of Montgomery stayed off city buses. They walked or organized car pools as their means of transportation. Some whites reacted harshly, trying to prevent the changes that appeared to be coming. There were bombings of churches and homes, threats, and beatings. In the end, however, Montgomery buses were integrated.

ATTITUDES TOWARD CIVIL RIGHTS PROGRESS

Many white Georgians, as well as other southerners, were outraged at what was happening. Some blamed the racial unrest on outsiders—whites and blacks from the North. Many accused the federal government of tampering with southern customs. Candidates for public office and leaders in state and local governments spoke out against federal government attempts to enforce civil rights laws.

Other voices among white southerners attacked the unfair treatment of black southerners. One such voice belonged to Ralph McGill. Born in Tennessee in 1898, McGill went to work for the *Atlanta Constitution* in 1929 as a sportswriter. Later he wrote about politics, economics, and life in the South. He was concerned about the plight of the poor—black and white—and worked to bring help to them.

In his writing, he attacked the white supremacy policies of Gov. Eugene Talmadge. In 1942, McGill managed Ellis Arnall's successful campaign for governor. That same year he became editor of the *Atlanta Constitution*.

In the 1950s, McGill called on his fellow southerners to tear down the barriers that

Peaceful marches became a frequent strategy in the civil rights movement.



prevented blacks from participating fully in community life. He said not to wait for the federal government to step in. His opinions gained national attention. By 1958 he was being called the “conscience of the South.” Not all readers, however, liked what Ralph McGill wrote. In some places in Georgia, the *Atlanta Constitution* vanished from newsstands. He was threatened by the Ku Klux Klan and others.

Ralph McGill tried to see all sides of the issues surrounding race relations in the South—and tried to explain what he saw to his readers. He also tried to explain to Americans in other parts of the country what was happening in the South in the 1950s and early 1960s. ■

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 Define:** desegregate
 - 2** What was the argument used by NAACP lawyers to challenge the dual school systems in Georgia and other states?
 - 3** What was the importance of the U.S. Supreme Court case *Brown v. Board of Education*?
 - 4** How were the black residents of Montgomery able to make the bus boycott a success?
-

Vocabulary

- 1 **Civil rights** - The protections and privileges given to all citizens by federal and state constitutions and laws.
- 2 **Desegregation** - The act of opening once-segregated facilities to both races. Also known as integration.

PRIMARY SOURCE

Rosa Strickland

In 1981, a black woman who had been a teacher and a school principal was interviewed in Athens, Georgia. In the following passage, Rosa Strickland describes her school of the 1940s.

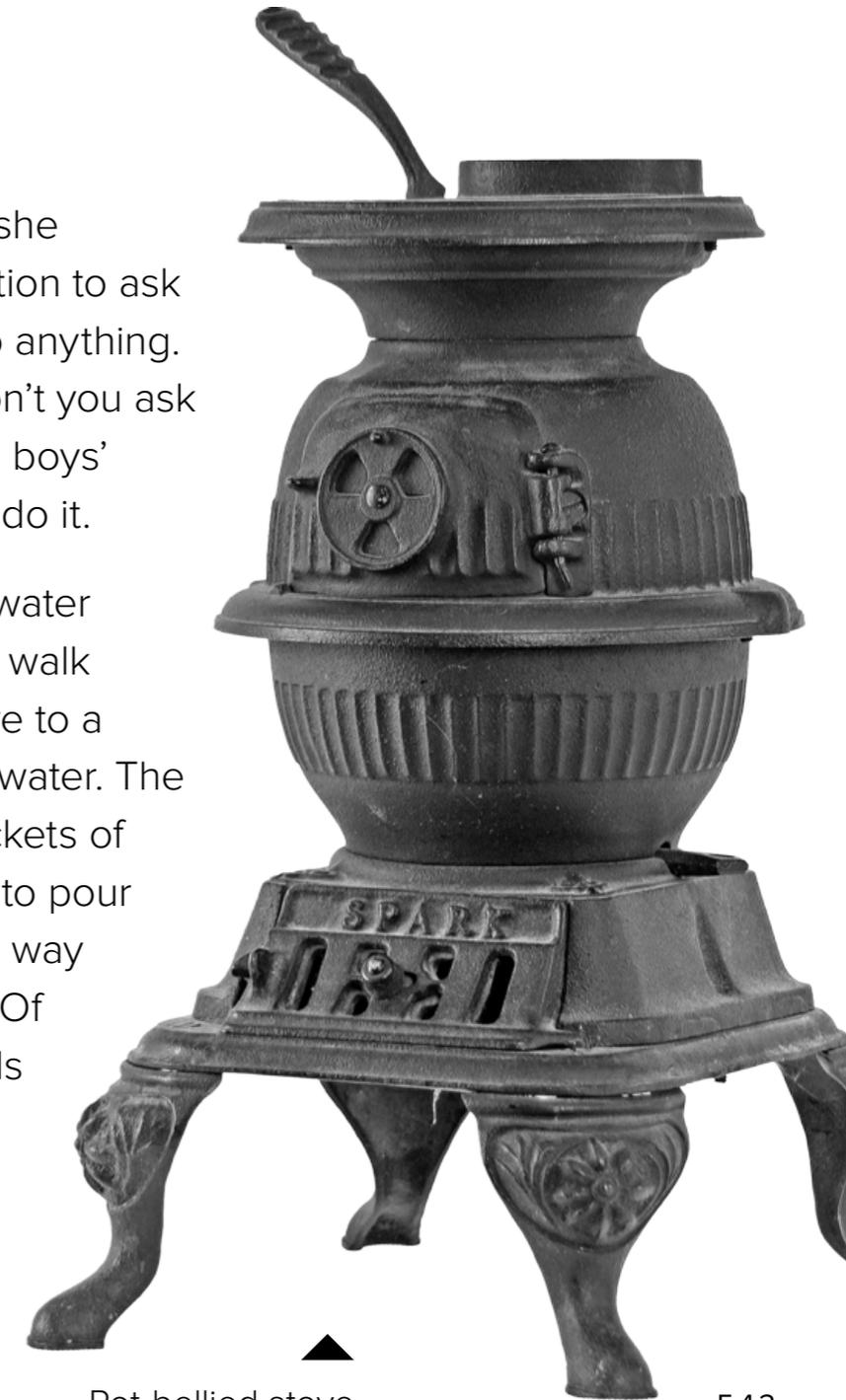
The particular school where I was, was fair. But getting fuel was bad. We had a pot-bellied stove in each room—we had three rooms, three teachers. In the winter, the boys spent most of the time going to the woods and picking up trash to burn in the stoves. They couldn't study for going to get wood, because the county did not furnish wood to us.

Most of our books were used, second-hand books; some were too old to really be used in school.

We had outdoor toilets—the boys' was pretty bad. The principal was very old and she didn't feel like askin' the superintendent—you know how some black people were afraid to ask white

people to do anything—she thought it was an imposition to ask the superintendent to do anything. I would ask her, “Why don't you ask him to fix that floor in the boys' toilet?” But she wouldn't do it.

And we didn't have any water on the place—we had to walk about four blocks or more to a neighbor's house to get water. The children would bring buckets of water from that distance to pour in a big barrel. That's the way they got drinking water. [Of course, many white pupils in Georgia in the 1940s went to schools that had no indoor plumbing.]



Pot-bellied stove

Then, I became principal and I went to the [main] office more and looked around and saw how we were cheated out of books. I saw the many nice readers that they had on the shelves and I asked the superintendent for them and why he hadn't given us any. He said, "Well, ah didn't know yuh needed 'em," or something. So, in fact I got the readers, and workbooks along with 'em, and other books—new editions we should have been gettin' all the while.

After that, I asked him about fixing the boys' toilet. He said, "Well, ah am." So, finally, one day, the floor fell through. And that day I got hot. I went by the office and said to the superintendent, "The county could get sued." So, then he sent somebody out to put a new floor in.

Then, after that, I said, "We really need some water on the grounds. It's dangerous; the building could catch on fire. It's not healthy for the children to bring water in the dust all up and down that way, their little dresses getting in the water. It's bad." So, I found somebody to come out and dig a well, and the county paid for it.

Then, after that, I said, "I feel the county should furnish us some fuel." He said, "Well, we just don't have the money for fuel." So, I called the parents together and told 'em the conditions we

had and I said if we pledged \$2 each, I believed we could buy enough coal and wood to supply us for a time. And we did—enough to keep the boys in the classroom.

Later, I got a blacksmith to make us swings and seesaws for the playground. He came out and put them up.

We even had lights in the building. I told the superintendent we wanted to have some programs out there at night. He said the county didn't have the money. I asked him if we, the parents, raised \$10 would he do it? We raised the money and the county sent the folks out to wire the building. Then we had lights.

Brotherhood in the South

One night I was asked to talk to the men's Bible class of a smalltown church. I tried to speak casually, yet seriously, noting that we Southerners have a reputation for being Bible-oriented, for quoting from it, and for using it in our politics. I said that somehow along the way we had managed to exclude the Negro from our concept of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. . . .

Our basic national problem, but more especially ours in the South, was to accept the Negro as one with us in human brotherhood. We need him in the South, and in the nation, as an educated, trained, participating citizen. This did not mean, I insisted, that anyone's privacy would be disturbed. It was only necessary for us to grant the full rights of citizenship and to see the Negro as just another human being. . . .

There was polite applause. Later, when the meeting was concluded, an old man came up to me. "I just want you to know," he said, and there was no heat in his voice, "that I believe in white supremacy. Even the Bible says as much. I hold with our traditions."

I patted him on the shoulder and said, "Well, the Bible is interpreted in many ways."

He was old and troubled and on the defensive. Also, there was a genuine pathos [sorrowful quality] in him. There are many like him, young and old. If they cannot hold on to the concept of their superiority, their small universe will crumble. . . .

There was an impulse to put my arms about his frail shoulders, showing so beneath his worn, clean, church-supper coat, and to say to him, Everything will be all right. Don't you try to change. You go right on clinging to what gives you strength.

I put out my hand and he took it. I went away thinking about all the cynical and bitter men, in politics and out, of this generation and of those of the past who have had a part in making that old man (and the thousands like him) what he was. . . .

[This excerpt by Ralph McGill was adapted from *The South and the Southerner*, published by Little, Brown and Company, 1959, 1963.]



▲ Ralph McGill won a Pulitzer prize in 1959 for a column he wrote about the bombing of the Atlanta Jewish temple and the burning of a black school.

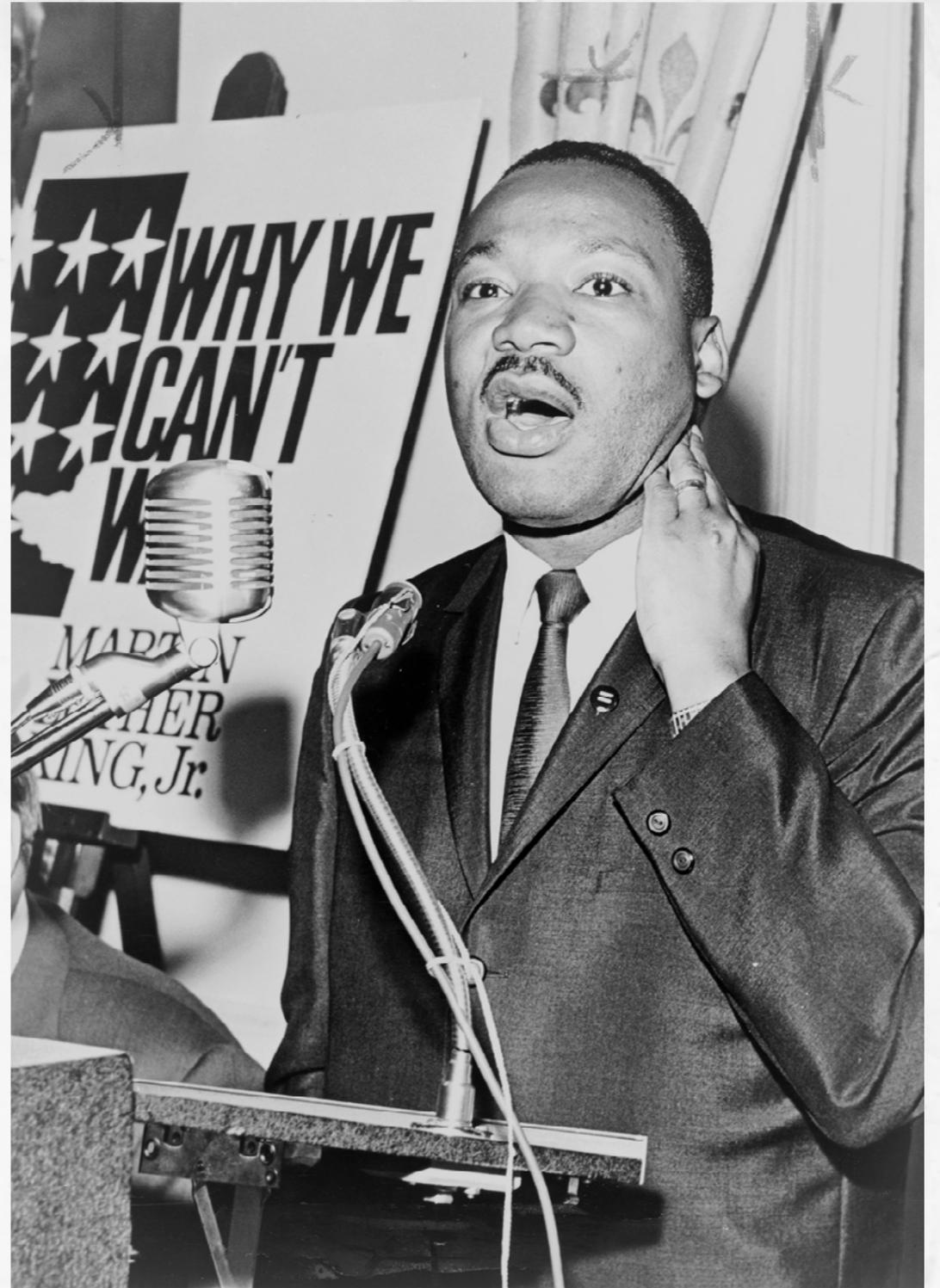
Letter From Birmingham Jail

... For years now I have heard the word “wait.” It rings in the ear of every Negro with piercing familiarity. This “wait” has always meant “never.” We must come to see . . . that “justice too long delayed is justice denied.”

We have waited for more than 340 years for our constitutional and God-given rights . . . but we still creep at horse-and-buggy pace toward gaining a cup of coffee at a lunch counter. Perhaps it is easy for those who have never felt the stinging darts of segregation to say, “wait.” But, when you have seen vicious mobs lynch your mother and father, . . . when you see the vast majority of your twenty million Negro brothers smothering in an air-tight cage of poverty in the midst of an affluent society; when you suddenly find your tongue twisted and your speech stammering as you seek to explain to your six-year-old daughter why she can’t go to the public amusement park that has just been advertised on television, and see tears welling up in her eyes when she is told Funtown is closed to colored children; . . . when you take a cross-country drive and find it necessary to sleep night after night in the uncomfortable corners of your automobile because no motel will accept you; when you are humiliated day in and day out by nagging signs reading “white” and “colored,” . . . then you will understand why it is difficult to wait.

—April 16, 1963

[This excerpt from a letter by Martin Luther King Jr. appeared in 1963 in *Why We Can’t Wait*, published by Harper & Row Publishers.]



▲ King promotes his book *Why We Can’t Wait* at a press conference. The book included a version of the full text of his letter from Birmingham Jail.

Civil Rights Movement Grows

In 1957, Martin Luther King Jr. helped create a new civil rights organization, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). The headquarters of the SCLC were in Atlanta. King became its first president, and his friend and fellow pastor from Montgomery, Ralph Abernathy, became the treasurer. Andrew Young, who had worked as a minister in Thomasville, Georgia, left a job with the National Council of Churches to direct a voter registration project for the SCLC. Young, like Abernathy, became one of King's top aides. The SCLC developed into one of the dominant civil rights organizations in the country. The organization's strategy to end segregation was based on non-violence. Its work included peaceful marches and protests, boycotts, and sit-ins. Sit-ins are organized protests in which participants sit peaceably in a racially segregated place, such as a restaurant or a movie theater, to integrate it.

STUDENTS JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Early in 1960, four black students in Greensboro, North Carolina, sat at a Woolworth's lunch counter and asked to be served. When they were refused, they stated that they would remain and keep coming back until they were served. Joined by black and white students from nearby colleges, the sit-in continued for months. Eventually the lunch counter was integrated.

Following their example, other students started sit-ins and boycotts throughout the South. In Atlanta, Lonnie C. King (no relation to Dr. King) and Julian Bond became student leaders. They announced that their goal was to use legal and nonviolent means to obtain their full rights as citizens. Dr. King joined the

Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) was one of the organizations of the American civil rights movement in the 1960s.



students at a sit-in to integrate the lunch counter at Rich's department store.

To better organize and plan their activities, students formed the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, SNCC (pronounced snick), in 1960. Headquartered in Atlanta, SNCC worked closely with the SCLC to end segregation. However, sometimes the student group felt the SCLC was too passive and the SCLC felt SNCC was too militant, so there were strains in their relationship.

INCREASING VIOLENCE

Under the leadership of James Farmer, another civil rights organization, the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), prepared to challenge segregated southern bus terminals. The Supreme Court had outlawed segregation on interstate buses and trains in 1946 and in terminals in 1960. In reality, segregated

terminals remained. In 1961, trips on interstate buses, known as "freedom rides," were organized. Black and white members of CORE and SNCC volunteered as freedom riders. On the first trip, the riders were beaten and one bus was burned in Alabama. Angry mobs attacked

Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) marched in Washington, DC, one week after four young girls were killed in a church bombing in Birmingham, Alabama.



the riders at some stops, and riders were arrested as they tried to enter segregated terminals. Despite the violence, freedom rides continued throughout the summer. In September, the federal Interstate Commerce Commission issued new regulations putting an end to segregated terminals as of November 1. But would these rules be obeyed in the segregated South?

THE ALBANY MOVEMENT

In the fall of 1961, three SNCC members were in Albany, Georgia, conducting a voter registration drive. They also encouraged local black students to become more involved in demanding civil rights. In November, seven local black organizations and SNCC met and formed an organization they named the Albany Movement. Their goal was to end segregation in the city through negotiation

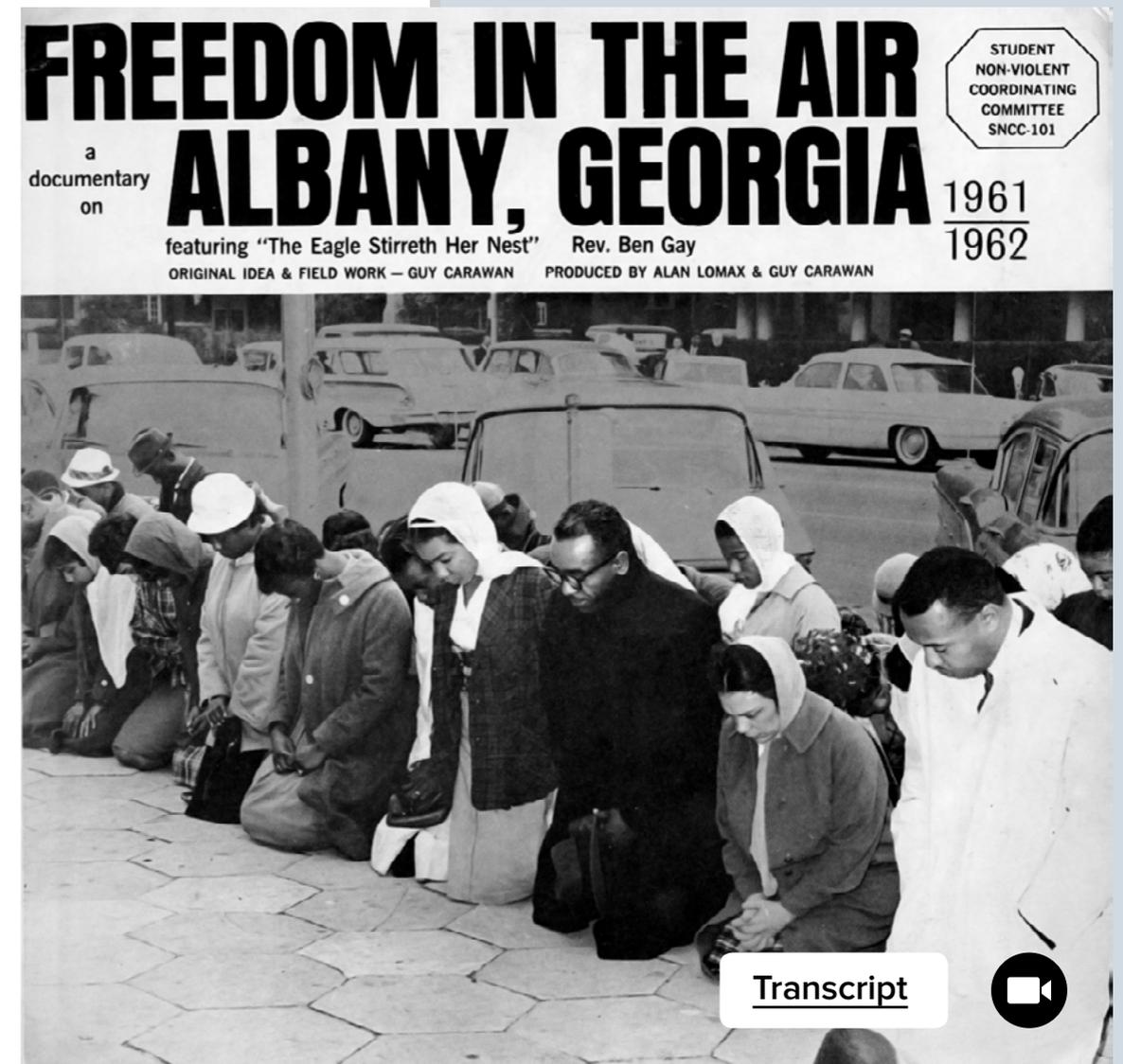
rather than demonstrations and violence.

One of their first efforts was to test the Interstate Commerce Commission's ban on segregated railroad and bus stations.

Three weeks after the ban went into effect, three black high school students walked into the Albany bus station's waiting room for white passengers. When police told them to leave, the students refused and were arrested. That afternoon, two Albany State College students tried the same thing and also ended up in jail.

What followed was almost a year of mass meetings, protest marches, and arrests. Not only Albany's jails

During the **Albany Movement**, demonstrators marched to city hall, where they knelt in prayer. At this point, police would arrest the protestors and put them in jail.



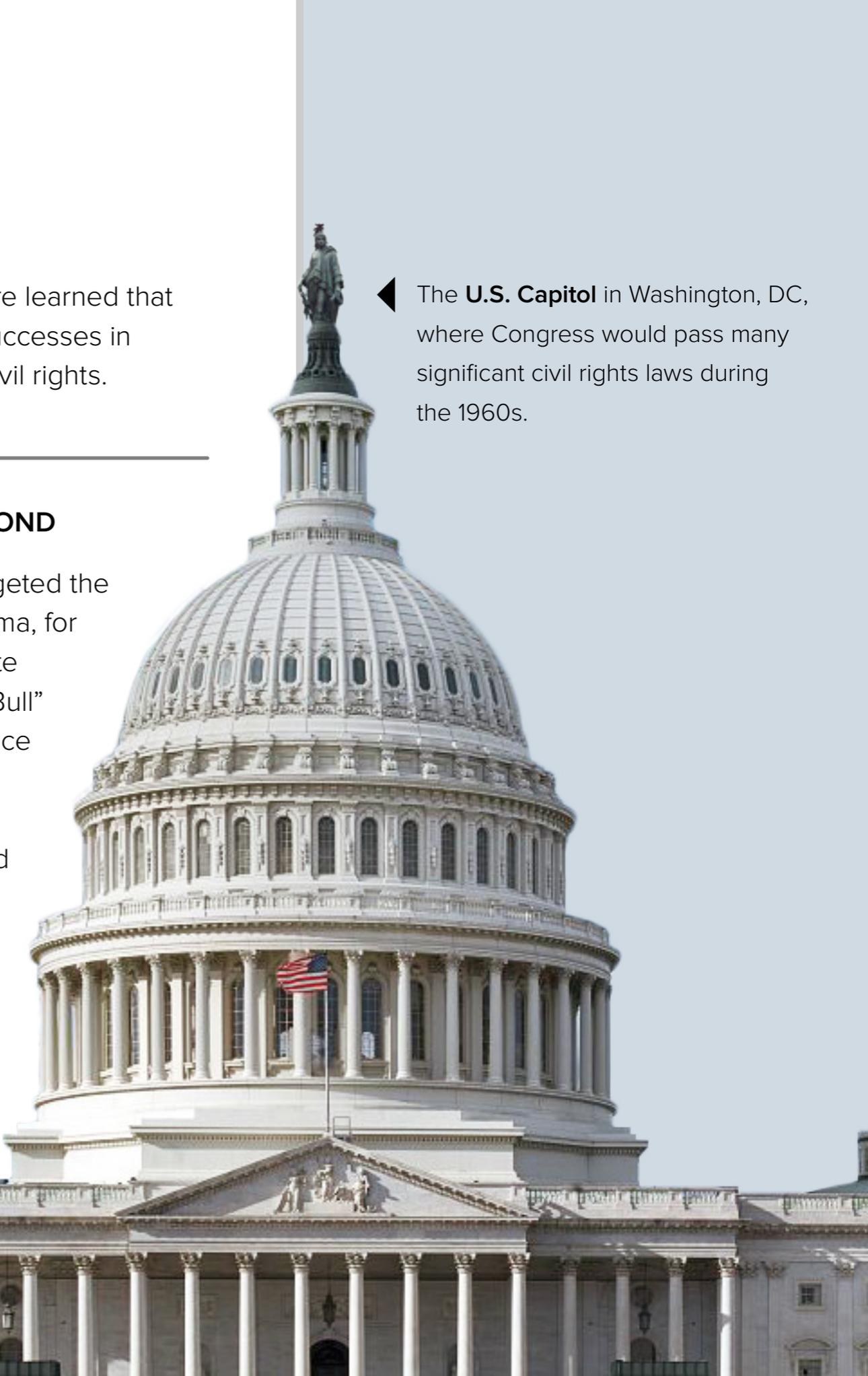
were full but also those of surrounding counties. Martin Luther King was asked to help. In December, King led a march of several hundred people to pray at city hall. Police were waiting and arrested most of them. By now, more than 500 marchers—including King and Ralph David Abernathy—were in jail.

Released from jail, King continued his campaign—and was arrested two more times. But the Albany black community was running out of willing marchers, bail money, and enthusiasm. City officials refused to budge, and facilities remained segregated or were closed. Also, a split had developed in the Albany Movement over strategy, including how much influence outsiders such as King and the SCLC should have. Eventually, the movement failed in its immediate objective—the desegregation of Albany.

But important lessons were learned that would help bring future successes in broader movements for civil rights.

BIRMINGHAM AND BEYOND

In 1963, SCLC leaders targeted the city of Birmingham, Alabama, for their next effort to integrate public facilities. Eugene “Bull” Connor, Birmingham’s police commissioner, vowed to stop integration no matter what. King, Abernathy, and others were arrested and jailed as they began a protest march. By then, King was getting a lot of criticism, not only from segregationists



◀ The **U.S. Capitol** in Washington, DC, where Congress would pass many significant civil rights laws during the 1960s.

but also from white moderates, even members of the clergy. He was causing too much turmoil by trying to move too fast, they said. He should be patient. In response, King, while being held in solitary confinement, penned a “Letter from Birmingham Jail,” explaining his actions.

After his release, more marches were planned. As promised, Bull Connor tried to stop the marchers. He used police dogs to attack and intimidate them. He ordered that powerful fire hoses, strong enough to knock mortar off bricks, be turned on the marchers to drive them back. Hundreds were arrested, but more and more marchers came. All the while, the rest of the nation watched the violence and brutality on the evening news. Finally, Birmingham business owners agreed to integrate. Angered, white supremacists bombed local black churches, homes, and businesses.

By now, racial unrest was rocking America. Protesters in Maryland, Virginia, Florida,

and other states were beaten and jailed. On national television, President Kennedy asked “whether all Americans are to be afforded equal rights and equal opportunities, whether we are going to treat our fellow Americans as we want to be treated.” He went on to outline his plans for civil rights legislation. That same night in Mississippi, NAACP leader Medgar Evers was shot and killed in his driveway as he returned from a meeting. In the 10 weeks after the Birmingham agreement, 186 American cities experienced racial demonstrations. A total of 14,733 arrests were made, and the number of demonstrations reached 758.

The most famous single event of the civil rights movement was the **March of Washington** in August 1963. Here, before a quarter million people, Martin Luther King Jr. gave his famous “I Have a Dream” speech.



THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON

The time was right. Leaders of the nation’s civil rights organizations met in New York to plan the March on Washington. Its



purpose would be to demonstrate the tremendous support behind the civil rights movement. Present at the July meeting were Roy Wilkins of the NAACP, Martin Luther King Jr., of the SCLC, John Lewis with SNCC, James Farmer of CORE, Whitney Young of the National Urban League, and A. Philip Randolph of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. It was agreed that Randolph would lead the march.

In August 1963, more than 250,000 citizens—blacks, whites, Indians, Hispanics, and others—gathered and marched in Washington, DC. The highlight of the gathering was a speech by King, from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. “I have a dream,” King said. In a speech that would become a part of history, he described his vision of racial equality. The March on Washington generated support for civil rights. The next year, 101 years after the Emancipation Proclamation had been issued, Congress passed far-reaching civil rights legislation. ■

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 What strategy did the Southern Christian Leadership Conference use to end segregation?
- 2 What was the purpose of the freedom rides?
- 3 Why was Dr. King criticized after his arrest in Birmingham in 1963?
- 4 What was the purpose of the March on Washington?

◀ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. greets the crowd gathered at the Lincoln Memorial before delivering his famous “I Have a Dream” speech.

GEORGIANS IN HISTORY

Martin Luther King Jr.

Few who grew up in the Auburn Avenue area of Atlanta during the 1930s could have predicted that Martin Luther King Jr. would become Georgia's most famous native son. King was born in Atlanta in 1929. His father, Martin Luther King Sr., was pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, and his grandfather, A. D. Williams, founded Ebenezer. The bright "M.L." (as he was called then) finished Morehouse College at age 16, and entered Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pennsylvania. That was when he began to emerge as the brilliant thinker and speaker who would later help found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, work to end segregation, and win the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize.

At Crozer, King was exposed to ideas such as pacifism, social activism, and nonviolent civil disobedience. He would continue to refine and practice them his entire life, both at Boston University, where he earned a Ph.D., and in the pulpits of Montgomery's Dexter Avenue Baptist Church and Ebenezer Baptist in Atlanta. Dr. King urged those in the civil rights struggle



▲
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on the steps of his boyhood home in Atlanta in 1967. The house is located only a few blocks from Ebenezer Baptist Church where Dr. King preached.

to put New Testament teachings into practice, to meet violence with passive resistance and prayer as they staged sit-ins, voter registration projects, and marches during the changing 1960s. After the passage of the Civil Rights and Voting Rights acts, King turned his attention to fighting poverty and discrimination in housing and jobs. For him, the issue wasn't white against black; it was justice against injustice.

While holding fast to his belief that all people, of all colors, are created equal and should be treated equally, Dr. King endured threats, beatings, and imprisonment. He was assassinated in 1968 while visiting Memphis, Tennessee, to support a city garbage workers' strike.

As news of the assassination spread, riots broke out in Washington, DC, and in dozens of other cities. But Atlanta, Dr. King's home, was relatively quiet as the city prepared for his funeral. Thousands of mourners poured into Atlanta from all over the country. Watching television, millions of Americans saw Dr. King's casket borne through the streets on a mule-drawn wagon. They also saw the nation's leaders gather at Ebenezer Baptist Church to pay tribute to King.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change in Atlanta continues his work today. In 1986, Congress and the president designated the third Monday in January as a national holiday, to honor Dr. King's January 15 birthdate.



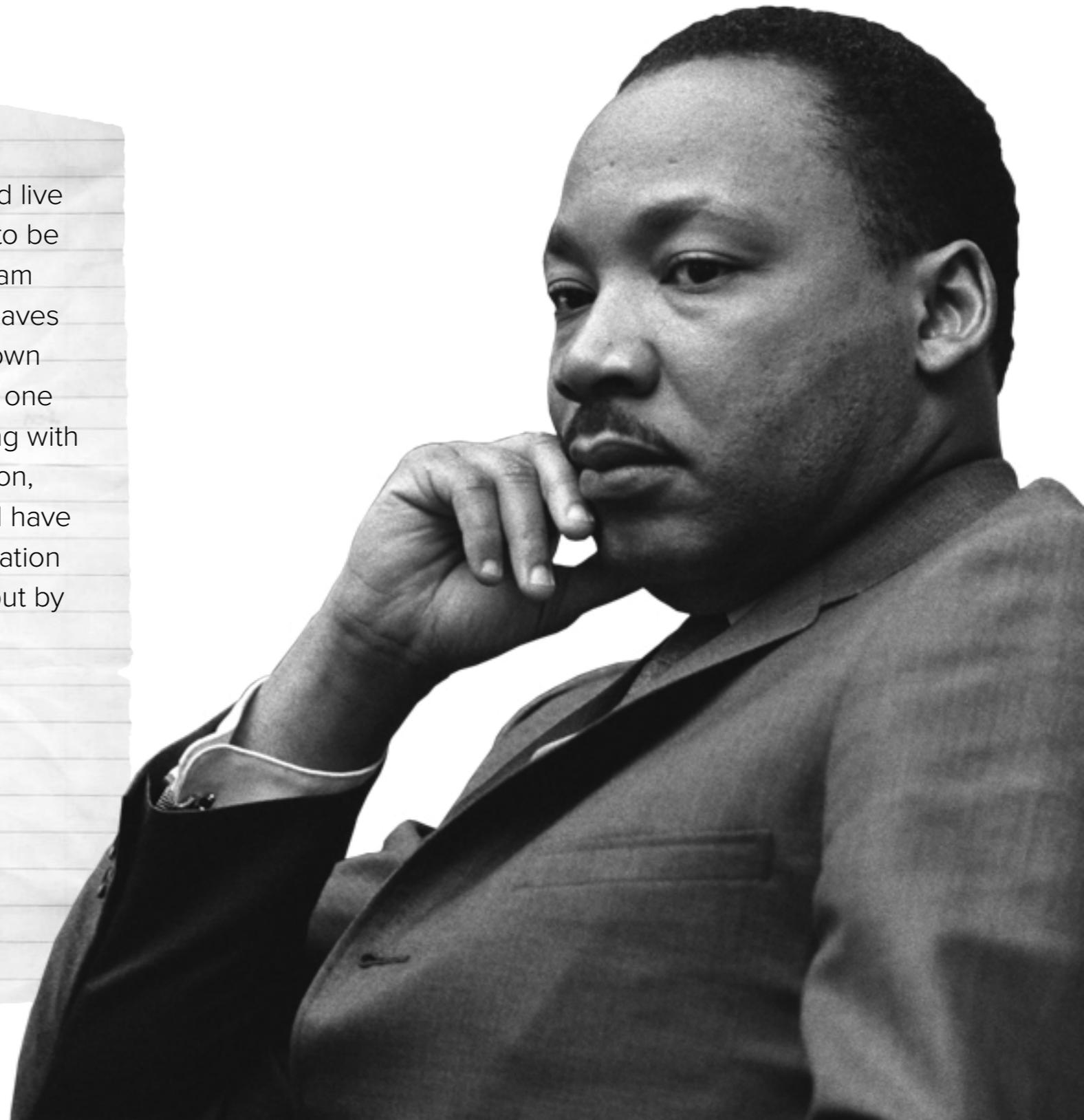
I Have a Dream Speech

. . . I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.” I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood. I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a desert state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice. I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character. . . .

[From a speech by Martin Luther King Jr. delivered on August 28, 1963.]



[Transcript](#)



The Federal Government Acts

The legislative and executive branches of the national government followed the lead of the federal courts. In 1957, Congress passed a law giving the U.S. Department of Justice new powers to investigate violations of civil rights. That same year, Pres. Dwight Eisenhower used federal troops to enforce court-ordered school desegregation in Little Rock, Arkansas.

In the early 1960s, Pres. John Kennedy used the power of the federal government to enforce desegregation of schools and colleges in Alabama and Mississippi. After President Kennedy's assassination in 1963, Pres. Lyndon Johnson pushed for passage of more laws to protect civil rights. Congress passed the **Civil Rights Act of 1964**¹. The act prohibited racial discrimination in employment and labor unions and in public facilities, such as swimming pools and playgrounds. The Civil Rights Act allowed the government to withhold federal funds from school systems that refused to desegregate.

One of the first court cases to challenge the Civil Rights Act originated in Atlanta. In *Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States*, the Court ruled that discrimination by race in privately owned public accommodations, such as motels, was illegal. Hotels, restaurants, theaters, amusement parks, and sports stadiums

A civil rights protest, 1962. In front of a segregated Atlanta hotel, one man pickets for an end to discrimination while another hands out KKK leaflets.



[Transcript](#)



could no longer turn away black customers or force them to sit in separate sections.

In 1968, the Fair Housing Act outlawed racial discrimination in the buying, selling, renting, and leasing of real estate. This law made it possible for blacks to choose where they wanted to live. Property owners and managers and real estate agents could no longer refuse to allow blacks access to housing.

VOTING RIGHTS

By 1960, most blacks in Georgia and other southern states still were disfranchised. Voter registration drives were conducted throughout the South but with only limited success. Some whites fiercely opposed registration of black voters. They wanted to keep blacks from gaining political power even if they committed murder to do it. In June 1964, two white civil rights workers,

Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner, went to Mississippi to work in a voter registration drive. They both disappeared along with James Chaney, a local CORE member. Their bodies were found two months later. But even murder did not stop people from continuing to work for black voter registration.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 required state election officials to treat white and black voting applicants the same way. Still there were problems. In order to focus attention on obstacles to voter registration in the South, King and Abernathy planned a march in Alabama from Selma to the state capitol in Montgomery. Gov. George Wallace of Alabama objected to the march. He sent mounted state troopers to stop the marchers. Troopers met them at the Edmund Pettus Bridge and used cattle prods and whips

Civil rights activist, educator, and state legislator Grace Hamilton was the first African-American woman elected to the Georgia General Assembly, in 1965.



to disperse the crowd. The marchers persisted. With the help of federal troops sent in by President Johnson, thousands of people of all occupations, ages, and races continued the march from Selma to Montgomery in support of voting rights for all Americans.

That fall, Congress passed the **Voting Rights Act of 1965**². Under this act, the federal government, rather than state government, had the power to register voters in certain states. It could also send federal examiners into counties where local election officials might be discriminating against blacks. Finally, no new law that affected voting in any way could be passed without the approval of the U.S. Justice Department. This was to make sure that election laws were not unfair to blacks.

Following passage of the Voting Rights Act, hundreds of thousands of black citizens registered to vote in Georgia and

six other southern states. As a result, black candidates were elected to public office. In 1965, eight black candidates were elected to the Georgia House of Representatives. Among the eight were Grace Hamilton, the first black woman to hold that office, and 25-year-old Julian Bond, who gained national attention when the House refused to seat him because of his opposition to the draft during the Vietnam War. Andrew Young, after losing his first race, was elected to Congress in 1972, becoming the first black congressman from Georgia in the twentieth century. In 1973, Maynard Jackson became the first black mayor of Atlanta.

As a young lawyer, **Maynard Jackson** won election as vice-mayor of Atlanta in 1969. Four years later, Atlanta voters elected him mayor, making him the first African American to head a major southern city.



Vocabulary

- 1 **Civil Rights Act of 1964** - Federal legislation that prohibited racial discrimination in labor unions, employment, and public facilities.
- 2 **Voting Rights Act of 1965** - Legislation that gave the federal government power to register voters and approve any election law changes in certain states, principally in the South.

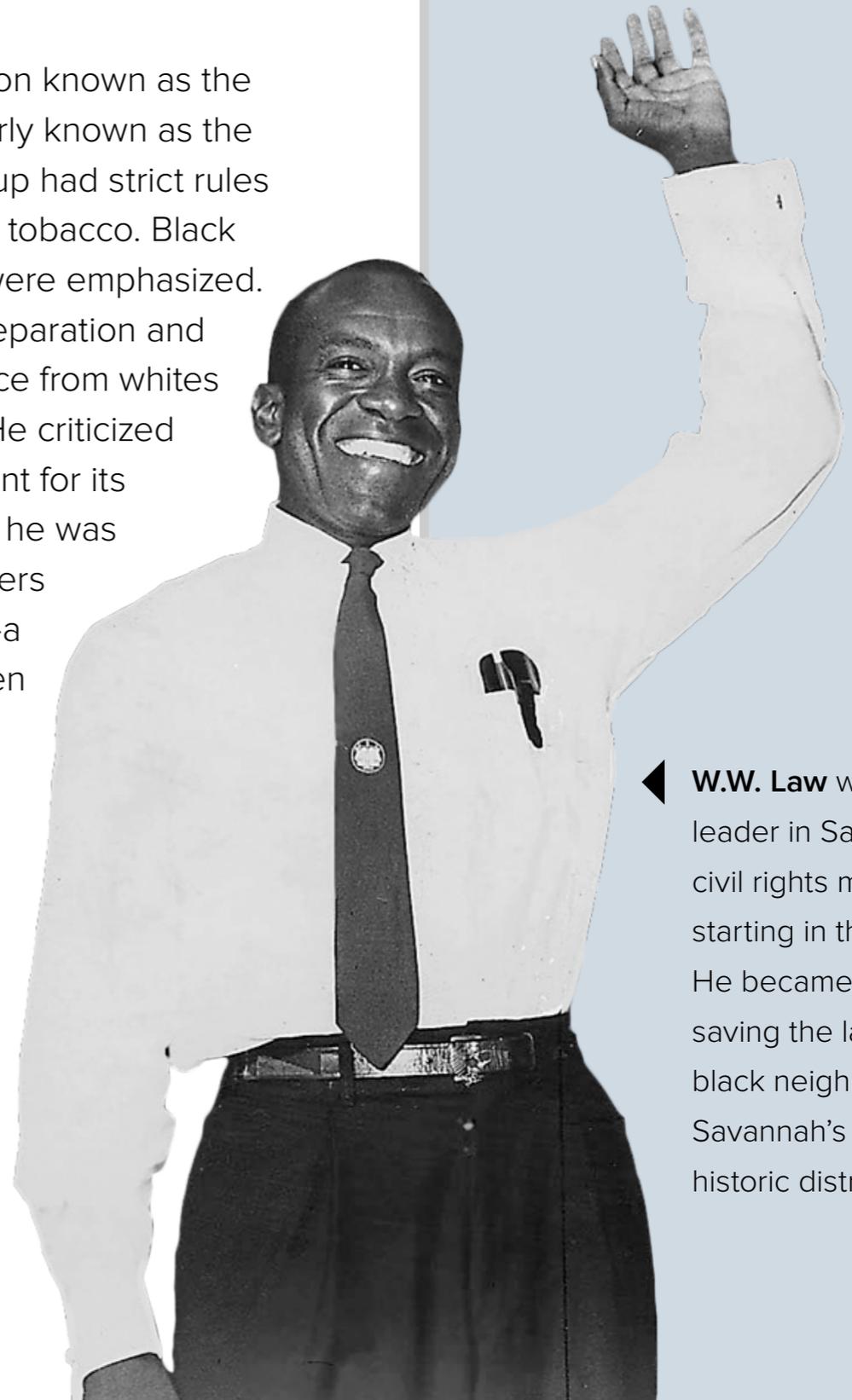
Efforts Continue

Nationally and in Georgia, the civil rights movement was changing. There were growing disagreements among its leaders. Even though the civil rights and voting rights acts had been passed, continuing white resistance to change was discouraging. Many new, young leaders felt resentment and anger. Not all agreed with Dr. King's tactics of nonviolence as the way to bring about change. Militant groups were forming that rejected even working with sympathetic whites. Rather, they appealed to black pride and called on fellow blacks to take control of their own destiny. This was the beginning of what was being called the Black Power movement. African dress and natural hairstyles called Afros became popular. Such phrases as "Black Is Beautiful" and "Black Power" came into use.

One of the most radical new leaders was Malcolm X. Born Malcolm Little, he changed his last name when he joined

the religious organization known as the Nation of Islam. Popularly known as the Black Muslims, the group had strict rules of no alcohol, drugs, or tobacco. Black culture and family life were emphasized. Malcolm X preached separation and economic independence from whites as a means of power. He criticized the civil rights movement for its slow progress. In 1965, he was assassinated by members of the Nation of Islam—a year after he had broken away from the group.

In 1961, Stokely Carmichael joined the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Five years later he became its head. After years of practicing nonviolent techniques,



◀ **W.W. Law** was a leader in Savannah's civil rights movement starting in the 1940s. He became involved in saving the last surviving black neighborhood in Savannah's downtown historic district.

Carmichael was frustrated with the results. He urged black militants to act now. The next head of SNCC, H. Rap Brown, was even more radical. He and other militant African-American leaders told blacks it was time to take over America. On the West Coast, the Black Panther Party preached against whites and frequently clashed with police. They urged their followers to use force and strike back when they met with resistance.

By the mid-1960s, many urban blacks rejected peaceful solutions to their problems. In the large cities of the North and West, black residents began striking out against police brutality, high unemployment, residential segregation, poor schools, and other problems. They were no longer willing to accept peaceful solutions to the problems. Moreover, people of both races were frustrated over what to do next.

In a climate of hopelessness and anger,

massive rioting broke out in the black neighborhoods of some large cities. The worst was in 1965, in an area of Los Angeles known as Watts. Detroit, New York, Chicago, and other cities faced similar outbursts. Most of the people killed in the riots were black. Estimates of property destruction were in millions of dollars. After the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1968, yet another round of rioting spread across the nation. It was evident that racial problems were not exclusive to the South.

THE FOCUS CHANGES

At the same time, something else was happening. By the late 1960s, public attention began shifting away from civil rights to America's involvement in the Vietnam War. Antiwar protest marches and free speech demonstrations made the nightly news. Much of the criticism

was directed against President Johnson, who had increased U.S. involvement in Vietnam. To many Americans, ending the war was more urgent than ending discrimination.

President Johnson was a powerful advocate of the civil rights movement. Before leaving office, he could claim major civil rights accomplishments—in particular, the Civil Rights Act (1964), the Voting Rights Act (1965), and the Fair Housing Act (1968). In addition, Johnson appointed Thurgood Marshall to the U.S. Supreme Court, making him the first black justice to serve on the Court.

Civil rights victories brought hope for better lives to many black Americans. The civil rights movement began to expand as other groups identified with it. New gains were made for blacks as well as newly identified minority groups of Hispanics, Native Americans, women, and the handicapped. All were seeking

fair treatment under the law. The Equal Employment Opportunity Act passed by Congress in 1972 helped eliminate employment discrimination for minorities. Georgia state and local governments began taking steps to end minority

After serving in the U.S. Congress and as U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, **Andrew Young** became mayor of Atlanta in 1982. Known internationally, Young helped Atlanta win the bid for the 1996 Summer Olympics.



discrimination in employment. Efforts were made to hire minorities for positions in police, fire, and other departments of government.

As a result of the civil rights movement, blacks and other minority groups gained opportunities and rights they had been earlier denied. For the most part, *de jure* (legal) discrimination has ended. Moreover, the idea of equal treatment for all citizens has become an accepted belief for the great majority of Americans. In this sense, the movement has achieved many of its original goals.

After the early 1970s, the movement shifted to attack *de facto* (actual) discrimination as well as the legacy of past discrimination. Affirmative action—government policy intended to increase minority opportunities—became a new focus. Another objective was the reapportioning of legislative districts to increase the number of black elected

officials. Many of those who marched with Martin Luther King Jr. at Selma or Washington—such men and women as Ralph Abernathy, Coretta Scott King, Andrew Young, Joseph Lowery, John Lewis, and Jesse Jackson—would continue the work of the civil rights movement. ■

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 **Define:** Civil Rights Act of 1964, Voting Rights Act of 1965
- 2 What resulted from the Voting Rights Act of 1965?
- 3 Why did the Black Power movement begin?
- 4 What were some of the reasons for the urban riots in the mid-1960s?



CHAPTER 20 QUIZ

Text Version

Chapter 21

Foreword

Georgia Standards of Excellence
Correlations ▼

[SS8H11](#)

[SS8H12](#)

[SS8E1](#)

[SS8E2](#)

Chapter Outline

The Vietnam War

Georgia's Image in Transition

Lester Maddox Supports Segregation
Jimmy Carter's Term as Governor

Georgia's Governors in Recent Decades

George Busbee Takes a Business Approach
Joe Frank Harris Leads the State
Zell Miller—A Governor Makes Changes
Roy Barnes—A Senator, Representative, and Governor
Sonny Perdue Makes History
Nathan Deal Takes Office

Georgians in National Politics

A Georgian in the White House

Georgia's Exploding Growth Rate

A Booming Decade
Growth Brings Change
Changing Political Alignment

Important Events Involving Georgia

Looking to the Future

SS8H11

Evaluate the role of Georgia in the modern civil rights movement.

- c. Explain the resistance to the 1964 Civil Rights Act, emphasizing the role of Lester Maddox.

SS8H12

Explain the importance of developments in Georgia since the late 20th century.

- a. Explain how the continued development of Atlanta under mayors Maynard Jackson and Andrew Young impacted the state.
- b. Describe the role of Jimmy Carter in Georgia as state senator, governor, president, and past president.
- c. Evaluate the short-term and long-term impacts of hosting the 1996 Olympics on Georgia's economic and population growth.
- e. Analyze Georgia's role in the national and global economy of the 21st Century, with regard to tourism, Savannah port expansion, and the film industry.

SS8E1

Explain how the four transportation systems (road, air, water, and rail) of Georgia contribute to the development and growth of the state's economy.

- a. Evaluate the ways in which the Interstate Highway System, Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, deepwater ports, and railroads interact to support the exchange of goods and services domestically and internationally.
- b. Explain how the four transportation systems provide jobs for Georgians.

SS8E2

Evaluate the influence of Georgia-based businesses on the State's economic growth and development.

- c. Evaluate the economic impact of various industries in Georgia including agricultural, entertainment, manufacturing, service, and technology.
- a. Explain how the continued development of Atlanta under mayors Maynard Jackson and Andrew Young impacted the state.



President Jimmy Carter and Rosalynn Carter. A few minutes after being sworn in, the president and Mrs. Carter broke with tradition and walked the mile from the inaugural stand at the Capitol to the White House.

CHAPTER 21

AT FIRST GLANCE

This chapter covers Georgia's history from the Vietnam War to the present. The state's involvement in the Vietnam War is detailed, with a special look at the work of Dean Rusk and Richard Russell. Georgia's efforts to become a more progressive state are traced through the administrations of governors Carter, Busbee, and Harris. The administrations of Miller, Barnes, Perdue, and Deal are also covered. Also discussed are the roles of such Georgians as Vinson, Russell, Talmadge, and Nunn in the national government and Jimmy Carter's term as U.S. president. An Event in History tells the story of Georgia's two Nobel Peace Prize winners. The chapter concludes with a discussion of Georgia's dramatic population growth, its changing political alignment, and notable recent events.

Georgia's New Place in the Sun

[The Vietnam War](#)

[Georgia's Image in Transition](#)

[Georgia's Governors in Recent Decades](#)

[Georgians in National Politics](#)

[Georgia's Exploding Growth Rate](#)

[Important Events Involving Georgia](#)

[Looking to the Future](#)

By the end of the 1960s, much of the nation's attention turned to a far-off country called Vietnam. American troops were fighting and dying there in what had already become this nation's longest war.

On the nation's college campuses, students (and some professors) held sit-ins, marches, and other types of demonstrations, sometimes openly defying police and campus authorities. For the most part, they protested against the war and the draft (compulsory military service). They also showed support for such causes as student rights, free speech, and social justice. The late sixties also marked the first time illegal drug use became widespread in America. At Georgia's colleges and universities, students took part in a variety of protests and demonstrations. Most were peaceful, although that was not always true in other states.

A variety of factors accounted for the social change and political unrest in this country. Foremost was the long and deadly war in Vietnam, a conflict which increasingly divided Americans.

The Vietnam War

Since the 1800s, France had controlled an area of Southeast Asia known as Indochina. After World War II, revolutionary forces led by communists began fighting for the independence of a region known as Vietnam. By 1954, France had lost the fight to hold on to its former colony. That year an international conference of major world powers met and divided Vietnam into two parts. North Vietnam would be led by a communist government with ties to Communist China and the Soviet Union. South Vietnam's new government would be allied with the West.

Elections to reunify Vietnam were scheduled, but South Vietnam officials canceled them when they feared the communists would win. Thereafter, South Vietnamese communists—known as Vietcong—began a **guerrilla war**¹ with support from North Vietnam. In this type of war, small groups of armed revolutionaries conduct surprise attacks on government forces, then quickly retreat into the jungle

or countryside.

In 1961, President Kennedy sent units of American soldiers to train South Vietnamese forces to fight the Vietcong. By 1964, however, South Vietnam's army was losing control of the countryside.

President Johnson's military experts warned that without U.S. help, South Vietnam would fall to the communists.

As yet, American soldiers had not been directly involved in the fighting in Vietnam. The president now had a critical decision to make.

Among those whom Johnson consulted were two influential Georgians in the national government. One was Secretary of State Dean

As U.S. Secretary of State, Georgia's **Dean Rusk** was a key advisor to President Lyndon Johnson.



Rusk, who had also served in that post under President Kennedy. Rusk joined some of Johnson's other advisors in recommending greater U.S. involvement. In particular, Rusk argued that under a 1954 treaty, America had a legal duty to defend South Vietnam from **aggression**² (attack by another country).

The other Georgian consulted was Sen. Richard Russell, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee. Russell, one of the most powerful men in Congress, opposed U.S. military involvement and advised caution.

In August of 1964, the U.S. Navy reported that two of its ships had been fired on by North Vietnamese torpedo boats in the Gulf of Tonkin. Johnson asked Congress for new authority to deal with the crisis. Though still troubled, Senator Russell believed our national honor was at stake and that we had a responsibility to protect American men and women serving in South Vietnam.

Under the U.S. Constitution, only Congress can declare war. However, the Constitution also makes the president commander-in-chief of the nation's armed forces. So in

Senator **Richard Russell** displays a model of the Lockheed C-5A Galaxy, produced in Marietta.



that role, Johnson sought congressional approval to protect American troops in South Vietnam.

In Congress, Russell worked for approval of what came to be called the **Gulf of Tonkin Resolution**³. Under it, the president was given authority to resist aggression by North Vietnam “by any means necessary, including the use of arms.” From this point on, Russell no longer publicly questioned the U.S. presence. As he explained, “The flag is there. U.S. honor and prestige are there. And most important of all, U.S. soldiers are there.”

In early 1965, the Vietcong attacked a camp of American military advisors. President Johnson then ordered the bombing of North Vietnam, which was supplying the guerrillas with arms and supplies. When Vietcong forces struck an American air base, Johnson ordered U.S. ground forces to be sent in.

North Vietnam responded by sending

regular army units into the south. Soon U.S. and North Vietnamese units were battling each other. By 1967, almost half a million American troops were involved.

As Democrats in Congress began to question whether the war should continue, Georgia's delegation stood with President Johnson. The state was tied to the war effort in other ways, due in part to Senator Russell's long service on the Senate Armed Forces Committee.

As in previous wars, thousands of U.S. soldiers received their training in Georgia. About 100,000 military personnel and 33,000 civilians were employed at the state's 15 military bases. Thus, many Georgians were directly or indirectly connected with the war. Georgia also was among the top 10 states receiving U.S. defense contracts during the war. One of the most important contracts was for Lockheed's C-5A Galaxy—the world's largest aircraft.

By 1968, as the war continued to expand,

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

Americans were deeply divided over President Johnson's policies in Vietnam. Hundreds of U.S. soldiers were dying each week, with no end to the war in sight. That spring, President Johnson announced that he would not run for reelection.

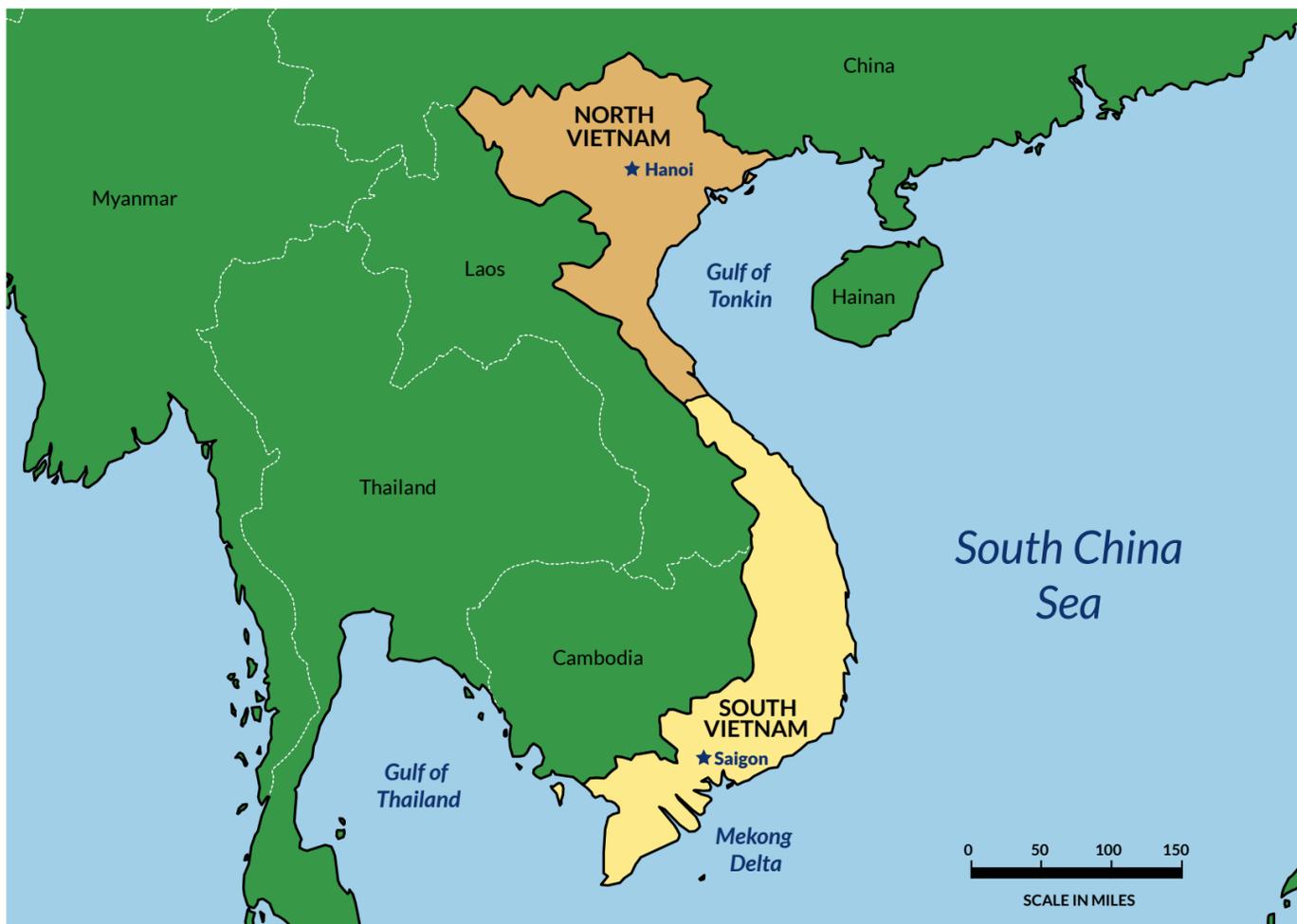
Richard Nixon, Johnson's successor, adopted a policy of slowly pulling U.S. troops out and letting South Vietnamese forces do more of the fighting.

Still, the war lingered on. Finally, in January 1973, a cease-fire was signed. By April, all U.S. troops were out of South Vietnam. It was now only a matter of time before that country's government

and army would shut down. Many South Vietnamese began fleeing their country. By 1975, there was only one Vietnam, and it was under a communist government.

It had been a long, painful war for all sides. During the nine-year war, some 56,000 American soldiers—1,700 from Georgia—had died, and more than 300,000 had been wounded. The loss of soldiers and civilians in the two Vietnams was

even greater. The cost of the war to America's economy was staggering and would be felt for decades. Socially and politically, this nation had been torn apart. But in time, the wounds began to heal. ■



- 1 **Define:** guerrilla war, aggression, Gulf of Tonkin Resolution
- 2 What was the main reason for demonstrations by Americans in the 1960s?
- 3 At what point did Richard Russell change his position on the involvement of the American military in Vietnam?

Vocabulary

- 1 Guerilla war** - A war of revolution carried on by small, independent bands of fighters often aided by other countries.
- 2 Aggression** - Action by one country to attack or invade another.
- 3 Gulf of Tonkin Resolution** - Approval from Congress in 1965 for the president to take military action to defend U.S. soldiers in South Vietnam and to resist aggression by North Vietnam.

Georgia's Image in Transition

Although great changes had taken place, Georgia entered the 1970s still suffering a problem with its national image. Some Americans who had never been to Georgia had a mental picture of the state based on what they had read in novels or seen in movies. Often this meant a land of cotton fields, dirt roads, chain gangs, and Klan meetings. Southerners of both races were frequently portrayed as poor, backward, and illiterate. Because of such views, national businesses sometimes had difficulty getting their workers to transfer to new jobs in Georgia.

In fairness, Georgia did have many problems. On such measures as income and education, Georgians historically have trailed the national average. Even today, rural and inner-city poverty remains a real problem facing the state. It is also true that efforts to achieve racial equality had long been resisted throughout the South. Forms of racial discrimination still

remained, although other parts of the country could not be considered free of discrimination either.

Additionally, there was the sensitive matter of Georgia's flag. In 1956, the General Assembly had approved a new state flag—one that included the Confederate battle flag. At the time, some Georgians were beginning to make plans for the Civil War centennial, and supporters of the new flag said that it better marked Georgia's southern heritage. The change, however,

Gov. **Marvin Griffin** signed legislation creating a new state flag in 1956.



also came on the heels of the *Brown v. Board of Education* desegregation case. Thus, some people saw a different message behind the new flag—one of protest against the federal government and desegregation.

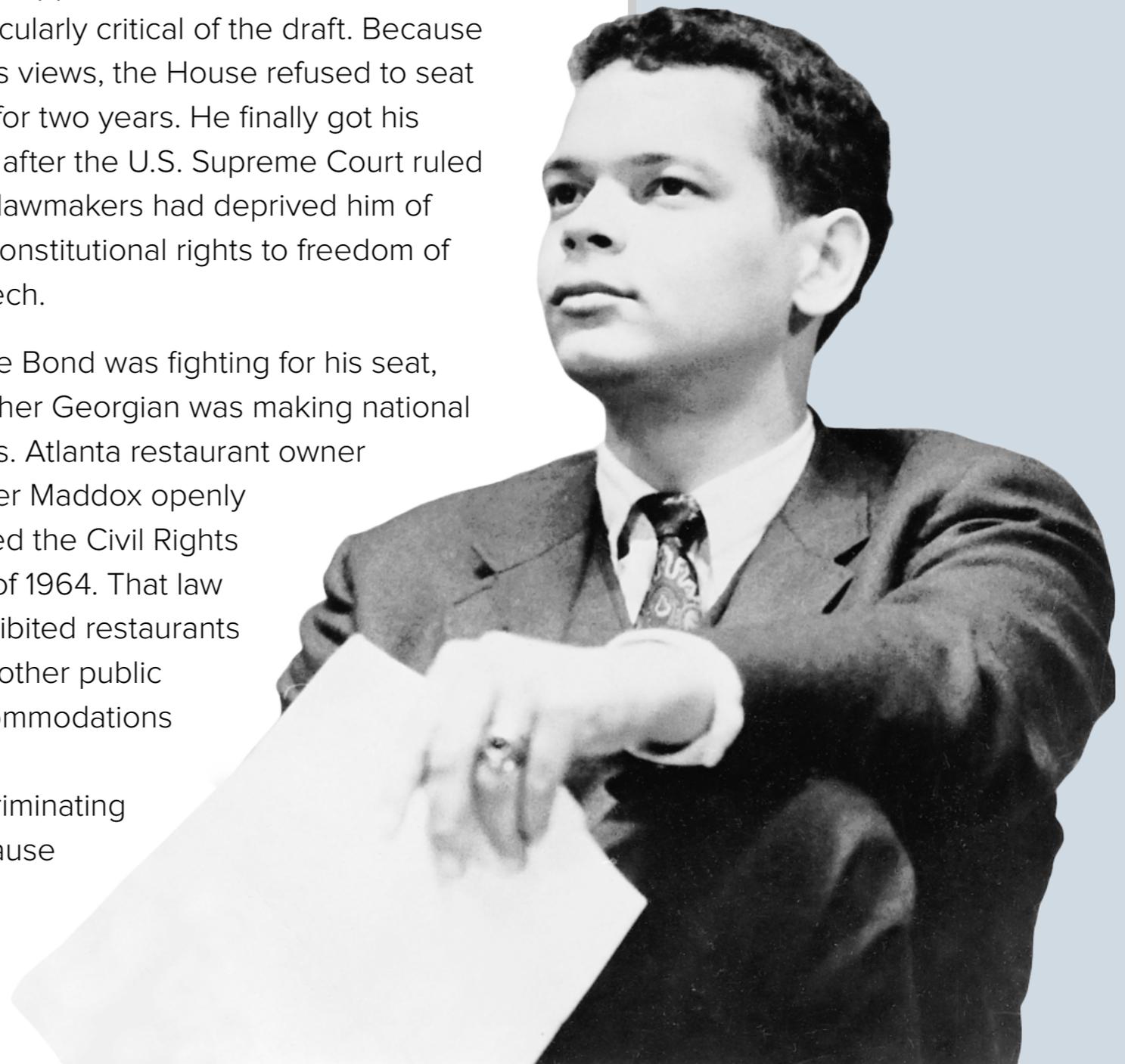
Yet much of Georgia's national image was out-of-date, inaccurate, or exaggerated. By 1970, most Georgians lived in urban areas, with incomes moving toward the national average. The state's economy was principally based on manufacturing and services, not farming. For those who did farm, cotton was no longer a major crop. Georgia's highway system was now one of the best in the South. Extensive prison reforms had taken place, and chain gangs were a thing of the past. Except for an occasional speech or small demonstration, the Klan had all but disappeared.

Georgia's struggle to be recognized as a modern and progressive southern state was set back by several highly

publicized events. In 1965, black civil rights activist Julian Bond had been elected to the Georgia General Assembly. Bond opposed the Vietnam War and was particularly critical of the draft. Because of his views, the House refused to seat him for two years. He finally got his seat after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that lawmakers had deprived him of his constitutional rights to freedom of speech.

While Bond was fighting for his seat, another Georgian was making national news. Atlanta restaurant owner Lester Maddox openly defied the Civil Rights Act of 1964. That law prohibited restaurants and other public accommodations from discriminating because of

Julian Bond in 1966, the year after his election to the Georgia House of Representatives.



race. Maddox, however, refused to serve blacks. Rather than comply with the law, he sold his restaurant. In 1966, he entered the race for governor.



[Transcript](#)

LESTER MADDOX SUPPORTS SEGREGATION

In 1967, Lester Maddox, an outspoken segregationist, became Georgia's governor. He strongly opposed forced integration and even encouraged parents to put their children in private academies rather than send them to integrated schools. As governor, he fought federal efforts to enforce federal civil rights and voting rights laws. Yet Maddox denied being a racist. Rather, he claimed his views were based on his belief in states' rights, free enterprise, the Bible, and fighting communism. Though believing in segregation, he appointed blacks to some boards and commissions in state government. He also supported many programs that helped Georgians of all colors, especially the poor.

Despite many accomplishments during his four years as governor, Maddox is

◀ **Lester Maddox**, Georgia's governor from 1967 to 1971, ran for office promising voters a program of "truth, patriotism, and Americanism."

remembered most for his segregationist stand and criticism of the federal government. Frequently, to state and national audiences, he charged that the civil rights movement was made up of liberals, socialists, and—worst of all—communists. Maddox made similar attacks against the president and other officials in the federal government. To many Americans, the fact that this message was coming from the governor of Georgia suggested that a deep racism lingered in the state. ■

JIMMY CARTER'S TERM AS GOVERNOR

Among the candidates in the 1966 race for governor was a peanut farmer from the rural community of Plains. His name was Jimmy Carter. When he lost, the former naval officer and state senator decided that the next election would be different. For four years, Carter and his wife,

Rosalynn, traveled throughout the state to talk with voters about what was on their minds.

Based on what he heard, and his own beliefs, Carter's 1970 campaign platform called for racial equality. He said that Georgians should no longer resist integration or fight the federal government. Also, he promised to modernize state government, operate it more economically, and better serve the people of the state.

At the time, Georgia's constitution said that governors could not serve consecutive terms, so Governor Maddox ran instead for the office of lieutenant governor, and won. In the Democratic primary **runoff**¹ (an election between the top two candidates when no one has received a majority of votes), Jimmy Carter defeated former governor Carl Sanders. In November, Carter went on to beat Republican candidate Hal Suit, an Atlanta television news personality.

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 How did the image of the state affect the willingness of some Americans to move to Georgia?
 - 2 Even though Gov Lester Maddox was a segregationist, he did some things to help black Georgians. What were they?
-



In January 1971, Governor Carter announced to a joint session of the General Assembly, “I say to you quite frankly that the time for racial discrimination is over.” This was not just a message to legislators. Aware of the state’s sagging image, Carter promised that at the end of his four-year term, “We shall be able to stand up anywhere in the world—in New

York, California, or Florida and say ‘I’m a Georgian’—and be proud of it.”

As governor, Carter moved to reorganize the executive branch of Georgia’s state government. He believed that reorganization would save money while improving services for citizens. Carter’s term contributed to an improved image of Georgia in the nation.

◀ **Jimmy Carter’s** first priority as governor was to reorganize and modernize Georgia’s state government.

SUN BELT GROWTH

Several other events were occurring at the same time that would change Georgia's image. In October 1973, citizens of Atlanta elected Maynard Jackson as the first black mayor of a major southern city. That same month, an Arab **embargo**² (ban) on exporting oil to the United States started a series of events that would bring more people and businesses to Georgia.

The oil embargo was a reaction to U.S. support of Israel during that country's conflict with Arab nations in the Middle East. America was heavily dependent on foreign oil, and the embargo caused oil prices to shoot up almost overnight. The price of a gallon of gas quickly rose from 35 cents to 50 cents, then to a dollar and higher. Where would it stop? Gas was not only expensive—it was in short supply. Customers faced long lines at service stations, as well as limits on how much gas they could buy.

In many ways, directly or indirectly, America runs on oil, and rising oil prices caused severe damage to the national economy. The price of almost everything was affected, which led to high rates of **inflation**³—a period of rapidly rising prices and interest rates. Inflation had a double impact on American manufacturing firms trying to compete with cheaper imports from foreign mills and factories. Although the entire nation was affected, older businesses and industries in the Northeast and Midwest suffered the most. Many closed or had to lay off workers.

For years, mild winters in the South—especially in Florida—had attracted northerners who could afford to move there upon retirement. The jump in heating oil prices and the economic downturn after 1974, however, helped convince many families in the North not to wait until retirement. This was especially true since the economy in southern states was not as severely affected as in the Northeast and Midwest.



During the 1970s, Americans in large numbers packed their belongings and headed southward and westward into an area nicknamed the **Sun Belt**⁴. They came in search of jobs, warmer climates, and cheaper costs of living. Over the decade, states such as New York, Pennsylvania, and Michigan actually lost population, while states such as Georgia, Florida, Texas, Arizona, and California grew at healthy rates. ■

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 **Define:** runoff, embargo, inflation, Sun Belt
- 2 What one point in Jimmy Carter's 1970 campaign platform best showed that he had different views from Lester Maddox?
- 3 What were two purposes of Governor Carter's reorganization of the executive branch of state government?
- 4 Why was the Sun Belt a popular place to move to in the 1970s?

Vocabulary

- 1 **Runoff** - A follow-up election between the two top candidates in an election in which no candidate received a majority of votes.
- 2 **Embargo** - A ban on trade, commerce, and assistance to a particular country.
- 3 **Inflation** - A period of rapidly rising prices and interest rates.
- 4 **Sun Belt** - Popular name for the southeastern and southwestern areas of the country, which have attracted many Americans in search of a warmer climate and a lower cost of living.

Georgia's Governors in Recent Decades

After Carter, Georgia governors increasingly took on the role of business spokesman for the state. They looked for ways to promote economic development, traveling abroad to attract foreign investments.

new constitution for Georgia. Georgia had one of the longest and most confusing state constitutions in the nation. To change this, the long Constitution of 1945 was reorganized and presented to voters in 1976.

Also on the ballot in 1976 was a constitutional amendment to allow a

(L to R) Governors Ernest Vandiver, Zell Miller, George Busbee, Carl Sanders, Jimmy Carter, Joe Frank Harris, and Herman Talmadge represent a half-century of state leadership from 1948 to 1999.

GEORGE BUSBEE TAKES A BUSINESS APPROACH

The leading contender to replace Carter as governor was George Busbee, an Albany lawyer who had served 18 years in the Georgia House of Representatives. He was convinced that he could govern the state with no new taxes. His businesslike manner appealed to Georgia voters, who elected him in 1974.

Busbee singled out education as his first priority. In particular, he pushed for teacher pay raises and state-funded kindergarten in public school. Another priority was a





governor to have two successive terms in office. Both the amendment and the revised constitution were approved. Two years later, Busbee ran for reelection and won easily.

During Busbee's second term, a commission of experts and citizens

was appointed to write a new, modern state constitution for Georgia. The study lasted over five years, but finally a draft document was ready. In November 1982, Georgia voters approved the rewritten and shortened constitution. Because it became effective the following July 1, it is known as the Constitution of 1983.

In addition to pushing for a constitutional change, Busbee promoted Georgia as a progressive state for business and industry.

JOE FRANK HARRIS LEADS THE STATE

The next governor, Joe Frank Harris, was a businessman from Cartersville. He had served in the House 18 years and was chairman of the House Appropriations Committee before his election. He was probably the most knowledgeable of all governors in budgetary matters.

◀ **Governor Busbee** signing a bill into law. He is flanked by two future governors, Joe Frank Harris on the far left and Zell Miller on the far right.

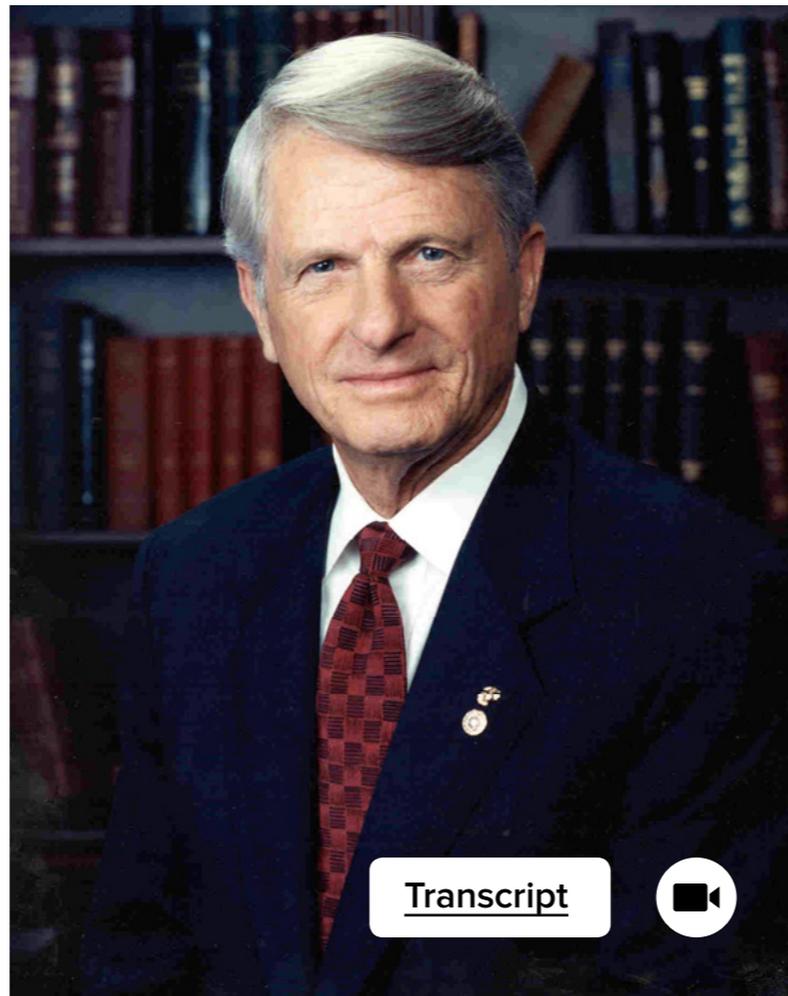
During his eight years in office, Governor Harris, like Busbee, stressed economic development. He worked to bring more industry and investment into the state, helping to account for 850,000 new jobs in Georgia.

Through Harris's efforts, the General Assembly passed a massive educational reform bill in 1985. Known as the Quality Basic Education Act, or QBE, the bill created statewide standards—including a core curriculum that applied to every school system.

ZELL MILLER—A GOVERNOR MAKES CHANGES

In 1990 and again in 1994, Georgia voters elected Zell Miller as governor. In his campaign, he promised many changes and reforms—but most important was a state lottery for education.

Soon after his election, Miller pushed through legislation that, with the voters' approval, created a state lottery. All proceeds, except prizes and administrative costs, had to be used for new educational programs, not previously existing ones. Lottery revenues funded new programs, such as pre-kindergarten and the



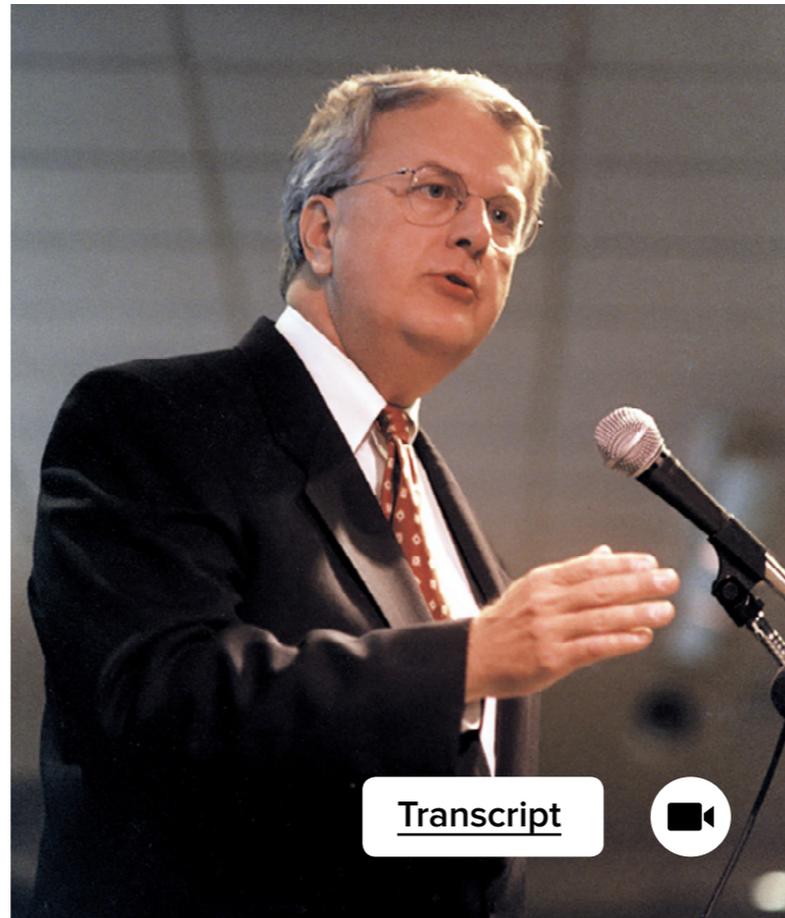
◀ **Zell Miller** served Georgia as a mayor, state senator, lieutenant governor for sixteen years, governor for eight years, and U.S. senator.

purchase of school computers. But no program was more popular with Georgians than the HOPE (Helping Outstanding Pupils Educationally) Scholarship program—which gained considerable national publicity. During Miller's eight years as governor, salaries for public school teachers increased significantly. After leaving office, Miller was elected to the U.S. Senate to serve the remaining four years in the late Sen. Paul Coverdell's term.

ROY BARNES—A SENATOR, REPRESENTATIVE, AND GOVERNOR

In 1998, Georgia voters elected Roy Barnes as governor. A Democrat, Barnes had served 24 years in the General Assembly—first in the Senate and later in the House. As governor, Barnes saw how state and local governments could better manage Georgia's high population

growth rate as a priority. In particular, he looked at regional transportation planning. Barnes also sought to improve student performance on standardized tests—an area in which Georgia fell near the bottom of national rankings. However, Barnes is most remembered for his role in getting the 2001 General Assembly to change the state flag that had been adopted



[Transcript](#)



◀ **Roy Barnes** served one term as governor from 1999 to 2003. He brought many years of legislative experience to the executive branch when elected.

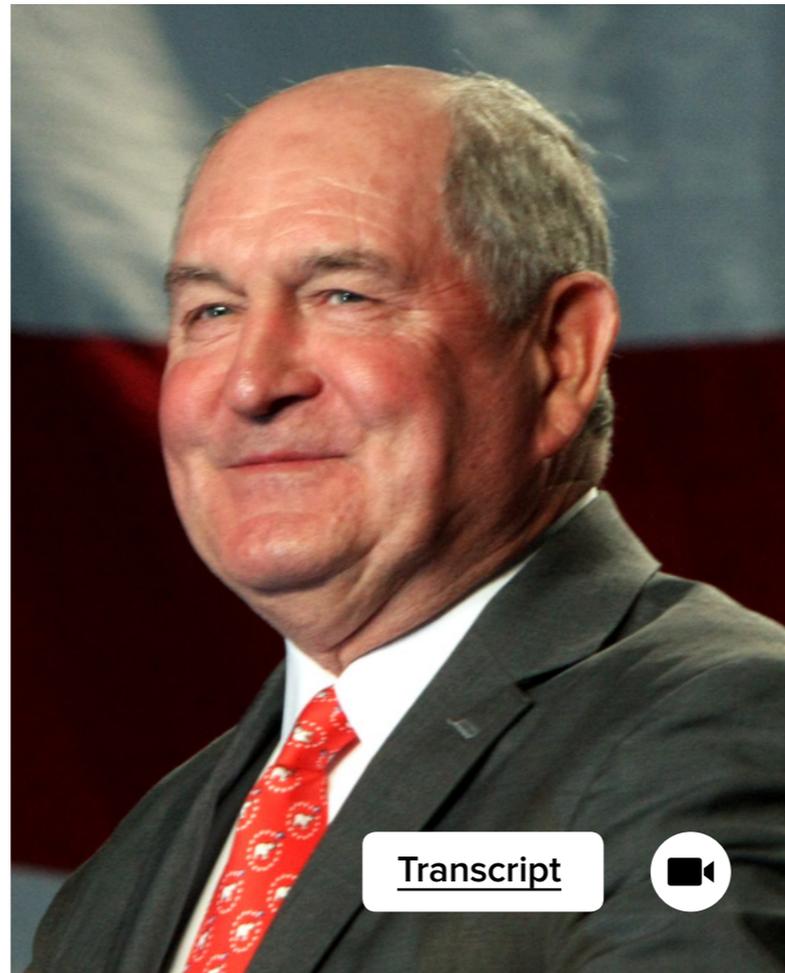
in 1956. Soon after the 2001 legislative session, groups known as “flaggers” began following Governor Barnes and holding protest demonstrations at many of his public appearances. They carried the 1956 flag and signs demanding a public referendum (vote) on the state flag. Their opposition to Barnes in the 2002 governor’s race was one of several factors contributing to his loss. Criticism of his education and transportation policies along with the growth of the Republican party in Georgia helped bring about his defeat.

SONNY PERDUE MAKES HISTORY

Every governor since 1976, when the Georgia Constitution was amended to allow a second term, has held two consecutive four-year terms. That changed in 2002, when underdog Sonny Perdue defeated incumbent governor Roy Barnes.

Perdue, who switched to the Republican party in 1998, was a surprise winner. Georgians had not elected a Republican governor since Rufus Bullock during Reconstruction.

Among Perdue’s campaign promises was one to support a referendum on Georgia’s state flag. What choices voters would have



[Transcript](#)



◀ **Sonny Perdue**, elected in 2002, was the first Republican to serve as governor since Reconstruction.

and whether the referendum would be binding was not detailed. Flaggers and others who supported returning to the 1956 flag assumed that it would be on the ballot. As promised, Perdue supported a flag referendum at the 2003 session. Initially, the bill called for a referendum between the 1956 and 2001 flags. By the end of the session, the measure had been amended to design a new flag, to give voters a choice between it and the 2001 flag, and to provide that the referendum was advisory and not binding on the legislature. Governor Perdue signed the legislation into law, outraging flaggers, who once again began public protests—this time against the new governor.

While the flag issue got the most publicity during his first year in office, other more important issues dominated Perdue's attention. The most critical was the continuing economic downturn and the repeated need to cut back state spending. His attention was also focused on

maintaining the HOPE Scholarship program at a time when college tuition, fees, and book prices were continuing to rise.

In 2006, Perdue was successful in getting Kia, a South Korean car manufacturing company to locate their first factory in the United States, in Georgia. The assembly plant began production of cars during Perdue's second term in office, and brought more than a thousand jobs to Georgia.

NATHAN DEAL TAKES OFFICE

In 2010, a second Republican, Nathan Deal, was elected to the governor's office. His long career in public service meant he brought a variety of experiences to the office. As an attorney in Gainesville, he worked in the state's judicial branch of government serving as an assistant district attorney and later a juvenile court judge. He was elected to the Georgia Senate

in 1983 and ten years later won a seat in Congress representing northeast Georgia. After voters elected him to nine terms in Congress, Deal resigned his seat to run for the governorship.

Like his predecessor, Deal faced economic challenges in leading the state. Slow growth in the economy meant reductions in spending. He worked with the legislature to keep HOPE programs from going broke. As governor, he called on state agencies to reduce the state workforce and program budgets. He pushed for reforms in the criminal justice system to make programs for

adults and juveniles more effective and efficient. In order to strengthen trade and the economy, Deal focused on efforts to deepen the Savannah River port to increase Georgia's import and export business. ■



LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 What were some criticisms of Georgia's state constitution when George Busbee became governor?
- 2 What jobs and past positions made Gov. Joe Frank Harris especially knowledgeable about budgetary matters?
- 3 How did the lottery improve education in Georgia?
- 4 In how many branches of government did Roy Barnes serve? Explain.
- 5 What was historic about Governor Perdue's election?
- 6 List the branches of state or federal government and the positions held in each by Governor Deal.

◀ **Nathan Deal** first elected in 2010, was reelected to a second term in 2014. Both of his inaugurations were held inside the State Capitol due to bad weather—a first since the inauguration of Herman Talmadge in 1956.

Georgians in National Politics

For many years, such Georgians as Carl Vinson, Walter George, Richard Russell, and Herman Talmadge had a good deal of influence in the national government. This was particularly true in the area of military affairs. In 1972, Sam Nunn, the great-nephew of Carl Vinson, was elected

to the U.S. Senate. He went on to become chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee. In this role, he gained a national reputation as an expert on military affairs. Other prominent Georgians who became national leaders were Senators Paul Coverdell and Max Cleland and Rep.



◀ **Sam Nunn**, after his election to the U.S. Senate, frequently sought the advice of his well-known great-uncle, Carl Vinson, on military matters.

Newt Gingrich, who served as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1995 to 1999. He was the third Georgian to serve as Speaker after Howell Cobb (1849–1850) and Charles Crisp (1893–1895).

In July 1991, Pres. George H. W. Bush announced his nomination of Clarence Thomas as associate justice on the U.S. Supreme Court. Thomas, who was born in 1948 near Savannah, became the second African American and the fifth Georgia-born jurist to sit on the nation's highest court.

A GEORGIAN IN THE WHITE HOUSE

By the mid-1970s, no Georgian had ever served as president of the United States. This was about to change. Shortly after leaving the governor's office, Jimmy Carter began to think seriously about the presidency.

At that time, many Americans had lost confidence in national politics. In 1974,

because of a scandal known as Watergate, Pres. Richard Nixon had been forced to resign from office, something no president had ever done before. Some of his closest aides even went to prison over Watergate.

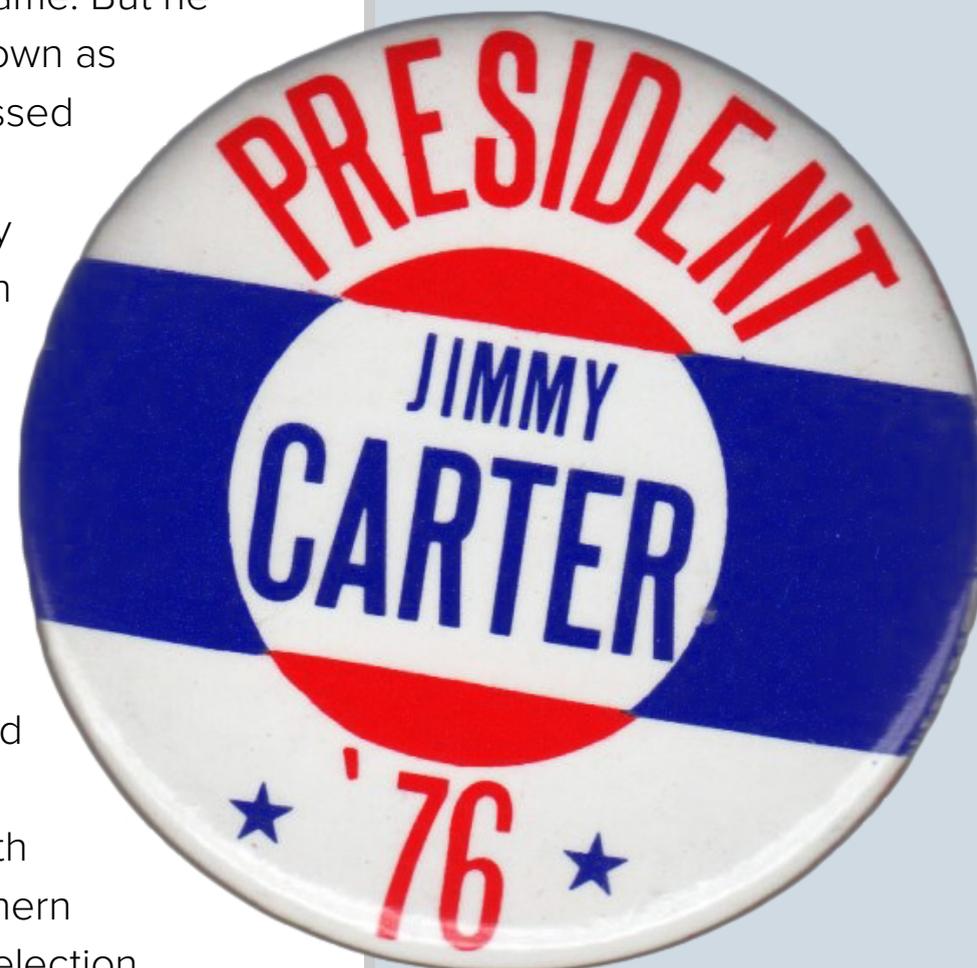
When Jimmy Carter began his campaign, most Americans had no idea who he was. Few people recognized the name. But he and a group of supporters known as the “Peanut Brigade” crisscrossed the nation in 1975 and 1976, stressing the need for honesty and for restoring confidence in government.

What Carter had to say appealed to a majority of the nation's voters. In 1976, he became the first candidate from the Deep South to be elected president of the United States. Suddenly, there was a new fascination in America with peanuts, grits, and other southern foods and customs. After the election,



Jimmy Carter's Nomination

[Transcript](#)



reporters from national TV networks, newsmagazines, and newspapers flocked to Georgia to find out more about the new president's home state. For the most part, the message they reported showed



a modern and progressive state. More than any single event, Carter's election changed the national image of Georgia.

Jimmy Carter's presidency faced difficult domestic and foreign problems. At home, the oil embargo had made the nation realize it faced an energy crisis. Inflation caused by rising oil prices resulted in higher prices for almost everything. Interest rates went up, too, making it more difficult for Americans to buy homes. The president and Congress tried to solve these problems, but they couldn't.

President Carter's foreign policy stressed peace and human rights. He won praise for working out a peace agreement between Israel and Egypt. But in November 1979, 52 Americans were taken hostage at the U.S. Embassy in Iran. Carter tried to free the hostages without success.

In 1980, President Carter ran for reelection, but the nation was ready for a change. In the November election, Republican Ronald Reagan polled 51 percent of the popular

◀ April 1980, President **Jimmy Carter** announces new sanctions against Iran in retaliation for taking U.S. hostages.

vote, compared to 41 percent for Carter. After Reagan was sworn in as president, Iran freed the 52 hostages, who returned to the United States.

Since leaving the White House, the former president has continued to be active, nationally and internationally. He has devoted his time to a variety of causes on behalf of peace, human rights, health,

and improved living conditions for the world's poor. Working side by side with other Habitat for Humanity volunteers, he has helped build houses for low-income Americans in communities across America. He is involved in the programs of the Carter Presidential Center, established in Atlanta in 1982. Jimmy Carter remains a champion of human rights and peaceful resolution of conflicts. ■



LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 What national event had occurred that made Jimmy Carter's campaign pledge of honesty in government appealing to the voters?
- 2 How did Carter's election as president help change Georgia's national image?
- 3 What were some of the problems President Carter faced during his term in office?

◀ The Carter Presidential Center, situated in a 35-acre park located 1.5 miles east of downtown Atlanta, attracts thousands of visitors each year.

EVENTS IN HISTORY

Georgia Peacemakers



Men and women from Albert Schweitzer to Mother Teresa have received it, along with people from all walks of life, including archbishops, prime ministers, secretaries of state, presidents, and professors. On occasion, organizations such as the United Nations and the Red Cross have been honored with it. Since 1901, the Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to persons or organizations whose work has been of the greatest benefit to mankind. Georgia can boast two winners of the Nobel Peace Prize—Martin Luther King Jr. in 1964 and Jimmy Carter in 2002.

King received the prize in recognition of his civil rights work. In his acceptance speech, Dr. King said of the peace prize that “this award which I receive on behalf of that movement [civil rights] is a profound recognition that nonviolence is the answer to the crucial political and moral question of our time—the need for man to overcome oppression and violence without resorting to violence and oppression.”

◀ **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** displays his 1964 Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, Norway, December 10, 1964. The 35-year-old Dr. King was honored for promoting the principle of non-violence in the civil rights movement.

Carter's award recognized decades of work finding peaceful solutions to international conflicts. Carter revealed why he was so dedicated when in his acceptance speech he remembered what he had learned from a favorite teacher in Plains, Georgia. He said, "She also taught us that an individual is not swept along on a tide of inevitability but can influence even the greatest human events."



Visitors in Atlanta can walk the 1.5 mile Carter-King Freedom Peace Walk that connects the Carter Center and the Jimmy Carter Library and Museum with the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site. The path through Freedom Park is bounded by the national landmarks to President Carter on the east and Dr. King on the west. Dedicated in 2003, it celebrates the lives of these two peacemakers.



◀ **President Jimmy Carter** displays his 2002 Nobel Peace Prize medal in Oslo, Norway. Carter was honored for his decades of untiring effort to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts, to advance democracy and human rights, and to promote economic and social development.

Georgia's Exploding Growth Rate

With release of the 1980 census, Georgia boosters had reason to celebrate. During the 1970s, Georgia's population had grown by 19.1 percent—the highest since 1900 and almost twice the national average. Measured in another way, in 1980 Georgia had 876,000 more citizens than it did in

1970. Just over half of this gain came from residents of other states and countries moving to Georgia. Only California, Texas, Florida, and Arizona had larger increases.

Also significant was the fact that for the first time in almost a century, the



◀ Accompanying Georgia's growing population has been a boom in home and apartment construction.

percentage of blacks in Georgia rose instead of falling. Helping account for this were job opportunities and an improving civil rights picture.

The high growth rate in the 1970s continued into the 1980s. The 1990 census revealed a 10-year growth rate of 18.6 percent, again almost twice the



national average. Census figures showed a continuing migration of residents into Georgia. By the 1980s, more than one in three Georgians had been born in another state.

Yet this impressive population growth was not spread across the entire state. It was concentrated mostly in regions known as Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs).

In the 1980s, 8 out of every 10 new Georgia residents moved to a metropolitan region. Most settled in the Atlanta MSA, which was home to almost half of all Georgians. In contrast, during the same period, a total of 43 counties—more than one in four—lost population. Most of these were rural counties south of the Fall Line.

A BOOMING DECADE

Georgia's dramatic growth rate continued throughout the 1990s. At the beginning of the decade, there were just under 6.5

million Georgians. By 2000, the number had jumped past 8 million—an increase of 26.4 percent. This meant that one in four Georgians in 2000 had not been born or lived somewhere else in 1990. By 2010, Georgia's population grew by 1.5 million, an 18.3 percent increase.

Today, Georgia ranks as one of the fastest-growing states in the nation. Here is how Georgia stacks up on three measures of population growth.

1 Rate (expressed in terms of percent).

Georgia is the seventh fastest-growing state in the nation, and the fastest-growing state in the South behind Texas and North Carolina. In the decade of the 2000s, Georgia grew by over 1.8 percent a year—almost twice the national average.

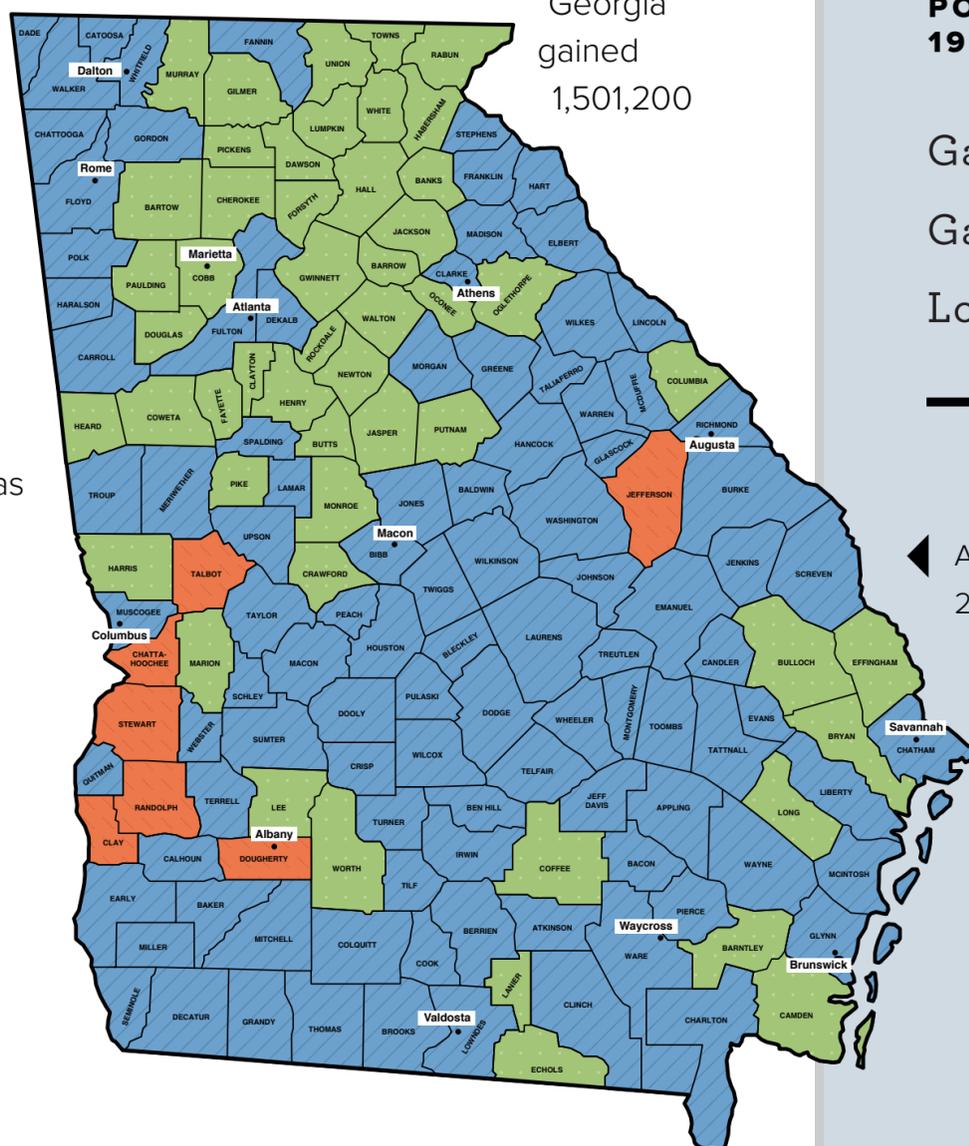
2 Number of residents.

With a net increase of more than 150,000 new residents each year, Georgia is the fourth fastest-growing state in the country. Only Texas, California, and Florida gained more people.

3 Total population.

By 2000, Georgia was the tenth most populous state in the nation. During the 1900s, Georgia gained 1,708,304 new residents, for a total of 8,186,453 in 2000. In the 2000s,

Georgia gained 1,501,200



POPULATION CHANGE 1990 - 2000

- Gained More
- Gained Less
- Lost

◀ Average growth for the state was 26.4 percent. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Georgia's population growth continues to boom, but unevenly, as shown in the map.

POPULATION TOTALS BY RACE (2000)

Race	Total	Percent of Population	Percent Change 1990 - 2000
White	5,327,281	65.1	14.9
Black	2,349,542	28.7	34.2
Indian	21,737	0.3	58.4
Asian	173,170	2.1	125.4
Other (one race)	200,535	2.5	—
(two or more races)	114,188	1.4	—

◀ 435,227 persons (5.0 percent of the Georgia's total population) listed themselves to be of Hispanic origin, which can be of any race. Their number grew by 300 percent.

people for a total of population of 9,687,653. Because representation in the U.S. House of Representatives is based on population, Georgia got two new seats in Congress after the 2000 census, and one new seat after 2010 census.

What accounts for this growth? Some of it occurs because more Georgians are born than die each year. But the majority of Georgia's growth is a result of people from other states and countries moving to Georgia. Many factors account for this immigration. Job opportunities, cost of living, quality of life, location, physiographic diversity, and mild climate are key reasons. One consequence of this growth is that almost 40 percent of today's Georgia residents were born in another state or country.

In the 1990s, Georgia's population grew more rapidly than in any other decade of the twentieth century—but the growth was uneven. Although every racial group

grew in number, Georgia's composition changed. Continuing a trend since the 1960s, the percentage of Georgians who are white and non-Hispanic fell in the 1990s from 70 percent to 62 percent, and in the 2000s to 55 percent. At the same time, the percentage of both African Americans and Asians is increasing. In the 2000s, Georgia's black population increased by 25 percent. Currently, only

Atlanta's skyline is constantly changing as new skyscrapers are built.



New York, Texas, and Florida have more African-American residents than Georgia. Georgia's Asian population increased by 91 percent during the 2000s. But the fastest-growing segment by far is Georgia's Latino population, which in the 2000s grew by 96 percent.

Another way population increase has been uneven is in the way it is spread across the state. It would be one thing if growth occurred uniformly throughout the state—every county would gain new residents. But that's not what happens. In the 2000s, 8 out of every 10 new residents moved to one of Georgia's 15 metropolitan areas. Even then, growth was uneven—at least 7 of those 10 new residents moved to the Atlanta metropolitan area. By the end of the twentieth century, almost 60 percent of all Georgians lived within a 60-mile radius of downtown Atlanta. Outside the Atlanta area, growth has been much slower. With all the growth, the number of counties losing population dropped in the 1990s. Only eight counties lost population during the decade (compared to 40 during the 1980s). However, 29 counties lost population in the 2000s ■



LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

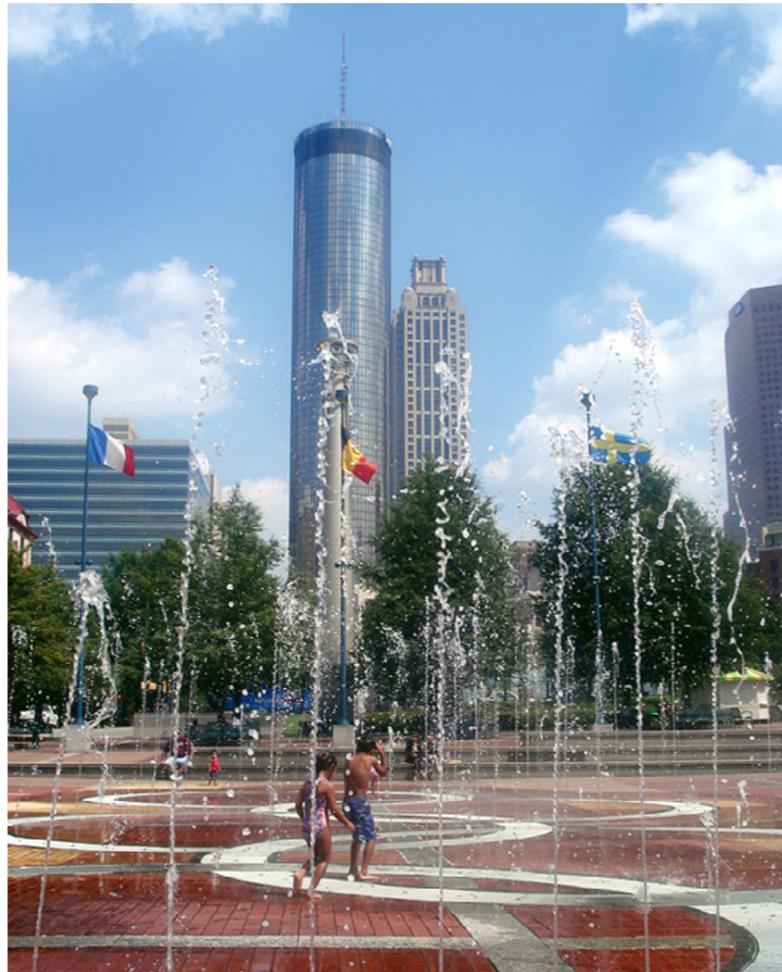
- 1 In which metropolitan region do most people moving to Georgia choose to live?
 - 2 Within the United States according to the 2010 census, how does Georgia rank in rate of growth? in net increase? in population size?
 - 3 What reason accounts for the majority of Georgia's growth?
-
- ◀ Within an hour's drive of Atlanta and throughout Georgia are small towns that have changed little in size or appearance in the last half-century.

GROWTH BRINGS CHANGE

In the 1970s, some people began talking about there being two Georgias—Atlanta and the rest of the state. By the 1980s and 1990s, however, some people observed that there might be four different Georgias: large central cities with little growth, growing suburban areas, growing rural areas, and declining rural areas.

What that means is that Georgia has become a land of contrasts. Over half the state's population lives within 60 miles of Atlanta. In the city once burned by Sherman, you can find skyscrapers, professional sports, rapid rail transit, and one of the nation's busiest airports. You can see shopping malls, crowded interstates, and other indicators of a large, modern city. Yet only an hour away are communities that don't have a single fast-food franchise, shopping mall, or office complex, and where the tallest structure

in town is often a church steeple. As you travel even farther away from Atlanta, particularly in areas of eastern and southwestern Georgia, you find areas with few jobs or opportunities to attract or keep residents. Populations in these areas are small, and the people tend to be older



◀ Centennial Olympic Park offers relief from the hectic pace of life in downtown Atlanta.

and poorer—quite a contrast to the image of one of the fastest-growing states in the nation.

CHANGING POLITICAL ALIGNMENT

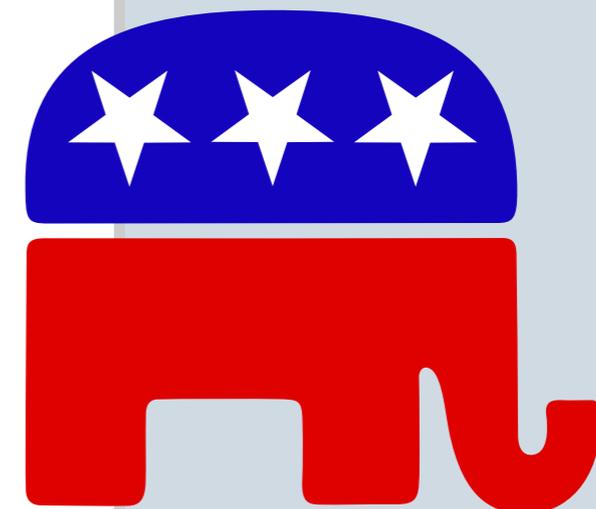
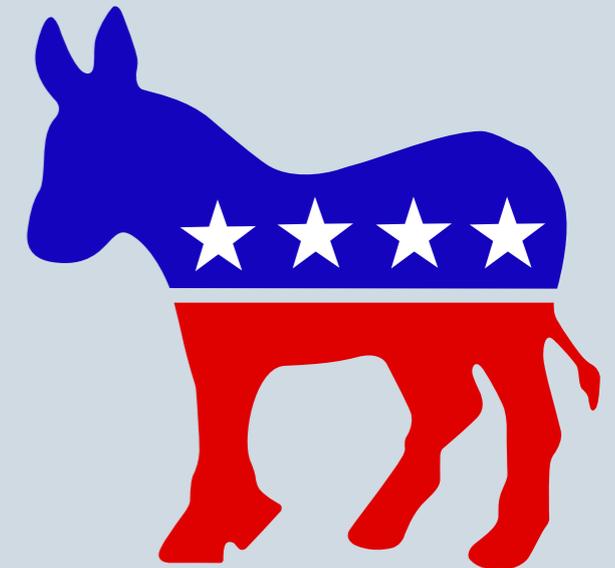
Until recent decades, Georgia was a one-party state. The reality was that almost anyone serious about running for political office in Georgia ran as a Democrat. This began to change in the 1964 presidential election, when a majority of Georgia voters supported Barry Goldwater—a conservative Republican—over Pres. Lyndon Johnson—a liberal Democrat. Many white Southern Democrats were incensed over Johnson's support of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Across the South, some Democrats even changed their party affiliation. More common, however, was voting Republican in the presidential election every four years—while voting Democrat in state and local races. The

real growth of the Republican party in state and local politics, however, did not occur until the 1980s and 1990s. As late as 1977, out of 236 total members of the Georgia General Assembly, only 31 were Republican. By 1997, this number had more than tripled to 101. By 2003, Republicans controlled the Georgia Senate, and by 2005, the Georgia House.

Excluding Reconstruction, Georgia's congressional delegation historically had been all-Democrat and, with a few exceptions, all-white and all-male. Change came in 1966, when voters in Atlanta's fifth congressional district elected Fletcher Thompson—Georgia's first Republican congressman since Reconstruction. Andrew Young, a black Democrat, won the seat in the 1972 election, once again giving Georgia an all-Democrat congressional delegation.

In 1977, Young resigned from Congress to become America's ambassador to the

The donkey and the elephant are traditional but unofficial symbols of the two major political parties in the United States – the Democrats and the Republicans.



United Nations, and Democrat Wyche Fowler won the fifth congressional district seat. The next year, Republican Newt Gingrich won election to the House of Representatives. Two years later, Mack Mattingly defeated Herman Talmadge to become Georgia's first Republican in the U.S. Senate. After one term, in 1986 Mattingly was defeated in his bid for reelection by Congressman Fowler. That same year, Atlanta city councilman John Lewis won the fifth congressional district seat.

In 1992, Senator Fowler lost to Republican challenger Paul Coverdell, former head of the U.S. Peace Corps. But it was in the 1992 elections for the U.S. House of Representatives that Georgia Republicans won the most dramatic victories.

Newt Gingrich won reelection in the sixth district, while fellow Republicans were elected in the first, third, fourth, seventh, eighth, and tenth districts. Black Democrats won the second and

fifth districts, and in the new eleventh district Cynthia McKinney became the first African-American woman elected to Congress from Georgia. By 1995, of Georgia's 13-member congressional delegation, only one—Sen. Sam Nunn—was white, male, and a Democrat.

Thus, in only a few decades, Georgia had become a true two-party state, with Republicans continuing to gain political power. By 2005, Republicans held a majority of Georgia's seats in the U.S. House, both seats in the U.S. Senate, the governorship of Georgia, and a majority in the state house and senate. For the first time since 1870, the Speaker of the House was a Republican. And, by 2007, for the first time since the office was created in the Georgia Constitution of 1945, a Republican held the office of lieutenant governor. Also, except in large urban areas, Republicans held a majority of elective offices in many city and county governments. ■

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 Describe how Georgia is a land of contrasts.
- 2 Prior to the 1990s, what was the makeup of Georgia's congressional delegation, excluding the period of Reconstruction?
- 3 During the decades of the 1980s and 1990s, which political party gained strength in Georgia?

Important Events Involving Georgia

The period since 1990 has been an eventful time for Georgia. Atlanta continues to attract major corporations and is now national or international home to such companies as Coca-Cola, Delta, UPS, Home Depot, and Chick-fil-A.

Atlanta has become a major convention and sports center. Construction of a domed stadium was completed in 1993 as home football field for the Atlanta Falcons. Since then the Georgia Dome has hosted the 1994 and 2000 Super Bowls, as well as numerous other events. Since 1991, baseball fans have enjoyed many thrilling moments provided by the Atlanta Braves. During the 1990s, the Braves played in five World Series—and in 1995 beat the Cleveland Indians to become world champions.

No sporting event in the history of Georgia will ever compare to the 1996 Summer Olympics. For five years, the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games

prepared to host the games. With financial help from the Braves, a new Olympic Stadium was built just south of the existing Atlanta–Fulton County Stadium. A tower to hold the Olympic flame was constructed just north of the stadium. On the night of July 19, 1996, opening ceremonies were held in the new stadium, and the flame was lit. For 17 days, the eyes of the world were on Atlanta. Many legacies of the Atlanta Olympic Games remain. The flame tower stands and is visible from the interstate highways near the stadium. After the 1996 games, Olympic Stadium was modified for use by the Atlanta Braves and renamed Turner Field. Centennial Olympic Park with its many fountains is a favorite play area for children and is near the home of the new Atlanta Aquarium.

Professional ice hockey returned to Georgia in 1999 when the Atlanta Thrashers began their first season. The team left Atlanta in 2011, moving to Canada to become the Winnipeg Jets. Also in 1999,

1996 Summer Olympics participation medal. The Centennial Olympics, was a major international multi-sport event that took place in Atlanta, Georgia, from July 19 to August 4, 1996.



Philips Arena was completed to serve as home of the Thrashers and the Atlanta Hawks basketball team.

During the late 1990s, Georgia's economy grew at a dynamic pace. In part, this was due to the strength of Atlanta's service, financial, and information technology (IT) sectors (parts of a whole). By 2000, however, the period of unprecedented economic growth was about to come to an end. Fortunes had been made by entrepreneurs who invested early in IT—particularly Internet-related stocks. But for many, fortunes and jobs were about to be lost. Stock prices began falling as IT companies experienced difficulty generating income. Also, new technology made traditional products and services obsolete. The loss of manufacturing jobs to other countries continued, forcing mills and industries to close or cut back.

Then, on September 11, 2001, Islamic terrorists flew four jet passenger airplanes

on suicide missions. One crashed into the Pentagon in Washington, DC. One crashed in the Pennsylvania countryside without hitting its target. But the greatest damage was done by two jets that crashed into the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. The intense heat of the fire weakened the frames of the towers, causing them to collapse. Nearly 3,000 people died in the tragedy that became known simply as “9/11.”

Americans soon learned that more terrorists were being trained in Afghanistan and other countries and that some of these might already be in the United States. After determining that Al Qaeda terrorists under Osama bin Laden were responsible for 9/11, Pres. George Bush launched a worldwide war on terrorism. At home, life changed for all Americans. New security measures were instituted at airports, with passengers subjected to prohibitions on what they could carry, detailed searches, and long

lines. Metal detectors were installed at the entrances of government buildings. There also was fear that large sporting events and popular attractions would become targets for terrorists. As a result, sectors of the economy that depend on travel and tourism—such as hotels and airlines—were hurt. Because tourism is one of Georgia's

top industries, the state's economy was significantly affected. Businesses closed, jobs were lost, and state and local tax revenues were down.

By 2003, it was clear that Georgia—as well as the rest of the nation—was in a **recession**¹ (a sustained period



- ◀ A U.S. Army CH-47 Chinook. First introduced in 1962, this American twin-engine, tandem rotor heavy-lift helicopter was primarily used for troop movement, artillery placement and battlefield resupply.

of economic decline). At consecutive legislative sessions, the General Assembly had to cut the state budget. Teachers and state employees went without pay raises, while new construction was delayed or eliminated. But Georgia has weathered many recessions, recovering when the economy picks up.

Georgia's economy has benefited from the presence of numerous military bases across the state. However, Congress has looked to reducing the number of bases in the nation as a cost-cutting measure. Georgia has not been spared, and so far three military installations have been closed (Fort McPherson and Fort Gillem) or moved (Navy Supply Corps School). Thousands of military personnel are stationed at these bases, which also need

civilian workers. In addition to salaries, military bases purchase food, supplies, and equipment—thus boosting the state and local economy.

Georgia's military bases are important for another reason. They play a vital



◀ Numerous U. S. Army, Air Force, and Navy bases and other military facilities are found across the state of Georgia. These bases have a major economic impact on the state and the counties where they are located.

U.S. MILITARY BASES TODAY

role in the nation's military preparedness. Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990 led Pres. George H. W. Bush to mobilize U.S. forces to drive Iraqi soldiers out. Georgia military bases, especially Fort Stewart, played an important role in "Operation Desert Storm." In 1998, units from Fort Stewart were again deployed to the Middle East to force Iraq to allow United Nations inspectors into the country to search for chemical and biological weapons. After Pres. George Bush initiated "Operation Iraqi Freedom"

in 2003 in search of weapons of mass destruction, numerous Georgia soldiers stationed at Fort Stewart and other bases, as well as units of the Georgia National Guard, were sent to Iraq. Under Pres. Barack Obama, soldiers stationed in Georgia have continued to serve and fight in the Middle East as the war on terrorism continues. Military personnel are also involved in the rebuilding of Iraq and Afghanistan and the return to civilian government.



- ◀ U. S. Army Rangers train in patrol maneuvers in preparation for being sent overseas.

Vocabulary

- 1 **Recession** - A sustained period of economic decline.

Looking to the Future

Because of many factors—including an economy more diverse than most states, mild climate, low cost of living, excellent highways and other transportation facilities, and strategic location—Georgia is expected to continue as one of the top states in the nation in terms of population growth.

Yet population growth has been a mixed blessing for Georgia. New residents mean new taxpayers and a growing economy.

But they also force local governments to expand many services, including schools, streets, water and sewer facilities, trash disposal, police and fire protection, parks, and animal control. The fact that Georgia's Latino population is one of the fastest-growing in the nation puts a special strain on local governments, who need teachers, nurses, caseworkers, police, and other employees that can speak and understand Spanish.



◀ The intersection of I-85 and I-285 north of Atlanta, known as Spaghetti Junction.

New residents also put a strain on Georgia's environment, particularly with regard to air and water quality and sufficient sources of water. Nowhere is this more evident than the Atlanta metropolitan region, which is primarily dependent on the Chattahoochee River for its supply of water.

Georgia continues to face other problems. In terms of national ranking, Georgia student test scores continue near the bottom, while the school dropout rate is one of the highest. Crime and drug abuse exist throughout the state. No matter how many new beds are added, prisons seem to stay permanently overcrowded. Teenage pregnancy and infant mortality are continuing health problems. Medical costs continue to rise, especially those associated with Medicaid (a federal-state program to fund health care for low-income persons). Many rural areas face a shortage or lack of doctors and hospitals. New drugs allow Americans to live longer,

but an aging population further threatens Georgia's health care crisis.

Yet today's problems can be tomorrow's opportunities. Georgia is a big state, a diverse state, and a growing state. An exciting future lies ahead for Georgia in the twenty-first century. ■

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 **Define:** recession
 - 2 What are some of the facilities that have been constructed in Atlanta that make it a major convention and sports center?
 - 3 Describe some of the changes that have occurred in American life as a result of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks
 - 4 Name three factors that contribute to Georgia continuing as a growth state.
-



CHAPTER 21 QUIZ

Text Version

Chapter 22

Foreword

Georgia Standards of Excellence
Correlations ▼

[SS8H12](#)

[SS8E1](#)

[SS8E2](#)

Chapter Outline

A Multicultural Society

Georgians' Cultural Achievements

Achievements in Sports

Music in Georgia

Literature

The Performing Arts

The Visual Arts

Support for the Arts

Preserving Culture

SS8H12

Explain the importance of developments in Georgia since the late 20th century.

- e. Analyze Georgia's role in the national and global economy of the 21st Century, with regard to tourism, Savannah port expansion, and the film industry.

SS8E1

Explain how the four transportation systems (road, air, water, and rail) of Georgia contribute to the development and growth of the state's economy.

- a. Evaluate the ways in which the Interstate Highway System, Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport, deepwater ports, and railroads interact to support the exchange of goods and services domestically and internationally.

SS8E2

Evaluate the influence of Georgia-based businesses on the State's economic growth and development.

- a. Describe how profit is an incentive for entrepreneurs.
- b. Explain how entrepreneurs take risks to develop new goods and services to start a business.
- c. Evaluate the economic impact of various industries in Georgia including agricultural, entertainment, manufacturing, service, and technology.



Atlanta's High Museum of Art is visited annually by nearly half a million people. Additional galleries featuring folk art and photography are located downtown.

CHAPTER 22

Chattahoochee River



AT FIRST GLANCE

This chapter looks at Georgia's multicultural heritage by identifying the diverse cultures that make up the state and examining how they interact and assimilate while attempting to maintain their separate identity. The chapter also features a review of the many cultural achievements of Georgians in the areas of sports, music, literature, the performing arts, and the visual arts. It concludes with a discussion of support for the arts and of the variety of efforts to preserve culture across the state.

Georgia's Cultural Heritage

[A Multicultural Society](#)

[Georgians' Cultural Achievements](#)

[Support for the Arts](#)

[Preserving Culture](#)

In the summer of 1996, worldwide attention focused on Georgia. Atlanta was the site of the 1996 Summer Olympics. For two weeks, Georgians had an opportunity to greet and mingle with thousands of people from around the world who came for the Olympics. This event provided Georgians with a chance to learn firsthand about people from many different cultures. At the same time, having the Olympics confirmed Atlanta's reputation as an international city.

What does being an international city mean? For Atlanta, it means that the city is recognized throughout the world. It is connected to the rest of the world by transportation facilities, business ties, cultural exchanges, and communications. People from other countries visit and live there. Many foreign governments have trade offices in the city.

Throughout history, people with different backgrounds have contributed to Georgia's culture in many ways. Anthropologists tell us about the cultures of prehistoric mound builders and other Indian groups who lived here long ago. Later, their descendants, the Creeks and Cherokees, developed distinctive cultures. With the arrival of Europeans and Africans, Georgia became a **multicultural**¹ society—a society with many cultures.

Though forced from the state, Georgia's Native Americans left something that daily reminds us of their presence. You may know what it is. Hundreds of geographical features across the state still bear Creek and Cherokee names. These include rivers, such as the Chattahoochee, Amicalola, Etowah, Oostanaula, and Tugaloo. Muscogee, Oconee, and Chattooga counties have Indian names. The Okefenokee Swamp is named for an Indian word “o-wa-qua-phenoga,” which meant “land of the trembling earth.” In some cases, towns such as Talking Rock bear the English translation of the original native name. And the city of Ball Ground in Cherokee County got its name because long ago Cherokees played a ball game much like lacrosse.

Georgia's first people left another legacy. They developed paths and trailways that crisscrossed the state. Today, many of those pathways, originally developed by Georgia's native inhabitants, are covered with asphalt and used by motorists.

Vocabulary

- 1 **Multicultural** - Made up of many cultures.

A Multicultural Society

After thousands of years, Georgia's native population was replaced by Europeans, Africans, and others. As each new **ethnic group**¹—people with shared customs, languages, or background—arrived, they brought with them their unique or special way of doing things. That included

their food, dress, skills, occupations, customs for occasions such as weddings or funerals, and ways of expressing themselves in art, music, story, and dance.

Not only did these newcomers have to adapt to Georgia's physical environment, they had to adapt to its larger cultural



◀ The McIntosh County Shouters in performance at the Savannah Music festival.

environment. At the same time, they contributed to the existing culture. As a result, cultural change became a two-way process and a continuing one.

While adapting to new environments, ethnic groups often attempt to recognize and hold on to important aspects of their culture. For example, in recognition of their African heritage, many black Americans have chosen to call themselves African Americans. Also mindful of their heritage are those who prefer to be known as Hispanic Americans and Native Americans. Ethnic groups also try to maintain their cultures by creating networks of churches, businesses, and social organizations.

Today, Georgia has a multicultural society. This means that its population is made up of people of many cultures, living and working together. The majority—56 percent in 2010—are white, mostly descendants of immigrants from Great Britain and other European countries.

Blacks, or African Americans, make up the largest minority in the state, accounting for 30 percent of all Georgians. But there are other cultures as well.

With nearly 9 percent of the population, Hispanics (also known as Latinos) are Georgia's second-largest minority. Between 2000 and 2010, their number increased by 96 percent, making Latinos the fastest-growing culture in the state.

Historically, traveling migrant workers from Mexico came to Georgia to harvest farm crops. But today, most Hispanics are moving to the state for other types of jobs. Georgia's carpet manufacturing, poultry processing, construction, lawn maintenance, landscaping,

Hispanic workers sort and pack apples for shipping. Georgia's population has more than doubled over the past four decades. This growth has resulted in a multicultural society that is growing increasingly diverse.



and service industries offer jobs that are scarce in Mexico, Central America, and other Spanish-speaking regions in this hemisphere. Many of those seeking work come to this country without legal permits approved by the U.S. government. But many farmers and other employers depend heavily on undocumented workers to perform low-paying jobs. Also, these workers and their families are important retail customers. Their

purchases of food, clothing, cars, and other goods contribute to the local economy and sales tax revenue.

Generally, undocumented immigrants cannot become U.S. citizens unless they marry a citizen. However, children—if born in this country—automatically become U.S. citizens. They join a substantial and growing number of Hispanic U.S. citizens. Some are second-generation Georgians,

but most moved here from other states. Many are **entrepreneurs²**, people willing to take a financial risk to start and manage a business. Often they are involved in restaurants, food stores, financial institutions, law firms, newspapers, radio stations, travel agencies, and a host of other businesses that primarily serve the



◀ The Plaza Fiesta mall in Atlanta is home to many Latin American entrepreneurs. In addition to nearly 300 stores selling everything from shoes to insurance, the mall attracts many visitors with its special occasion events.

Hispanic community. In addition, there are a growing number of Latino-owned companies involved in trade between Georgia and Latin American countries.

Asians form Georgia's second-fastest-growing cultural group. Between 2000 and 2010, their number doubled, and it currently accounts for nearly 4 percent of Georgia's population. Represented are a variety of ethnic groups, including Chinese, Koreans, Vietnamese, Thai, and Hmong (mung), a people from the mountains of northern Laos. Although most of the newcomers have settled in the Atlanta area, for over 100 years there has been a sizeable Chinese community in Augusta.

Georgia's ethnic groups observe their traditions in different ways. They may celebrate holidays or other special events unique to their culture. Atlanta's Greek community, for example, holds an annual festival that has become a popular event. Through food, music,

dance, costumes, and programs, visitors learn of their traditions. Every Mother's Day in Brunswick, Portuguese shrimpers participate in a religious tradition known as Blessing of the Fleet. Atlanta's growing Hispanic population holds an annual festival to renew cultural ties and to share their customs with the community. Each fall, people of Scottish descent gather at Stone Mountain for a festival and to compete in an event called the Highland Games.



These men from Savannah's Greek community took part in the 1907 St. Patrick's Day parade. Today, the parade has become an international event, attracting entrants and thousands of visitors from around the country and the world.



Celebrating the Day of the Dead

[Transcript](#)

These festive occasions give Georgians an opportunity to learn more about each culture by tasting the foods that are considered special, seeing the costumes and crafts of a particular group, and enjoying other unique features such as singing and dancing.

All these many cultures—living, working, and playing together—create the culture of Georgia, and America. Some aspects of Georgia culture are shared with neighboring southern states. For example, foods such as grits and boiled peanuts are not usually found outside the South. They are a southern tradition.

Festivals are a popular way to celebrate Georgia culture. They recognize Georgia's history, products, music, hobbies, even pests! Georgia Week each February in Savannah marks the arrival of James Oglethorpe and the first colonists. In Dahlonega, annual “Gold Rush Days” commemorate the time when gold was

first discovered. There is a Taste of the South celebration at Stone Mountain and an Andersonville Historic Fair at the former Confederate prison. Camilla is the home of the annual Gnat Days. The state sponsors the Georgia National Fair in Perry with livestock shows, exhibits, and carnival rides. Some celebrations recognize well-known Georgia products such as cotton, seafood, Vidalia onions, blueberries, mayhaws, peanuts, peaches, and marble. These products are a part of the state's culture and represent how some Georgians make a living. At various times of the year, you can hear bluegrass, beach music, or jazz at festival gatherings. You can also attend or participate in arts festivals, crafts shows, road races, horse shows, and hot air balloon races. All these events help people to come together, learn about our culture, appreciate differences, and have a good time. ■

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 **Define:** multicultural, ethnic group, entrepreneur
- 2 What are some distinguishing characteristics of an international city?
- 3 What are some features by which an ethnic group might be identified?
- 4 Grits and boiled peanuts are common in Georgia. Why are they considered a part of our southern culture?



- ◀ The Seed & Feed Marching Abominable band performs at the Inman Park Festival, an event that celebrates a historic Atlanta neighborhood.

Vocabulary

- 1 **Ethnic group** - A group of people who share the same customs, languages, or background.
- 2 **Entrepreneur** - A person willing to take a financial risk to start and manage a business.

Georgians' Cultural Achievements

Over the years, many Georgians—both native-born and those who have adopted the state—have excelled in many areas, ranging from sports and entertainment to art and literature. Their achievements have been a source of pride and enjoyment not only to Georgians, but to other Americans as well.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN SPORTS

Competing with one another, ourselves, or nature has become an important part of American culture. This is true in Georgia, where such sports as football, basketball, baseball, golf, hunting and fishing, and auto racing are enjoyed by so many people—either as participants or observers. Sports and recreation are popular in our culture for several reasons, including tradition, school pride, desire for physical fitness, and need for relaxation.

Georgians not only compete for fun; many have become national, and even international, champions. Atlanta golfer Bobby Jones is recognized as one of the game's greatest players. After retiring



◀ **Bobby Jones**, considered by many to be the greatest golfer in history, won four major championships in the same year. A month later he shocked the world by retiring from golf at age 28.

from the game, Jones spearheaded the effort to build the Augusta National Golf Course. The Masters Tournament, one of the premier golf tournaments in the world, is held there every spring. Three Georgians have won the Masters—Claude Harmon from Savannah in 1948, Tommy Aaron from Gainesville in 1973, and Augusta-born Larry Mize in 1987. Twice, in 2012 and again in 2014, Bubba Watson a former UGA golfer, won the Masters. Another golfer from Georgia is Louise Suggs, known as “Little Toughie.” One of the greatest female golfers of all time, she was the leading winner on the ladies professional circuit from 1953 to 1960.

Georgia has produced a number of Olympic gold medalists. The earliest was sprinter Ralph Metcalf, who was on the 400-meter relay team at the 1932 Olympics. University of Georgia track star Forrest “Spec” Towns won first place in the 110-meter high hurdles at the 1936 games. In 1948, Albany’s Alice Coachman

Davis won the women’s high jump. Weightlifter Paul Anderson won a gold in 1956, going on to be recognized as the “World’s Strongest Man.” Sprinters Martha Hudson Pennyman (1960), Edith McGuire Duvall (1964), Wyomia Tyus (1964), and Mel Pender (1968) also brought home Olympic gold medals.

Edwin Moses, who attended Morehouse

Uga, the University of Georgia mascot. In 1997, Sports Illustrated magazine named Uga V the number one college mascot. He played himself in the movie *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*.



College in the 1970s, became the premier 400-meter hurdler of his day. He won the event at the 1976 and 1984 Olympics and set the world record in 1983. Another Georgian participating in the 1984 games was swimmer Steve Lundquist, who won two gold medals and set two world records. Georgia swimmer Angel Martino, who lives in Americus, won a gold medal at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona. The only U.S. basketball player—male or female—to participate in four Olympic games is Teresa Edwards. Born in Cairo, she was a gold medalist in 1984, 1988, and 1996, and a bronze medalist in 1992. Gwen Torrence, a sprinter from Decatur, won gold in the 1992 Olympics in the 200-meter dash and in the 4 x 100 meter relay. In 1996, she won Olympic gold again in Atlanta in the 4 x 100 meter relay.

Georgia has produced other world champions. Camilla's Theo (Tiger) Flowers was world middleweight boxing champion in 1926—the first African American to hold

the title. Sidney Walker, once a shoeshine boy at the Augusta National Golf Course, became the lightweight boxing champion in the early 1940s. In 1951, Georgian Ezzard Charles held the world heavyweight title. More recently, in 1996, Atlanta's Evander Holyfield became the second boxer to win the world heavyweight boxing championship three times. Working as Holyfield's strength coach was another Atlanta champion, bodybuilder Lee Haney. In 1991, Haney won his eighth "Mr. Olympia" title, setting the record for the most consecutive wins.

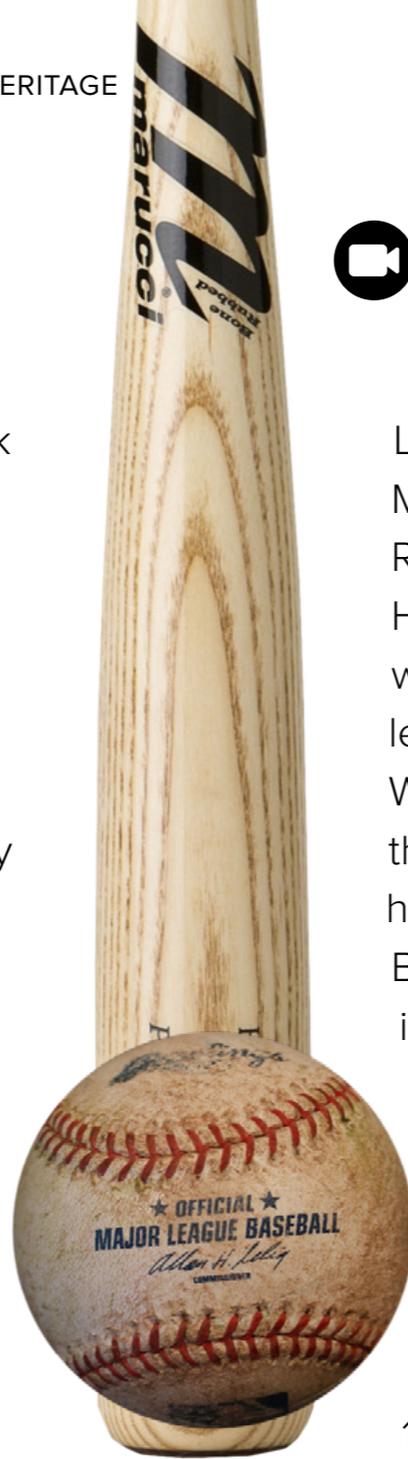
In 1942, University of Georgia running back Frank Sinkwich became the first Georgian to win the Heisman Trophy, symbol of the best college football player in America. The trophy is named for John Heisman, an innovative football coach who was at Georgia Tech from 1904 to 1919. He developed the forward pass and the snap from center. Also, he was the first to put numbers on players' jerseys. In 1961,

Since 1935, the Heisman Trophy has been awarded to the most outstanding college football player in the United States.



University of Georgia quarterback Fran Tarkenton was drafted by the Minnesota Vikings football team. There, the “scrambling quarterback” achieved career passing records for touchdowns, completions, and yardage. Georgia’s second Heisman trophy winner came from Wrightsville. Running back Herschel Walker had a spectacular career at the University of Georgia, winning the nation’s top football honor in 1982. He went on to a professional career with the New Jersey Generals, Dallas Cowboys, and Minnesota Vikings.

In other professional sports, Ty Cobb of Royston was considered to be one of the all-time best baseball players. His lifetime batting average (.367) is the highest in history. Buena Vista’s Josh Gibson was the all-time home run champion in the Negro



Transcript

League in the 1930s and 1940s. Many called him “the black Babe Ruth.” Another baseball great was Hank Aaron of the Atlanta Braves, who in 1974 set the all-time major league record for home runs. With 755 home runs, he broke the lifetime record of 714 long held by Babe Ruth. The Atlanta Braves were the winningest team in major league baseball in the 1990s. They won the World Series in 1995 and played in four more (1991, 1992, 1996, and 1999). The Braves played in postseason games in every year but 1990. In 1999, the Atlanta Falcons played unsuccessfully for the National Football League championship—their first Super Bowl game. In basketball, University of Georgia standout Dominique Wilkins went on to play with the Atlanta Hawks, where he became one of the league’s top scorers. In stock car racing, Dawsonville’s

◀ The 1966 arrival of a major league team in Atlanta—the Braves—increased the popularity of the sport in Georgia. Ten years later the Braves became “America’s Team” when team owner Ted Turner broadcast their games on WTBS.

Bill Elliot has won numerous national championships.

In addition to individual sports greats, Georgia colleges and universities have won many team championships in different sports, including several national titles.

MUSIC IN GEORGIA

Many musicians, some known around the world, claim Georgia as their home. They represent a wide variety of musical styles.

Some of those styles, such as blues, jazz, gospel, bluegrass, and country music, had their origin in the South. Blues and jazz became popular, appealing to both black and white audiences in the United States and abroad. Songwriter and singer Thomas Dorsey, born in Villa Rica in 1899, earned the title of “father of gospel music” with his many blues arrangements of gospel hymns. Gertrude “Ma” Rainey

of Columbus was known as the “Mother of the Blues.” Fletcher Henderson Jr., of Cuthbert, recognized as one of America’s

Albany native **Ray Charles** performed the state song “Georgia on My Mind” at a special ceremony for legislators at the state capitol in 1979.



[Transcript](#)

[Transcript](#)



great jazz musicians, helped the careers of young jazz instrumentalists who played in his orchestra. He became known to white audiences when he worked as an arranger for Benny Goodman. Joe Williams, a jazz vocalist from Cordele, and Albany-born trumpeter Harry James made names for themselves during the “Big Band Era.” In 1987, blues singer Robert Cray won a Grammy Award for his work.

The Sea Island Singers and the McIntosh County Shouters are groups nationally known for continuing coastal music traditions. They have performed at the National Black Arts Festival in Atlanta and the National Folk Festival in Virginia, presenting songs, narratives, and dances as handed down by black Georgians along the coast.

In classical music, Roland Hayes, an



- ◀ The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Officially founded in 1945 and played its first concert as the Atlanta Youth Symphony under the direction of Henry Sopkin.



African American tenor from Calhoun, sang for British royalty in 1921. James Melton of Moultrie performed as an opera tenor, recording artist, and actor during the midcentury. Mattiwilda Dobbs of Atlanta (an aunt of Atlanta mayor Maynard Jackson) and Jessye Norman of Augusta are internationally recognized opera singers. Both have performed with the New York Metropolitan Opera.

Several Georgia cities have symphony orchestras, including Atlanta, Augusta, Columbus, Macon, and Savannah. The

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra began in 1945 and rose to prominence under the direction of Robert Shaw. The orchestra performed for the inauguration of President Carter in 1977.

Songwriter Johnny Mercer of Savannah published 701 songs between 1933 and 1974. Among them are “Moon River” and “I’m an Old Cowhand.” He wrote music for movies, radio, and recordings, and won four Academy Awards. Georgia has an abundance of famous performers of popular music. Ray Charles of Albany popularized “Georgia on My Mind,” now our state song, and won 12 Grammy Awards. At the time of his death in 2006, soul singer James Brown from Augusta had a long list of hit records over a career that began in the 1950s and influenced many other artists. The city of Macon produced many

◀ **Johnny Mercer** was best known as a lyricist, but he also composed music. He received nineteen Academy Award nominations, and won four.



◀ **Otis Redding** was a singer, songwriter, record producer, arranger and talent scout. He is considered one of the greatest singers in popular music and a major artist in soul and rhythm and blues.



musicians, including Otis Redding (soul), “Little Richard” Penniman (rock and roll), and the Allman Brothers Band (southern rock). Atlanta rhythm and blues singers Gladys Knight and the Pips have recorded several gold albums and won Grammys for their music. Amy Grant, a singer of Christian and popular music, has won five Grammy Awards and continues to make recordings. The works of many rhythm and blues artists were recorded and produced in Atlanta during the 1990s.

Fiddlin’ John Carson was the first person to broadcast and record country music. In 1922, he performed live on WSB radio, and a year later recorded “Little Old Log Cabin” and “The Old Hen Cackled and the Rooster’s Going to Crow.” Other well-known country singers from the state include Brenda Lee, Bill Anderson, Ronnie Milsap, Travis Tritt, and John Berry. Songwriters who also perform include Ray Stevens, Jerry Reed, T. Graham Brown, Joe South, and Billy Joe Royal. Recognized as male and female country vocal entertainers of the year on many occasions, respectively, are Alan Jackson from Newnan and Trisha Yearwood of Monticello. Both entertainers have gold records and have won Grammy Awards.

In the 1980s, the city of Athens developed a reputation as a home for alternative music. Athens bands such as the B-52s and R.E.M. and the Indigo Girls of Atlanta went on to become nationally famous, and continue to perform.

◀ **“Ma” Rainey** was one of the earliest known American professional blues singers and one of the first generation of such singers to record.

In the last decade, Atlanta has established itself as the “Motown of the South.” The success of producer Jermaine Dupri and his So So Def recording label propelled Atlanta to the top of the hip hop and urban charts. L. A. Reid and partner Kenneth “Babyface” Edmonds created La Face Records, which introduced Atlanta artists TLC, Toni Braxton, and rap duo OutKast. OutKast has won multiple Grammy Awards, including album of the year (2003), and had many number one hits. Other urban artists to emerge from Atlanta include Usher, Monica, and Ludacris.

LITERATURE

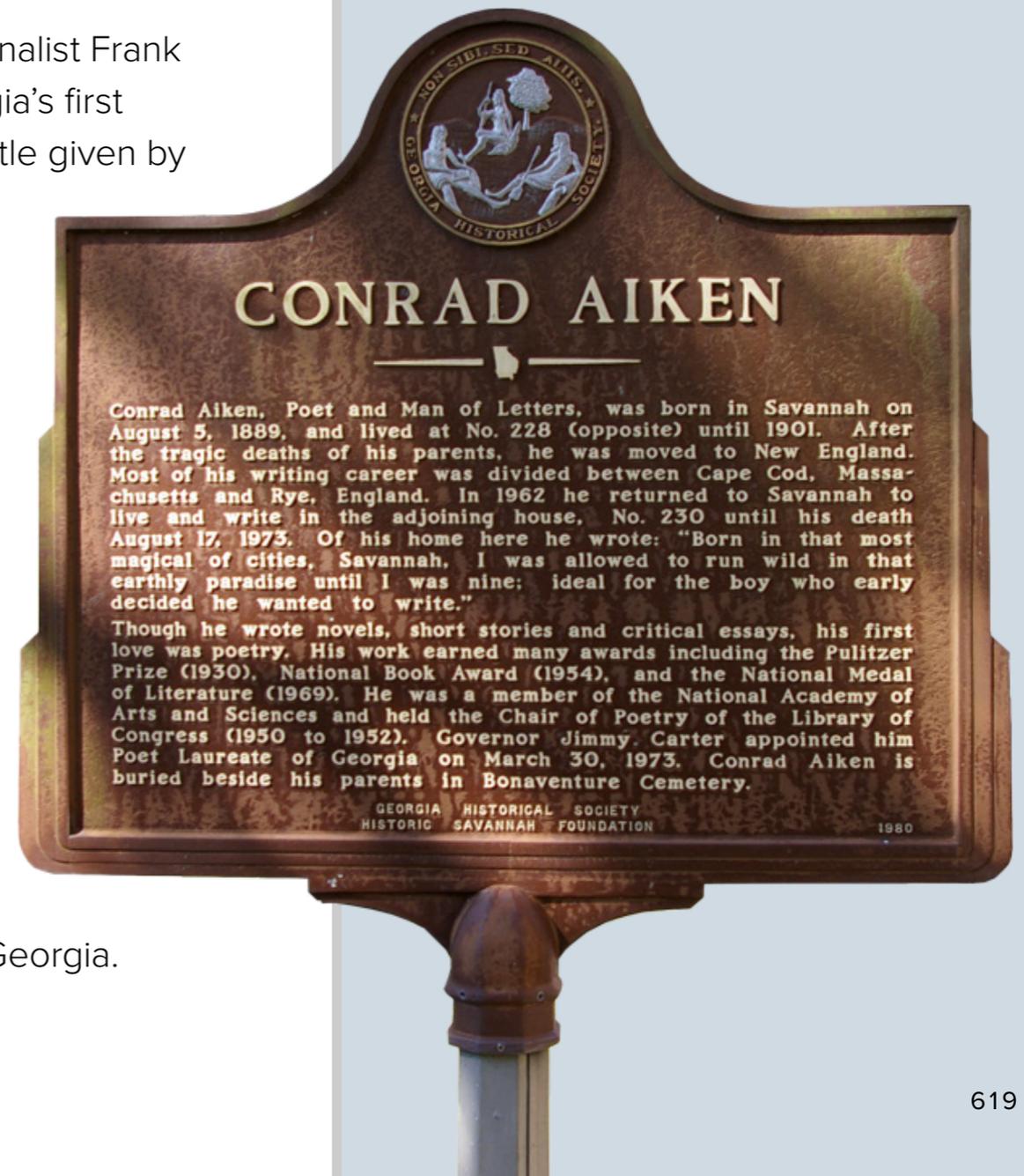
Georgia writers have received national recognition for their poems, short stories, and novels. Often their works have been based on fictional accounts of life in Georgia or the South. Most noteworthy in the nineteenth century were poet Sidney

Lanier and folktale author Joel Chandler Harris. Popular when it was published in 1910, Corra Harris’s *The Circuit Rider’s Wife* was based on her life as a traveling Methodist minister’s wife.

In 1925, poet and Atlanta journalist Frank Stanton was named as Georgia’s first poet laureate—an honorary title given by the governor. Byron Herbert Reece, who grew up in Union County in the 1920s, wrote poetry and novels that reflected the isolation of his north Georgia mountain home.

Three Georgians won Pulitzer prizes in the 1930s for their literary works. In 1930, Conrad Aiken from Savannah won the award for his *Selected Poems*. Later, in 1973, Governor Carter named him poet laureate of Georgia.

A historical marker identifies the location of the home of Savannah poet and author **Conrad Aiken**.



Waycross native Caroline Miller won the 1934 Pulitzer prize for *Lamb in His Bosom*, a fictional account of frontier life before the Civil War. Margaret Mitchell of Atlanta won the 1936 Pulitzer prize for her novel, *Gone with the Wind*.

Another famous Georgia author of the 1930s was Erskine Caldwell, who grew up in Wrens. Caldwell painted a harsh picture about the lifestyles of poor Georgia sharecroppers. His best-known books were *Tobacco Road*, which became a long-running Broadway play, and *God's Little Acre*.

Three important women writers who published in the 1940s and 1950s were Carson McCullers of Columbus, Flannery O'Connor of Milledgeville, and Lillian Smith of Clayton. McCullers wrote about the lonely side of contemporary life in the South. Her best-known works are *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter* and *The Member of the Wedding*. Flannery O'Connor is

recognized as one of America's best short story authors. Her stories and novels often use violent and shocking events to describe southern culture. Lillian Smith wrote about racism and its crippling effect on the South.

James Dickey was a well-known Atlanta-born poet. His work includes a popular book called *Deliverance*, a violent tale of three city men canoeing through the wilds of north Georgia. Pat Conroy, from Atlanta, has written novels based on his experiences at The Citadel, a military school in South Carolina, and as a schoolteacher on

Flannery O'Connor at an autograph party for her book *Wise Blood*.



[Transcript](#)

one of that state's barrier islands. Harry Crews draws on his childhood in Bacon County for many of his stories and novels.

Olive Ann Burns of Banks County became famous for *Cold Sassy Tree*, an account of turn-of-the-century life in a small Georgia town. Eugenia Price, who lived on St. Simons Island, is best known for her historical novels about coastal Georgians. Ferrol Sams, from Fayette County, has written best-selling novels about a young boy growing up in Georgia before World War II. Terry Kay uses many Georgia locations in his books, such as *The Year the Lights Came On*, a story of the effect of rural electrification on a small Georgia town.

Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil by John Berendt, a book about a murder in Savannah, has brought fame to the city. A national best seller for several years, the popular book was made into a movie filmed in Savannah, and many tourists have visited the city because of it.

Several black Georgia authors have achieved national recognition. Raymond Andrews, son of a Madison-area sharecropper, wrote several novels about life for black people in the segregated South of the 1940s and 1950s. Frank Yerby, an African-American writer from Augusta, published popular, action-packed historical fiction. He wrote many novels and won a short story award in 1944. Poet and author Alice Walker is from Eatonton. For her best-known novel, *The Color Purple*, she won the Pulitzer prize in 1983. The book, written as a series of letters, tells the story of a black woman growing up in Georgia. It was later made into a movie.

THE PERFORMING ARTS

Atlanta is the home of several professional theater companies. Among them is the Alliance Theatre at the Woodruff Arts



◀ Ballet dance of Michael Garrison's *Pirates of the Phantom Waves* at the Gwinnett Performing Arts Center in Atlanta.

Center. The Alliance, besides its regular play season, also has a children's theater and a theater school. Jomandi Productions is an African-American theater company that performs in Atlanta and nationally. The Center for Puppetry Arts not only presents performances but also has a museum and offers classes in the art of puppetry. Touring theatre companies stage productions, often in the restored Fox Theatre or the Atlanta Civic Center. The Atlanta Ballet, created in 1929, is the oldest continuously operating ballet company in America.

Throughout the state, numerous community theater groups stage and present plays, giving local residents the opportunity to see performances or to perform. In Columbus the Springer Opera House, established in 1871, is the setting for many types of productions. Governor Carter named it the State Theatre of Georgia in 1971.

Today, many Georgia actors and actresses perform on stage and in movies and television programs. Ossie Davis (Cogdell) has had a long career in movies and television as an actor, director, and

screenwriter. The original Star Trek television series featured DeForest Kelley (Atlanta) as Dr. “Bones” McCoy. Other faces seen on television are Demond Wilson (Valdosta) in *Sanford and Son*; Claude Akins (Nelson), *Sheriff Lobo*; Pernell Roberts (Waycross), *Trapper John, M.D.*; Alvin “Junior” Samples (Cumming), *Hee Haw*; and Jeff Foxworthy (Atlanta).

Long-established stars include the

character actor Charles Coburn (Savannah); Oliver Hardy (Harlem) of the comedy team Laurel and Hardy, popular in the 1930s; Melvyn Douglas (Macon), who was in *Hud* and *Hotel*; and Joanne Woodward (Thomasville), famous for her role in *The Three Faces of Eve*. Thelma “Butterfly” McQueen, who grew up in and later retired to Augusta, had an unforgettable supporting role in the movie *Gone with the Wind*. Burt Reynolds



[Transcript](#)

◀ The Fox Theatre on Peachtree Street opened in 1929 as the Great Depression was beginning. Now a National Historic Landmark, it is used for concerts, musicals, and even occasional movies.

(Waycross) popularized the good old boy image in such movies as *Smokey and the Bandit*. Academy Award–winning actresses Holly Hunter (Conyers), Julia Roberts (Smyrna), and Kim Basinger (Athens) have appeared in popular movies. Laurence Fishburne (Augusta) has appeared in the *Matrix* movie series and numerous other films. Spike Lee (Atlanta) has produced and directed many movies that examine race relations in America.

Since the 1970s, Georgia officials have promoted the state as a setting for movies and television shows. Movies such as *Drumline*, *Glory*, and *Driving Miss Daisy* were made in Georgia, as were *Deliverance*, *Smokey and the Bandit*, and *Fried Green Tomatoes*. Television series filmed in the state include *The Dukes of Hazzard*, *In the Heat of the Night*, *I'll Fly Away*, and *The Walking Dead*.

Georgia has another tie to motion pictures and television—the Turner Broadcasting System, which merged with Time Warner

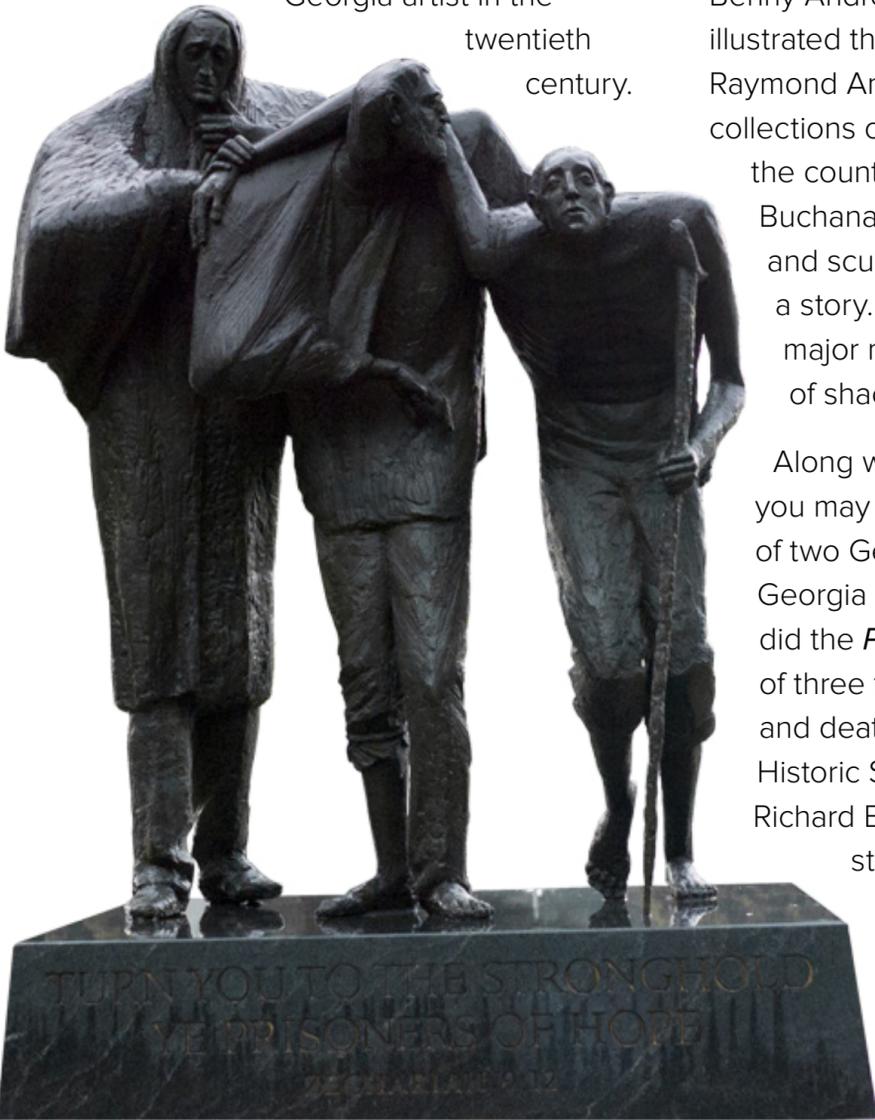
in 1997. Formerly owner of an outdoor advertising firm, business entrepreneur Ted Turner purchased an Atlanta UHF television station in 1970. By bouncing its signal off a satellite, Turner transformed the operation into Superstation WTBS. Today, through satellite broadcasting, the TBS network reaches a national television audience, and in the case of its cable news network, CNN International, a global audience.

THE VISUAL ARTS

Georgia has a rich variety of artists, from painters to potters. Some Georgia artists have exhibited their work in national and international settings.

At the beginning of the twentieth century, Lucy May Stanton of Atlanta and Athens received international recognition for her miniatures painted on ivory. Some of her works are in the Smithsonian's National

Portrait Gallery and at Emory University. Lamar Dodd was the most recognized Georgia artist in the twentieth century.



Space missions and open heart surgery are among the subjects of his later works. Benny Andrews, an artist and illustrator, illustrated the books of his brother Raymond Andrews. His work is in the collections of major museums around the country. Athens resident Beverly Buchanan is known for her drawings and sculptures, often accompanied by a story. Her work, which appears in major museums, celebrates the spirit of shack dwellers in the rural South.

Along with many other Americans, you may already have seen the work of two Georgia sculptors. University of Georgia professor William J. Thompson did the *Prisoners of War* sculpture of three figures—humanity, suffering, and death—at Andersonville National Historic Site. His sculpture of Sen. Richard B. Russell can be seen at the state capitol. Frederick Hart of Atlanta designed and sculpted a biblical scene for

◀ Prisoners of War memorial at Andersonville National Historic Site near Americus, by sculptor Bill Thompson.



◀ In 1963, NASA invited Lamar Dodd to produce a series of paintings documenting the conquest of space. The best-known of these is his 1972 work *Crucified Sun*. This piece later hung in the White House, where it was one of President Carter's favorite paintings.

one of the main entrances to the National Cathedral in Washington, DC. More widely known is Hart's bronze statue of three soldiers at the Vietnam War Memorial in the nation's capital.

FOLK ART

Folk arts and crafts are items made by hand using skills that are generally self-taught or learned at home. These skills are often passed along through generations. It is not uncommon to find families who are known for a particular craft or style. In the past, folk objects were usually functional and served a useful purpose, such as a quilt to keep a bed warm. Because of changing times and modern inventions, the functional value of some objects may be lost, but those same objects are prized for their decorative value. Popular folk arts and crafts today include pottery, quilts, baskets, and wood carvings.

Locally produced clay pottery items such as butter churns, milk pans, and jugs were once practical containers for holding every product in the Georgia kitchen. After the introduction of glass and metal containers in the twentieth century, folk potters found new uses for their products. The Meaders family of Mossy Creek is known for face jugs. The Hewell and the Merritt families produce flowerpots and other garden pottery items. Members of the D. X. Gordy family produce figurines, along with more traditional pottery items.

Howard Finster of Summerville was a folk artist known for his religiously inspired visions and art. He completed over 7,000 paintings, drawings, and sculptures and constructed a multistoried chapel of art. A self-ordained preacher, he used wood, concrete, car parts, and other discarded items in his work. His art often contains messages, Bible verses, warnings, and prophecies. Nellie



Mark of the Potter

[Transcript](#)

Face jugs like this one have been produced by three generations of the **Meaders** family. Collectors now pay up to \$10,000 for an original.



Mae Rowe was a visionary folk artist from Fayette County who became well known for her small sculptures and drawings. Her work has been shown in major exhibitions,

including an exhibit of black folk art 1930–1980, and is in the collections of the High Museum of Art in Atlanta and the Library of Congress. Mattie Lou O’Kelley, a self-



- ◀ The Georgia Farm. For her paintings, artist **Mattie Lou O’Kelley** drew on childhood memories of growing up in Banks County, Georgia.



taught folk artist from Maysville, became nationally known for her colorful primitive-style paintings. She did not start painting regularly until she was nearly 60 years old. Her paintings are in folk art collections in many museums. ■

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 Why are sports a part of a people's culture?
- 2 Name four types of music that had their origin in the South.
- 3 Like the historian, writers and authors have a frame of reference. How do the Georgia authors mentioned in this section show a Georgia frame of reference in their work?
- 4 How have Georgians been active in the performing arts?
- 5 What are folk arts and crafts?

◀ The late folk artist **Howard Finster** points out a detail at his Chapel of Art in Summerville.

Support for the Arts

The arts in Georgia have been helped by people who recognize their importance to the community. One way people have helped is by encouraging the development of cultural centers—places where artists can work or display their works to the public. Many cities have cultural centers that offer studio, performance, and gallery space to artists. Some may also have museum space. The Nexus Contemporary Arts Center in Atlanta, the Madison-Morgan Cultural Center, the Sacred Heart Cultural Center in Augusta, and the Arts Experiment Station in Tifton are among the many centers throughout Georgia supported by a combination of individuals, businesses, and different levels of government.

Some institutions have been started or continued through the actions of **philanthropists**, people willing to contribute money for causes they feel are worthy. Mary Telfair of Savannah left most

of her estate for the establishment of the Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 1886, the Academy became an art gallery open to the public. The High Museum of Art is a memorial to Harriet Wilson High. The donation of her home and art collection to the Atlanta Art Association was the seed that started the museum and school.

Associated with the High Museum is the Robert W. Woodruff Arts Center. Formerly known as the Memorial Arts Center, it was renamed as a birthday tribute to the generosity of Woodruff. The center was built in memory of 122 Atlantans who

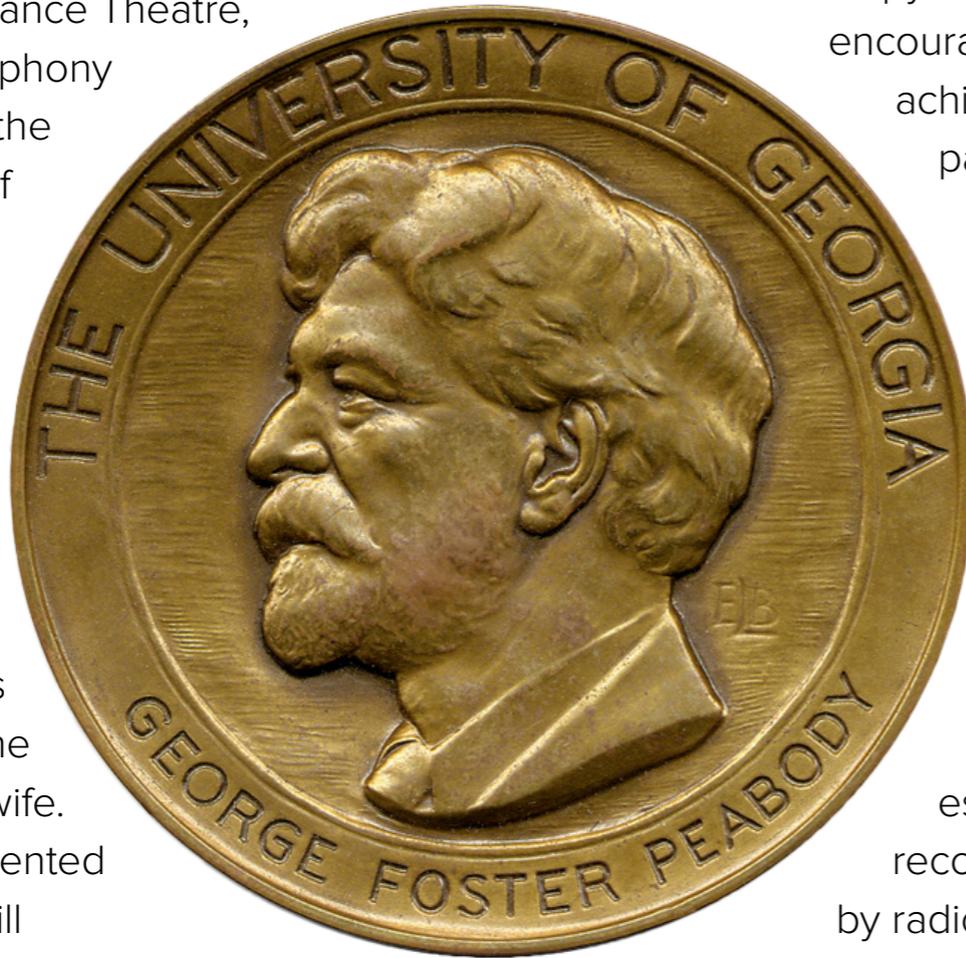
Formerly an elementary school, the **Madison-Morgan Cultural Center** today is a museum and home for area performing, visual, and decorative arts.



were killed in a plane crash at Orly Field near Paris in June 1962. Financed almost solely by private donations, the center includes the Alliance Theatre, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, and the High Museum of Art.

Alfred H. Holbrook, a New York attorney, collected paintings by American artists as a tribute to the memory of his wife. In 1945, he presented the Eva Underhill Holbrook Memorial Collection of American Art to the University of Georgia with the stipulation that a museum be established on campus. As a result, the Georgia Museum of Art got its start and

houses the collection along with many other holdings.



Philanthropy can be used to encourage distinguished achievements in a particular area.

George Foster Peabody, a Columbus financier and talented businessman, used his fortune to endow the Peabody Awards.

The awards, established in 1939, recognize achievements by radio and television networks, cable organizations, and individuals. These prestigious awards are given every spring in a ceremony in New York, but the program is administered by the University of Georgia.

◀ The **George Foster Peabody medal**. This award is given for distinguished achievement and meritorious public service by television and radio stations, networks, producing organizations, individuals, and the World Wide Web.

Preserving Culture

Knowing about the past is important to preserving a people's culture. Of course, reading books is one way to learn about that past. Another way is seeing actual artifacts from history. This is one reason museums are so important. Through exhibits and displays, museums tell us about our past.

Although Georgia does not have a state museum of history, a variety of smaller, specialized museums across the state explore Georgia's past. Museums dedicated to Native American history and prehistory can be found at New Echota and at the Etowah, Ocmulgee, and Kolomoki Indian mounds. Interpretative exhibits and displays tell the story of Atlanta's past at the Atlanta History Center. The history of agriculture in the state is told at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village in Tifton. Museums and state historic sites associated with the Civil War are found in such cities as Columbus, Savannah, and Crawfordville.

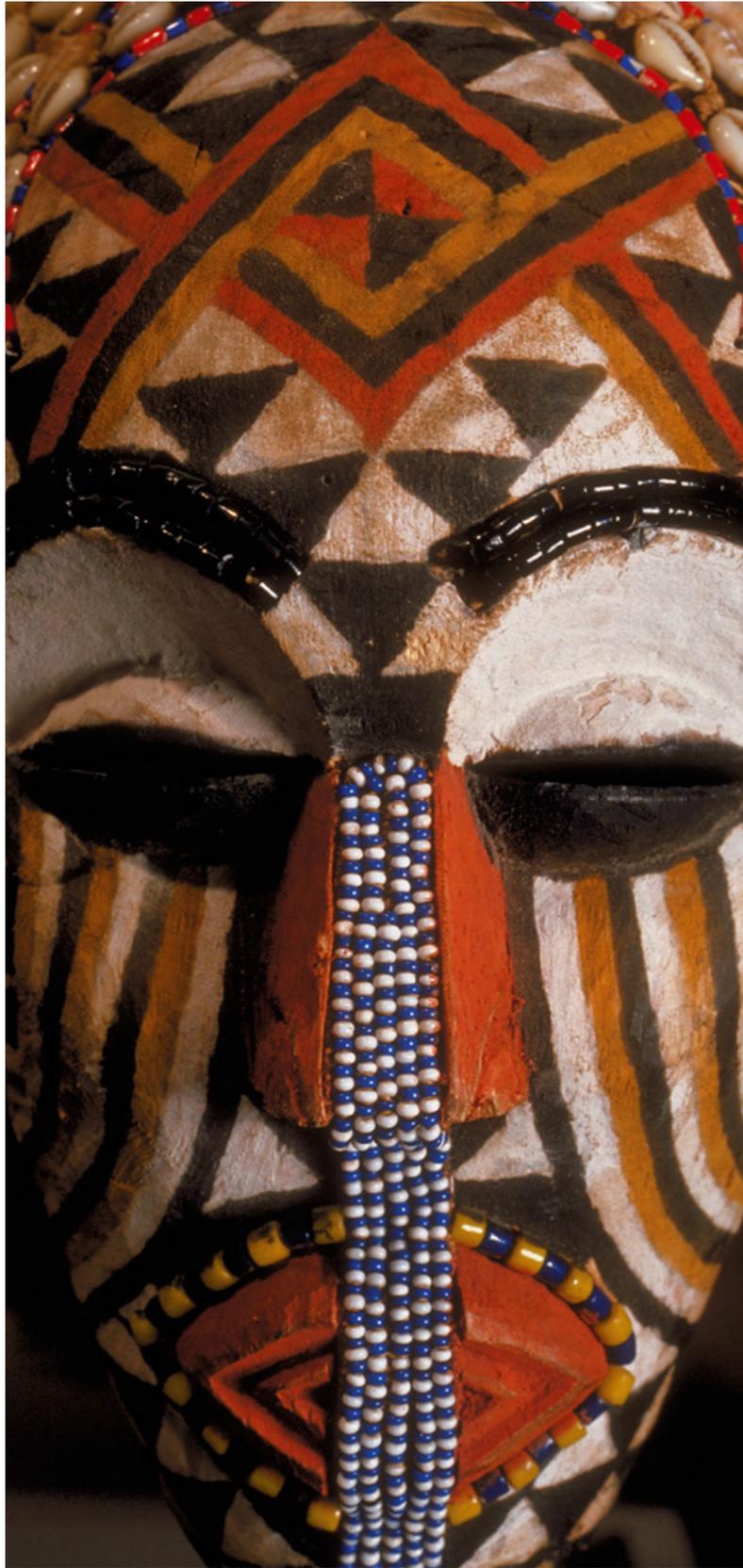
Additionally, the National Park Service operates two Civil War national battlefields at Kennesaw Mountain and Chickamauga, and the National Prisoner of War Museum at Andersonville.

Not all museums are called museums. For example, Atlanta's APEX (African-American

A Civil War exhibit at the Atlanta History Center depicts a woman receiving a telegram informing her of her husband's death.



◀ The Etowah Indian Mounds State Historic Site in Cartersville tells the story of the Mississippian Indian culture that once existed in Georgia.

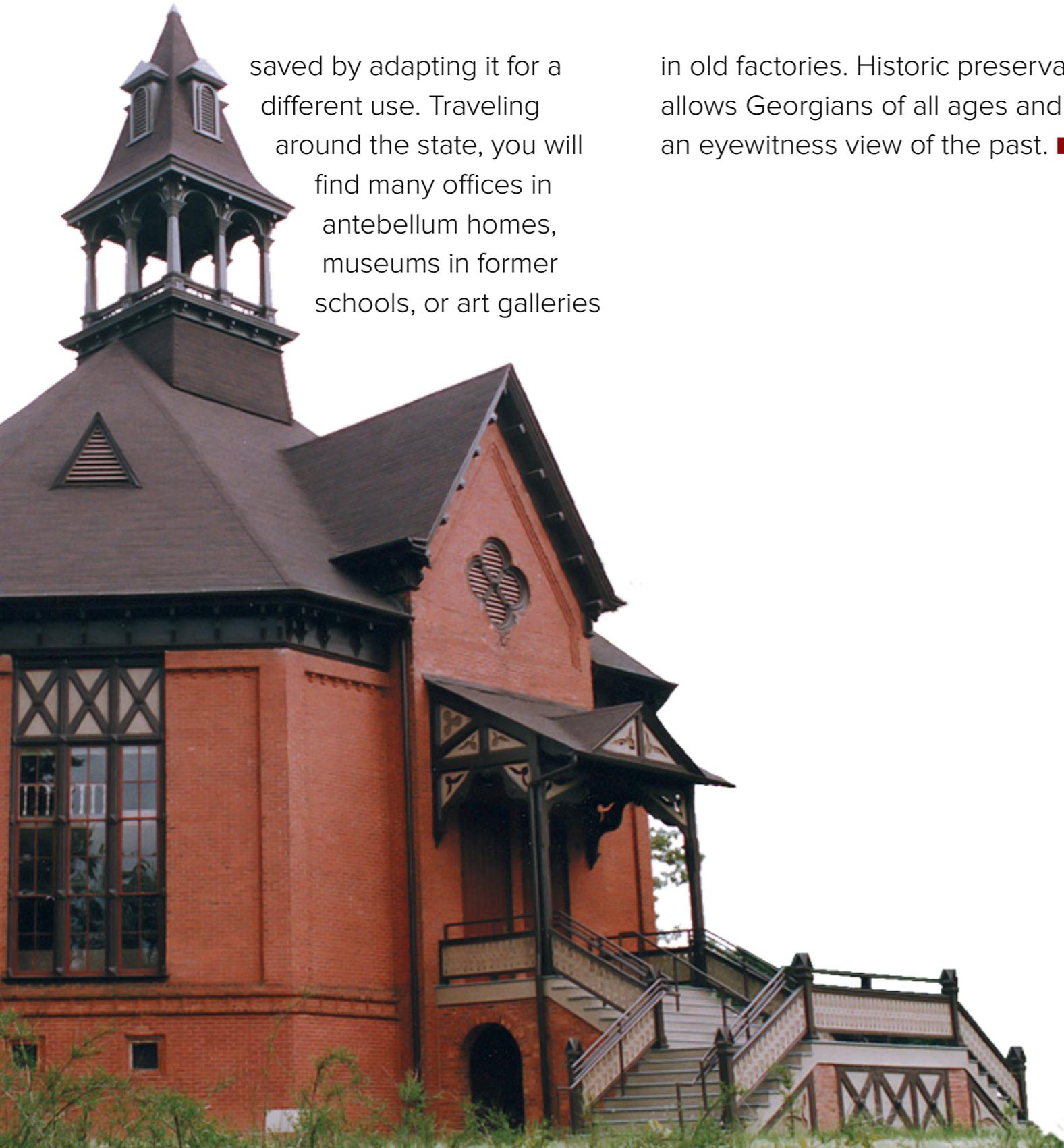


Panoramic Experience) displays artifacts from black history as well as contemporary exhibits. The birth home of Martin Luther King Jr. part of a national historic site, is a type of museum. Historic exhibits can be found at the Carter Presidential Center and Library in Atlanta.

Historic buildings and structures in your community are a type of museum. But sometimes, distinctive old buildings are lost in the rush to build new office buildings and parking lots. Out of a desire to protect these structures from the past came a movement known as **historic preservation**¹ .

Savannah was one of the first cities to take advantage of its standing historic structures. Run-down shops, factories, residences, churches, and public buildings were restored, and the historic areas attracted many tourists. The idea caught on in cities throughout the state. Sometimes, a historic structure has been

◀ A decorative mask at the APEX, the African-American Panoramic Experience in Atlanta.



saved by adapting it for a different use. Traveling around the state, you will find many offices in antebellum homes, museums in former schools, or art galleries

in old factories. Historic preservation allows Georgians of all ages and cultures an eyewitness view of the past. ■

LOCATING *the* MAIN IDEAS

- 1 Define:** philanthropist, historic preservation
- 2** What purpose do community cultural centers serve?
- 3** How did an interest in historic preservation benefit Savannah?

◀ The Seney-Stovall Chapel in Athens, dedicated in 1885, was constructed with a donation from philanthropist George Seney. Part of the Lucy Cobb Institute, the chapel deteriorated after the girls' school closed in 1931. Community members - including many former students - rallied and rescued the chapel. It is now used as a performance center by the community and University of Georgia groups.

Vocabulary

- 1 **Historic preservation** - A movement that attempts to preserve and restore buildings and other structures of the past.



CHAPTER 22 QUIZ

Text Version