

Crossroads: Change in Rural Alabama

An Alabama bibliography for the Smithsonian exhibit's statewide tour, 2023-2024

Digital Resources

Digital Public Library of America: <https://dp.la/>

DPLA is a compendium of digitized images, text, audio, and film from archives and libraries across the country, the DPLA offers a trove of primary sources. You can search sources by place and keyword.

Encyclopedia of Alabama: <https://encyclopediaofalabama.org/>

Developed by the Alabama Humanities Alliance in partnership with many other organizations statewide, the EOA is a free, online resource on Alabama's history, people, culture, geography, and natural environment.

Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division: <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/>

LOC has digitized 95% of the holdings of its Prints and Photographs Division. You can search for photographs by county or community name. Many photos are from New Deal agencies but there are recent images, too. Not all images are in the public domain, but each image page will have information on permissions and use.

Living Democracy Series: www.montgomeryadvertiser.com

Student-reported stories that paint a picture of rural Alabama. A partnership of Auburn University's Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts and Humanities, David Mathews Center for Civic Life, and the Montgomery Advertiser.

The Living New Deal, created by UC Berkeley: <https://livingnewdeal.org/map/>

This site provides a map of 17,000 New Deal projects, searchable by place. You can find projects in your community that you may not have known about or add projects that are not on the map already.



Museum on Main Street partnership

PACERS Rural Community News Network: <http://pacers-prcnn-00852.squarespace.com>

A network of citizen-run newspapers — from Beatrice and Camp Hill to Pintlala and Packers Bend — capturing everyday life in rural Alabama. The residents creating these papers are uplifting their communities and helping neighbor better know neighbor.

Photogrammer, Yale University: <https://photogrammar.org/maps>

Similar to The Living New Deal, this site's authors have mapped 170,000 New Deal photographs produced by the Farm Security Administration and Office of War Information in the 1930s and 1940s. You can search the map by state and county to find relevant photographs, all which are in the public domain.

Literature/Memoir

Agee, James and Walker Evans. *Let us Now Praise Famous Men*. Penguin Modern Classics, 2006.

Bragg, Rick. *All Over But the Shoutin'*. Vintage, 1998.

Flagg, Fannie. *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistlestop Cafe*. Mass Market edition. Ballantine Books, 2016.

Flowers, Catherine Coleman. *Waste: One Woman's Fight Against America's Dirty Secret*. The New Press, 2022.

Grau, Shirley Ann. *The Keepers of the House*. Reprint edition. Vintage, 2016. [Note: this work has some adult themes related to intimacy.]

Howell, Angela McMillan. *Raised Up Down Yonder: Growing Up Black in Rural Alabama*. Reprint edition. University of Mississippi Press, 2015.

Lamar, Jay and Jeanie Thompson, eds. *The Remembered Gate: Memoirs by Alabama Writers*. Deep South Books, 2007.

Segrest, Mab. *Memoir of a Race Traitor: Fighting Racism in the American South*. Reprint edition. The New Press, 2019.

Shelton, Allen. *Dreamworlds of Alabama*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2007.



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Rural Traditions

Arnett, William, et. al. *The Quilts of Gee's Bend*. Tinwood Books, 2002.

Bealle, John. *Public Worship, Private Faith: Sacred Harp and American Folksong*. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1997.

Blejwas, Emily. *The Story of Alabama in Fourteen Foods*. University of Alabama Press, 2019.

Brackner, Joey. *Alabama Folk Pottery*. University of Alabama Press, 2006.

Jackson, Harvey H. III, ed. *The WPA Guide to 1930s Alabama*. Univ. of Alabama Press, 2000.

Knight, Elliot A. *Alabama Creates: 200 Years of Art & Artists*. University of Alabama Press, 2019.

Lewis, Katie Porter. *Alabama Folk Plays*. UNC Press, 2018.

Tapper, Monica. *A Culinary Tour Through Alabama History*. Charleston, S.C.: The History Press, 2021.

History

Bridges, Edwin. *Alabama: The Making of An American State*. Univ. of Alabama Press, 2018.

Collins, Donald E. *When The Church Bell Rang Racist: The Methodist Church and the Civil Rights Movement in Alabama*. Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 1998.

Day, James Sanders. *Diamonds in the Rough: A History of Alabama's Cahaba Coal Field*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2013.

Dorr, Lisa Lindquist and Susan Youngblood Ashmore. *Alabama Women: Their Lives and Times*. UGA Press, 2017.

Downs, Matthew. *Transforming the South: Federal Development in the Tennessee Valley, 1915-1960*. LSU Press, 2014.

Ellenberg, George B. *Mule South to Tractor South: Mules, Machines, and the Transformation of the Cotton South*. University of Alabama Press, 2007.



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English, Bertis. *Civil Wars, Civil Beings, and Civil Rights in Alabama's Black Belt: A History of Perry County*. University of Alabama Press, 2020.

Ethridge, Robbie. *Creek Country: The Creek Indians and their World*. UNC Press, 2003.

Fallin, Wilson Jr. *Uplifting the People: Three Centuries of Black Baptists in Alabama*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2007.

Fitzgerald, Michael W. *Reconstruction in Alabama: From Civil War to Redemption in the Cotton South*. Baton Rouge: LSU Press, 2017.

Fite, Gilbert C. *Cotton Fields No More: Southern Agriculture, 1865-1980*. University Press of Kentucky, 1984.

Flynt, J. Wayne. "Alabama." In *Religion in the Southern States: A Historical Study*, edited by Samuel S. Hill. Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 1983.

—. *Poor But Proud: Alabama's Poor Whites*. University of Alabama Press, 1989.

—. *Alabama Baptists: Southern Baptists in the Heart of Dixie*. University of Alabama Press, 2005.

—. *Alabama in the Twentieth Century*. University of Alabama Press, 2006.

Haveman, Christopher D. *Rivers of Sand: Creek Indian Emigration, Relocation, and Ethnic Cleansing in the American South*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2016.

Hersey, Mark D. *My Work is that of Conservation: An Environmental Biography of George Washington Carver*. UGA press, 2011.

Jeffries, Hasan Kwame. *Bloody Lowndes: Civil Rights and Black Power in Alabama's Black Belt*. NYU Press, 2010.

Nixon, Herman Clarence. *Forty Acres and Steel Mules*. UNC Press, 1938, 2018.

Rogers, William Warren, Robert David Ward, Leah Rawls Atkins, and Wayne Flynt. *Alabama: The History of a Deep South State*. Bicentennial Edition. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2018.



ALABAMA HUMANITIES ALLIANCE

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Scherer, Robert. *Black Education in Alabama, 1865-1901*. University of Alabama Press, 2005.

Terry, Paul and Verner Sims. *They Live on the Land: Life in an Open County Southern Community*. University of Alabama, 1993, 2015.

Documentary Films

54 Miles to Home. Claire Haughey, director. 2021.

Hale County This Morning, This Evening. RaMell Ross, director. 2019.

Jasper Mall. Bradford Thomason and Brett Whitcomb, directors. 2020.

Rural Revival: The Civilian Conservation Corps in Alabama. Tommy V. Wier, director. 2022.

Scottsboro: An American Tragedy. Daniel Anker and Barak Goodman, directors. 2001.

Uniontown. Fraser Jones, director. 2018.

About the Alabama Humanities Alliance

Founded in 1974, the nonprofit Alabama Humanities Alliance serves as a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. AHA promotes impactful storytelling, lifelong learning and civic engagement. We provide Alabamians with opportunities to connect with our shared cultures and to see each other as fully human. Through our grantmaking, we help scholars, communities and cultural nonprofits create humanities-rich projects that are accessible to all Alabamians — from literary festivals and documentary films to museum exhibitions and research collections. Learn more at alabamahumanities.org.

About the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street

Museum on Main Street is a Smithsonian outreach program that engages small town audiences and brings revitalized attention to underserved rural communities. We partner with [state humanities councils](http://statehumanitiescouncils.org) to bring traveling exhibitions, educational resources and programming to small towns across America through their own local museums, historical societies and other cultural venues. museumonmainstreet.org

