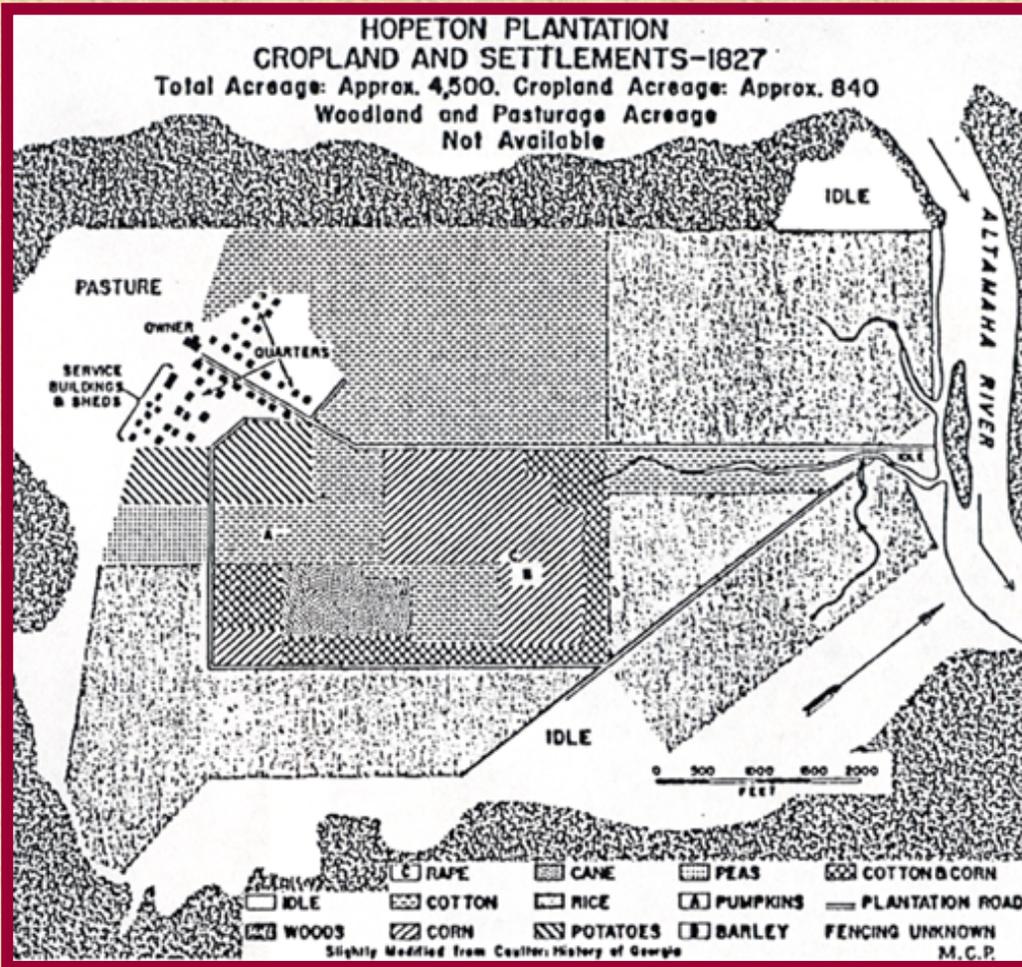


From Plantations to Rural Residential Ribbons

South Carolina's rural landscape has undergone several transitions since the antebellum period.

- Antebellum Plantation.....1860
- Fragmented Plantation.....1870s - 1950s
 - Sharecropper
 - Tenant Renter
- Neplantation.....1950s - Present
- Fragmented Neplantation.....1960s - Present
- Rural Residential Ribbons.....1970s - Present

Antebellum Plantation



- Most cropland devoted to one or two commercial crops
- Intensive manual labor
- Village-like settlement form
- Large fields



Beaufort County



Cool Springs Plantation, Kershaw County



Slave Street





Slave Cabin

Meeting House



Fragmented Plantation

Sharecropper and Tenant Renter Types

- Most cropland devoted to one or two commercial crops
- Intensive manual labor
- Village settlement form disappears and houses are dispersed through the fields
- Labor lived on the land they worked
- Large fields

Fragmented Plantation

1870s - 1950s

Sharecropper Type

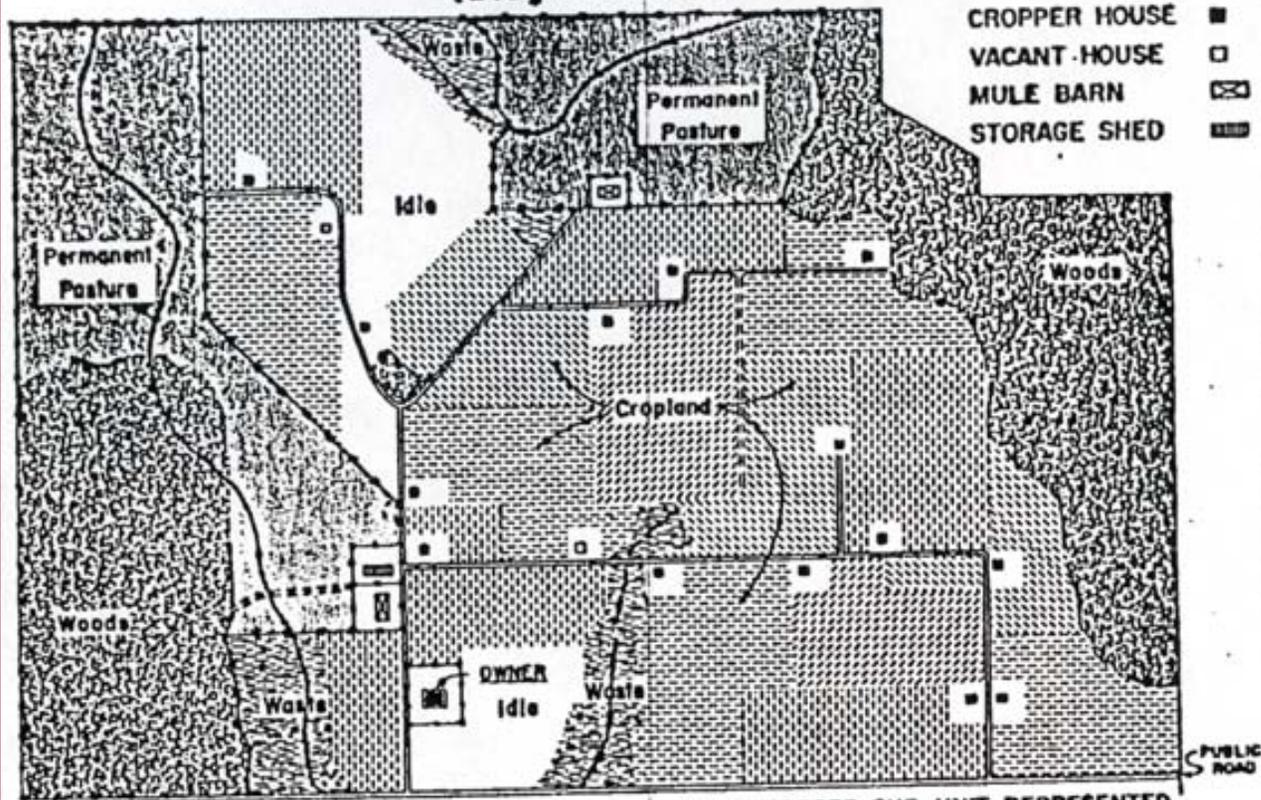
- Landowner provided land, house, fuel, tools, mules, feed, seed, and fertilizer
- Tenant provided all the labor
- At the end of season, the tenant received one-third to one-half of the crop

Tenant Renter Type

- Landowner provided land, house, and fuel
- Tenant provided all the labor, mules, feed, tools, seed, and fertilizer
- Mule barn and pasture
- At the end of the season, the landowner claimed a cash payment or percentage of the crop

Both sharecroppers and tenant renters had the right to use some land to raise vegetables and livestock

THE SOUTHERN PLANTATION FRAGMENTED CROPPER TYPE (Diagrammatic)



- CROPPER HOUSE ■
- VACANT HOUSE □
- MULE BARN ☒
- STORAGE SHED ▨

TOTAL ACREAGE : 907

PASTURE - 162	WOODLAND - 214
CROPLAND - 402	IDLE LAND - 63
WASTE LAND, HOUSESITES & BARNLOTS - 66	
ROADS & LANES - 4.25 MILES, TOTAL	

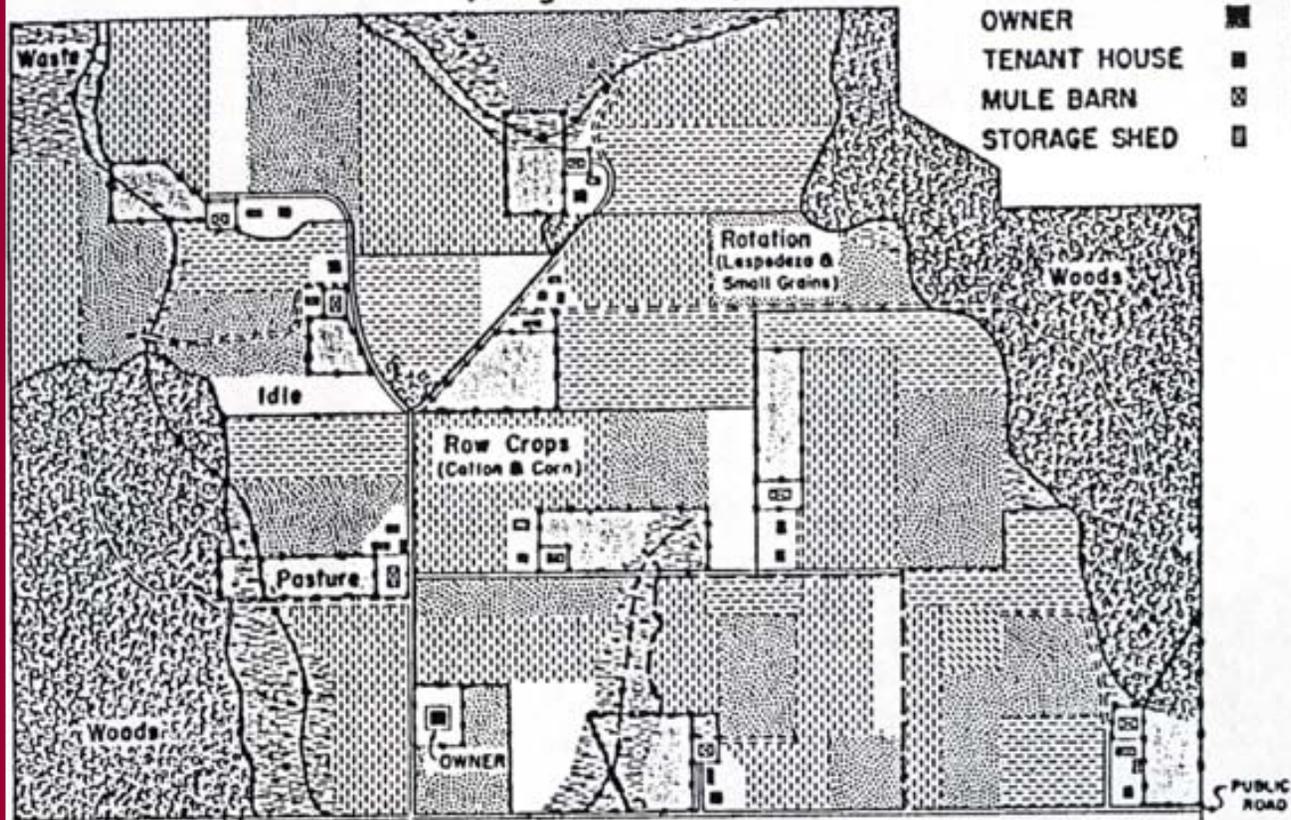
**EACH CROPPER SUB-UNIT REPRESENTED
BY DASHED LINES AT DISTINCTIVE ANGLE**



Modified from Weaver, et. al.

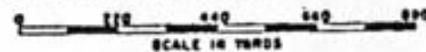
M. C. P.

THE SOUTHERN PLANTATION FRAGMENTED TENANT-RENTER TYPE (Diagrammatic)



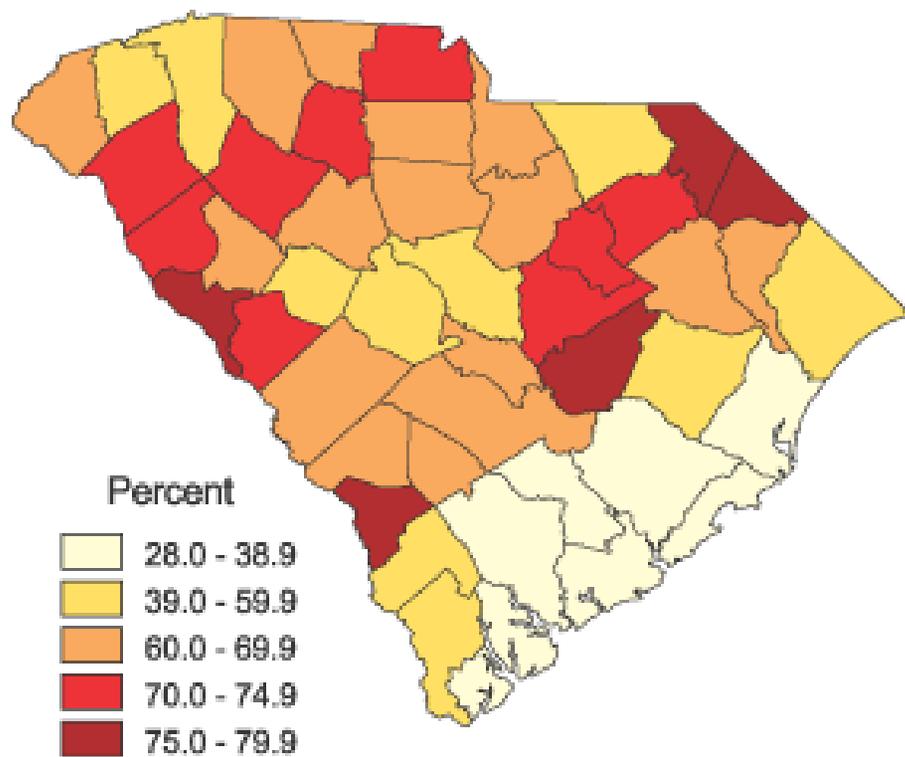
TOTAL ACREAGE : 907
 PASTURE - 55 IDLE LAND - 36 WOODLAND - 214
 WASTE LAND - 77 HOUSESITES & BARNLOTS - 36
 ALL CROPLAND INCLUDING ROTATION - 489
 ROADS & LANES - 5.0 MILES, TOTAL
 ROW CROP FIELDS REPRESENTED BY DASHED
 LINES AT DISTINCTIVE ANGLES

EACH TENANT UNIT ENCLOSED
 BY SOLID LINE. SAMPLE TENANT
 UNIT WITHIN HEAVY DASHED LINE
 CONTAINS 65.5 ACRES



M. C. P.

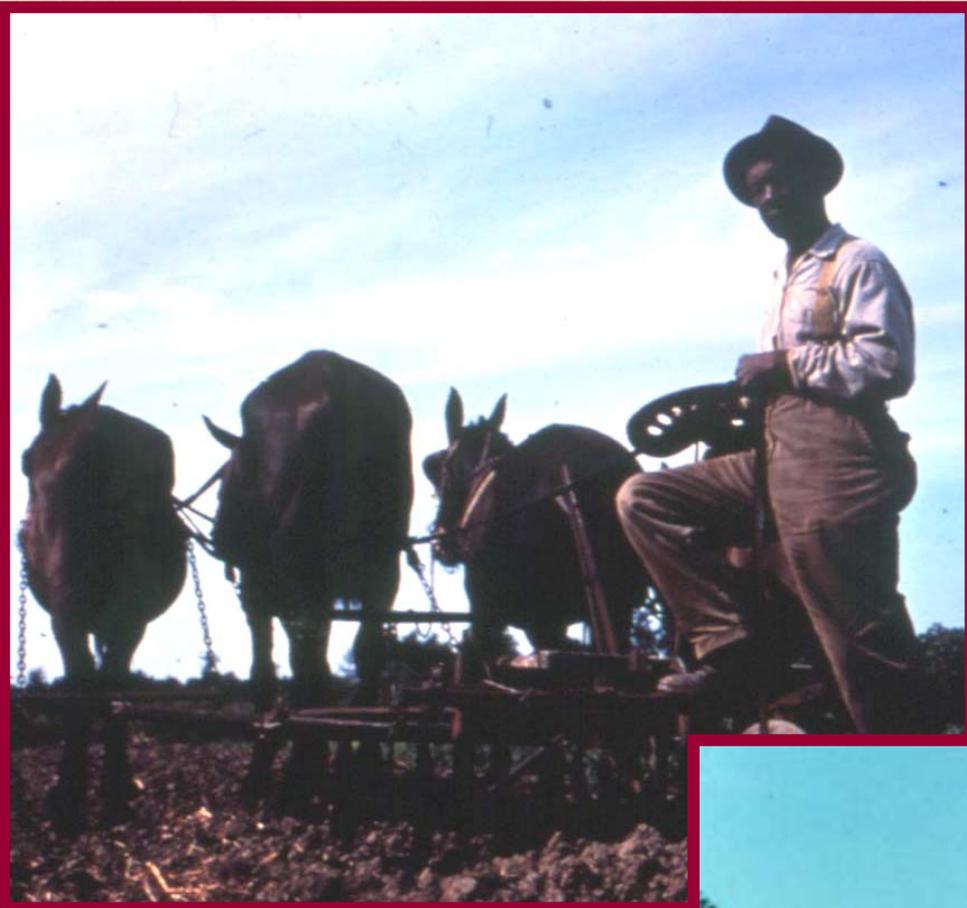
TENANTS AS A PERCENT OF FARM OPERATORS, 1935



Tenant farming was widespread throughout South Carolina. About three-fourths of the farms in the Lower Piedmont and Inner Coastal Plain were operated by tenants. This included both whites and non-whites.



Chopping Cotton
The hoe was the universal tool.



Mules and humans provided the power.





Picking the crop demanded the most labor. Schools often were closed during the harvest season to meet the labor demand.





Tenant farmers also worked tobacco fields. It has been said that an individual tobacco leaf was touched seventeen different times by human hands before it was sold.

Tenant house on a sharecropper type fragmented plantation.



Sumter County



Near Lydia, South
Carolina



Mule barn on a sharecropper
type fragmented plantation.



Tenant house and mule barn
on tenant renter type
fragmented plantation.

Calhoun County



Commissaries often were operated by the landowner. The commissary was stocked with everyday essentials for the tenants and helped eliminate frequent trips to town. Goods were purchased on credit and accounts were settled after the crop was sold.



Lee County

It was common for tenants to move from farm to farm seeking better arrangements for their labor.



Because the picked cotton was a bulky commodity and could not economically be transported very far, small cotton gins were common landscape features of the post bellum period.



Sumter County



The ginned cotton was taken to the nearest railroad town to be transported to a mill or to a port city for export.



As transportation improved, larger cotton gins were constructed.

Calhoun County

The ginned cotton seeds were pressed into cottonseed oil at mills such as this at Bishopville, South Carolina.





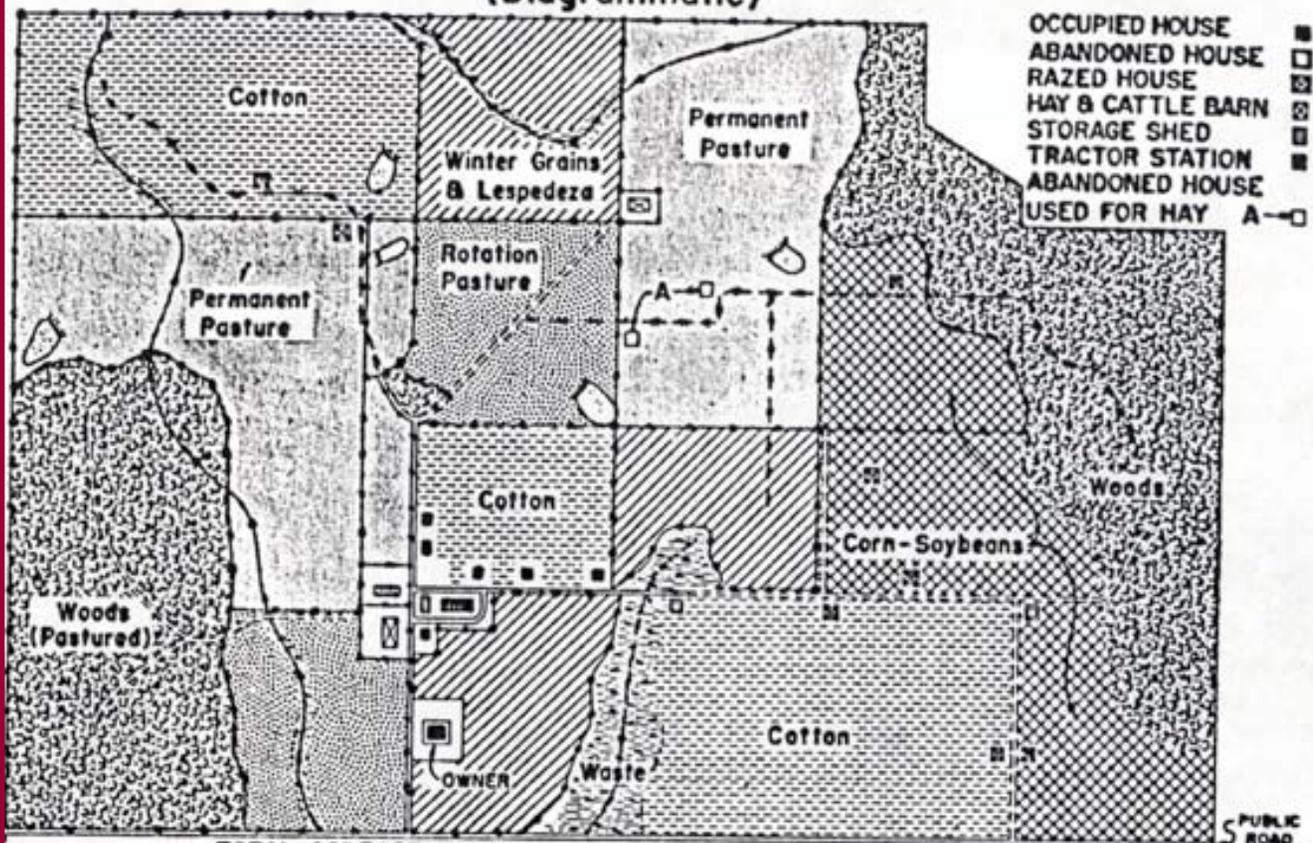
Guano was used as fertilizer during the post bellum period.
C-W-S Guano Company
(Building no longer exists)
Clinton, South Carolina

Neplantation

1950s to Present

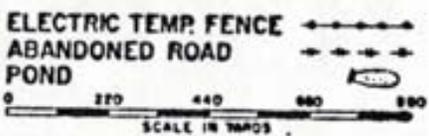
- Most cropland devoted to one or two commercial crops
- Large fields
- Beginnings of mechanized plantation
- Manual labor demands reduced
- Diminished labor demands encourages outmigration
- Rural depopulation and fewer people on the land

THE SOUTHERN PLANTATION NEOPLANTATION TYPE (Diagrammatic)



TOTAL ACREAGE : 907

PERMANENT PASTURE	- 174	CORN AND/OR SOYBEANS	- 117
ROTATION PASTURE	- 72	COTTON	- 160
WINTER GRAINS AND LESPEDEZA	- 100	ALL WOODLAND	- 214
PONDS	- 7	WASTE LAND, HOUSESITES AND BARNLOTS	- 48
DLE LAND	- 15	ROADS & LANES, TOTAL MILES	- 2.8



M. C. P.

BLACK OUTMIGRATION, 1930



Changes in agriculture encouraged rural outmigration. Rural whites often moved to towns and cities within the state while rural blacks left South Carolina.

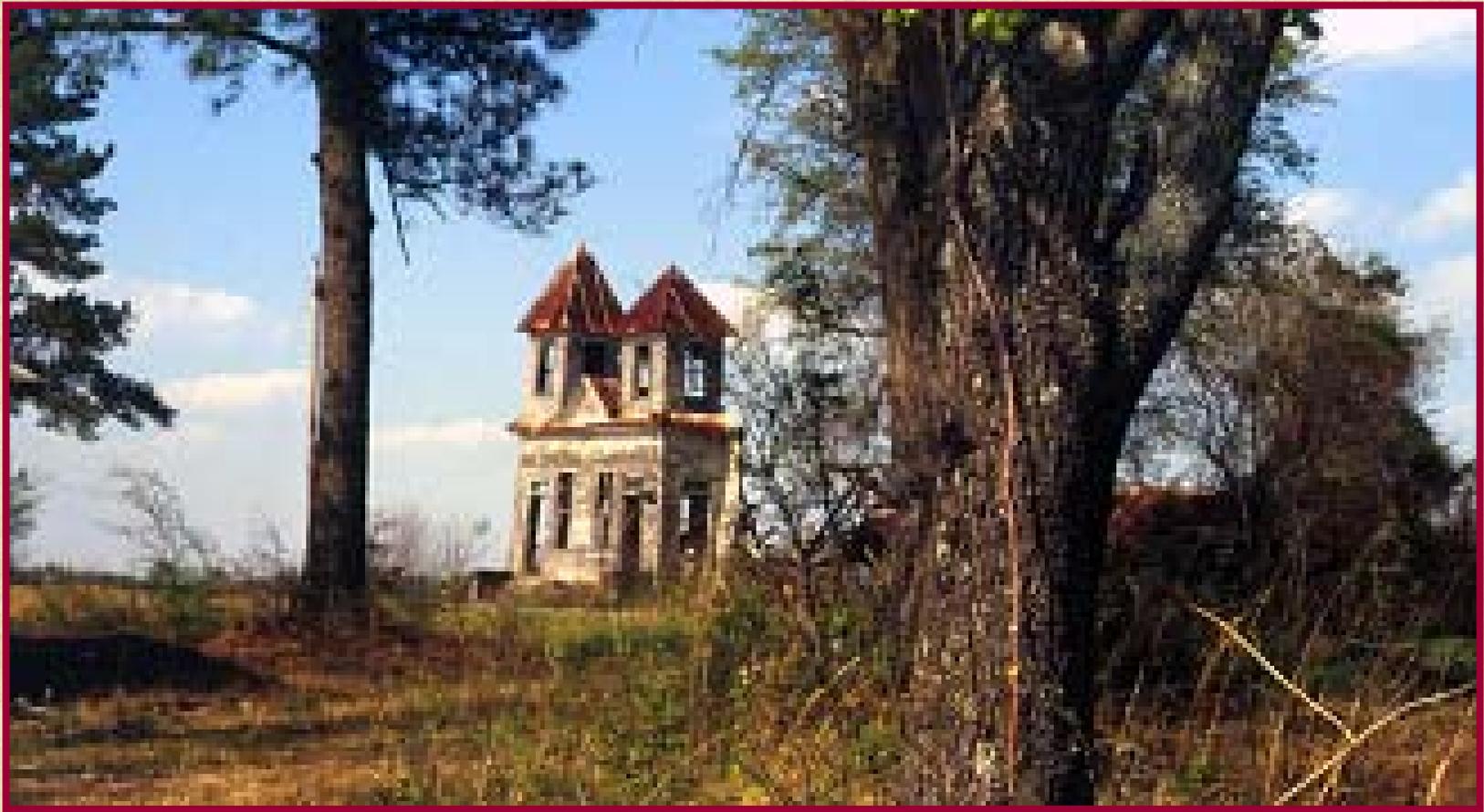


Early tractor



Pole barns were common landscape features and were used to house machinery.

Evidence of a more populated rural landscape.



Near Lone Star, South Carolina

Fragmented Neoplantation

1960s to Present

- Most cropland devoted to one or two commercial crops
- Large fields
- Increasing sophistication and cost of agricultural machinery made encouraged operating on more land
- Part owners
- Leasing of farmland
- Farmers on the road

Larger tractors



Mechanical cotton pickers



Larger cotton gins



Cotton Modules





Module Presses



Module Transportation

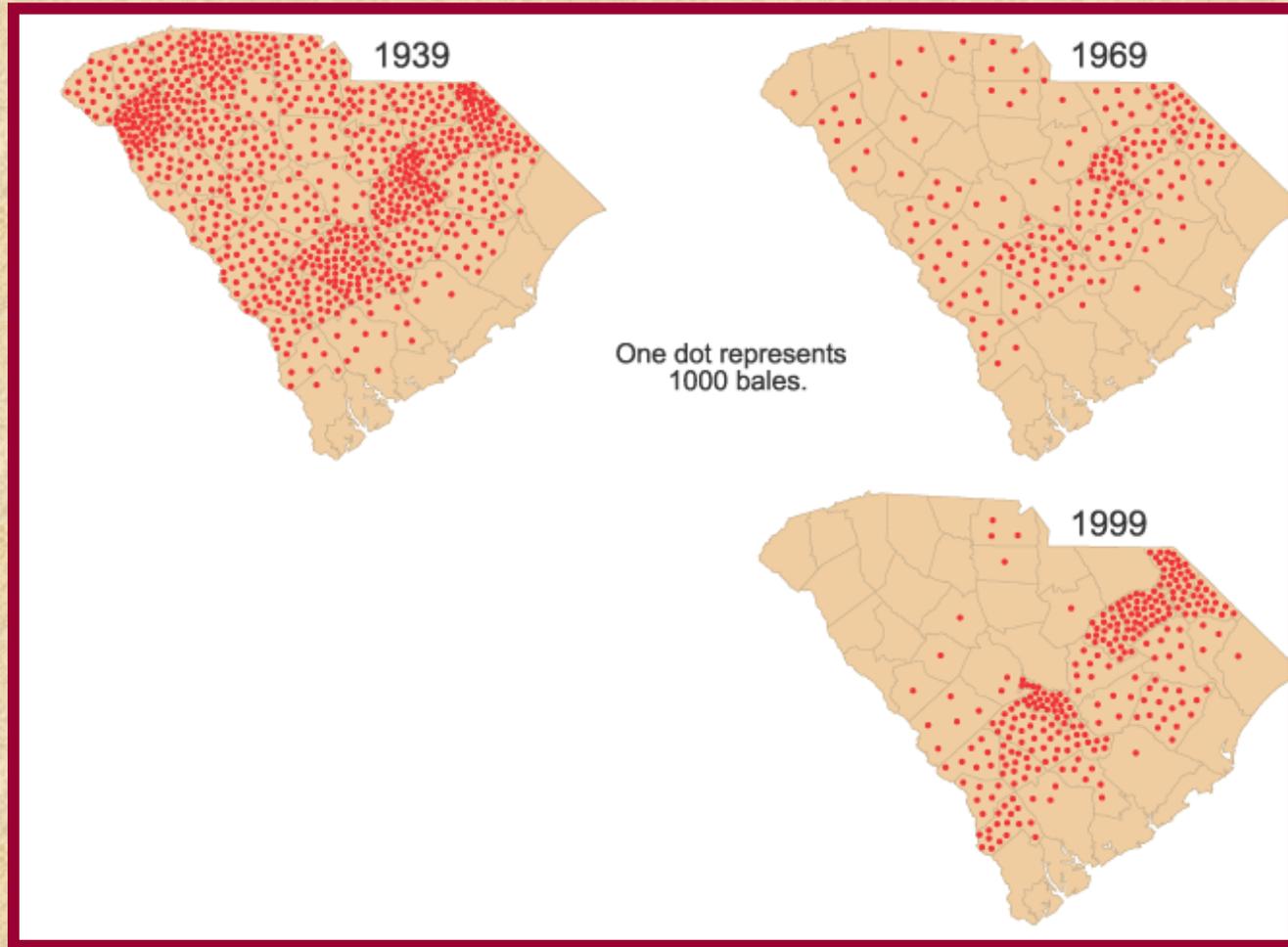
Gin facilities for modules



Bishopville, South Carolina



Cotton and other row crops have diminished in significance since the post bellum period. Cotton has made important gains in the 1990s as with increased demand from the textile industry.



Rural Residential Ribbons

- Most people who live in rural areas are not farmers
- Large rural non-farm population
- Work in nearby towns and cities
- Prefer rural way of life
- May engage in small-scale agriculture
- Live along the highway and commute
- Sense of place

Rural Residential Ribbons

