

Reconstruction

- Reconstruction means to build something again.
- It is the name given to the time period after the Civil War, from 1865 to 1877.
- Georgia and the other southern states needed to be rebuilt and brought back into the Union.

Reconstruction

- President Lincoln's plan for rebuilding the South had three parts:
- First, one-tenth of the people in the state had to take an oath to obey the U.S. Constitution.
- Second, the state had to set up a new government.
- Third, they had to abolish slavery.

Reconstruction

- While Lincoln wanted to be fair to the South, many Radical Republicans felt that Lincoln's plan was too lenient.
- They felt that Southern states should be punished for their actions during the Civil War.

13th Amendment

- After Lincoln's assassination, Andrew Johnson took over the presidency and committed to carrying out Lincoln's Reconstruction plan.
- In December 1865, ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution freed all slaves in the United States.
 - It banned slavery in the US and any of its territories.
- President Johnson said that once the amendment passed, Southern states could come back into the Union.

Thirty-Eighth Congress of the United States.

A Resolution; Submitting to the Legislatures of the several States a proposition to amend the Constitution of the United States.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of both Houses concurring) That the following article be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of said Legislatures, shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as a part of the said Constitution, to-wit:

ARTICLE XIII.

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

Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate Legislation.

Attest: *W. Moore* Secretary of the Senate; *John C. Schuyler* Speaker of the House of Representatives

W. Moore
Secretary of the Senate
W. Moore
Clerk of the House of Representatives

W. Hamilton Vice President of the United States
and President of the Senate

Approved, February 1, 1865. Abraham Lincoln

In the Senate, April 8, 1864.

W. A. Butler *J. B. Hudson* *W. Lane* *W. S. Law* *John Comess*
Ab. Ransom *Edgar Cowan* *B. F. Brown* *Henry Wilson* *John C. Schuyler*
James Dixon *Jamieson* *Wm. Clarke* *W. P. Anderson* *W. Doolittle*
Geo. Harlan *W. D. Willey* *L. F. S. Foster* *W. M. Smith* *Lyman Trumbull*
Reuben Johnson *Chas. Sumner* *Wm. Sprague* *John Sherman* *S. M. Howard*
Solomon Foot *W. H. McCreary* *Wm. Harris* *E. D. Morgan* *W. M. McKim*
J. K. Pollock *Timothy* *W. C. Van Dyke* *John Hale* *B. H. Harding*

13th
Amendment

It was
approved by
Abraham
Lincoln in
February, but
was not ratified
until
December.

14th Amendment

- In 1868, the Fourteenth Amendment made all former slaves citizens of the United States.
- It granted citizenship to all persons born in the United States, and it guaranteed all citizens equal rights under the law.
- At first, Tennessee was the only Southern state to approve it, but Congress told the states they must approve it to be readmitted to the Union.

15th Amendment

- In 1870, the Fifteenth Amendment declared that no citizen of the United States could be denied the right to vote on account of race, color, or previous servitude.
- It granted the right to vote to all male citizens.
- African Americans could now vote and run for office.

Freedmen
Voting in
New
Orleans,
1867



Freedmen's Bureau

- In March 1865, the federal government set up the Freedmen's Bureau, an organization that helped feed, clothe, and provide medical care to former slaves.
- It also established thousands of schools and helped African Americans with legal problems.
- The bureau also helped poor whites, many of whom lost everything in the war.

Freedmen's Bureau

- Georgia had a higher population of freed black slaves (who were uneducated and unemployed) than any other state.
 - Educating slaves was forbidden in Georgia prior to the Civil War.
- The Freedmen's Bureau created the first public school program for blacks and whites in the state and set the stage for Georgia's modern public school system.
- It established Clarke Atlanta University and Morehouse College.



Sharecropping

- Many former slaves were forced to return to plantations because they could not find work.
- Freed slaves knew how to grow crops, and landowners still needed labor.
- In the sharecropping arrangement, the owner would lend the worker a place to live, his seeds, and farm equipment.

Sharecropping

- Sharecroppers received almost no pay, just a small share of the crops.
- Because the worker had no money for rent, he would give the owner a share of the crop, plus extra for the cost of rent and supplies.
- The workers had little hope of ever owning land because they rarely made a profit.

Sharecroppers Picking Cotton





Tenant Farmers

- Tenant farmers made similar arrangements with landowners where they rented sections of land.
- However, unlike sharecroppers, tenant farmers often owned animals, equipment, and supplies, so they received more of the harvest.
- Even so, after money was deducted for rent, there was little left over for the farmer.
- It was impossible to get ahead as a sharecropper or tenant farmer.



Henry McNeal Turner

- Henry McNeal Turner was born in 1834 to a family that had been free for at least two generations.
- At the age of 15, he went to work for a law firm in South Carolina where his employers provided him with an education.
- In 1853, he received his preaching license and traveled throughout the South.
- In 1867, Turner helped organize the Republican Party in the state and was elected to the Constitutional Convention of 1867 and the Georgia House of Representatives.



Engraved according to act of Congress in the year 1872 by Currier & Ives, in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.

ROBERT C. DE LA RDE, M.C. of S. Carolina. JEFFERSON H. LOND, M.C. of Georgia

U.S. Senator H.R. REVELS, of Mississippi BENJ. S. TURNER, M.C. of Alabama. JOSIAH T. WALLS, M.C. of Florida. JOSEPH H. RAINY, M.C. of S. Carolina. R. BROWN ELLIOT, M.C. of S. Carolina.

THE FIRST COLORED SENATOR AND REPRESENTATIVES.

In the 41st and 42nd Congress of the United States.

NEW YORK. PUBLISHED BY CURRIER & IVES, 125 NASSAU STREET

African Americans in Office 1870–1876^[120]

State	State Legislators	U.S. Senators	U.S. Congressmen
Alabama	69	0	4
Arkansas	8	0	0
Florida	30	0	1
Georgia	41	0	1
Louisiana	87	0	1*
Mississippi	112	2	1
North Carolina	30	0	1
South Carolina	190	0	6
Tennessee	1	0	0
Texas	19	0	0
Virginia	46	0	0
Total	633	2	15

Henry McNeal Turner

- In 1868, the Georgia legislature expelled its black legislators, saying that the Georgia Constitution denied blacks the right to hold political office.
- Turner spoke out against the policy and soon after, he began receiving threats from the Ku Klux Klan.
- Other black legislators were threatened by the KKK-- over 25% were killed, beaten, or jailed during their term.

Ku Klux Klan

- The first Ku Klux Klan (KKK) began in 1867 as a social club for former confederate soldiers; however, they became more political and violent.
- The Ku Klux Klan used violence to frighten African-Americans and keep them from exercising their civil rights.
- Klansmen dressed up in white sheets and hooded masks, and would terrorize blacks (and whites who tried to help them).

Ku Klux Klan

- The KKK used tactics of intimidation, physical violence, and murder in hopes of establishing social control over African Americans and their white allies.
- The KKK grew in Georgia and the southern United States both during and after Reconstruction.
- White supremacy and racial segregation became the norm in Georgia, and the rest of the South, for several decades.



