



How Curious a Land: Conflict and Change in Greene County, Georgia, 1850-1885 (Fred W. Morrison Series in Southern Studies)

Jonathan M. Bryant

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The story of the Civil War and Reconstruction in Greene County, Georgia, is a remarkable tale of both fundamental change and essential continuity. In *How Curious a Land*, Jonathan Bryant follows the county's social, economic, and legal transformation from a wealthy, self-sufficient plantation economy based on slavery to a largely impoverished, economically dependent community dominated by a new commercial class of merchants and lawyers.

Emancipated slaves made up two-thirds of the county's population at the end of the Civil War, and thanks to an able, charismatic, and politically active leadership, they enjoyed early success in pressing for their rights. But their gains, says Bryant, were only temporary, because the white elite retained control of the legal system and used it effectively against blacks. Law also helped shape the course of economic change as, for example, postbellum laws designed to benefit the new commercial elite ensured poverty for most of the county's small farmers, both black and white, by relegating them to the status of sharecroppers and tenants. As a result, the county's wealth, though greatly diminished in the postbellum years, remained concentrated in the hands of a small elite.

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The experience that you get from *How Curious a Land: Conflict and Change in Greene County, Georgia, 1850-1885* (Fred W. Morrison Series in Southern Studies) is the more deep you excavating the information that hide inside the words the more you get considering reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to comprehend but *How Curious a Land: Conflict and Change in Greene County, Georgia, 1850-1885* (Fred W. Morrison Series in Southern Studies) giving you joy feeling of reading. The article author conveys their point in selected way that can be understood through anyone who read it because the author of this guide is well-known enough. This book also makes your own vocabulary increase well. It is therefore easy to understand then can go along, both in printed or e-book style are available. We recommend you for having that *How Curious a Land: Conflict and Change in Greene County, Georgia, 1850-1885* (Fred W. Morrison Series in Southern Studies) instantly.

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