

# **JAMES C. COBB**

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The University of Georgia  
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## **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., 1975, University of Georgia.  
M.A., 1972, University of Georgia.  
A.B., 1969, University of Georgia.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

B. Phinizy Spalding Distinguished Professor in the History of the American South, University of Georgia, July 1, 1997-present.  
B. Phinizy Spalding Distinguished Professor in the History of the American South and Department Chair, University of Georgia, July 1, 1998-2001.  
Bernadotte Schmitt Professor of History, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 1989-1997.  
Director of the Honors Program and Professor of History, University of Alabama, 1987-1989.  
Professor of History and Southern Studies and Director of the Southern Studies Program, University of Mississippi, 1985-1987.  
Associate Professor of History and Southern Studies and Director of the Southern Studies Program, University of Mississippi, 1981-1985.  
Associate Professor of History, University of Northern Iowa, 1980-1981.  
Assistant Professor of History, University of Northern Iowa, 1977-1980.  
Visiting Assistant Professor of History, University of Maryland, 1975-1977.  
Instructor of History, Teaching Fellow in History, University of Georgia, 1972-1975.  
Social Studies Instructor, Loganville High School, Loganville, Georgia, 1969-1970.

## **AWARDS**

Albert Christ-Janer Award for Excellence in Creative Research, University of Georgia, 2010  
Parks-Heggy Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching, University of Georgia, 2008

Mary Lawton Hodges Prize (Distinguished Book in Southern Studies published in 2005) Institute for Southern Studies, University of South Carolina  
Georgia Author of the Year (History) 2005, Georgia Writers Association  
McClemore Prize (Outstanding book in Mississippi history published in 1992),  
Mississippi Historical Society.  
Green-Ramsdell Award (Best article published in the *Journal of Southern History*,  
1990-91).  
Green-Ramsdell Award (Best article published in the *Journal of Southern History*,  
1988-89).  
E. Merton Coulter Award (Best article published in the *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, 1984).

### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION**

Graduate Commencement Address, University of Georgia, (December 2010)  
Stallworth lecture , University of South Alabama, 2010  
Hoag Lecture, North Georgia College and State University, 2006  
Prescott Memorial Lecture, Florida Historical Society, 2006  
Lyles Lecture, Lambuth College, 2004.  
Dorothy Blount Lamar Lecturer, Mercer University, 2004.  
Alfred B. Chandler Lecture in Southern Economic History, University of North Carolina, 2002.  
President, Southern Historical Association, 1999.  
Distinguished Lecturer, Organization of American Historians.  
Senior Visiting Mellon Scholar, Cambridge University, May 1995.  
Andrew Mellon Foundation Fellowship, Aspen Institute for Humanistic Study, 1982.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books**

*The South and America Since World War II* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2010)

Coeditor (with Melissa Walker), *New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*, (Vol 11):*Agriculture and Industry*., University of North Carolina Press, 2008.

*Away Down South: A History of Southern Identity* (New York and London: Oxford University Press, 2005), a History Book Club Selection and Winner of the Mary Lawton Hodges Prize in Southern Studies.

*The Brown Decision, Jim Crow, and Southern Identity* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2005), Georgia Author of the Year Award in History.

*Globalization and the American South* (William Stueck, co-editor), (Athens: University of Georgia Press, February 2005).

*Redefining Southern Culture: Mind and Identity in the Modern South* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1999).

*Georgia Odyssey* (Athens: University of Georgia Press 1997).

\_\_\_\_\_, 2nd edition, 2008

(ed.) *The Mississippi Delta and the World: The Memoirs of David L. Cohn* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1995).

*The Most Southern Place on Earth: The Mississippi Delta and the Roots of Regional Identity* (New York and London: Oxford University Press, 1992). Winner of McClemore Award (Mississippi, History); finalist for Los Angeles *Times* Book Award (History); Herbert Hoover Prize (U.S. History); Owsley Prize (Southern History).

\_\_\_\_\_, paperback edition (New York and London: Oxford University Press, 1994).

*The Selling of the South: The Southern Crusade for Industrial Development, 1936-1980* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1982).

\_\_\_\_\_, 2nd ed., (1936-1990) cloth and paper (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1993).

*Industrialization and Southern Society, 1877-1984* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1984).

\_\_\_\_\_, paperback editions (New York: Wadsworth Publishing, 1989); (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2004).

*The New Deal and the South* (Michael Namorato, coeditor), (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1984).

*Perspectives on the American South* (Charles R. Wilson, coeditor), Volume III (London: Gordon and Breach Publishers, 1985).

\_\_\_\_\_, (Charles R. Wilson, coeditor), Volume IV (London: Gordon and Breach Publishers, 1987).

### Articles

"The Necessary South," *Historically Speaking*, September, 2010.

"Cavaliers and Capitalists: The South and Europe from Mercantilism to Mercedes," in Richard Gray and Waldemar Zacharasiewicz, eds., *Transatlantic Exchanges: The American South in Europe—Europe in the American South* (Vienna, 2007)

"From the First New South to the Second: The Southern Odyssey through the Twentieth Century," in Craig S. Pascoe, et. al., eds., *The American South in the Twentieth Century* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2005).

"Beyond the 'Y'all Wall': Globalization and the American South," in Cobb and William Stueck, eds., *Globalization and the America in South* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2005).

"Introduction, "Globalization, Southern Style: Ways of Dixie Win in Latin America," Helen Bullit Lowry, *Southern Cultures* (Summer 2004).

"Vienna Sausage, Faulkner, and Elvis," *Georgia Magazine* (June 2003).

"On the Pinnacle in Yankeeland: C. Vann As A [Southern] Renaissance Man," *Journal of Southern History*, 67 (November 2001), 714-40.

"Out of History, Into History: The American South in the Twentieth Century," *Atlanta History Journal* (February 2001)—Served as special guest editor of this issue.

"An Epitaph for the North: Reflections on the Politics of Regional and National Identity at the Millennium," *Journal of Southern History*, 66 (February 2000), 3-24.

"World War II Normandy: American Cemetery and Memorial," in William E. Leuchtenburg, ed., *American Places: Encounters with History* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000).

"Rednecks, White Socks, and Piná Coladas? Country Music Ain't What It Used to Be and It Really Never Was," *Southern Cultures* (Winter 1999). 41-51.

"We Ain't White Trash No More! Southern Whites and the Reconstruction of Southern Identity," in Jan Nordby Gretlund, ed., *The Southern State of Mind* (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1999).

"World War II and the Mind of the Modern South," in Neil McMillen, ed., *Remaking Dixie: The Impact of World War II on the American South* (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1997).

"Redefining Southern Culture: Community and Identity," *Georgia Review* (Spring 1996).

"Segregating the New South: The Origins and Legacy of *Plessy v. Ferguson*," *Georgia State University Law Review* (June 1996).

"Damn, Brother. I Don't Believe I'd A-Told That': Humor and the Cultural Identity of the American South," *Southern Cultures* (Summer 1995).

"From Rocky Top to Detroit City: Country Music and the Transformation of the South's Economy," in Melton A. McLaurin and Richard Petersen, eds., *You Wrote My Life: Lyric Themes in Country Music* (London: Gordon and Breach Publishers, 1992).

"Does *Mind* No Longer Matter? The South, the Nation, and *The Mind of the South, 1941-1991*," *Journal of Southern History* 57 (November 1991). (Winner of the Green-Ramsdell Award for the best article published in the *Journal of Southern History, 1990-1991*.)

"Mind' in the Mainstream: *The Mind of the South* and the Mind of the Nation, 1941-1991," Lothar Honnighausen and Valeria Gennaro Lerda, eds., in *Rewriting the South: History and Fiction* (Tubingen, Germany: Francke Verlag, 1993).

"Tomorrow Seems Like Yesterday: The South's Future in the Nation and the World," in Joseph Dunn and Lawrence Preston, eds., *The Future South: Perspectives on the Twenty-first Century* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1991).

"Somebody Done Nailed Us on the Cross: Federal Farm and Welfare Policy and the Civil Rights Movement in the Mississippi Delta," *Journal of American History* (December 1990).

"The Sunbelt South: Industrialization in Regional, National, and International Perspective," in Raymond A. Mohl, ed., *Searching for the Sunbelt* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1990).

“Southern Writers and the Challenge of Regional Convergence: A Comparative Perspective,” *Georgia Historical Quarterly* (Spring 1989).

“The South’s South: The Enigma of Creativity in the Mississippi Delta,” *Southern Review* (January 1989).

“Industry and Commerce in the South” (major topical essay) in William Ferris and Charles Wilson, eds., *Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1989).

“Beyond Planters and Industrialists: A New Perspective on the New South,” *Journal of Southern History* 54 (February 1988). (Winner of the Green-Ramsdell Award for the best article published in the *Journal of Southern History*, 1988-1989.)

“Making Sense of Southern Economic History” (review essay), *Georgia Historical Quarterly* (Spring 1987).

“The Southern Business Climate: A Historical Perspective,” *Forum* (Spring 1986).

“Y’all Come on Down: The Southern States’ Pursuit of Industry,” *Southern Exposure* (Fall 1986).

“Cracklins and Caviar: The Enigma of Sunbelt Georgia,” *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 68 (Spring 1984). (Winner of the E. Merton Coulter Award for the best article published in the *Georgia Historical Quarterly* in 1984.)

“From Muskogee to Luckenbach: Country Music and the Southernization of America,” *Journal of Popular Culture* 16 (Winter 1982).

“Yesterday’s Liberalism: Boosterism and Racial Progress in Augusta, Georgia,” in David Coulburn and Elizabeth Jacoway, eds., *Southern Businessmen and Civil Rights* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1982).

“Polarization in a Southern City: The Augusta Riot of 1970,” *Southern Studies* (Summer 1981).

“Colonel Effingham Crushes the Crackers: Political Reform in Post-World War II Augusta,” *South Atlantic Quarterly* 78 (Autumn 1979).

“Urbanization and the ‘Changing’ South: An Appraisal,” *South Atlantic Urban Studies* 1 (1977).

“The Making of a Secessionist: Henry L. Benning and the Coming of the Civil War,”  
*Georgia Historical Quarterly* 60 (Winter 1976).

“Not Gone but Forgotten: Eugene Talmadge and the 1938 Purge Campaign,”  
*Georgia Historical Quarterly* 59 (Summer 1975).

“The Big Boy Has Scared the Lard Out of Them” (a commentary on President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s attempt to oust Senator Walter F. George in the Democratic primary of 1938), *Research Studies* 43 (June 1975).

### **Articles and Opinion Pieces for Popular Readers**

*New York Times*  
*The New Republic*  
*Los Angeles Times*  
*Wall Street Journal*  
*Newsday*  
*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*  
*Charlotte Observer*

### **Book Reviews**

*Wall Street Journal*  
*Times Literary Supplement*  
*American Historical Review*  
*Journal of American History*  
*Journal of Southern History*  
*The Historian*  
*Journal of Economic History*  
*Georgia Historical Quarterly*

### **PAPERS PRESENTED (Selected)**

“The Southern Renaissance and the Struggle with Southern Identity,” The European Association for American Studies, Lisbon, Portugal, April 1998.

“We Ain’t Trash No More: Southern Whites and the Reconstruction of Southern Identity in the Post-Civil Rights Era South,” The European Association for American Studies Southern Studies Forum, Årø, Denmark, August 1997.

“Too Little Brain and Too Much Bottom: What Ever Happened to Cash’s South?” Southern Historical Association, Fort Worth, Texas, 1991.

“Deepest South: The Mississippi Delta and the Riddle of Regional Identity,” Southern Historical Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1990.

“Does the Prussian Road Really Lead to Atlanta: Comparative Modernization and the Study of the Post-Reconstruction South,” Southern Historical Association, Houston, Texas, 1985.

“Growth and Change in Post-World War II Georgia,” Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Georgia, 1984.

“Selling the South: Industrial Promotion in the Postwar South,” Southern Historical Association, Atlanta, Georgia, November 1979.

“Economic Prosperity or Environmental Protection: Georgia, Tennessee, and the Tennessee Copper Companies, 1903-1975” (with Thomas G. Dyer), Organization of American Historians, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 1979.

“Representative Antebellum Georgians,” Popular Culture Association, Baltimore, Maryland, April 1977.

“Reform Politics in Augusta, Georgia,” Conference on the Urban South, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia, February 1977.

“Yesterday’s Liberalism: Boosterism and Racial Progress in Augusta, Georgia,” Southern Historical Association, Atlanta, Georgia, November 1976.

“Rednecks and Recreation in the Nineteenth Century,” Popular Culture Association, Chicago, Illinois, April 1976.

“A Harvest of Rage: The Augusta Riots of 1970,” Symposium on Georgia Studies, February 1976.

“Not Gone but Forgotten: Eugene Talmadge and the 1938 Purge Campaign,” Georgia Historical Society, Fall 1974.

## **FELLOWSHIPS**

Fulbright Foundation Senior Specialist, University of Vienna, November-December 2002.

Residence Fellowship, Rockefeller Foundation Study and Conference Center, Bellagio, Italy, 2002.

National Endowment for the Humanities, Fellowship for Individual Research, 1985-1986 and 2002-2003.

University of Mississippi, Summer Research Fellowships, June-August 1982 and June-August 1985.

University of Northern Iowa, Summer Research Fellowship, June-August 1978  
and June-August 1981.

## Dissertations Directed

(\*denotes published or in press)

### University of Tennessee

Carol Guthrie  
Robert Adams  
Edith Quinn  
Daniel S. Pierce\*  
Connie Lester\*  
Steven Taylor\*  
Craig Pascoe  
Jonathan Bass\*  
Jennifer Brooks\*  
Jeffrey Lange\*  
C. Brenden Martin\*

### University of Georgia

Elizabeth McRae\*  
Anne Marshall\*  
James C. Giesen\*  
Justin Nystrom\*  
Alexander Macauley\*  
Darren Grem\*  
John Paul Hill

## PROFESSIONAL AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Contributing Editor, *Cliopatria* (History News Network—affiliated with history blog,  
2005-present.

Advisory Editor, *H-Southern Music*, 2005-present.

Lyles Lecture, Lambuth College, 2004.

Dorothy Blount Lamar Lecturer, Mercer University, 2004.

Fellowship Reviewer, National Humanities Center, 2004-2005.

Alfred B. Chandler Lecture in Southern Economic History, University of North Carolina, 2002.

Editorial Advisory Board, *Georgia Magazine*, 1998-present.

Editorial Board, *Georgia Review*, 1998-present.

Editorial Board, *Atlanta History Journal*, 2000-present.

Distinguished Lecturer, Organization of American Historians, 2001-present.

Editorial Board, Southern Biography Series, Louisiana State University Press, 1995-present.

Editorial Board, *Southern Cultures*, 1995-present.

Fellowship Selection Committee, National Humanities Center, 1995.

Board of Editors, *Journal of Southern History*, 1993-present.

Southern Historical Association, Chair, Program Committee, 1982, Chair 1993.

Southern Historical Association, Executive Council, 1987-1991.

Southern Historical Association, Membership Committee, 1979, 1982, 1985, Chair-1987, 1990, 1993.

Southern Historical Association, Program Committee, 1981

Livingston Lecture, Atlanta Historical Society, Fall 1996.

Georgia Humanities Day Lecture (“The Mind of Modern Georgia”), 1994.

Banquet Address, Commission on the Future of the South, 1993.

Elizabeth Bolton Memorial Lecture, Historical Association of Central Louisiana, 1989.

Honors Day Address, University of Georgia, 1988.

Keynote Address, Southern Growth Policies Board, 1985.

Appeared on William F. Buckley’s “Firing Line,” “Is the South Changing?” December 1982.

Numerous regional and local television and radio appearances.

Proposal Reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities.

Peer Review Committee, Fulbright Senior Specialist Program.

Manuscript Reviewer: University of North Carolina Press, University of Georgia Press, University of Alabama Press, Louisiana State University Press, University of Illinois Press, University Press of Mississippi, Duke University Press, *Journal of American History*, *Journal of Southern History*.

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

Editorial Board, University of Georgia Press, 1999-2002, 2003-2006, 2009-2012.  
Chair, 2001-2002.

University of Tennessee Press Board, 1990-1993.

University of Alabama Press Committee, 1988-1989.

Advisory Board, Center for Southern History and Culture, University of Alabama, 1987-present.

National Consultant, Center for the Study of Southern Culture, University of Mississippi, 1981-present.

Co-director, Chancellor's Symposium on Southern History, University of Mississippi, Fall 1983.

Faculty Senate, University of Mississippi, 1982-1984.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Southern Historical Association

Organization of American Historians

Southern Association of Women Historians