

# **The Lost Legacy of The Master Class In Georgia And South Carolina 1670-1837**

## **The Socioeconomic Power and Influence of the Master Class**

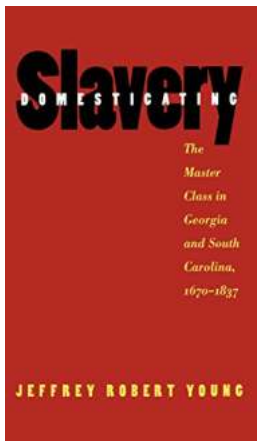
The master class, composed of wealthy landowners and plantation owners, played a significant role in Georgia and South Carolina between 1670 and 1837. They not only shaped the region's economy but also had a profound influence on its social and political landscape. Understanding the history and impact of this powerful class can provide valuable insights into the roots of inequality and power dynamics that persist till this day.

## **The Origins and Establishment of the Master Class**

The establishment of the master class can be traced back to the early colonial period in Georgia and South Carolina. European settlers migrated to these lands in search of economic opportunities, primarily within the agricultural sector. With the emergence of cash crops like tobacco, rice, and indigo, the demand for labor increased. The growth of plantations necessitated a hierarchical social structure, leading to the consolidation of power in the hands of the elite plantation owners.

## **Plantations and Slavery: The Backbone of the Master Class**

The master class relied heavily on the institution of slavery to fuel their economic prosperity. Enslaved Africans were brought to the colonies in large numbers and subjected to unimaginable hardships. They were seen as property and were forced to work under brutal conditions on the plantations. Slavery became the backbone of the master class, as it provided them with free labor and immense wealth accumulation.



## Domesticating Slavery: The Master Class in Georgia and South Carolina, 1670-1837

by Jeffrey Robert Young (Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1636 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 341 pages



### The Economic Power of the Master Class

Plantations owned by the master class became economic powerhouses, driving the economies of Georgia and South Carolina. Cash crops produced on these plantations were exported to Europe, generating substantial profits. The wealth accumulated by the master class allowed them to exert significant influence over trade, politics, and social affairs in the region. They wielded immense economic power, controlling resources and shaping the destiny of the colonies.

### Social and Political Influence of the Master Class

The master class was not only economically dominant but also held immense social and political influence. They established themselves as the ruling elite, with a strong presence in local governments and legislative bodies. Their interests often aligned with maintaining the status quo, protecting their economic privileges, and constructing laws that enforced their dominance. Their influence extended beyond politics, permeating all aspects of society, including education, culture, and social norms.

## Resistance and Revolts

Despite the apparent invincibility of the master class, their dominance was not unquestioned. Enslaved Africans resisted their enslavement through various means, including rebellions and escaping to freedom. Instances such as the Stono Rebellion in 1739 and the Denmark Vesey conspiracy in 1822 challenged the authority and exploitative practices of the master class. Nevertheless, the power dynamics remained largely intact, and these efforts were brutally suppressed.

## The Legacy of the Master Class

The legacy of the master class in Georgia and South Carolina is a complex one, with multifaceted impacts that persist to this day. The immense wealth accumulated by the plantation owners helped establish the southern region as a stronghold of economic influence. However, this prosperity came at the cost of untold human suffering, as millions of enslaved Africans toiled on their plantations.

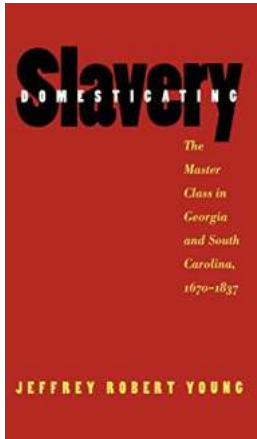
The deep-rooted inequalities and power imbalances that characterized the master-slave relationship continue to shape society in Georgia and South Carolina. The long-term effects of this legacy can be seen in racial disparities, educational inequalities, and economic disparities that persist till today. Recognizing and understanding this historical chapter is crucial for addressing the systemic issues that continue to plague these states and striving for a more equitable future.

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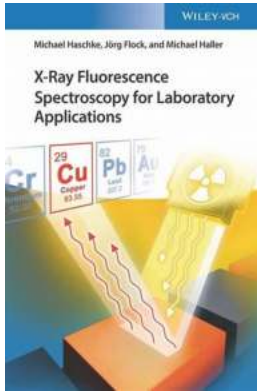


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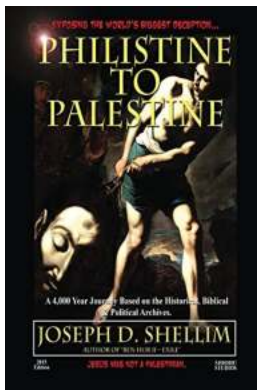
In this carefully crafted work, Jeffrey Young illuminates southern slaveholders' strange and tragic path toward a defiantly sectional mentality. Drawing on a wealth of archival evidence and integrating political, religious, economic, and literary sources, he chronicles the growth of a slaveowning culture that cast the southern planter in the role of benevolent Christian steward--even as slaveholders were brutally exploiting their slaves for maximum fiscal gain.

Domesticating Slavery offers a surprising answer to the long-standing question about slaveholders' relationship with the proliferating capitalistic markets of early-nineteenth-century America. Whereas previous scholars have depicted southern planters either as efficient businessmen who embraced market economics or as paternalists whose ideals placed them at odds with the industrializing capitalist society in the North, Young instead demonstrates how capitalism and paternalism acted together in unexpected ways to shape slaveholders' identity as a ruling elite. Beginning with slaveowners' responses to British imperialism in the colonial period and ending with the sectional crises of the 1830s, he traces the rise of a self-consciously southern master class in the Deep South and the attendant growth of political tensions that would eventually shatter the union.



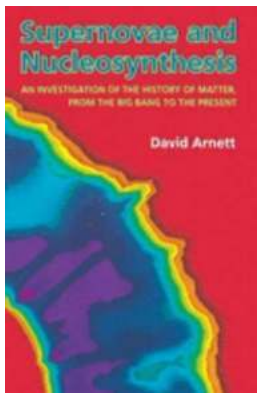
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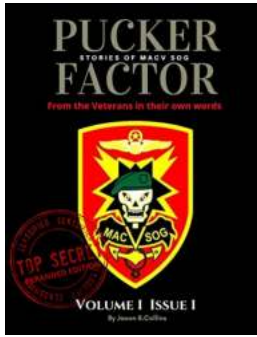
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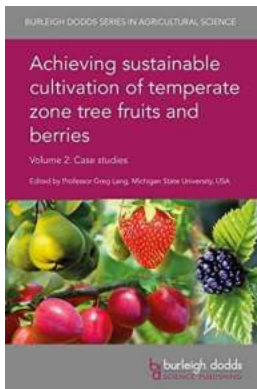
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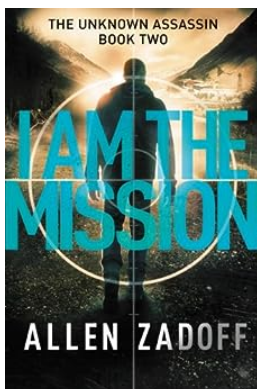
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