

Georgia in the Modern World

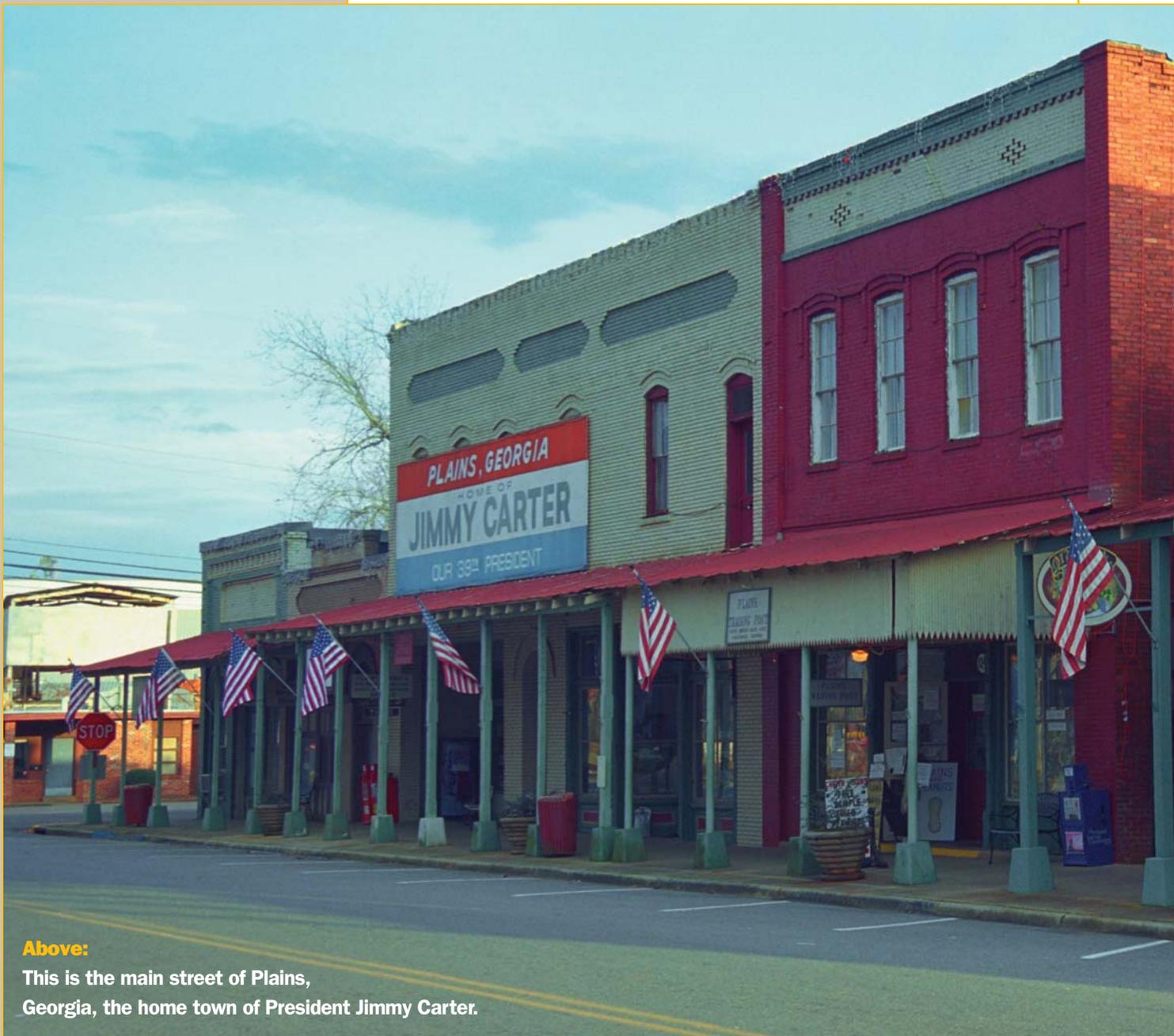
We are referring to the period after World War II as the Modern Era, the one in which you are now living. The past sixty years have been a time of incredible technological and scientific advancements. They have also been a period of social upheaval and change at home and political entanglements abroad including two wars and three “conflicts.” Pivotal to the period was the introduction of terrorism on America’s soil.

In addition, for the first time in our history, four generations are living together, as life expectancy has increased. This turn of events has also resulted in a huge “generation gap” as the cultural customs and folkways of each succeeding generation have changed.

It is up to your generation to take the events and lessons learned during the mid-1940s through today and determine the direction in which our nation will go. Remember the saying “Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it.” We have no doubt that you will be up to the task.



Baby Boomers, Rebellion, and Wars



Above:

This is the main street of Plains, Georgia, the home town of President Jimmy Carter.

The thirty years after the end of World War II marked a period of great changes in Georgia and the United States. Millions of babies were born between the late 1940s and the early 1960s. Families grew, as did the economy. Television appeared, and highways were built. African Americans became more visible in their demand for equal treatment. It was also a time of tension, as the Cold War developed and young people protested.

Chapter Preview

Georgia character word:

Tolerance

Terms: suburbs, baby boom, Cold War, Korean War, National School Lunch Act, Minimum Foundation Program for Education Act, one-person, one-vote concept, reapportion, *Brown v. Board of Education*, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, sit-in, Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, Civil Rights Act of 1964, Voting Rights Act of 1965, Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, women's rights movement, affirmative action program, National Organization for Women, National Women's Political Caucus, Equal Rights Amendment, Title IX, Vietnam War, Watergate

People: Ted Turner, Melvin Thompson, Herman Talmadge, Marvin Griffin, LeRoy Johnson, Carl Sanders, Ernest Vandiver, Charlayne Hunter, Hamilton Holmes, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr., Julian Bond, John Lewis, William Hartsfield, Ivan Allen, Jimmy Carter

Places: North Korea, South Korea, Birmingham, Selma, Montgomery, Memphis, Vietnam

Section 1 The Postwar Period

Section 2 Georgia After World War II

Section 3 The Civil Rights Movement

Section 4 A Period of Protests and Changes



Signs of the Times

1946-1979

Population: In 1950, 3,444,578; in 1970, 4,589,575

Life Expectancy: In 1950, women could expect to live 71.1 years and men 65.6 years. By 1970, that was 74.8 years for women and 67.1 years for men.

Costs of Living: In 1949, the average new home cost \$7,450. By 1978, that price had jumped to \$54,749. A new car cost \$1,420 in 1949; by 1978, the car cost \$5,405. Food prices also increased steadily. A dozen eggs cost \$0.24 in 1950, and \$0.42 in 1970. A loaf of bread jumped from \$0.14 a loaf in 1949 to \$0.42 a loaf in 1979. Movie tickets that were \$0.60 in 1949 cost \$2.00 by 1978.

Wages/Salaries: In 1950, the average salary was \$2,992; in 1970, it was \$7,562. The minimum wage jumped from \$0.43 an hour in the 1950s to \$2.90 in 1979.

Art/Architecture: In the years after World War II, leading artists included Jackson Pollock, Willem de Kooning, Mark Rothko, Andy Warhol, and Robert Rauschenberg. Suburbs developed around major cities, the first being Levittown, New Jersey. The ranch-style home was popular.

Fads/Fashions: Fads of the period included hula hoops, silly putty, G.I. Joe dolls, trolls, mood rings, Rubik's cube, and pet rocks. 3-D movies, complete with goggles, were popular. Fashions began the era with blue jeans, poodle skirts, pony tails for girls, and flat tops or crew cuts for boys. The 1960s brought button-down shirts, go-go boots, miniskirts, hot pants, Nehru jackets, and turtlenecks. At the end of the period, men favored long hair, bell-bottom pants, and leisure suits. Women wore hip huggers, platform shoes, pants suits, and T-shirts.

Music: In the late 1940s, the big band sound gave way to soloists and then to be-bop and rhythm-and-blues. In the 1950s, rock-and-roll, a blending of southern blues and gospel music, hit the airwaves. The Beatles arrived from England, and the top American group was the Beach Boys. Woodstock drew over 400,000 young people to a three-day concert. The 1970s saw the rise of hard rock, soft rock, country rock, folk rock, punk rock, and disco.

Literature: Important books of the period included George Orwell's *1984*, Richard Wright's *Black Boy*, Ray Bradbury's *The Martian Chronicles*, Ernest Hemingway's *Old Man and the Sea*, Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*, Truman Capote's *In Cold Blood*, Rachel Carson's *The Silent Spring*, Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Woodward and Bernstein's *All the President's Men*, and *The Pentagon Papers* by Daniel Ellsberg.

Religion: Mother Frances X. Cabrini became the first American saint in the Catholic Church. The Presbyterian Church approved ordination of women in 1955. U.S. Supreme Court ruled that prayer in schools was unconstitutional. The United Methodist Church formed in 1968 and the National Presbyterian Church in 1973. Episcopal bishops ordained women as priests in 1972.

Science/Inventions: Jonas Salk developed a vaccine for polio. National Hurricane Center established. New devices included the copy machine, transistor radio, color television, microchips, the laser, communications satellites. America entered the space age and put a man on the moon in 1969. In 1977, the trans-Alaska pipeline began operation and the Apple II computer was introduced.

Education: The 1950s and 1960s saw the integration of public schools and colleges. The era also saw a national emphasis on reading problems of school children and the spread of back-to-basics movements emphasizing basic skills. Antiwar protests and sit-ins spread across most college campuses in the 1970s.

Transportation: The Federal Highway Act of 1956 gave rise to the interstate highway system. Idlewild International Airport (Kennedy Airport) in New York was dedicated in 1948. Pan American Airways began transatlantic jet service in 1958. American automobile manufacturers began making smaller cars in the 1960s to combat foreign import sales. By 1966, there were 78 million cars and 16 million trucks registered in the U.S.

Leisure Time: Drive-in movie theaters were popular. Influential movies included *The Graduate*, the *James Bond* series, *E.T.*, *Jaws*, *The Godfather*, *American Graffiti*, *Saturday Night Fever*, and *Star Wars*. Popular television shows included *Gunsmoke*, *I Love Lucy*, *All in the Family*, *Saturday Night Live*, and *Sesame Street*. The miniseries *Roots* aired in 1977. *American Bandstand* featured the newest music and the latest dances. Disneyland opened and became an instant success.



Figure 41 Timeline: 1940–1980



Section 1

Section Preview

As you read, look for:

- cultural changes,
- the influence of television,
- the Cold War, and
- **vocabulary terms:** suburbs, baby boom, Cold War, and Korean War.

Below: During the 1950s, cars became more than just a means of transportation. They became status symbols.

The Postwar Period

The 1950s were a good time for most people. Returning veterans were able to attend college on the G.I. Bill and to buy homes. Enrollment in colleges and universities soared, and **suburbs** (residential areas around cities) sprang up. So many children were born that this period was known for its **baby boom**. The economy was strong, with an average family income of \$4,421.

America's love affair with the automobile reached full bloom. Riding around and "hanging out" at drive-in restaurants was a favorite pastime of young people. The first McDonald's opened with 15-cent hamburgers. New words added to the dictionary told a lot about the period: *rock and roll*, *UFO*, *junk mail*, and *credit card*.

Inventions of the period changed the way people lived. Dr. Jonas Salk developed a vaccine to erase the single greatest fear of the decade—polio. Johnson & Johnson provided the nation with no-tears baby shampoo. We also got super glue, radial tires, contact paper, Saran wrap, appliances in color, and Velcro.

Rock and roll dominated the period, led by performers such as Bill Haley and Georgia's Chuck Berry. Many adults believed that such music was dangerous and damaging for American teens! Perhaps the most important influence on this and later periods was television.



Television Changes America

Teenagers in the 1950s grew up with television. At first, television programs ran only six or seven hours *a day*. Families gathered around the small black-and-white sets to watch such popular performers as Jackie Gleason in “The Honeymooners,” Lucille Ball in “I Love Lucy,” comics Sid Caesar and Milton Berle, and major productions such as the “Ed Sullivan Show,” “Gunsmoke,” and “Bonanza.” Television shows like “The Adventures of Rin Tin Tin,” “Lassie,” and “Captain Kangaroo” made an appearance for young children. The “Mickey Mouse Club” made its debut, and “Dragnet” was a television favorite. “Your Hit Parade” kept teenagers informed about the latest musical hits.

Television viewing began to replace family games and conversation as the evening entertainment of choice. Even food changed. Frozen TV dinners were developed to shorten the time spent preparing evening meals. They were designed to be eaten in front of the television set, not at a dining table.

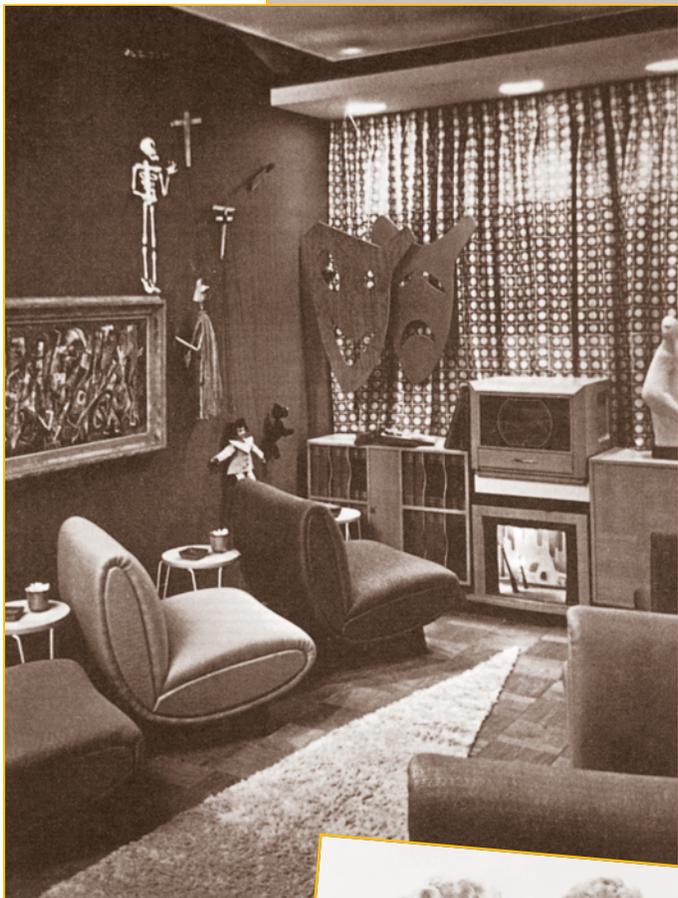
Television also brought about a change in organized religion, which flourished in the 1950s. Evangelists such as Billy Graham and Oral Roberts developed national followings through their use of the television screen. Bishop Fulton J. Sheen, a nationally known Roman Catholic priest, joined his Protestant counterparts in using the new medium to promote family values and the fight against communism.

In 1956, the appearance of Elvis Presley on the “Ed Sullivan Show” drew a record 54 million viewers. Cameramen on the show were ordered to show Presley only from the waist up since many considered the singer’s “hip swinging gyrations” to be unsuitable for family audiences. Less than ten years later, the Beatles appeared on the “Ed Sullivan Show” and drew a record 70 million viewers.

In 1950, only 9 percent of the nation’s households had a television. By 1955, that percentage had spiraled to 65 percent, and by 1979, 99 percent of American households had televisions. The number of hours spent watching

those television sets also grew. In 1950, the average viewer watched 5 hours of television a day; by the 1970s, the average viewer watched over 6½ hours of television a day.

In the 1970s, the major commercial broadcasting stations (ABC, CBS, NBC) were joined by commercial cable television stations. By the end of the decade, about 20 percent of



Top: In the 1950s, the television took a prominent place in American homes.

Above: One of the most popular television shows of the 1950s was “I Love Lucy.” These are the cast members.

Did You Know?

In 1951, **Diner’s Club** introduced the first **credit card** to **two hundred** customers who could use it at **twenty-seven** restaurants in **New York**.

American households had access to both network and cable television. Time, Inc., established the first cable television network—HBO—in 1972. In 1976, Ted Turner turned Atlanta’s WTBS into the first “superstation.” Turner was also responsible for the nation’s first 24-hour news network, CNN, which began broadcasting from its Atlanta headquarters in 1980 and which today reaches over a billion viewers daily worldwide.

In addition to changing the nation’s entertainment habits, television contributed greatly to our nation’s cultural and educational growth. Television allowed Americans to travel throughout the nation and the world from the safety of their living rooms. It presented live news so that viewers could see events as they actually happened and not as groups of editors or broadcasters interpreted them.

Americans in the 1970s, for example, watched as John F. Kennedy and Bobby Kennedy were assassinated; they watched gun battles in Vietnam; and, they watched as Neil Armstrong walked on the moon.

The Cold War

While some people focused on the social and cultural changes, others turned their attention to world tensions. The relations between the United States and the Soviet Union grew strained after World War II. This hostility was called the **Cold War** because it was fought mainly with words and diplomacy.

The hostility arose for several reasons. At the end of the war, the United

States and the Soviet Union were the two most powerful countries in the world. The United States expected the Soviet Union to permit free elections in the East European countries it occupied. Instead, the Soviets held them in an iron grip. Winston Churchill called it an “Iron Curtain.”

The Soviets believed that communism would triumph over democracy and capitalism, and they supported communist revolutions in other nations. The United States thus feared for its security. The United States adopted a foreign policy called *containment*, which was intended to prevent the Soviet Union from expanding its control to other nations. As part of this policy, the United States formed military alliances with nations on both sides of the Soviet Union. Containment led the United States into wars in Korea and Vietnam, a confrontation over nuclear weapons in Cuba, and the “arms race.”



Above: After World War II, Germany was partitioned. The United States, Great Britain, France, and the Soviet Union each controlled a section. Berlin, the German capital, was also partitioned. In 1948, the Soviet Union set up a blockade of Berlin, refusing to allow trucks to drive across the Soviet sector to resupply the western sectors. The United States responded by airlifting supplies to Berlin. The pilots often dropped candy to the waiting children.

Did You Know?

Sir Winston Churchill first referred to the “Iron Curtain” in a speech at Westminster College in Missouri.

The Cold War ended with the breakup of the Soviet Union in the 1980s and Russia's movement toward democratic government. The fear of nuclear war has lessened, but regional conflicts are emerging all over the world.

The Korean War

At the end of World War II, Korea had been divided along the 38th parallel of latitude. The United States supervised the government of South Korea, and the Soviet Union that of North Korea. On June 25, 1950, North Korea invaded South Korea, hoping to make one unified communist country. Instead, the **Korean War** broke out.

Seventeen United Nations countries immediately sent troops to South Korea to stop the North Korean invasion forces. The UN troops, led by divisions of American soldiers that included 75,000 Georgians, pushed the North Korean troops back almost to the border of China. However, the United Nations forces were not prepared when China's huge army came to North Korea's aid. There seemed to be no way to avoid another world war.

After many attacks and counterattacks, a battle line was drawn between the two countries in July 1951. Peace was finally declared in July 1953 with no clear victor.

The Korean War was a costly one, with 2,500,000 killed or wounded. Of those killed, 25,000 were Americans and over 500 were Georgians. Today, Korea remains divided along the 38th parallel. Some U.S. troops are still in South Korea to help with its protection, although efforts toward the reunification of Korea continue on both sides.



Georgia During the Cold War

The economy of Georgia—like that of many other states—benefitted from the arms race and by the need for military preparedness. Businesses like Martin-Marietta employed thousands of workers. Military installations such as Dobbins, Warner Robins, and Fort Benning created employment for many other Georgians. Even textile firms were kept busy supplying clothing, sheets, and other items for the armed forces.

It's Your Turn

1. What are some of the changes brought about in American culture by the dominance of television? Identify at least three positive changes and three not-so-positive differences.
2. What is the status of Korea today?

Map 44 Korea, 1950

Map Skill: What geographic word describes the area of North and South Korea?

Top: This photograph of the Korean War illustrates the stark contrast between fleeing refugees and a liberating army.

Section Preview

As you read, look for:

- the growth of business and industry after the war,
- the “Three Governors Episode,”
- Georgia’s postwar governors, and
- **vocabulary terms:** National School Lunch Act, Georgia Minimum Foundation Program for Education Act, one-person, one-vote concept, and reapportion.

Below: As you can see in this photograph, the ladders of the fire company did not reach to the higher floors of the Winecoff Hotel.



Section 2

Georgia After World War II

When Georgia’s soldiers and sailors returned home after World War II, they found the state in the midst of rapid change. Like the rest of the nation, Georgia had to shift from a wartime economy back to a peacetime economy. Agriculture was no longer as dominant in the state as it had been; manufacturing was now more important. That led to a significant growth of our cities.

In 1946, Georgia Senator Richard B. Russell sponsored a bill in Congress that affected the entire nation. It was called the **National School Lunch Act**. The act outlined a program to ensure that schoolchildren received nutritious lunches. It also encouraged school cafeterias to use government surplus food items such as cheese, flour, and peanut butter. Because of his work, Senator Russell is known as the “father of the school lunch program.”

Did You Know?

In 2003, more than **191 million school lunches** were served in **Georgia alone**.

An Atlanta Tragedy

On December 7, 1946, one of Georgia’s greatest tragedies occurred in Atlanta. At fifteen stories, the Winecoff Hotel was the city’s tallest hotel. A brick-and-stone structure, it was advertised as “fireproof.” However, the hotel had one spiral staircase, an operator-controlled elevator, no sprinkler system, and no fire escapes.

That night, the hotel was filled with guests commemorating the fifth anniversary of Pearl Harbor and with teenagers from across the state who were attending the Youth Assembly at the Capitol. About 3 a.m., fire broke out on the third floor. By the time fire trucks arrived about forty-five minutes later, much of the building was ablaze. Some guests had already died either from the flames, from smoke inhalation, or from injuries suffered after jumping out of windows to the streets below. The firemen worked frantically to put out the blaze and to rescue guests, but their hoses would only reach to the eighth floor. Two and one-half hours later, the incident was over. Of the more than 280 guests, 119 died. Many more were severely injured.



The cause of the fire is still under debate. Some blamed it on arson, others on careless smoking. Whatever the cause, it remains one of the nation's worst hotel fires. Within days of the incident, states across the nation updated their fire codes for hotels and other public buildings to avoid a repeat of the tragedy. In 1948, Georgia's General Assembly adopted the building exits code to ensure that all buildings would have enough fire exits in the event of a fire.

Industries Move into Georgia

After the war, businesses continued to move into the state. Georgia's mild climate lured many northern companies that wanted to escape cold winters, high heating costs, and transportation slowdowns caused by snow and ice. Georgia still had one weather drawback—the intense summer heat.

Rich's Department Store had been the first air-conditioned building in Atlanta. After the war, air-conditioning was slowly introduced in other stores and office buildings. But it was not until the 1960s that the climate controls we take for granted today were installed in most businesses. Most homes and automobiles did not become air-conditioned until the 1970s and early 1980s.

In addition to favorable weather, the state also had low business and individual tax rates. In 1949, a typical Georgian paid only \$38 in state taxes. Most importantly from a business owner's standpoint, Georgia was a non-union state. Workers could be hired at lower wages and with fewer labor demands than in states controlled by unions.

The growth of aviation created even more expansion during this period. By the close of the 1950s, Lockheed was the state's largest employer. In 1946, another company that was to become important to the world arrived in Atlanta—the Centers for Disease Control. The CDC is the world leader in protecting us from old and new diseases, including those created by humans.



Top: A number of different types of planes were built at Lockheed's Marietta plant.
Above: Headquartered in Atlanta, the CDC is an agency of the Department of Health and Human Services.



Georgia Politics

Georgia politics during the early postwar years meant business as usual. But no political event in Georgia during this period got more publicity or caused greater confusion than the “three governors episode.”

The Three Governors Episode

In 1946, Governor Ellis Arnall’s term was drawing to a close. Because he could not succeed himself, Georgians had to elect a new governor. The field of candidates in the Democratic primary included Arnall’s arch rival, segregationist Eugene Talmadge; former governor Eurith Rivers; and James Carmichael, who had headed the Marietta Bell bomber plant during the war. In the primary, Carmichael won the popular vote. In large part, Carmichael’s victory was due to the fact that, for the first time since Reconstruction, black voters could take part in the primary election. However, Talmadge won the county unit vote, and he became the Democratic candidate.

The Republicans did not have a candidate, so Talmadge ran unopposed in the November general election. Talmadge was sixty-two years old and in poor health. Because his close advi-





sors were afraid he would not live long enough to begin his term, they made a secret plan. The plan was for a few hundred selected supporters to write the name of Eugene Talmadge's son Herman on the ballot as their second gubernatorial choice. When the general election was over, Eugene Talmadge had been elected governor; Melvin Thompson had been elected lieutenant governor. Shortly before Christmas, and before he was sworn in, Eugene Talmadge died, and the confusion began.

The legislature chose Herman Talmadge as governor, based on the size of the write-in votes for him—a good number of which were suddenly “found” after the election. Governor Arnall declared that Lieutenant Governor Thompson was the rightful successor. However, in the early morning hours of January 15, 1947, a group of Eugene Talmadge's men broke into the governor's office, changed the locks on the doors, and readied themselves to run the state.

Because he was locked out of his own office, Governor Arnall set up a temporary office at the Capitol information counter. Three days later, with news cameras flashing, Arnall officially resigned. In the meantime, Lieutenant Governor Thompson opened an office in downtown Atlanta and began legal proceedings to become governor. The government was in a state of total confusion.

Secretary of State Ben Fortson refused to give the official state seal (used for legalizing documents) to either Talmadge or Thompson. As a result, no

Opposite page, above: James V. Carmichael won the popular vote in the 1946 gubernatorial primary, but lost the county unit vote to Eugene Talmadge. **Opposite page, below:** Herman Talmadge (center, to right of smiling woman), just after the legislature put him in the governor's chair. **Above:** Ellis Arnall set up his office at the information counter in the Capitol rotunda after being locked out of his office.

Did You Know?

State law limits development on Jekyll Island to 35 percent of the land.



Above: Herman Talmadge (left) shakes hands with Melvin Thompson (right).

one was in a position to run the state. The national news media had a field day reporting Georgia's political chaos.

Finally, in March, the Georgia Supreme Court ruled that Thompson was the rightful head of state until a special election could be held in 1948 to fill the unexpired term of Governor-elect Eugene Talmadge. In that election, and again in 1950, Herman Talmadge was legally elected as Georgia's governor.

Melvin Thompson

Among Melvin Thompson's accomplishments during his brief time in office was a plan for the state to convert Jekyll Island into a state resort. He bought Jekyll Island for \$675,000, a bargain that has been compared to the original purchase of Manhattan. Jekyll Island has proven to be one of Georgia's major assets as a tourist attraction and year-round resort area. Thompson also built the University of Georgia's School of Veterinary Medicine and the textile engineering building at Georgia Tech.

Herman Talmadge

During Herman Talmadge's tenure as governor, he restructured the state highway department, created the Georgia Forestry Commission, and provided leadership for improvements in soil conservation programs, county health

departments, and the state's prison system.

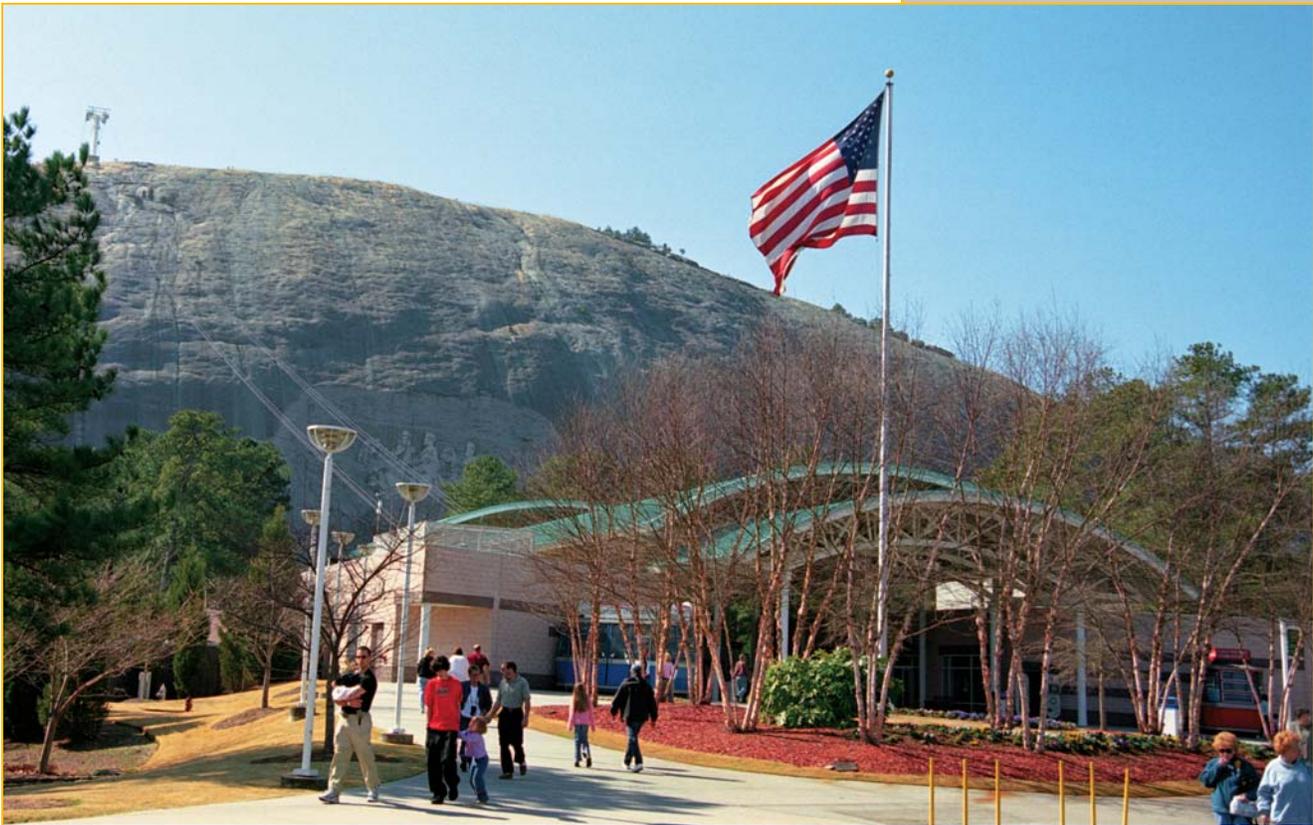
Most of Talmadge's legacy is in the field of education. He provided leadership for a new state constitution that expanded schools to include grades 1-12. In 1949, the General Assembly passed the **Minimum Foundation Program for Education Act**. This act lengthened the school year to nine months and raised standards for buildings, equipment, transportation, and school curricula. A 3 percent sales tax was passed in 1951 to pay for these changes.

After leaving office, Talmadge was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1956. He served there until 1981.

Marvin Griffin

Education advancements also marked the term of Governor Talmadge's successor, Marvin Griffin. During his term, educational television was begun, classrooms were constructed, and over three thousand new teachers were hired. As enrollment in Georgia's colleges and universities grew, Griffin worked to provide campuses and facilities to meet those needs.

Governor Griffin, a native of Bainbridge, oversaw the remodeling of the State Capitol and the purchase of Stone Mountain as a state park area. He



provided leadership for the development of new public health facilities and improved medical services, senior citizens care, vocational rehabilitation, and child services. He also obtained funding to build an atomic reactor at Georgia Tech and a new science center for the University of Georgia.

In 1968, Griffin was briefly the vice presidential running mate of American Independent party presidential candidate George Wallace.

“One Person, One Vote”

In the 1960s, two rulings by the federal district court brought dramatic change to Georgia’s political structure. The first involved the county unit system. As you learned in Chapter 11, this system had been in place since 1917. It was designed to maintain the power of the rural areas of the state even though the greatest population growth was in urban areas.

Did You Know?

The **federal court** decision was appealed to the **U.S. Supreme Court** in *Gray v. Sanders*. It was in the decision in that case that **“one person, one vote”** was first used.

In April 1962, the Georgia federal court ruled that the county unit system violated the Fourteenth Amendment. The ruling was the basis for the **one-person, one-vote concept**; that is, every citizen’s vote should be equal to every other citizen’s vote no matter where the person lived. Once the county unit system was ruled unconstitutional, the majority of representatives in

Above: The State of Georgia bought Stone Mountain in September 1958 for use as a park. Governor Griffin was convinced that the purchase “will be of everlasting benefit to the present generation and all future citizens of this state, and the entire south-land.” Do you agree?

the Georgia house came from the urban areas. Political power shifted from rural to urban areas. This also gave predominantly black population areas an equal opportunity to elect legislative representatives. In a 1962 election, Atlanta attorney Leroy Johnson became the first African American state senator in Georgia since Reconstruction.

In 1964, the federal court again ruled that Georgia's constitution, which ensured each county in the state at least one seat in the legislature, violated the one-person, one-vote concept. The courts stated that legislative districts should depend solely on population rather than on county boundary lines.

The General Assembly had to **reapportion** (redraw) voting districts to ensure districts of equal population sizes.

These two decisions did more than just shift political power from rural to urban areas; they also influenced the campaign styles and election of the state's governor.

Carl Sanders

In 1962, Carl Sanders defeated Governor Marvin Griffin in the gubernatorial race. Griffin was a rural Democrat who campaigned the "old-fashioned" way. He toured the state, speaking from county to county at political barbecues and rallies. Sanders was a native of Augusta.

In addition to the rallies and fund-raisers, Sanders relied on television to appeal to the state's urban voters. He soundly defeated Griffin.

Sanders campaigned on a promise to modernize state government. Once in office, he appointed study commissions and used their recommendations to streamline and modernize key state agencies. He also worked to improve Georgia's infrastructure and bring more industry to the state.

Sanders dealt fairly with the periods of racial unrest and disturbances that took place in the state in the 1960s, especially in Savannah, Americus, and Atlanta. Because he insisted that all Georgians obey the law and settle disputes in the courtrooms rather than in the streets, Georgia avoided the racial violence that took place in states such as Alabama. This moderation was another reason for leaders of business and industry to move into the state.

However, Governor Sanders's most significant achievements may have been in education. He used almost sixty cents of every tax dollar in his budgets for education. He opened new junior colleges and vocational schools throughout the state, established a dental school, added 10,000 new public school teachers, reorganized the state's Department of Education, and raised university faculty salaries 32 percent. He was responsible for more university construction projects than all of the state's previous governors.



Above: When he was elected in 1962, Carl Sanders was, at age thirty-seven, the nation's youngest governor. After serving one term, he ran for governor again in 1970, losing to future president Jimmy Carter. Disappointed by his defeat, he left politics and founded the Atlanta law firm of Troutman Sanders, which today is one of the largest and most prestigious law firms in Georgia.

Governor Sanders was a new breed of southern governor—a state leader who developed a strong and vocal place in national Democratic party politics and maintained a positive working relationship with national administrations. When his term ended in 1967, he returned to his law practice and built one of the state’s largest and most prestigious law firms.

Lester Maddox

In 1967, segregationist and restaurant owner Lester Maddox of Atlanta became governor. The 1966 gubernatorial election was “another one for the books.” When no candidate received a majority in the Democratic primary, there was a runoff. Maddox was a surprise winner over former Governor Ellis Arnall. In the general election, Maddox faced Republican Howard “Bo” Callaway. While Callaway had more votes than Maddox, a write-in campaign for Arnall prevented Callaway from getting a majority of the vote. The election then went to the Democratic legislature, which chose Maddox.

Maddox surprised many Georgians by appointing more African Americans to state boards and commissions than all prior governors combined. He named the first black member of the Board of Pardons and Paroles, reformed state prisons, and integrated the Georgia State Patrol. The governor increased spending on teacher salaries and higher education. Governor Maddox also established “People’s Days.” Twice a month, any Georgian could visit the governor’s mansion to talk about anything they wished.

Since he could not succeed himself, Maddox ran for lieutenant governor in 1970 and was elected overwhelmingly.



Above: Lester Maddox was an unlikely choice for governor, but he was an able governor. In 1970, Maddox became the first governor to be elected lieutenant governor.

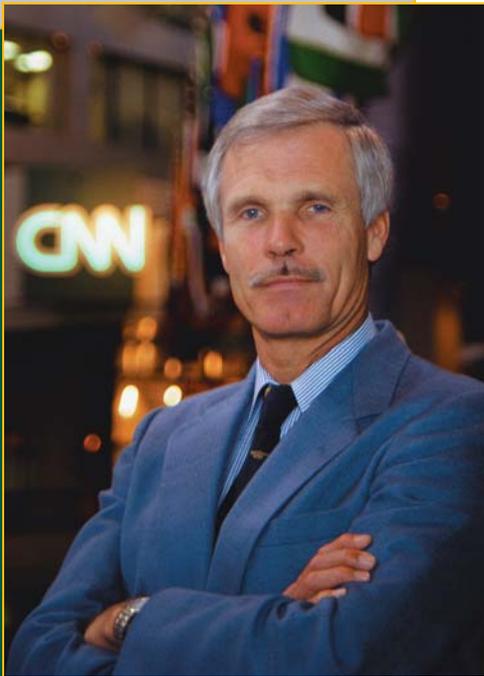
It's Your Turn

1. What legislation did Senator Richard B. Russell introduce in 1946?
2. What made Georgia so attractive to new industries in the postwar period?
3. Why was the county unit system considered a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment?
4. Of the five governors discussed in this section of the chapter, each accomplished much on behalf of Georgia. Which of these leaders do you think was the most outstanding leader of this era and why?

Section Preview

As you read, look for:

- improvements in communication and transportation,
- the first Georgian elected president,
- the women's rights movement, and
- **vocabulary terms:** Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, women's rights movement, affirmative action program, National Organization for Women, National Women's Political Caucus, Equal Rights Amendment, Title IX, Vietnam War, and Watergate.



Above: In 1980, Ted Turner founded CNN, the first 24-hour news channel. In 1995, CNN merged with Time-Warner.

Section 4

A Period of Protests and Changes

The late 1960s and early 1970s was a period of frequent demonstrations by young people against a variety of issues, ranging from the war in Vietnam to public morality. Many of these protests were fueled by singers such as Bob Dylan and Joan Baez, who mixed traditional ballads with antiwar and pro-civil rights activist lyrics.

Hippies (young people who supported peace, love, and drugs) basically opposed any issue that the “establishment” supported. At first, these young people were an amusement to some and a bewilderment to most of their parents. But as their actions continued unchecked, this period marked the beginning of a widespread drug culture that was to plague the nation for decades.

Music also began to change as new, loud rock bands such as the Byrds, the Rolling Stones, the Doors, and the Who became wildly popular. For three days in August 1969, close to a half million young people converged on a farm in New York called Woodstock, where for seventy-two hours they carried on a free-for-all party of nonstop music and celebration.

Georgia in the 1970s

The decade began with more advancements in communications. Ted Turner bought Atlanta station WJRJ and renamed it WTCCG. One of the features of Turner's broadcasting services was sports. Both the Atlanta Braves and the Atlanta Hawks were broadcast over WTCCG. In 1976, Turner linked his television station's signal to a satellite and broadcast programs to cable operators throughout the nation. The “superstation”—later renamed TBS—was born.

Transportation was also in the Georgia spotlight during the 1970s. Atlanta's William B. Hartsfield International Airport offered its first international flights in 1971. The **Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority** (MARTA) had been established in 1966. In 1975, groundbreaking ceremonies were held for the first rapid rail line, the East Line. The first rapid rail service began in 1979.

Throughout the decade, weather made news. Tornadoes, hail storms, rains and flooding, ice storms, and even snowstorms resulted in injuries and loss of life and property damages in the billions of dollars. In 1973, Savannah recorded its heaviest snowfall in over 100 years (3.6 inches), while the counties in north Georgia received

Did You Know?

Ted Turner purchased the **Atlanta Braves** in 1976 and the **Atlanta Hawks** in 1977.

almost 20 inches of snow. Tornadoes swept through more than twenty-five counties during the decade. In 1977, heavy rains caused an earthen dam above Toccoa Falls to collapse. The Kelly Barnes Dam in Stephens County gave way during the early morning hours of November 6. Downstream from the dam, the students of Toccoa Falls College were sleeping. Within minutes of the dam collapse, a wall of water crashed into the small Christian college destroying buildings, killing thirty-nine people, and causing \$2.5 million in property damage.

James Earl Carter

In 1970, Georgians elected former state senator James Earl “Jimmy” Carter as governor. He was born in Plains in 1924 and grew up on his parents’ southwest Georgia peanut farm. Carter attended Georgia Southwestern College and Georgia Tech before receiving an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. After graduation, he was assigned to the Pacific Fleet. Later, Carter went to Union College and studied physics.

During his term, Governor Carter reorganized the state’s executive branch, cutting the number of government agencies from three hundred to twenty-five. He also influenced Georgia’s court system, bringing a unified approach to the courts and changing the selection of judges to a merit process. Governor Carter appointed the first woman as a state judge.

He created the Georgia Heritage Trust, which is designed to protect our state’s natural and cultural resources. He also worked to equalize funding for public schools across the state and expanded special education, vocational education, and preschool education. Governor Carter also expanded state mental health services for Georgians. At the end of his term, many Georgians were surprised when he announced that he was a candidate for the 1976 Democratic presidential nomination.

Carter was the first Georgian to become president of the United States, defeating President Gerald Ford. As president, Carter will likely best be remembered for his efforts to negotiate peace between Israel and Egypt.

Two events during his term probably cost Carter a second term. First, energy costs, interest rates, and inflation were high. In trying to reduce



Above: Jimmy Carter was the first Georgian to be elected president of the United States. He served from 1977 to 1980.

The Art of Politics



Jeff MacNelly was a Pulitzer Prize winning political cartoonist. His targets were the “establishment,” particularly those in Washington, D.C. One of his favorite targets, as you can see here, was Jimmy Carter.

Did You Know?

In 2002, Jimmy Carter was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts in furthering the cause of peace throughout the world.

inflation, he created a brief recession. Second, in November 1979, militants took over the U.S. Embassy in Iran and held fifty-two Americans hostage for 444 days. The hostages were not released until January 20, 1981, the day Carter left office.

After leaving office, the Carters returned to Georgia. President Carter is much admired for his efforts to negotiate peace, to defeat diseases, to ensure fair elections, and to build housing.

Problems of the Cities

During the late 1970s, census figures showed that the population in thirty-seven of America’s fifty-eight largest cities had declined. The middle class was moving out of the cities and into the suburbs. The result was lost revenue for businesses and restaurants, a lower property tax base, declines in the level of city services, strains on aging city infrastructures, and increases in drug use, crime, and gangs. As buildings became empty, vandalism and vagrancy increased. In many cities, the downward spiral lasted until the mid-1990s.

Slowly, urban development grants, special tax monies, business incentives, and the return of suburbanites who were tired of driving 2-4 hours a day to get to and from work began to turn things around. Special attractions, such as Underground Atlanta, the Augusta Riverwalk, and the Chattahoochee Riverwalk in Columbus, have encouraged tourism, which led to the return of downtown hotels, restaurants, galleries, shops, theaters, and other businesses.

Could there be another migration out of the cities? Perhaps, but the larger cities in Georgia have taken steps to avoid another exodus.

The Women’s Rights Movement

“You’ve come a long way, baby” was the slogan in a cigarette ad aimed at women in 1968. That message also fits another civil rights movement of the late 1960s and the 1970s. The **women’s rights movement** reflected major changes in the way women viewed themselves and their contributions to society.

World War II was a major watershed in changing gender roles. Millions of men went off to war, and women stepped in to fill their civilian jobs. Demonstrating their ability to do “man’s work,” women gained confidence that they could do many things besides clerk, type, nurse, teach, and tend house and children. When the war ended, many women wanted to continue to work outside the home. Some did, but many others were expected to give up their wartime jobs and turn them back over to men.



By the 1960s, many women were unhappy with their lot. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 made it illegal to discriminate against women in hiring practices. Federal **affirmative action programs**, designed to provide work opportunities for women and minorities, opened up some jobs to women. Still most were not being treated fairly at work. They were discriminated against, and their pay was not equal to men's pay for the same work. Most women held traditional women's jobs. Leadership positions in business were generally closed to them.

Women were also discriminated against in other places. Banks often refused to grant a woman credit without her husband's signature. Single women, including widows, were often unable to obtain credit—no matter what their level of income. Many women, therefore, were unable to buy a home, rent an apartment, buy an automobile, or take out a credit card in their own names. When making major purchases or even taking the family



Top: The Augusta Riverwalk winds along the Savannah River. **Above:** This 1970s rally was in support of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Did You Know?

The **Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)** was first proposed in **1923** by suffragette **Alice Paul**. She called it the “**Lucretia Mott Amendment**.” It was introduced in every session of **Congress** until it passed in **1972**.



Above: Condoleezza Rice is a good example for young women. In 2005, President George W. Bush named her his secretary of state. She has also been a writer, a college professor and provost, and a member of the board of directors of a number of corporations.

car in for repairs, women were often asked for the approval of the “man of the house.”

Women began questioning their roles in society. By the 1970s, women wanted far more than access to nursing, teaching, and secretarial careers; they wanted equal access to education, to jobs, to salaries, and to benefits. They also wanted equal respect.

Several organizations were established to work for equal rights for women. In 1966, feminist Betty Friedan and others formed the **National Organization for Women (NOW)** to work for the economic and legal rights of women. In 1971, Gloria Steinem, Betty Friedan, Bella Abzug, and Shirley Chisholm formed the **National Women’s Political Caucus** to promote women’s issues. *Ms.* magazine came out a year later and was the first magazine to popularize the issues of women’s liberation.

These organizations and others supported a drive to add an **Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)** to the U.S. Constitution. The proposed amendment read: “Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.” In 1972, Congress voted to send the proposed amendment to the states for ratification. Three-fourths of the state legislatures (38 of 50) had to approve the amendment for it to become law. During the fight for ratification, both sides were loud and vocal. By June 30, 1983—the deadline for its ratification—the proposal still lacked the necessary approval. The ERA failed by three votes. Fifteen states, including Georgia, never ratified the ERA.

In 1972, President Nixon signed into law legislation known as **Title**

IX, which prohibited discrimination in education whether in academics or athletics. For the first time, girls could take auto mechanics or shop and boys could take home economics or typing. Some thirty years later, 84 percent of the nation’s young women graduate from high school. Women with college doctoral degrees rose from 16 percent to over 46 percent. Female participation in athletics rose from 7.4 percent in high school to 41.5 percent and from 15 percent to 42 percent in college. There has also been a significant increase in the number of women who have become school principals and college professors. Today, female students your age can become anything they wish if they are willing to work for it, whether it is driving a bulldozer or working on power lines or serving in the President’s Cabinet.

Vietnam Divides America

In the 1950s, the United States began providing money and a small group of advisors to the government of South Vietnam in its struggle with the communist government of North Vietnam. Slowly, however, the United States stepped up its involvement. As fighting escalated, more and more American troops were sent there until, by the end of 1968, there were 536,000 American troops in South Vietnam.

The **Vietnam War** was one of the most socially and politically divisive wars in American history. This was the first “televised” war. Americans could see what was happening on the evening news and compare that with what the government was telling them. The two were not always the same. Television helped increase the opposition to the war and citizens’ distrust of the government. The distrust increased as American casualties rose and there were reports of Americans killing Vietnamese civilians. The distrust fueled antiwar sentiment, and hundreds of thousands of Americans protested against the war. Some of those protests turned violent, and federal



Map 45 North and South Vietnam

Map Skill: In what part of the world is Vietnam located?

Left: As American soldiers slogged through the rice paddies of Vietnam, the nation was dividing over U.S. involvement in the war.



Dean Rusk

One of the most outstanding national leaders during modern times has been Georgia native David Dean Rusk. A native of Cherokee County, Rusk graduated from Davidson College (in North Carolina) in 1931 and attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. When he returned to the United States, Rusk taught at Mills College in California. When World War II approached, he joined the U.S. Army, later serving with General George Marshall.

After the war, Rusk joined the Department of State and directed the Office of Special Political Affairs. In 1950, he was appointed Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, where he worked to counter the continuing communist aggression in Korea.

Rusk left government service briefly in 1950 to serve as the president of the Rockefeller Foundation in New York. In 1961, President John F. Kennedy asked Rusk to serve as secretary of state. Rusk held that position until 1969.

As secretary of state, Rusk was responsible for a number of major diplomatic missions. In 1962, during the Cuban Missile Crisis, Secretary Rusk convinced President Kennedy to rely on a blockade instead of military force. Rusk also negotiated the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty between the Soviet Union and the United States, which ended the above-ground testing of nuclear bombs. It was, however, his position on the Vietnam War that most defined his years of public service. For his support of the war, Rusk was ridiculed on many college campuses across the nation where antiwar protests raged.

When Rusk retired, he returned to the University of Georgia to teach. In 1977, he was honored with the establishment of the Dean Rusk Center for International and Comparative Law. In 1985, Davidson College also established a Dean Rusk International Studies Program in his honor.

Secretary Rusk died in Athens in 1994 and was laid to rest in Oconee Hill Cemetery alongside the campus of the University he loved.



Above: Secretary of State Dean Rusk defended U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

and state governments used heavy-handed methods to suppress the war's opponents. Belief that the war was necessary to contain communism decreased. Returning veterans were met with scorn and hostility rather than the victory parades that followed the return of the nation's soldiers in World Wars I and II.

After his election in 1968, President Richard Nixon promised to bring American troops home. He tried to force the communists to negotiate a peace by increasing bombings. As a result, thousands more were killed and injured, and the sentiment against the war grew even stronger.

Finally, in January 1973, a cease-fire was declared, and United States involvement in the war came to an end. More than 2,000,000 Vietnamese and 57,000 Americans died. At least 1,200 Americans were listed as missing. There was no clear victor, although Vietnam is now united under a communist government.

The war led to a reluctance to use military force. People feared being drawn into another long, divisive war. It was not until the Persian Gulf War of 1991 that the American people again supported large-scale military action.

Watergate

In June 1972, police arrested a group of men for breaking into and "bugging" the Democratic National Committee offices at the Watergate building in Washington, D.C. Investigating newspaper reporters discovered that some of the burglars had worked for a committee to re-elect President Richard Nixon. Nixon denied any connection between the burglary and the White House. However, the newspaper investigative teams probed further and uncovered additional information that pointed to a cover-up at the highest level of government. When the



burglars were tried in early 1973, one of them talked. What emerged was a story of the abuse of power by the White House.

During its investigations, the U.S. Senate committee discovered that Nixon tape-recorded all of his Oval Office conversations. President Nixon continued to deny any involvement in **Watergate** and refused to give up the tapes. Eventually the Supreme Court ruled that the president had to turn over the tapes. When the tapes were reviewed, they showed that President Nixon knew of the Watergate burglary and had tried to cover it up. A number of people connected to the administration were convicted of Watergate-related crimes. The House of Representatives prepared to impeach President Nixon, but he resigned on August 8, 1974. The new president, Gerald Ford, pardoned Nixon rather than see him tried in criminal court.

The Watergate affair showed first and foremost that no person was above the law, not even the president. The affair also led Americans to become more cynical about their government, a situation that continues to this day. And it popularized the practice of using investigative reporting teams to dig up and use all sorts of information to attract the eye of the reading and television viewing public. This practice has undoubtedly uncovered news items about which the public should be aware. However, it also has led to charges of the invasion of an individual's privacy and the trampling of his or her rights all in the cause of the public's "right to know."



Top: President Nixon is besieged by reporters seeking information about Watergate, the scandal that eventually drove him from office. **Above:** Sam Ervin chaired the U.S. Senate's Watergate hearings.

The Energy Crisis

In October 1973, war broke out in the Middle East between Egypt and Israel. U.S. support for Israel caused OPEC (the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) to cut oil production and to place an embargo on oil to the United States. Fuel shortages hit America in 1973. Some schools closed temporarily. Employees faced workplaces where temperatures had been

lowered. The lines to buy gasoline stretched for blocks at service stations. The price of airline tickets soared as airlines found themselves unable to afford jet fuel. Businesses dependent on oil or oil products had to lay off workers or even close down. People stopped buying large gas-guzzling cars, which led to layoffs in the automotive industry. They began buying European, high-mileage compact cars, forcing American automakers into the compact car market.

Although it was not quite that bad in Georgia, most thermostats were set at 68° or lower, and sweaters suddenly became quite popular. Georgians accustomed to leisurely four- and five-hour drives to the mountains or the beach canceled or postponed vacation or weekend plans. Teenagers who were used to “driving around” suddenly realized allowances would not cover gas costs. All over the state, people began car pooling to and from work. Mass transit systems took on a new life, and multilane highways started adding high occupancy lanes just for vehicles with two or more passengers.

One solution to America’s dependence on foreign oil resources came with the oil discovered at Prudhoe Bay in the North Slope in northern Alaska. In 1977, a pipeline began carrying the oil over eight hundred miles through Alaskan wilderness to the port of Valdez. From there, it was

Spotlight on the Economy

Economic Cycles

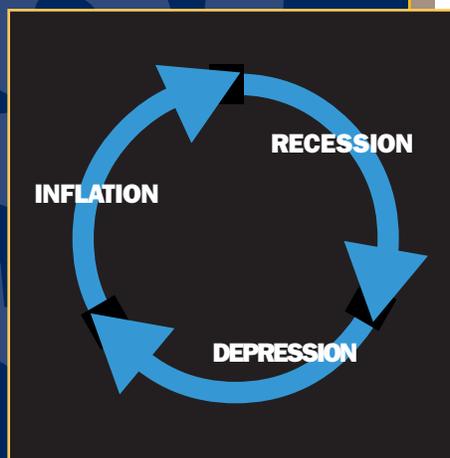
As you have read about the history of our state in the twentieth century, you have covered all of the major steps in the state’s economic cycle. Our state’s economy does not stand still, it moves in cycles. Economic cycles have three critical points—**inflation**, **recession**, and **depression**.

Inflation occurs when there is enough money in circulation for people to spend, but not enough goods and services to spend the money on. For example, imagine that teenagers have enough spending money but that there is a shortage of the sneakers teenagers like. Prices for those sneakers would go up because teenagers would be willing to pay more for a product in short supply. As a result, inflation causes higher prices. Normally, inflation leads to an increase in demand for goods and services, an increase in the production of goods and services, an increase in employment, and an increase in wages and salaries because more people are working.

When prices get so high that people cannot afford to pay them, the economic cycle turns to a **recession**. Recessions occur because people will not or cannot afford goods and services. Recession leads to a decrease in the demand for products or services, a decrease in the sales of products because prices are too high, a decrease in production of goods since sales are declining, an increase in unemployment when businesses start laying off people, and a decrease in wages and salaries since fewer people are working.

Occasionally, when a recession lasts for too long and the economy does not recover, the cycle leads into a **depression**. A depression causes a decline in business, high unemployment, and low wages.

The economy never stands still. It continuously moves in a cycle from inflation to recession with an occasional tilt to a depression.



It's Your Turn

1. What was the first “superstation”?
2. What were affirmative action programs designed to do?
3. How many states were needed to approve the Equal Rights Amendment? Why do you think the founders of our nation made it so difficult to amend our Constitution?
4. How did the Vietnam War and Watergate cause Americans to adopt a skeptical attitude toward government? Has that attitude continued today?

transported by tankers to refineries in the “lower 48” states. The success of the pipeline has led energy corporations to push for additional drilling in national park and wilderness areas despite protests by most of the nation’s environmentalists.

The 1970s fuel shortage led Americans to question what the country could do to lessen our dependence on Middle East oil. Some argued we should drill for oil in wilderness areas and national preserves. Others argued for the development of renewable fuel sources. Thirty-five years later, the United States is still searching for solutions. Your expertise may be needed to solve this problem.

A Final Note

Few words in the English language have been more misunderstood than the term *tolerance*. What exactly does it mean? First of all, it does not mean that you have to approve of, like, or hang out with those whose values differ from yours.

Tolerance means respect. It means trying to understand and care for others who may be of a different race, color, sex, religious belief, or socioeconomic background. It means being kind to those with different abilities or talents. Tolerance means observing the human rights of all of those around you.

Much of this period in our history is about tolerance. Make a list of ten things you can do in school and at home or in the community to show your tolerance for others.

Chapter Summary

- Veterans of World War II returned to a state, and a nation, full of change.
- For most of the 1950s, prosperity marked our state and nation.
- The Cold War did have some hot spots, including Korea and Vietnam.
- Georgia moved from an economy dominated by agriculture to a more diversified economy as businesses and industries grew.
- The so-called Three Governors Episode was an embarrassment for the state.
- Governor Carl Sanders expanded the state’s educational system, opening junior colleges and vocational programs.
- During the struggle for civil rights, Georgian Dr. Martin L. King, Jr., was a national leader of nonviolent protests and demonstrations to bring about change.
- The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 were hallmarks of the civil rights struggles of the 1960s.
- The 1960s and 1970s were marked by protests, first in the struggle for civil rights, then in the struggle for equal rights for women, and later in the protests against the Vietnam War.
- Watergate added to the lack of confidence Americans had in their government.
- Former Governor Jimmy Carter became the first Georgian to be elected president of the United States.

Chapter Review

Reviewing People, Places, and Terms



Use each of the following terms in a sentence describing Georgia or the United States during this period.

1. baby boom
2. *Brown v. Board of Education*
3. Civil Rights Act of 1964
4. Cold War
5. one-person, one-vote concept
6. reapportionment
7. sit-in
8. Voting Rights Act of 1965
9. women's rights movement



Understanding the Facts

1. Explain Georgia's "Three Governors Episode." Who were the major characters involved and how was the issue resolved?
2. Why was Georgia's county unit system ended?
3. Which governor might be known as the father of the junior college system in Georgia?
4. What Supreme Court decision ended the separate-but-equal segregation of public schools?
5. Whose arrest led to the Montgomery bus boycott? Why was this person arrested?
6. What prize was awarded to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1964?
7. What bill did the march from Selma to Montgomery influence Congress to pass?
8. What Georgian was elected president of the United States in 1976?
9. When were the Embassy hostages released by Iran? What was the significance of that date?
10. What are affirmative action programs?

Developing Critical Thinking



1. How do you think television influenced Americans' opinions and actions during the Vietnam War?
2. During this period there were significant changes to education in Georgia – the expansion of the school year to nine months, the addition of the twelfth grade in schools, the establishment of junior colleges, the use of a sales tax to fund education, and so on. Which do you think was the most significant?
3. Affirmative action programs have come under increasing criticism in recent years. Many white males claim they are victims of a form of "reverse discrimination." What is reverse discrimination? Do you agree or disagree with the criticism of affirmative action programs?
4. What do you think could be done to eliminate discrimination and prejudice that still exists?
5. In recent years, there have been court cases against large businesses for not employing persons with disabilities. How are these cases like those of the NAACP in the 1960s?

Checking It Out



1. During the 1960s, the slogan "Black is beautiful" became very popular with African Americans. Research the development of that slogan and explain what you think it means. Why did the slogan appeal to so many African Americans? Why did it serve as a challenge to so many whites? Is the slogan still in popular use today?
2. In the 1960s and 1970s, sightings of UFOs (unidentified flying objects) were common

throughout the nation including in Georgia. Use your research skills to find out about UFOs and sightings in our state. What is your explanation of such sightings?

3. During the 1970s, there was public debate over whether nuclear power plants were safe. The debate continues today, although “safe” has been expanded to include safe from terrorist attacks. Research the number, location, and uses of nuclear power plants in Georgia. Indicate their locations on a Georgia map.
4. A unique mystery of this time period was the “Bermuda Triangle.” The strange, peculiar, and unexplained disappearances of ships and airplanes produced many theories. In 1945, five U.S. Navy bombers flew over the triangle and were never seen again. One of the pilots radioed, “Cannot see land. We seem to be off course.” Silence followed. Try your hand at solving the mystery. Research the numbers of ships and planes lost and the variety of explanations. Choose one or two reasonable choices and defend your choices.



Writing Across the Curriculum

1. Suppose you could choose to interview one governor from this time period. Which governor would you select and why? Write out a list of interview questions that you would ask the governor.
2. Two aspects of the Cold War involved fear of an atomic or hydrogen bomb attack on the United States. Adults who were children in school during those years learned about three things: bomb shelters, civil defense shelters, and “duck and cover drills.” Interview members of your own family, neighbors (with permission), or teachers about these three phenomena. Write a short report that explains what these shelters and drills were.
3. Imagine that you were present at a major event during this period such as the Montgomery bus

boycott. Write a letter to the editor of your school newspaper summarizing what happened, describing how you feel about what happened, and what influence the event is likely to have on your own future.



Exploring Technology

1. In the late 1960s, the Special Olympics was organized by Eunice Kennedy Shriver. Use your Internet research skills to learn more about this event. Share your findings with your classmates.
2. In the late 1970s, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) began alerting citizens that some of the water we were drinking was unsafe due to increased pollutants. Use your Internet skills to check out the situation today. Is the pollution of our water better or worse? Back up your opinion with specific details. Are there lakes, streams, or rivers in our state that are still considered polluted? Where are they and what steps are being taken to correct the problems?



Applying Your Skills

1. Georgia’s voting districts are reapportioned each ten years based on federal census population statistics. Examine maps of Georgia’s voting districts from the 1960 and 1970 census and compare them with the current voting map for our state. What changes in population have taken place that are reflected on those maps? Is your community in the same voting district as it was in 1960?
2. Make a timeline of Georgia’s governors, U.S. senators, and legislators during the period from the end of World War II to the end of the Cold War. Select one national leader and one governor and prepare a chart of their major accomplishments in office.