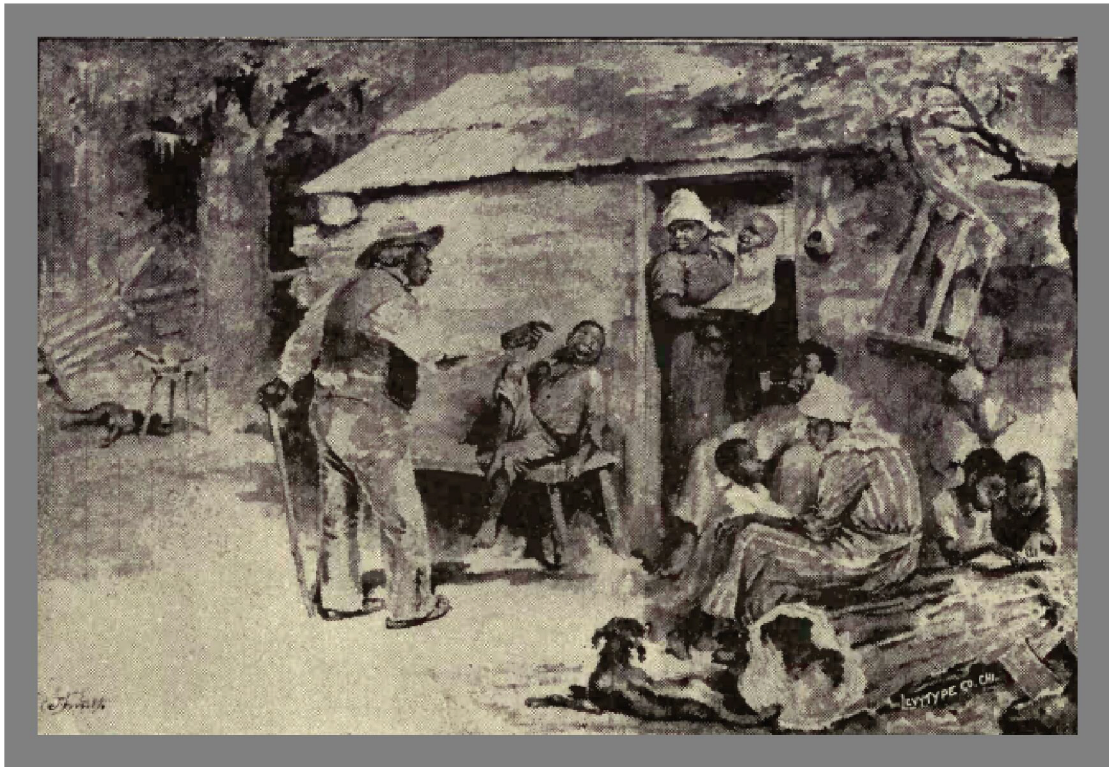


# Reconstruction 101 for



# African Americans

# **Reconstruction Research:**

## **Strategies and Tips**

# Reconstruction 101

*Effective research hinges on asking questions and persistently closing gaps in your ancestor's life:*

*Especially the transition from slavery to freedom*

# Reconstruction 101

*Placing your  
African American  
ancestors on the  
Reconstruction  
landscape is a  
critical part of the  
process*

# Reconstruction 101

*To accomplish this  
you must tailor your  
Reconstruction era  
research to your  
ancestor's situation  
and locale:*

*This is a key  
work strategy*

# Reconstruction 101

*And it begins with  
the question:*

*What were the  
experiences of my  
ancestors during  
this time?*

# Reconstruction 101

*Were they in the  
area covered by  
Special Field Order  
No. 15  
or  
Did they reside in a  
remote corner of  
the South in  
relative isolation?*

# Reconstruction 101

*Were they educated  
in a Freedmen  
school, or possibly  
taught in one?*

# Reconstruction 101

*Did your ancestors  
consider these folks  
friends or foes?*

*\*Union army personnel*

*\*Confederate soldiers*

*\*Freedmen's Bureau  
representatives*

*\*Plantation owners*

*\*Poor southerners*

Reconstruction 101

# Reconstruction Resources

**\*On the Web**  
**\*Printed Material**

# Reconstruction 101

e r i c f o n e r



## RECONSTRUCTION

America's Unfinished Revolution

1863-1877

P E R E N N I A L  C L A S S I C S

# Reconstruction 101

## A cautionary note

- **All books on the Reconstruction period are not created equal**
- **Early histories consider Congressional Reconstruction as a vicious attempt to punish the South and rob them of their heritage, culture, and resources**
- **This interpretation of events was led by William Dunning, and is commonly referred to as “The Dunning School” of scholarship**
- **Foner’s book and other resources discussed will help you avoid titles penned by Dunning and associates**

# Reconstruction 101

## **Books detailing what the South was like after the war**

- **The South: A tour of its battlefields and ruined cities by J.T. Trowbridge**
- **The South since the war by Sidney Andrews**
- **The South as it is: 1865-1866 by John Richard Dennett**
- **After the war: A tour of the southern states, 1865-1866 by Whitelaw Reid**

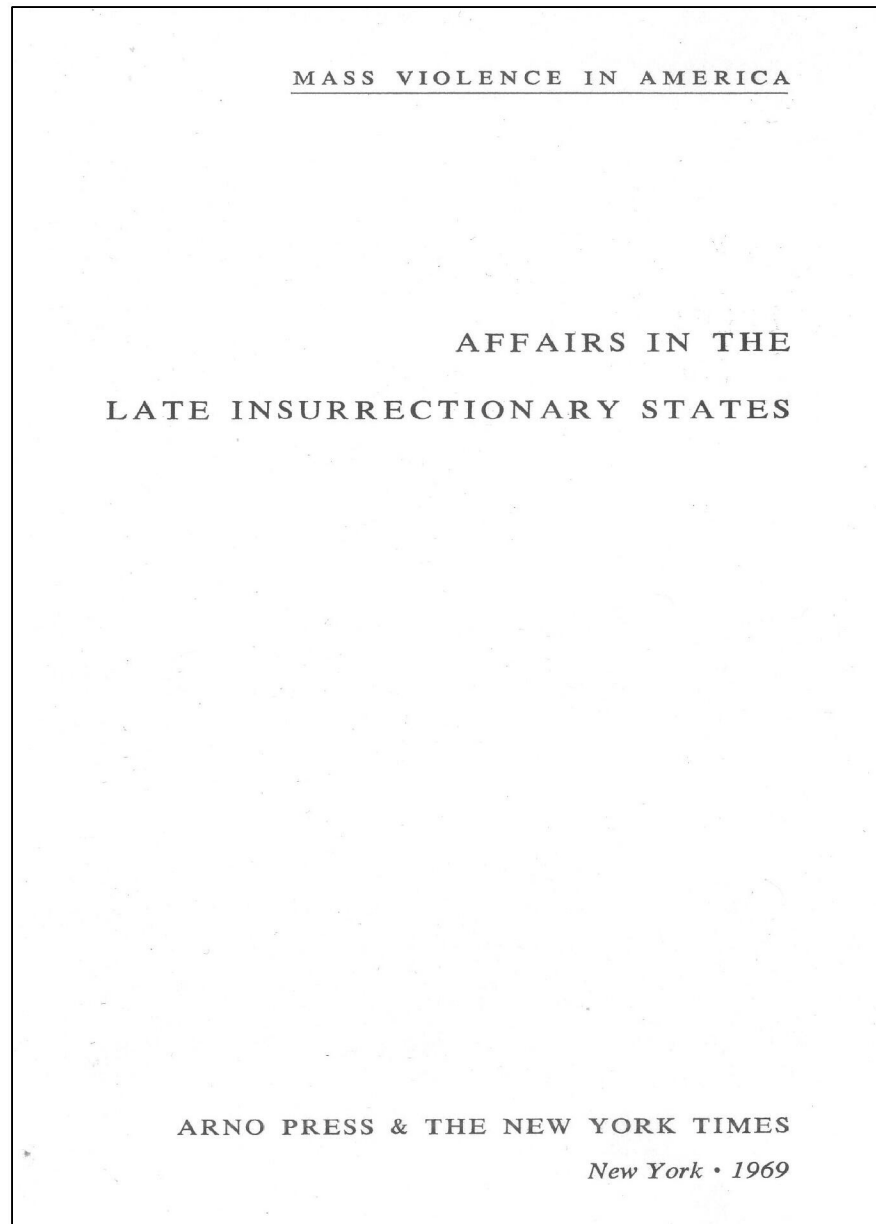


# Reconstruction 101

## *John Richard Dennett's The South as it is: 1865-1866*

- **Traveled for nine months across the South**
- **Covered the states of Virginia, North & South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi**
- **North Carolina stops:**
  - \*Reidville
  - \*Greensboro
  - \*Davidson County
  - \*Lumberton
  - \*Fayetteville
  - \*Randolph County
  - \*Raleigh
  - \*Pittsboro
  - \*Concord
  - \*Gold Hill
  - \*Salisbury
  - \*Charlotte

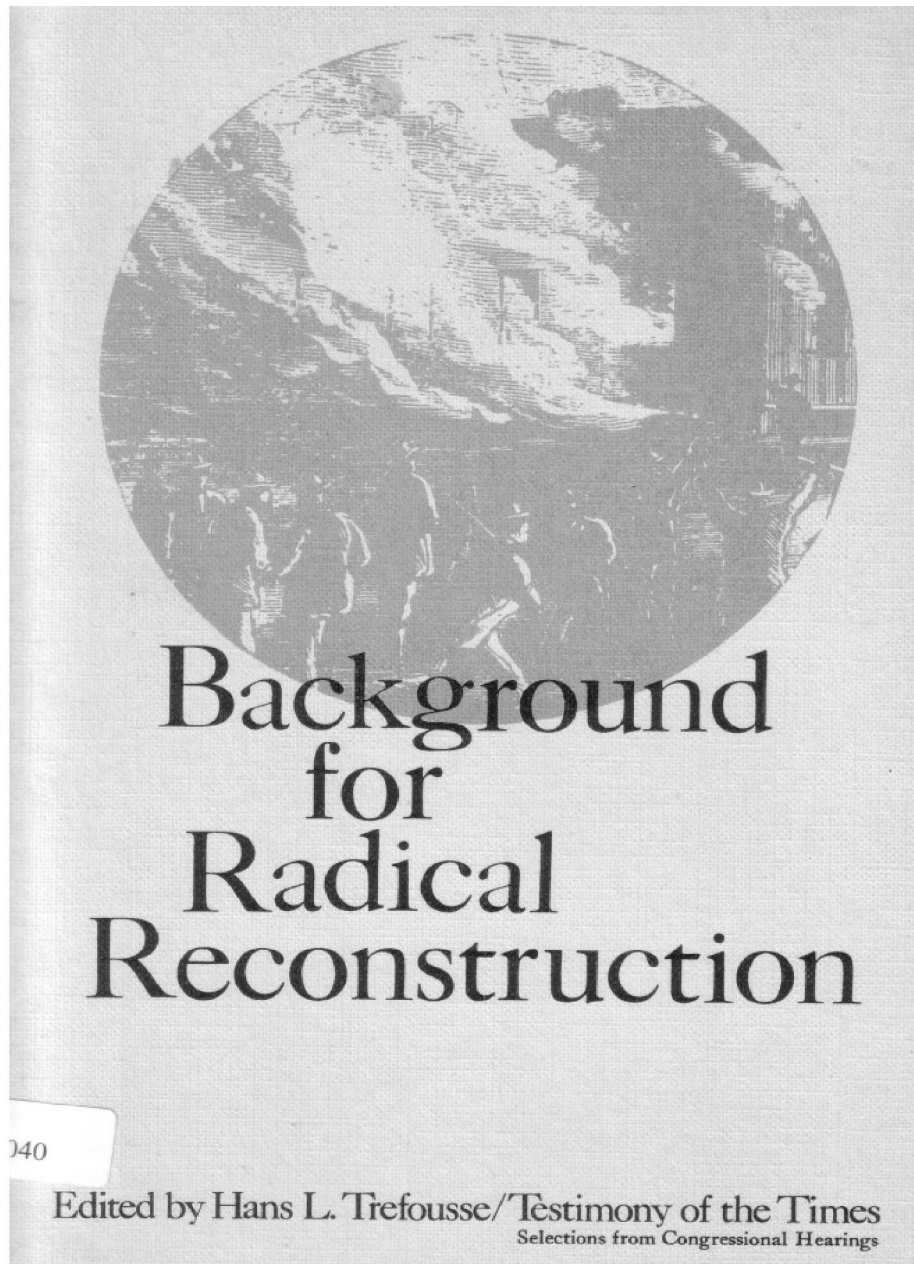
# Reconstruction 101



**Testimony can be found  
in book form and possibly online**



# Reconstruction 101



**Contains some testimony found  
in previous book**



# Reconstruction 101

## American Antiquarian Society



**Contains a letters and newspaper accounts of Freedmen and their teachers**

**Here is the link to the Index of Primary Sources:**

**<http://mac110.assumption.edu/aas/intros/indexdocs.html>**