

## **Businesses by County, 1854** <sup>[1]</sup>

Most North Carolinians in the 1850s lived on farms, but every county had a number of merchants and other businesses, whether in established towns or in crossroads villages. The *Southern Business Directory* from 1854, linked below, lists those businesses by county. Find the information for your county, or for counties in your region of the state.

- Do you recognize the locations listed? (If not, they may have been names of crossroads that never became established towns.)
- Were there many businesses listed? What kinds of businesses were there? (If it doesn't say what business someone was in, he was probably a "general merchant," someone who sold a variety of goods.
- Why do you suppose those businesses existed there at that time?

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<sup>[14]</sup>



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### **The Southern Business Directory and General Commercial Advertiser, 1854 -**

this excerpt includes the title page of the directory and the section on North Carolina, which is arranged by county.

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### **Links**

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