

Reconstruction- Part 1: Introduction ^[1]

Reconstruction

by Allen W. Trelease, 2006

See also: [Black and Tan Constitution](#) ^[2]; [Redeemer Democrats](#) ^[3]; [Scalawag](#) ^[4]; [Union League](#) ^[5]; [Reconstruction \(1865-1876\)](#) ^[6]

Part 1: Introduction

[Reconstruction- Part 2: The Fourteenth Amendment and the Beginning of Congressional Reconstruction](#) ^[7]


[Reconstruction- Part 3: Statewide Changes and Achievements during Reconstruction](#) ^[8]

[Reconstruction- Part 4: The End of Reconstruction and the Return of Democratic Control](#) ^[9]

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Part i: Introduction

At the close of the [Civil War](#) ^[11], [Presidents Abraham Lincoln](#) ^[12] and [Andrew Johnson](#) ^[13] successively urged a quick and lenient restoration of the South to the Union, demanding only its renunciation of [secession](#) ^[14] and [slavery](#) ^[15]. To that end, they appointed Unionist provisional governors in each southern state (Lincoln in Union-occupied states during the war, Johnson in the remainder after the war) to reorganize their states and prepare them for readmission. Accordingly, new governments were organized in the southern states, including North Carolina. But the radical and moderate Republicans controlling Congress feared that such a quick restoration would bring to power a coalition of northern Democrats and former [Confederates](#) ^[16] that would perpetuate slavery in substance if not in name and restore the conditions that had led to war. Hence they insisted on stricter conditions for southern readmission and refused to seat the new senators- and representatives-elect from the South.

Keep reading >> [Part 2: The Fourteenth Amendment and the Beginning of Congressional Reconstruction](#) ^[7] 

Educator Resources:

Grade 8: Freedom Parade, a Group Project. North Carolina Civic Education Consortium.

<http://database.civics.unc.edu/files/2012/09/FreedomParade8.pdf> ^[17]

Grade 8: Reconstruction After the Civil War. North Carolina Civic Education Consortium.

<http://civics.sites.unc.edu/files/2012/05/ReconstructionCivilWar8.pdf> ^[18]

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"Andrew Jackson, 1824." Photo available from LearnNC. Available from <http://www.learnnc.org/lp/multimedia/11558> ^[19] (accessed May 3, 2012).

Subjects:

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[Reconstruction \(1865-1876\)](#) ^[6]

Authors:

[Trelease, Allen W.](#) ^[21]

From:

[Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.](#) ^[22]

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