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Farms and Plantations

The great majority of free North Carolinians, rich and poor, lived and worked on farms before the Civil War. In this chapter, we'll examine a variety of primary sources — from letters and diaries to recipes and novels — that show what life and work were like for these people.

Section Contents

- Primary Source: James Evan's Seasons on a Farm
- Primary Source: Henry William Harrington Jr.'s Diary
- Primary Source: Diary of a Farm Wife
- Primary Source: The Duties of a Young Woman
- Primary Source: Southern Cooking and Housekeeping Book, 1824
- Primary Source: Thomas Bowie's diary
- Primary Source: Court Days
- Primary Source: A Bilious Fever
- Bright Leaf Tobacco
- Primary Source: Frederick Law Olmstead on Naval Stores in Antebellum North Carolina
- Primary Source: Stagville Plantation Expenses Records
- Plantation Records: Property
- Primary Source: Stagville Plantation Expansion Records
- Antebellum Homes and Plantations

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Few farms in North Carolina were the great plantations we see in movies, and even plantation life was not always so grand as it may seem.

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[1] https://www.ncpedia.org/media/latta-plantation-outbuildings