

Mapping Alabama's History

Open-ended Thought Questions

1. Examine the information below about population changes during the time range of the slideshow. How do these changes affect the creation of maps through time?

1820	1880	1970
Total population= 144,317	Total population= 1,262,505	Total population= 3,444,165
White population= 96,245	White population= 662,185	White population= 2,533,831
African American population=48,082	African American population= 600,103	African American population= 903,467
Slave population=47,449	Urban population= 68,518	Urban population= 2,011,941
Free black population=633	Rural population= 1,193,987	Rural population= 1,432,224

2. Fill in the chart below with current population data. You can find this information on the [Alabama QuickFacts on the United States Census Web site](#). Hint: for Total, White, and African American population choose [General Demographic Characteristics](#), and for Urban and Rural population choose [Social Characteristics](#).

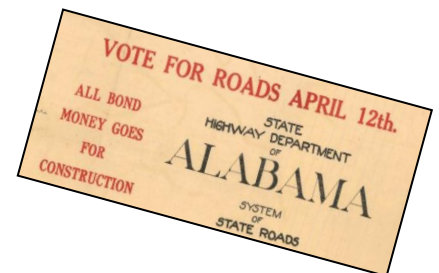
Population type	Number
Total:	
White:	
African American:	
Urban:	
Rural:	

3. Compare a current Alabama state highway map to a historic highway map in the slideshow.

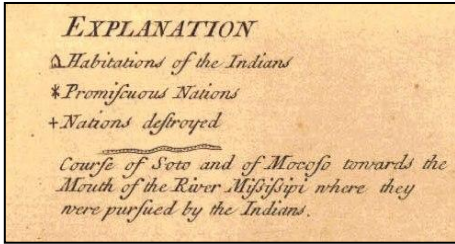
a. How are the current map and historic map different?

b. How are the current map and historic map similar?

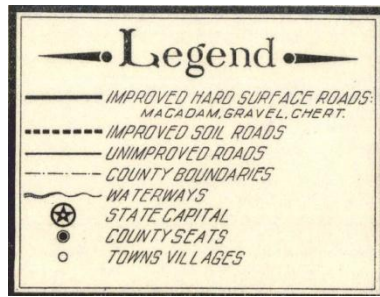
c. What general changes do you see over time?



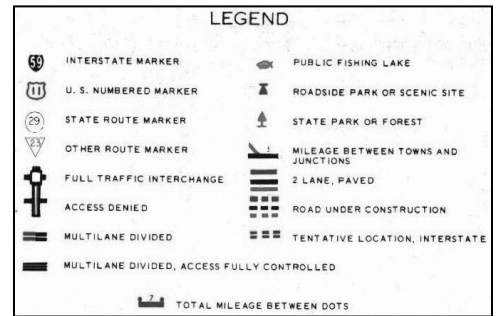
4. How do symbols help people read maps?



“Explanation” from 1721 map



“Legend” from 1914 map



“Legend” from 1965-66 map

5. Find your town on the current Alabama state highway map. Using a compass, or the pattern below, draw a three inch circle around your town. List the symbols that you find inside the circle.

