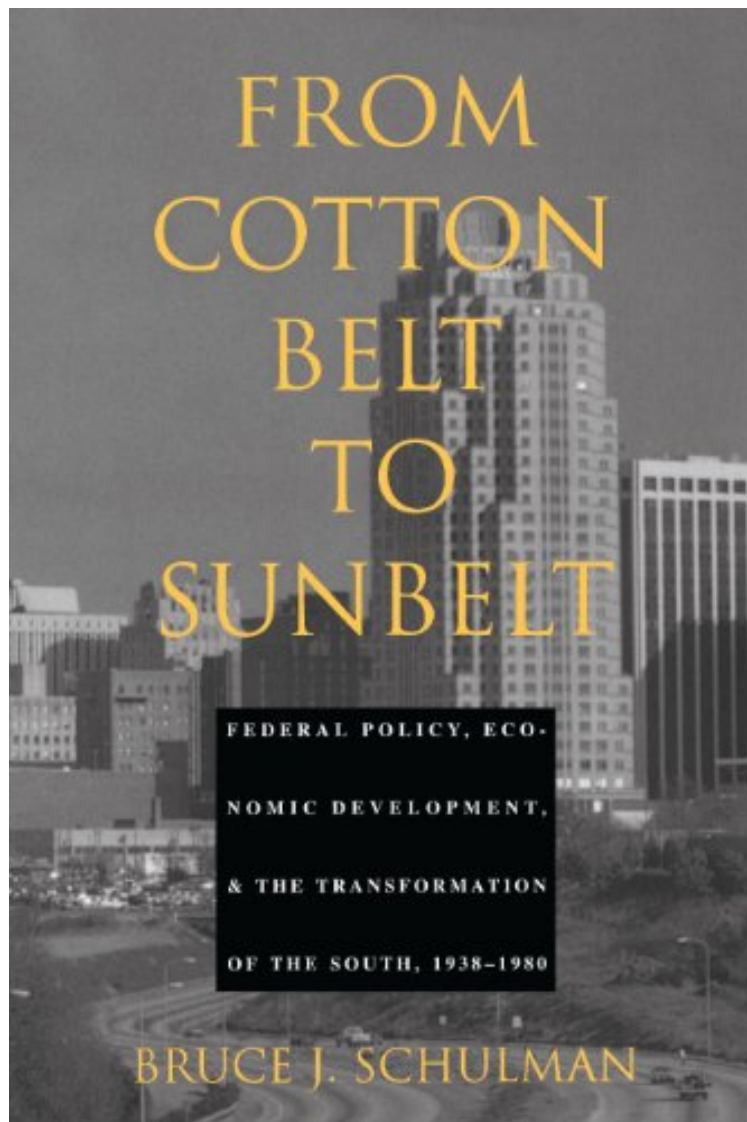


(Free) From Cotton Belt to Sunbelt: Federal Policy, Economic Development, and the Transformation of the South 1938ndash;1980

From Cotton Belt to Sunbelt: Federal Policy, Economic Development, and the Transformation of the South 1938ndash;1980

Bruce J. Schulman

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From Cotton Belt to Sunbelt investigates the effects of federal policy on the American South from 1938 until 1980 and charts the close relationship between federal efforts to reform the South and the evolution of activist government in the modern United States. Decrying the South's economic backwardness and political conservatism, the Roosevelt Administration launched a series of programs to reorder the Southern economy in the 1930s. After 1950, however, the social welfare state had been replaced by the national security state as the South's principal benefactor. Bruce J. Schulman contrasts the diminished role of national welfare initiatives in the postwar South with the expansion of military and defense-related programs. He analyzes the contributions of these growth-oriented programs to the South's remarkable economic expansion, to the development of American liberalism, and to the excruciating limits of Sunbelt prosperity, ultimately relating these developments to southern politics and race relations. By linking the history of the South with the history of national public policy, Schulman unites two issues that dominate the domestic history of postwar America—the emergence of the Sunbelt and the expansion of federal power over the nation's economic and social life. A forcefully argued work, *From Cotton Belt to Sunbelt*, originally published in 1991 (Oxford University Press), will be an important guide to students and scholars of federal policy and modern Southern history.

"This book brings together a wealth of material about southern economic development. It is an important contribution to southern economic history."--*Journal of American History*"The first [study] to analyze and document the impact of federal policy....An important work....Cannot be ignored by serious students of modern southern history."--*Journal of Southern History*"Well researched and well argued....Schulman has made an important contribution to the historiography on the modern South."--*American Historical* "Warrants the attention of both Southern devotees and the general audience of historians."--*Journal of Economic History*"As synthesis...[the book] is superb....A valuable guide to the workings of the modern southern economy."--*Journal of Regional Science*From the Back CoverInvestigating the effects of federal economic policies, *From Cotton Belt to Sunbelt* is an analysis of the South's remarkable odyssey from what President Roosevelt called the 'Nation's No. 1 Economic Problem' in the 1930s to the Sunbelt of the 1970s. Decrying the South's economic backwardness and political conservatism, the Roosevelt Administration launched a series of aggressive programs to reorder the Southern economy. After 1950, however, Keynesianism replaced New Deal reform as the mainstay of national economic policy, and the national security state supplanted the social welfare state as the South's principal benefactor.About the AuthorBruce J. Schulman is at University of California at Los Angeles.