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How American Participation in World War I Affected Southern States
LSU Press to publish The American South and the Great War, 1914–1924 in November

“A modern, thorough study of World War I’s impact on the American South has been long overdue. Finally, we have a comprehensive treatment in one volume of how the war influenced changes related to race, women, economics, regional and national identity, and the region’s relationship to federal power, illustrating how critical the Great War was in preparing the ground for the deeper transformation resulting from World War II.”—Rod Andrew Jr., author of *Long Gray Lines: The Southern Military School Tradition, 1839–1915*

Baton Rouge—Edited by Matthew L. Downs and M. Ryan Floyd, *The American South and the Great War, 1914–1924* investigates how American participation in World War I further strained the region’s relationship with the federal government, how wartime hardships altered the South’s traditional social structure, and how the war effort stressed and reshaped the southern economy. The volume contends that participation in World War I contributed greatly to the modernization of the South, initiating changes ultimately realized during World War II and the postwar era. Although the war had a tremendous impact on the region, few scholars have analyzed the topic in a comprehensive fashion, making this collection a much-needed addition to the study of American and southern history.

These essays address a variety of subjects, including civil rights, economic growth and development, politics and foreign policy, women’s history, gender history, and military history. Collectively, this volume highlights a time and an experience often overshadowed by later events, illustrating the importance of World War I in the emergence of a modern South.

Matthew L. Downs, associate professor of history at the University of Mobile, is the author of *Transforming the South: Federal Development in the Tennessee Valley, 1915–1960*.

M. Ryan Floyd, associate professor of history at Lander University, is the author of *Abandoning Neutrality: Woodrow Wilson and the Beginning of the Great War, August 1914–December 1915*.

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264 pages, 6 x 9, 9 tables
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Southern History / World War I

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