

A HISTORY OF Kershaw County, South Carolina

Joan A. Inabinet and L. Glen Inabinet

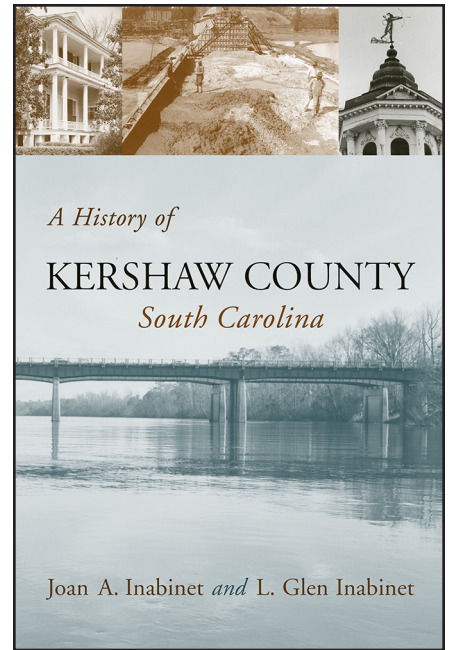
A History of Kershaw County is a much anticipated comprehensive narrative describing a South Carolina community rooted in strong local traditions. From prehistoric to present times, the history spans Native American dwellers (including Cofitachiqui mound builders), through the county's major roles in the American Revolution and Civil War, to the innovations of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Joan and Glen Inabinet share insightful tales of the region's inhabitants through defining historical moments as well as transformative local changes.

Kershaw County is home to some of South Carolina's most notable prehistoric sites as well as the state's oldest inland city, Camden. An important colonial milling and trading center, Camden was seized by the British under Lord Cornwallis during the American Revolution and fortified as their backcountry headquarters. Eight battles were fought within the modern boundaries of Kershaw County, including the battles of Camden and Hobkirk's Hill. The region developed its early local economy through plantation agriculture and was the birthplace of six Confederate generals as well as the home of Mary Boykin Chesnut, acclaimed diarist of the Civil War.

In their descriptions of Kershaw County in modern times, the Inabinets chronicle how Camden's developed into a popular winter resort for wealthy northerners. The influx of new money coupled with local equestrian traditions led to an enthusiasm for polo and the creation of the Carolina Cup steeplechase. The completion of the Wateree Dam in 1919 gave the region a valuable source of electricity and a popular new recreational area in Lake Wateree. During World War II advances in aviation, communication, and industrialization paved the way for the building of the DuPont plant and the expansion of other industries now represented in the area.

This first book-length history of Kershaw County illustrates how the region is steeped in a rich history of more than two centuries of struggles and accomplishments in which preserving lessons of the past holds equal sway with welcoming opportunities for the future.

January 2011, 640 pages, 82 illus.



South Carolina natives **Joan A. Inabinet** and **L. Glen Inabinet** are retired high school teachers and past presidents of the Kershaw County Historical Society. They are freelance writers and editors who have collectively written or edited seven previous local history works.

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