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Lowcountry Time and Tide: The Fall of the South Carolina Rice Kingdom

James H. Tuten

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In mapping the slow decline of the rice kingdom across the half-century following the Civil War, James H. Tuten offers a provocative new vision of the forces--agricultural, environmental, economic, cultural, and climatic--stacked against planters, laborers, and millers struggling to perpetuate their once-lucrative industry through the challenging postbellum years and into the hardscrabble twentieth century.
Concentrating his study on the vast rice plantations of the Heyward, Middleton, and Elliott families of South Carolina, Tuten narrates the ways in which rice producers--both the former grandees of the antebellum period and their newly freed slaves--sought to revive rice production. Both groups had much invested in the economic recovery of rice culture during Reconstruction and the beginning decades of the twentieth century. Despite all disadvantages, rice planting retained a perceived cultural mystique that led many to struggle with its farming long after the profits withered away. Planters tried a host of innovations, including labor contracts with former slaves, experiments in mechanization, consolidation of rice fields, and marketing cooperatives in their efforts to rekindle profits, but these attempts were thwarted by the insurmountable challenges of the postwar economy and a series of hurricanes that destroyed crops and the infrastructure necessary to sustain planting. Taken together, these obstacles ultimately sounded the death knell for the rice kingdom.
The study opens with an overview of the history of rice culture in South Carolina through the Reconstruction era and then focuses on the industry's manifestations and decline from 1877 to 1930. Tuten offers a close study of changes in agricultural techniques and tools during the period and demonstrates how adaptive and progressive rice planters became despite their conservative reputations. He also explores the cultural history of rice both as a foodway and a symbol of wealth in the lowcountry, used on currency and bedposts. Tuten concludes with a thorough treatment of the lasting legacy of rice culture, especially in terms of the environment, the continuation of rice foodways and iconography, and the role of rice and rice plantations in the modern tourism industry.

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Exactly why? Because this Lowcountry Time and Tide: The Fall of the South Carolina Rice Kingdom is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap it but latter it will surprise you with the secret it inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who all write the book in such awesome way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning completely. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book possess such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking approach. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I were being you I will go to the publication store hurriedly.

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