Antebellum
Southern
Plantation Life
Slaves posing in front of their cabin on a Southern plantation.
Tara – Plantation Reality or Hollywood’s Version?
A Real Georgia Plantation
Scarlet and Mammie (Hollywood Again!)
A Real Mammie & Her Child
The Southern “Belle”
A Slave Family
The Ledger of John White

J  Matilda Selby, 9, $400.00 sold to Mr. Covington, St. Louis, $425.00
J  Brooks Selby, 19, $750.00 Left at Home – Crazy
J  Fred McAfee, 22, $800.00 Sold to Pepidal, Donaldsonville, $1200.00
J  Howard Barnett, 25, $750.00 Ranaway. Sold out of jail, $540.00
J  Harriett Barnett, 17, $550.00 Sold to Davenport and Jones, Lafourche, $900.00
US Laws Regarding Slavery

1. U. S. Constitution:
   * 3/5s compromise [I.2]
   * fugitive slave clause [IV.2]

2. 1793 → Fugitive Slave Act.

3. 1850 → stronger Fugitive Slave Act.
Southern Slavery--> An Aberration?

- **1780s**: First anti-slavery society created in Phila.
- **By 1804**: Slavery eliminated from last northern state.
- **1807**: The legal termination of the slave trade, enforced by the Royal Navy.
- **1820s**: Newly indep. Republics of Central & So. America declared their slaves free.
- **1833**: Slavery abolished throughout the British Empire.
- **1844**: Slavery abolished in the Fr. colonies.
- **1861**: The serfs of Russia were emancipated.
Slavery Was Less Efficient in the U. S. than Elsewhere

- High cost of keeping slaves from escaping.
- GOAL → raise the “exit cost.”
  - Slave patrols.
  - Southern Black Codes.
  - Cut off a toe or a foot.
Slave Resistance & Uprisings
Slave Resistance

1. “SAMBO” pattern of behavior used as a charade in front of whites [the innocent, laughing black man caricature – bulging eyes, thick lips, big smile, etc.].
Slave Resistance

2. Refusal to work hard.
3. Isolated acts of sabotage.
4. Escape via the Underground Railroad.
Runaway Slave Ads

$1200 TO 1250 DOLLARS! FOR NEGROES!!!

THE undersigned wishes to purchase a large lot of NEGROES for the New Orleans market. I will pay $1200 to $1250 for No. 1 young men, and $500 to $1000 for No. 1 young women. In fact I will pay more for likely NEGROES,

Than any other trader in Kentucky. My office is adjoining the Broadway Hotel, on Broadway, Lexington, Ky., where I or my Agent can always be found.

WM. F. TALBOTT.
LEXINGTON, JULY 3, 1862.

$100 REWARD!
RANAWAY

From the undersigned, living on Current River, about twelve miles above Doniphan, in Ripley County, Mo., on 2nd of March, 1860, A NEGRO MAN, about 30 years old, weighs about 160 pounds; high forehead, with a scar on it; had on brown pants and coat very much worn, and an old black wool hat; shoes size No. 11.

The above reward will be given to any person who may apprehend this will negro out of the State; and bring before me at the time or in the presence of any three persons in Ripley County, or $50 if taken in Ripley county.

APOS TUCKER.
The *Monkey Wrench* pattern, on the left, alerted escapees to gather up tools and prepare to flee; the *Drunkard Path* design, on the right, warned escapees not to follow a straight route.
Slave Rebellions Throughout the Americas
Slave Rebellions in the Antebellum South

Gabriel Prosser 1800

Denmark Vesey 1822
Slave Rebellions in the Antebellum South: Nat Turner, 1831
The Culture of Slavery

1. Black Christianity [Baptists or Methodists]:
   * more emotional worship services.
   * negro spirituals.

2. “Pidgin” or Gullah languages.

3. Nuclear family with extended kin links, where possible.

4. Importance of music in their lives. [esp. spirituals].
Southern Pro-Slavery Propaganda