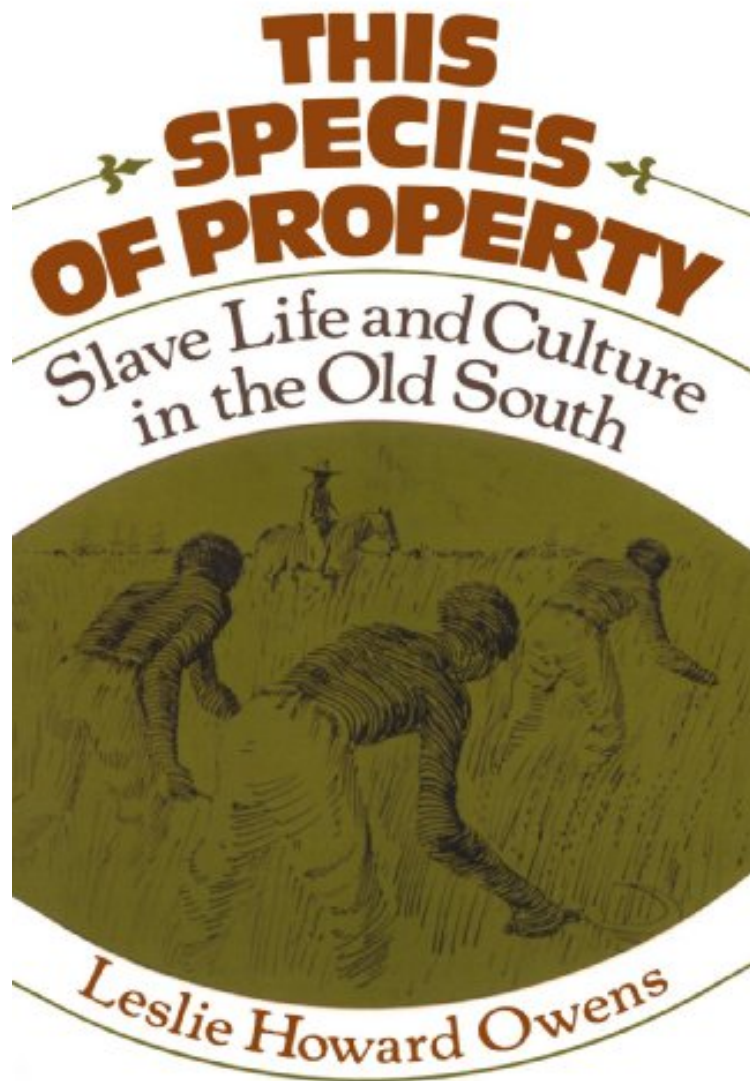


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before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised This Species of
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6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. THIS IS CERTAINLY ONE YOU WILL WANT TO ADD TO YOUR COLLECTION
By D. Blankenship
The author's subtitle of this book is " Slave Life and Culture in the Old South"
probably does not fully bring the full impact of this particular institution, i.e. slavery, fully to the readers mind. It is difficult, for me anyway, to stay clinical and detached from this subject. This work has been meticulously researched and, despite the fact that it is a scholarly study of a facet of this countries history, the author has been able to bring, in hard hitting prose, the horror of this institution. I fully realize and accept the fact that all people, for the most part, are products of their times. We, at present, are a product of ours. Despite this, I still have a strong intellectual struggle accepting the fact that a rather large section of our population either accepted or condoned this practice. As a student of the Civil War and those times, I find it difficult to accept the fact that any understanding of the war, of that era, can be complete without a solid understand of just what slavery was, what it did to the individual and what it did to an entire society, i.e. the South. Beyond a doubt we are till reaping the crop which was planted in the early years of our country and since we have to live with the consequences it behooves each and every one of us to gain as much understanding as possible. This work, among others, sheds some light on the situation. This was beyond a doubt one of the darkest aspects of our history as a people and the author nails the essence of this perfectly.
The author has used a very readable style which is quite easy to follow. The book is well organized.
This book is full of tidbits and facts of which I was unaware, and very few pages were turned without new knowledge gained. The reader can be assured they will gain some insight, some understanding of the situation as it was, without feeling any obligation whatsoever to accept the situation. Recommend you read this one as a great start of the subject of slavery and recommend you add it to your collection as it makes a great reference work.
Don Blankenship
The Ozarks

Owens' fascinating study explores the personality and behavior of the slave within the context of what it meant to be a slave. Based on a variety of plantation records, diaries, slave narratives, travelers' accounts, and other items bearing on the slave's experiences in his relationships to slaveholders, it concentrates on the years between 1770 and 1865.

"A major work because of its unprecedented use of plantation records to augment ex-slave autobiographies and narratives...[It] establishes Leslie Howard Owens as a major historian of Afro-American slavery."--The New Republic
"Provides a fuller description of slave life than can be found elsewhere."--Journal of Southern History
"Excellent book...[It offers] great insight into the lives of the slaves as well as providing a good demonstration of historical methodology."--Terence Roehrig, Cardinal Stritch College
"A work of original scholarship presented in an accessible and 'student-friendly' style."--John Rhinehart, San Bernadino Valley College
From the Back Cover
In some areas of analysis This Species of Property provides a fuller description of slave life than can be found elsewhere. Its appearance is another welcome indication that the slaves rather than their owners are now holding the center of the historiographical stage.
About the Author
Leslie Howard Owens is at State University of New York, Stony Brook.