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## A WHITE HISTORIAN CONFRONTS AMERICAN SLAVERY

Whitehall Street, Atlanta, 1864. George Barnard, photographer. Library of Congress.

Slavery is arguably the most important topic in our history: American ideas about freedom developed in relation to slavery, it was the primary cause of the Civil War, and it was at the heart of American economic growth.

This talk – illustrated with nearly sixty images – uses new work from historians to describe slavery as inherent to the development of American capitalism, to put the treatment of human property into that context, and to describe resistance to the slave system. It concludes with thoughts about the contemporary importance of this history.

In response to recent events, historian Susan Strasser seeks to serve people grappling with contemporary issues of race and racism. This is the first of a series of illustrated talks, “A White Historian Reads Black History.”