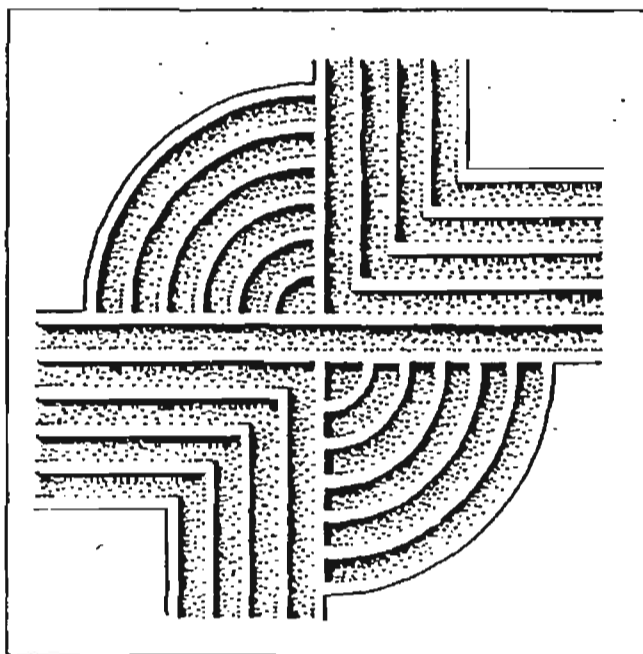


**A SUBJECT INDEX FOR THE PLANTATION JOURNAL  
OF THOMAS B. CHAPLIN  
AS FOUND IN *TOMBEE: PORTRAIT OF A COTTON PLANTER*  
BY THEODORE ROSENGARTEN**



**RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 135**

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AS FOUND IN *TOMBEE: PORTRAIT OF A COTTON PLANTER*  
BY THEODORE ROSENGARTEN

Prepared By:  
Michael Trinkley

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Chicora Foundation, Inc.  
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## Introduction

Scholars and casual readers alike have found Theodore Rosengarten's *Tombee: Portrait of a Cotton Planter* an indispensable reference. Rosengarten's insightful and interesting analysis provide an exceptional introduction to Chaplin's detailed account of his St. Helena plantation between 1845 and 1886. The plantation journal is replete with unusual, curious, and exciting comments regarding plantation life. Unfortunately the publisher, McGraw-Hill Book Company of New York, chose to index only the introductory account and analysis by Rosengarten, leaving the journal itself well-edited, but not indexed.

This lack of index causes some distress to researchers who find the journal an exceptional source for plantation life and economics. In fact, I was first read *Tombee* in my research on plantation diet and later during research on plantation landscapes. Both times I was fascinated by the detail but troubled by always being unable to find that "perfect" account, quote, or mention of a particular topic I recalled from an earlier reading. No number of notes in the margin or Post-It® notes seemed to help -- I could never find that reference again. ✓

Consequently, this publication grew out of my reading, highlighting, and indexing the publication for our own research needs here at Chicora. Once completed, it seemed only fair to share the information with others. There is certainly no reason that we should all have to "re-invent the wheel" and hopefully the availability of this index will encourage even greater use of *Tombee*.

I hope that individuals who find errors in the index, or find other topics not covered, will share that information with us in return.

## The Process of Indexing

I must offer my apologies to those few who have backgrounds in publishing. You will find that the index is perhaps less than it might be (but of course more than nothing). I have tried to include *pertinent* entries -- providing, paraphrasing the *Chicago Manual of Style*, more than a table of contents but less than a concordance. Users will quickly grasp my "biases" and readily see that it was prepared to emphasize plantation economics and landscape. There may be additional entries which are worthy of inclusion, but which seemed inconsequential to my particular research.

In addition, there are, very few subentries. I have chosen to ignore the advice that subentries should be provided if there are more than about six references. The subject, "corn," includes everything from planting to harvesting to allowances for slaves. The only subentry is for "flint corn," again an expression of my own bias toward plantation diet. On the other hand, I doubt that any semi-serious scholar would do less than look up all of the entries under a particular subject anyway -- so this may not be much of a problem.

I have tried to logically cross reference (as "see also")-entries as completely as possible, especially if I thought there would be confusion (often gauged on whether or not, six months later, I would be able to remember to look under related topics). For example, under the reference for boat there is a "see also" reference to "flat." Some cross references are so logical that they are not included (for example there is no "see also" reference to "plowing" under "corn." Presumably a researcher interested in planting corn will look up such references.

I must also caution the user that there is no reference for cotton in this index. Many may consider this a tragic fault. However, the journal is replete with references to cotton -- so many that without an exceptionally detailed and carefully prepared subentry level index, the mere page numbers for references would do researchers little good. Cotton perhaps deserve an index of its own. Regardless, this crop is not included, so beware.

Readers should be aware that the index is prepared using "letter by letter" alphabetizing. Everyone who uses a dictionary or encyclopedia is familiar with this system and it is really only noticeable where there are sequences of closely linked terms.

Finally, this index was keyed to the first McGraw-Hill paperback edition, published in 1987 with the ISBN 0-07-053821-2.

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**Chicora Foundation, Inc.**  
PO Box 8664 • 861 Arbutus Drive  
Columbia, SC 29202-8664  
Tel: 803-787-6910  
Fax: 803-787-6910  
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