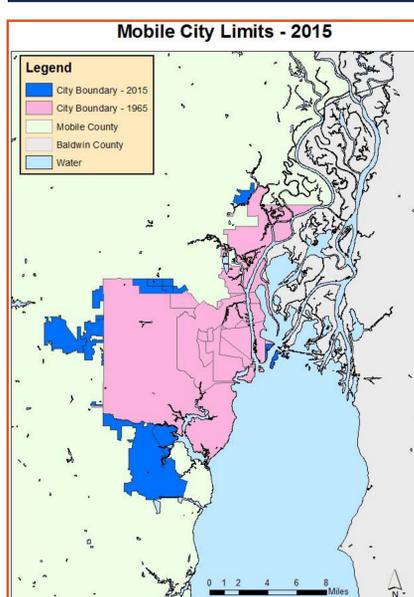
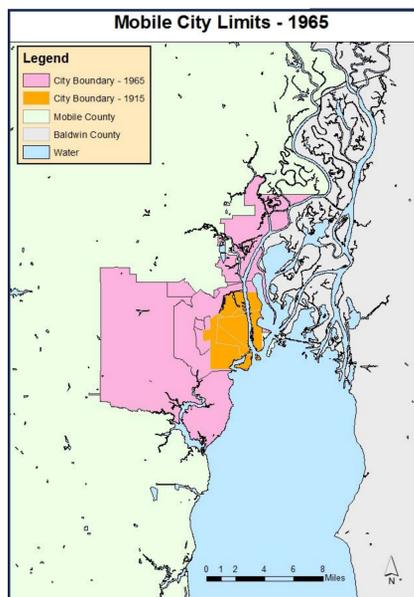
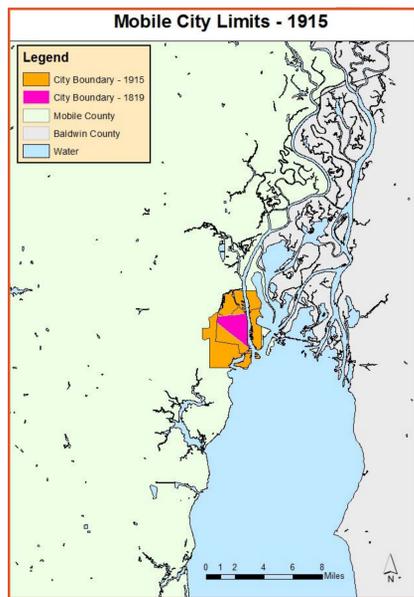
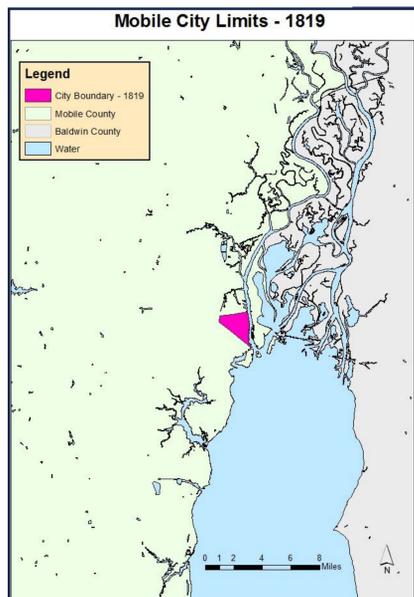


Understanding the City of Mobile, Alabama



Mobile's Expansion



Historic Timeline

- 1702** The French establish the capital of the Louisiana Territory at Fort Louis along the Twenty-seven Mile Bluff, north of present day Mobile.
- 1711** **Mobile relocates** due to the flooding and disease prevalent in the initial location of Fort Louis.
- 1720** Capital of Louisiana Territory moves from Mobile to New Orleans. Mobile *remains the primary center of trade with the native indians tribes.*
- 1819** Alabama becomes a U.S. state and **Mobile is incorporated as a city.**
- 1828** Mobile becomes the **3rd largest seaport in the US** and the **3rd largest city in the south.**
- 1848** The **Mobile-Ohio Railroad** establishes the the railway in Mobile, **adding an intermodal component to Mobile's economy** in terms of importing and exporting, as well as passenger operations.
- 1871** The **Mobile Cotton Exchange** is established as *the third cotton exchange in the United States.*
- 1914** **World War I** breaks out in Europe and the economy of Mobile begins to reorient itself from a focus on international trade to a **focus on manufacturing.**
- 1920** **Mobile experiences a commercial "boom"** and **growth occurs in retail** industries such as grocery, furniture stores, gas stations, radio sales, and restaurants. This growth **allowed the city to make infrastructure investments.**
- 1927** The **Cochran Bridge** opens to **connect** Mobile with the eastern-shore bay communities.
- 1929** With the **outbreak of the Great Depression**, Mobile is forced to **rely even more on shipbuilding**, one of its primary economic drivers.

Bates Field at Brookley is officially dedicated as an airport.
- 1938** Bates Field relocated to west Mobile. Army Air Corps purchases airfield at Brookley.

Brookley Army Airfield opens, resulting in a **large influx of workers moving to Mobile** and quickly **becomes the area's largest employer, employing 17,000 during World War II.**
- 1941** The U.S. enters **World War II**, pulling Mobile **out of economic stagnation.**
- 1944** The **population of Mobile grows by 64%**: increasing from **110,000** residents in 1940 to **233,000** residents in 1944.
- 1956** **Scott Paper Company and International Paper combine** to form the **area's largest workforce**; Interstate-10 begins construction.
- 1957** **Interstate-10 is completed in Mobile** and provides means for higher density vehicle travel, **encouraging development away from the city center.**
- 1969** **Brookley Air Force Base closes** leaving **10% of the Mobile workforce without jobs.** It becomes the Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley, the city's first municipal airport.
- 1979** **Hurricane Frederic** causes **destruction and subsequent redevelopment** in Mobile and the surrounding area.
- 1999** Shipbuilding returns as a major industry with the **arrival of Austal**, an Australian Shipbuilding Company. **The company employs over 3,000 workers.**
- 2005** **Hurricane Katrina** causes damage in eastern Mobile.
- 2008** The **Port of Mobile undergoes major expansion** making it the **largest port by tonnage in the U.S.** which allows Mobile to have rapid container processing capabilities.
- 2012** **Austal awarded \$5.1 Billion in defense ship-building contracts** resulting in an expanded workforce, **growing from approximately 3,000 to 4,200 employees.**
- 2015** **Airbus dedicates new \$600 Million, 30,000 sq ft facility at Mobile Aeroplex at Brookley.** Receives first shipment of **A320 aircraft** parts from Europe.

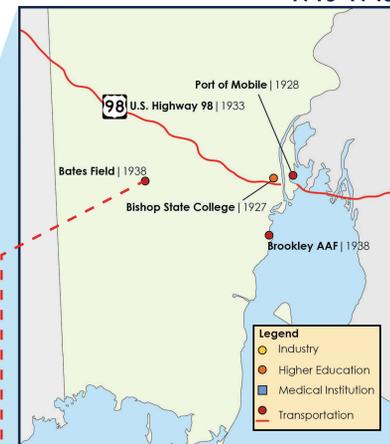
Industry & Infrastructure

National Railway Connectivity

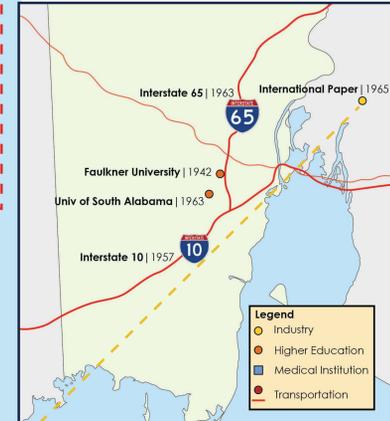


The Last Century

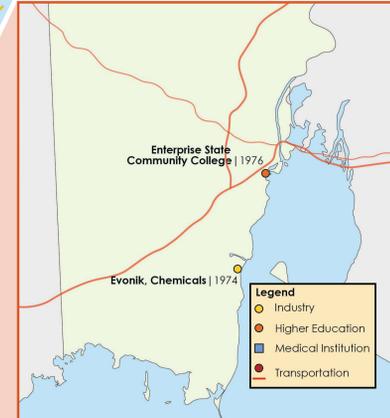
1915-1940



1941-1965



1966-1990



1991-Present

