The I-85 corridor between Charlotte, North Carolina, and Atlanta, Georgia, is one of the five fastest growing regions in the country. As this system intersects with the upstate counties of South Carolina, population growth and land use changes are increasing at alarming rates.

In the resulting rural-urban fringe areas, the traditional boundaries between cities and the surrounding countryside are becoming eroded, and are being transformed into alternate economic and spatial conditions.

This transformation is characterized by residential cul-de-sac subdivisions and commercial strip developments in undifferentiated and dispersed patterns that put enormous economic pressure on open farmland, forests, and otherwise idle property.

The net result of this transformation is a degradation of the air and water quality, loss of wildlife habitat, a scarcity of open space and scenic vistas, and the overall fading of rural character.

The work presented here is a response to this dynamic condition and is part of a larger body of work entitled: “Dirt for Sale: Constructing the Landscape of the New American South”. It presents a partial photographic documentation of these varied visual conditions as the Southern landscape is being transformed into something different.