

FROM STATEHOOD TO THE CIVIL WAR

The land rush was on. From 1850-1860 the population of Texas nearly tripled. In east Texas, settlers raised cotton. In the rest of the state they were primarily small farmers and herders. This was the beginning of the cowboy culture and the cattle industry. Many Texans depended upon African-American slave labor.

Around the rest of the United States slavery became a big issue. After the election of Abraham Lincoln, many southern slave holding states seceded from the Union. In 1861, Texas voted to repeal becoming a state, thus seceding from the United States.

