

Life in Texas

1851-1860

How Texans Lived

- Most Texans in 1850-1860 lived on farms and ranches because the land was so cheap.
 - > Many farmers grew food crops, especially corn. Food crops did not generate much money.
 - > Some farmers grew Cash Crops like cotton.
 - > Ranches grew in Texas and cattle were raised for money instead of personal food beginning in the 1850's

Towns

- ◉ In 1850, only about 13,000 people lived in towns.
 - > In 1860, that number increased to 26,000.
- ◉ Galveston, San Antonio, Houston, and Austin had grown into the state's largest towns
- ◉ There was very little industry and factories in Texas in the 1850's and 60's.

Transportation

- ◉ Most Texans still travelled by horseback, but some were able to travel by stagecoach.
- ◉ Some steamboats were working on the Rio Grande.
- ◉ Also, in the 1850's and 1860's Railroads began to be put in Texas around Houston and Galveston.

Education

- Even though Lamar set aside land for education, not many schools had been created.
- Most students went to private schools and church schools.
- In 1854 Gov. Pease set aside \$2 million for schools. A few public schools began to pop up.

Population

- Texas population increased from 212,000 in 1850 to 604,000 in 1860.
- Many people migrated from other states in the U.S. Most moved to areas that were similar to their former homes.-

The Cortina War

- In Texas, Jose Cortina ran a ranch near Brownsville. He thought Tejanos were not being treated fairly.
 - > Cortina began taking violent action to try to stop corrupt officials and try to make life more fair for Tejanos.
 - > His actions were known as the Cortina War
- Cortina was not defeated until 1861 by Confederate Captain Santos Benavides.

German Texans

- By 1860's more than 43,000 people lived in Texas who had been born outside of the U.S.
 - > Most of these were from Germany
- The Germans established colonies in areas like New Braunfels and Fredericksburg.

Native Texans

- ◉ Many Native Texans had lived in Texas and later moved to reservations.
- ◉ Texas established a few reservations for a few native groups.
- ◉ Some Native groups refused to live within the boundaries of a reservation.