

Alabama: Our Beautiful Home

A photograph of the Alabama State Capitol building, a grand white neoclassical structure with a prominent dome and a portico supported by columns. The building is set against a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. Lush green trees are visible on both sides of the building, and a well-manicured lawn with colorful flowers is in the foreground.

Chapter 7: The American Civil War STUDY PRESENTATION



Section 1: [The North and the South Disagree](#)
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Section 1: The North and South Disagree

- Essential Question: How did location affect people's point of view on important issues of the mid-1800s?



Section 1: The North and South Disagree

- What terms do I need to know?
 - urban
 - rural
 - secede



Introduction

- Many things can affect a person's point of view. Race, gender, age, nationality, wealth, or life experiences.
- To understand people, try to understand their point of view.
- The northern and southern states had many differences in the 1800s. These caused the people to have different points of view about population, the economy, and states' rights.



States' Rights

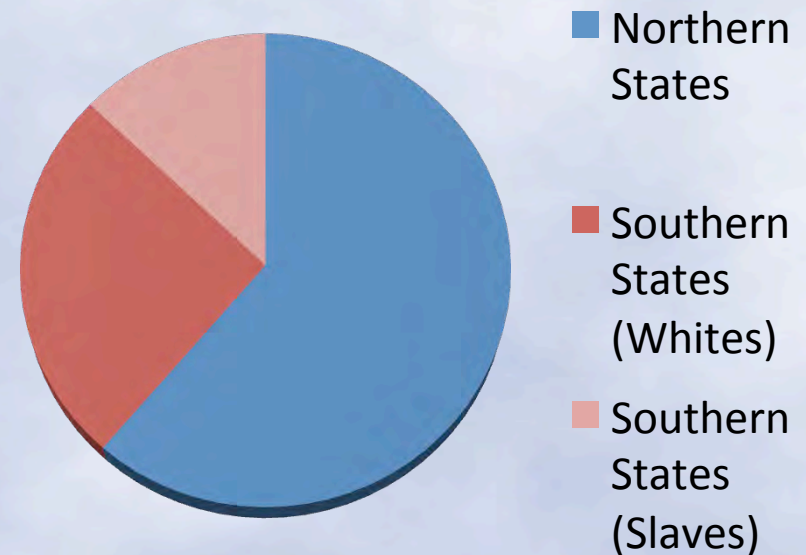
- Northern and southern states had different points of view about the Constitution.
- Most southerners believed that the federal government had the power to make laws only about a few things. States could pass their own laws in all other areas of life.
- One important issue was slavery. Because large plantations in the south used this labor, it was important to the economy.
- Northern states did not need or want slavery.
- Another issue was taxes known as tariffs. Southerners did not like these taxes on goods that bought from Great Britain.



Population

- Most people in the north in 1860 lived in **urban** locations. Most southerners lived in **rural** locations.
- In the south, most people lived on plantations, small farms, or very small towns.
- More Americans lived in the north than in the south. About 1/3 of the southerners were slaves.

U.S. Population 1860



Economy

- Northerners had fewer farmers but more factory workers. There were no slaves but many poorly paid workers.
- Southerners had to buy most manufactured goods they needed. Northern factory owners wanted a tariff (tax) on goods from other countries. This would make them cost more, and so perhaps make southerners buy goods from this country.
- However, those other countries might try to get back at America for the tariff and make a tariff of their own. This might hurt the business of southerners selling crops to Europeans.



What can you notice about life in the South from this painting?



Free States or Slave States

- As America grew, more states were added.
- When states were added, they might make slavery illegal or legal.
- Southern states wanted new states to allow slavery.



Alabama Leaves the Union

- By 1860, many in Alabama wanted their state to **secede**.
- The idea of leaving the United States was more popular in southern Alabama than in the north.
- William Lowndes Yancey was a famous secession leader.



The Secession Convention's Decision

- In January, 1861, a vote was taken to leave the Union (United States).
- Alabama was the fourth state to do this.
- Alabamians hoped that the U.S. would let the states secede peacefully.
- Alabama's country was now to be the Confederate States of America.



Section 2: The Confederate States of America and the War

- Essential Question: How did the Civil War begin?



Section 2: The Confederate States of America and the War

- What terms do I need to know?
 - inaugurate
 - procession
 - unionist
 - surrender



Introduction

- On February 4, 1861, delegates from seven Southern states met to set up their new country, the Confederate States of America.
- Montgomery, Alabama was to be the capital city.
- Because of this meeting, the state called the "Cradle of the Confederacy."
- Jefferson Davis was chosen as president, and Alexander H. Stephens was vice-president.
- Later, the capital was moved to Richmond, Virginia.



Confederate and Union States



Jefferson Davis Inaugurated in Montgomery

- Jefferson Davis was **inaugurated** on February 18, 1861 as president of the Confederate States of America.
- A **procession** led Davis up to the Capitol where he was sworn in.



The Free State of Winston

- Alabamians who did not want to leave the United States were called **unionists**.
- A group of Unionists met in 1862 to secede from Alabama. They wanted to create "The Free State of Winston" and stay out of the conflict.



The Civil War Begins: The Blue versus Gray

- The War Between the States, or Civil War, began April 12, 1861 with fighting at Fort Sumter, Charleston, South Carolina.
- Confederate General Beauregard demanded the **surrender** of Fort Sumter.
- The Union commander refused and fighting began. The next day, the Union troops surrendered the fort.
- The war was fought mostly in the South. This caused lots of hardship for families. Many towns and cities were destroyed.



Alabama Servicemen

- About 100,000 Alabama men fought in the war. Thousands of them died.
- Soldiers would often bring their own supplies including horses, guns, clothing and slaves to help fight.



The Gettysburg Address

- One famous battle was in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in July 1863. About 6,000 men were killed in 3 days. The Confederates lost.
- In November, president Lincoln made a speech at the battlefield. He reminded people that the soldiers died to keep the United States together.
- The battlefield is now a park and cemetery.

Executive Mansion,
Washington, 1863

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth, upon this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that "all men are created equal"

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived, and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of it, as a final resting place for those who died here, that the nation might live. This we may, in all propriety do. But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate—we can not consecrate—we can not hallow, this ground—the brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have hallowed it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here; while it can never forget what they did here.

It is rather for us, the living, to stand here,



The War Divides Families

- Sometimes the war divided families and put “brother against brother.”
- Fathers and sons, or brothers and sisters had different points of view.
- In Alabama, about 3,000 white Alabamians and 10,000 blacks fought in the Union army.



Section 3: Alabama at Home During the War

- Essential Question: How did the conflict affect the lives of Alabamians?



Section 3: Alabama at Home During the War

- What terms do I need to know?
 - **blockade**



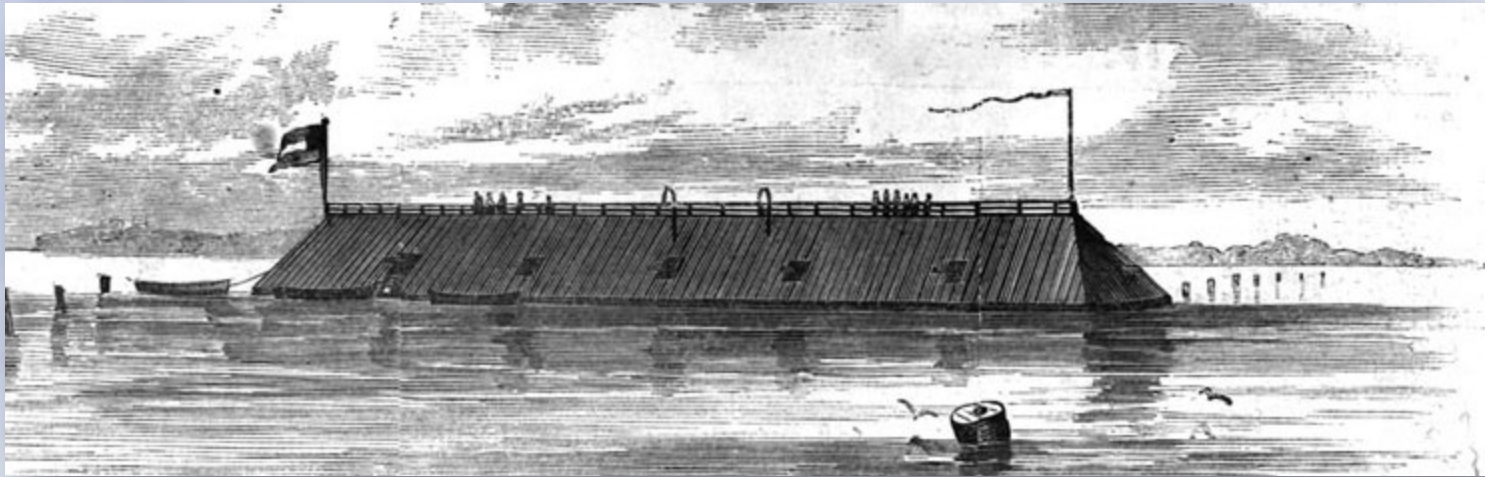
Introduction

- Women remained at home during the war, running the farms and factories, and making goods for the soldiers.
- Women raised money and nursed the wounded soldiers.
- Slaves and free blacks worked to build roads, railroads, and forts. They also worked in iron and ammunition factories.
- All these jobs supported the war.



Factories for War

- Alabama's textile factories made clothing and tents for soldiers. More than half of the Confederacy's iron came from Alabama.
- Cannons, guns, and bullets were made here, too. "Ironclad" ships were built to protect the ships from cannon fire.



The Naval Blockade

- Before the war, many goods were imported from other countries through Mobile Bay. The Union used ships to **blockade** the port.
- As time went by, shortages of goods caused many problems.
- Salt was in short supply – the price could be as high as \$150 per sack!
- Molasses and honey were substituted for sugar.
- “Coffee” was made with ground acorns, peanuts, okra seeds, or chicory roots.



Breaking the Blockade

- Some ships were able to break the blockade by sneaking in quickly.
- These “blockade runners” brought needed supplies, but there were still shortages.
- Flour increased from \$40 to \$300 a barrel, and a pair of boots increased from \$25 to \$150.



Blockade runner *Ella and Annie*



Section 4: Fighting and Freedom Come to Alabama

- Essential Question: How did battles affect Alabama's people?



Section 4: Fighting and Freedom Come to Alabama

- What terms do I need to know?
 - skirmish
 - fleet
 - cadet



Introduction

- There were 78 **skirmishes** in Alabama.
- Florence, Huntsville, and Athens, were all fired upon.
- By 1863, there was an official granting of freedom to slaves.



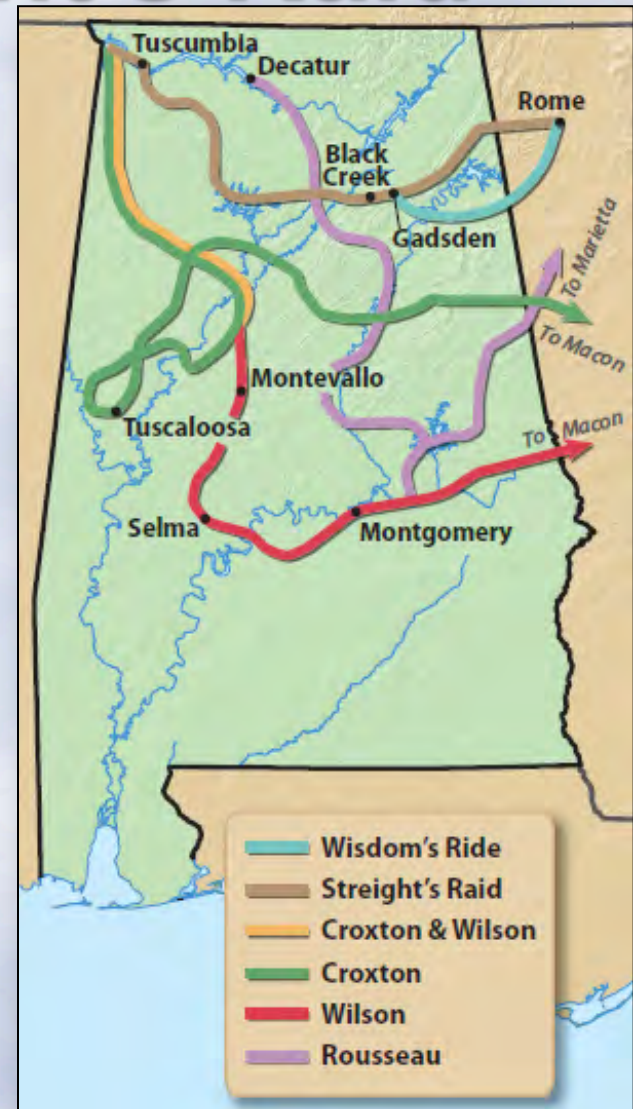
Emancipation Proclamation

- On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.
- This order freed the slaves in Confederate states.
- Lincoln encouraged slaves there to join the Union army.
- Even though they were legally free, the people were still held in slavery.



Colonel Streight's Raid

- In April 1863, Union Colonel Streight invaded Alabama. He wanted to destroy some of the state's important railroads.
- His plan was to destroy railroads and factories along his path.



The Confederates Fight Back

- Confederate General Forrest followed Colonel Streight, and they fought several skirmishes.
- Streight headed back toward Georgia, and burned bridges along the way to slow Forrest's men.



Emma Samson – Young Heroine

- Forrest was helped across the river by 15-year-old Emma Samson. She showed the general and his troops a way over the Coosa River that did not need a bridge.
- They were soon after Streight's men again.



The Civil War's Paul Revere

- Streight planned to burn Rome's factories, supplies, and railroads.
- A man named John H. Wisdom from Gadsden spoiled the plan by warning the people of Rome that Union soldiers were on the way.
- Around midnight he arrived in Rome yelling, "The Yankees are coming!"



Citizens Make a Stand

- Rome's people blocked the bridge with bales of cotton and gathered weapons.
- Forrest tricked Streight into thinking that a large army was following him rather than just 600 men and 2 cannons.
- Streight was surprised when he surrendered to learn that he actually had more than double the soldiers of Forrest.



Battle for Mobile

- Union navy Admiral Farragut sailed into Mobile Bay in August 1864 with a **fleet** to take control of the bay and its forts.
- Within 3 weeks, the Confederates surrendered the Bay to Farragut after fierce fighting.
- The city of Mobile itself held out for 8 months before surrendering.



General Wilson's Rain

- By 1865, the Union plan was to destroy anything that could help the Confederacy.
- Union General Wilson led troops to destroy factories in Selma, Elyton (Birmingham), and Tuscaloosa, along with the University of Alabama where Confederate **cadets** were trained.



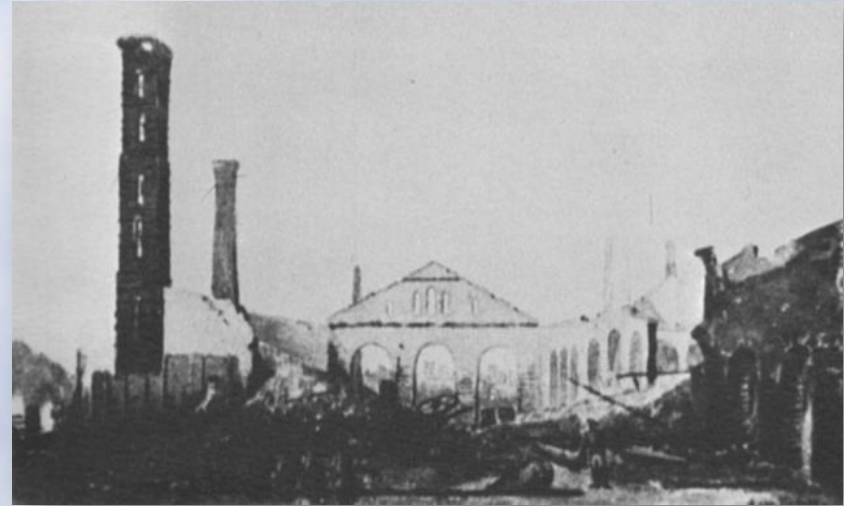
The University of Alabama is Burned

- Union General Croxton was sent to Tuscaloosa. He burned factories, took men as prisoners, and took cadets' weapons.
- Croxton's men burned the buildings of the University of Alabama.



The Battle for Selma is Lost

- Wilson's Union army destroyed mines and factories on the way to Selma.
- After a battle, the weapons and factories in Selma were destroyed.
- Union troops stole food and anything else they wanted and burned most of the town's buildings.



Selma's Naval Foundry was destroyed.



Montgomery Surrenders

- Montgomery surrendered on April 12, 1865 when Wilson's army arrived.
- The troops were kept in control, so there was less damage than in Selma.
- Confederate soldiers set fire to 100,000 bales of cotton to keep them from going to the Union.
- The city's military supplies, factories, railroad cars, and steamboats were destroyed.



The End of the War

- General Lee, the leader of the Confederate army, surrendered to General Grant, leader of the Union Army on April 9, 1865 at Appomattox Court House, Virginia.
- Over 600,000 Americans lost their lives in the war, more than any other war our country has fought.





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