

EMANCIPATION IN THE UNITED STATES

- 1787 -- Northwest Ordinance (3rd). The importation of slaves was prohibited in all territories west of the Ohio River and they would be admitted to the Union as free states.
- 1793 – Fugitive Slave Law
- 1807 – British abolish slave trade
- 1808 – U.S. Congress abolish international slave trade (no more importation of slaves)
- 1834 – British abolish slavery in territories
- 1820 – Missouri Compromise. Allowed Missouri to be admitted to the Union as a slave State, but any other territories north of 36°30’ would be admitted as free States
- 1850 – Second, stronger Fugitive Slave Act
- 1857 – Dred Scott decision by U.S. Supreme Court declared that Blacks were not citizens under the U.S. Constitution and territories could have slaves (Missouri Compromise unconstitutional)
- 1861 – First Confiscation Act – fugitive slaves of rebelling states not to be returned
- 1862 – Second Confiscation Act – reinforcing first - property, including slaves, may be confiscated
- 1863 – Emancipation Proclamation. Executive proclamation - slaves in the rebelling states to be free

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY BY STATE

STATE	DATE	MEANS
Vermont	1777	Constitution (not admitted to Union until 1791)
Pennsylvania	1780	Emancipation Act
Massachusetts	1783	Court interpretation of 1780 Constitution
Connecticut	1784*	Emancipation Act
Rhode Island	1784*	Emancipation Act
New Hampshire	1789	State Constitution (subject to interpretation)
New York	1799*	Emancipation Act
New Jersey	1804*	Emancipation Act
District of Columbia	1862, Apr 16	Act of Congress
Territories	1862, June 19	Act of Congress
West Virginia	1863, June*	New State constitution
Maryland	1864, Nov 1	New State constitution by popular vote
Missouri	1865, Jan	State proclamation
Tennessee	1865, Mar	State constitutional amendment
Alabama	1865, Dec 6	13 th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
Arkansas	1865, Dec 6	13 th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
Delaware	1865, Dec 6	13 th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
Florida	1865, Dec 6	13 th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
Georgia	1865, Dec 6	13 th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
Kentucky	1865, Dec 6	13 th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
Louisiana	1865, Dec 6	13 th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (parts 1864)
Mississippi	1865, Dec 6	13 th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
N. Carolina	1865, Dec 6	13 th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
S. Carolina	1865, Dec 6	13 th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
Texas	1865, Dec 6	13 th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution
Virginia	1865, Dec 6	13 th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

* -- gradual emancipation (usually children only, when reach age 21, usually a 20 year end date.)

States that had been admitted to the Union as non-slave states prior to the Civil War were: Ohio (1803), Indiana (1816), Illinois (1818), Maine (1820), Michigan (1837), Iowa (1846), Wisconsin (1848), California (1850), Minnesota (1858), Oregon (1859), and Kansas (Jan., 1861).

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