

Crisis in the Extended Republic: The Kansas-Nebraska Act, Republican Party, and the Election of 1860

U.S. History to 1877

The Kansas-Nebraska Act, 1854

- ▶ Stephen Douglas & “popular sovereignty”
 - ▶ Missouri Compromise line repealed

“Bleeding Kansas”

- ▶ 1855: Lecompton & Topeka legislatures
- ▶ Attack on Lawrence, Kansas
- ▶ Blood in the Senate
 - ▶ Preston Brooks attacks Senator Charles Sumner
- ▶ John Brown's massacre at Pottawatomie
- ▶ Political antislavery finds a party
 - ▶ “Know Nothings” collapse
 - ▶ Organization of the “Republican” Party, 1854-56

Election of 1856

- ▶ Democrat James Buchanan
- ▶ Republican John C. Frémont
 - ▶ New, sectional party's stunning power

The *Dred Scott* decision, 1857

- ▶ Chief Justice Roger B. Taney
 - ▶ Territories can't prohibit slavery
 - ▶ Missouri Compromise is unconstitutional
 - ▶ Blacks have “no rights that the white man is bound to respect”

A House Divided

- ▶ Lecompton constitution, 1857-58
 - ▶ Buchanan submits slave constitution to Congress
 - ▶ Douglas furious; Congress rejects
- ▶ Lincoln-Douglas debates, 1858
 - ▶ Douglas: Freeport Doctrine
 - ▶ Lincoln: The “house divided” speech

Harpers Ferry, 1859

- ▶ John Brown
 - ▶ The South's worst fears of abolitionists confirmed

Election of 1860

- ▶ Constitutional Union Party: John Bell
- ▶ Democrats: Stephen Douglas
- ▶ Republicans: Lincoln
- ▶ Southern Democrats: John C. Breckinridge