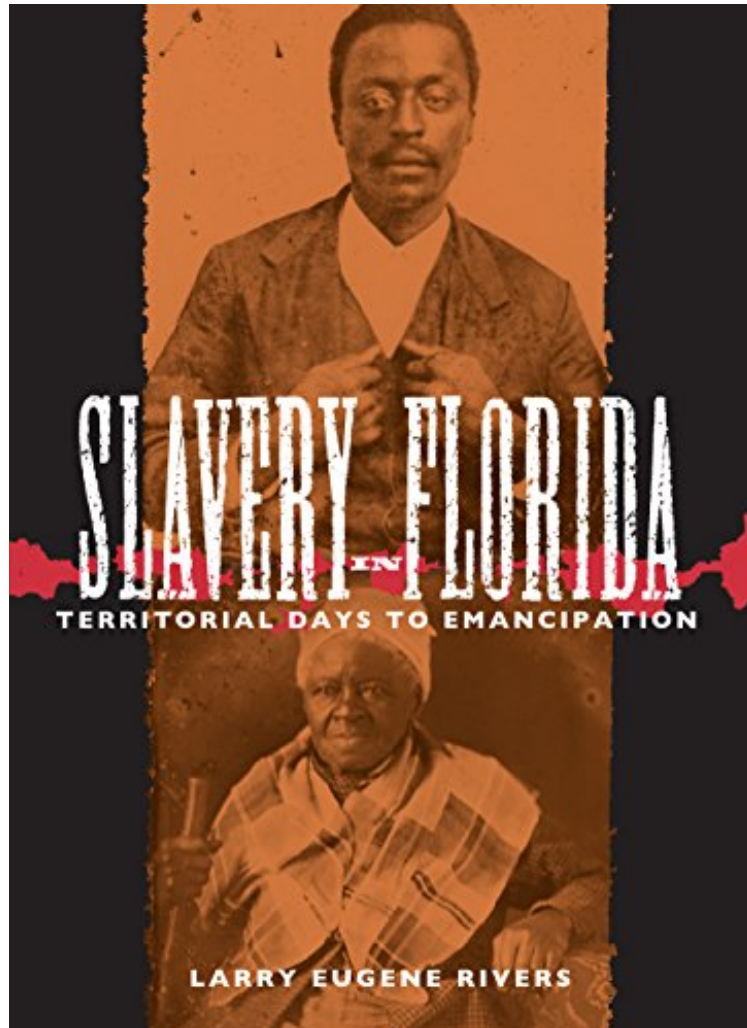


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Slavery in Florida: Territorial Days to Emancipation

Larry Eugene Rivers

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From Booklist Rivers spent two decades gathering information about the Spanish treatment of blacks, and because of his research, he differentiates slavery in Florida from slavery in the other southern states. He traces the presence of Africans in Florida from Spain's early attempts to build an American empire, long before the institution of slavery was introduced. The impact of Spanish treatment was such that blacks, even under slavery, enjoyed more freedom, more interracial mixing, and broader acceptance of that mixing than they did under the hands of the British and southern Anglo culture. Rivers also examines the Seminole wars' effects on slavery in Florida and the presence in Florida of armed black slaves and ex-slaves, because the state was a haven for runaway slaves from Georgia and the Carolinas. The greater social and economic freedom born of Spanish influence and close relationships between rebellious blacks and Seminoles set the stage for the largest slave rebellion in U.S. history. A fascinating account of a variant experience of an institution too often viewed from a single perspective. Vanessa Bush Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "A thoroughly researched and balanced account of the slave experience in Florida." - Journal of American History "The greater social and economic freedom born of Spanish influence and close relationships between rebellious blacks and Seminoles set the stage for the largest slave rebellion in U.S. history. A fascinating account of a variant experience of an institution too often viewed from a single perspective." - Booklist "Rivers takes a very close look at slave society from various angles, as he evaluates not only slave life but the interaction of whites, blacks and Indians.... Makes for a rich and multi-layered history." - Southern Historian "Addresses how Florida's history and geography produced conditions unlike those elsewhere in the American South." - Journal of Southern History "About the Author Larry Eugene Rivers, President of Fort Valley State College and professor of history, is the author of numerous works, and the recipient of the Arthur W. Thompson Award from the Florida Historical Society and the Carter G. Woodson Award from the Association for the Study of African American Life and History.