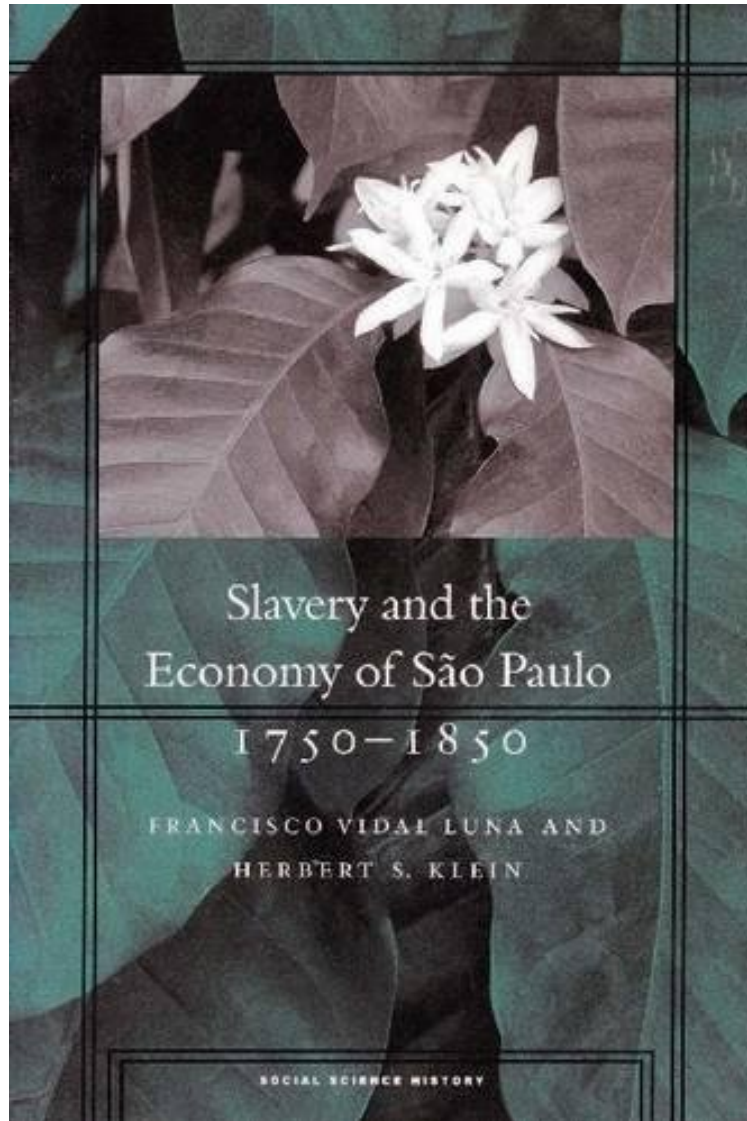


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## Slavery and the Economy of Sao Paulo, 1750-1850

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Today the Brazilian state of So Paulo is one of the worlds most advanced agricultural, industrial, and urbanized regions. Its historical evolution, however, is poorly understood. Most scholarly attention has been paid to the period after 1850, when coffee rose to economic dominance, or to the period since 1880, when large-scale European immigration turned the city of So Paulo into one of the largest metropolises in the world. This book thus provides the first comprehensive portrait of the economy and people of So Paulo during the critical transition from the traditional eighteenth-century colonial world to the modernizing world of the nineteenth century. The result is a major rethinking of the history of early slavery in Brazilit shows that, contrary to previous beliefs, slavery was as deeply entrenched and exploited in So Paulo as elsewhere in Brazil, and that the states early economic growth (as the worlds leading coffee-producing region after 1850) was made possible by an expanding African slave labor force. This raises many questions about So Paulos supposed exceptionalism and challenges the standard account of the states economic history, which has been strongly shaped by ideas of path dependence. In addition to studying the slave-owning class, the authors investigate the economic role of free whites and colored who did not own slaves, and compare So Paulos slave society and economy with other such regions in the Americas.

"[T]his excellent book deserves the careful consideration not only of scholars of slavery and Brazilian economic history, but students of the wider Atlantic World as well." (Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History)"There is not one thing wrong with this book. Luna and Klein have done impressive research in previously unused sources. They present their findings in clear, unpretentious prose....All in all, Slavery and the Economy of So Paulo is a model monograph, nothing less than we have come to expect from its distinguished authors."EH.NetFrom the Inside FlapToday the Brazilian state of So Paulo is one of the worlds most advanced agricultural, industrial, and urbanized regions. Its historical evolution, however, is poorly understood. Most scholarly attention has been paid to the period after 1850, when coffee rose to economic dominance, or to the period since 1880, when large-scale European immigration turned the city of So Paulo into one of the largest metropolises in the world. This book thus provides the first comprehensive portrait of the economy and people of So Paulo during the critical transition from the traditional eighteenth-century colonial world to the modernizing world of the nineteenth century. The result is a major rethinking of the history of early slavery in Brazilit shows that, contrary to previous beliefs, slavery was as deeply entrenched and exploited in So Paulo as elsewhere in Brazil, and that the states early economic growth (as the worlds leading coffee-producing region after 1850) was made possible by an expanding African slave labor force. This raises many questions about So Paulos supposed exceptionalism and challenges the standard account of the states economic history, which has been strongly shaped by ideas of path dependence. In addition to studying the slave-owning class, the authors investigate the economic role of free whites and colored who did not own slaves, and compare So Paulos slave society and economy with other such regions in the Americas.