



CHAPTER
13

Manifest Destiny 1810-1853

Section 1 Trails West

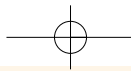
Section 2 The Texas Revolution

Section 3 The War with Mexico

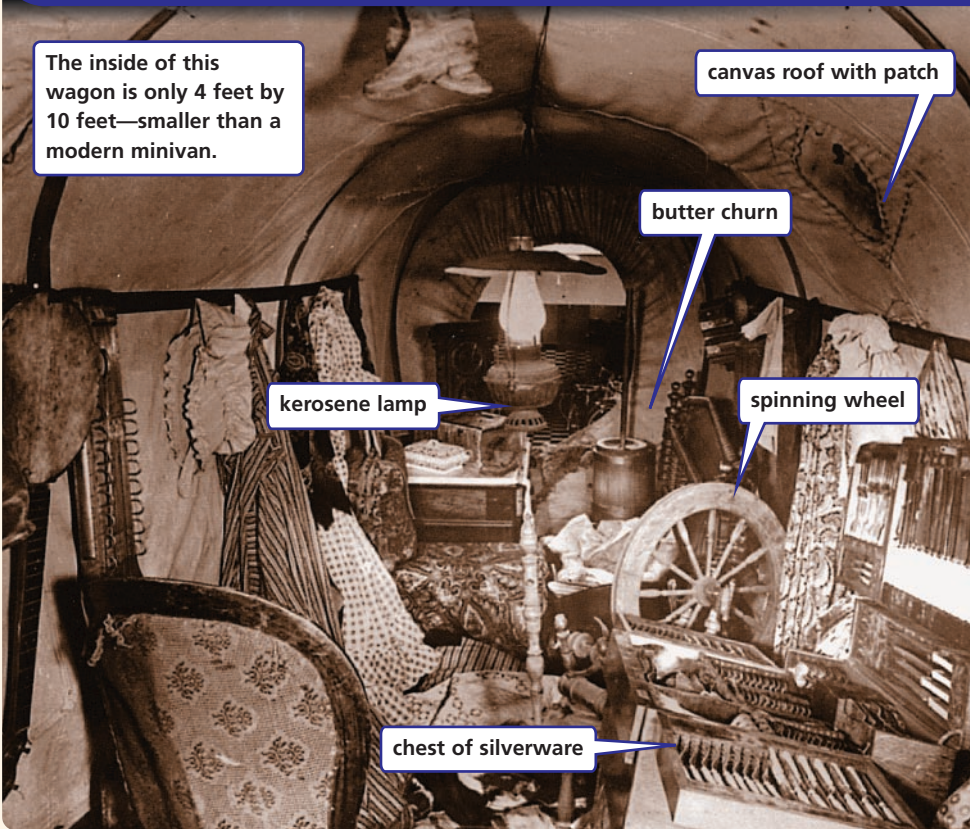
Section 4 The California Gold Rush



Weary from their trip west, this pioneer family stops for a rest.



Interact *with* History

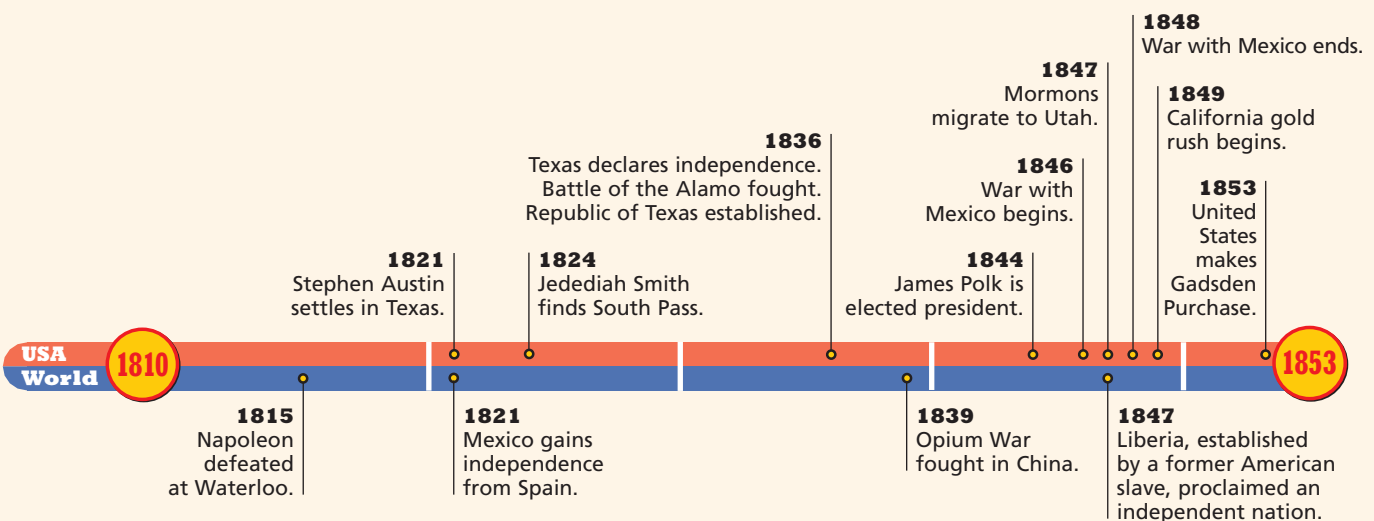


The year is 1844, and you live on a small rocky farm in Massachusetts. Your family has decided to move to Oregon to gain cheap, fertile land. Your father says this move will make your family better off—and give you a brighter future.

What Do You Think?

- What do you think daily life on the trail west might be like?
- What might be the greatest obstacles that you face?
- Notice the necessities packed in this crowded wagon. What might have been left behind?

What might you gain and lose by going west?





Chapter 13 SETTING THE STAGE

BEFORE YOU READ



United States in 1810

Manifest Destiny



United States in 1853

Previewing the Theme

Expansion In the mid-1800s, many Americans felt it was the fate of their country to spread “from sea to shining sea.” This belief was known as manifest destiny. Chapter 13 explains how thousands of Americans moved west to new territories—and how those territories became part of the United States.

What Do You Know?

What do you think of when you hear the phrase “the West”? Who do you think moved west in the early 1800s? What do you think drew them to the West?

THINK ABOUT

- what you’ve learned about the West from movies or travel
- reasons that people move to new places today

What Do You Want to Know?



What questions do you have about the westward movement of the 1800s? Record those questions in your notebook before you read the chapter.

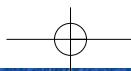
READ AND TAKE NOTES

Reading Strategy: Categorizing To help you make sense of what you read, learn to categorize. Categorizing means sorting information into groups. The chart below will help you categorize the information in this chapter about the westward

movement. Use the chart to take notes on what groups went west, why they went, and what events brought each territory into the United States.

See Skillbuilder Handbook, page R6.

	Types of people who traveled there	Why they went there	Key events that brought the territory into the United States
New Mexico			
Utah			
Oregon			
Texas			
California			



1 Trails West

TERMS & NAMES

Jedediah Smith
mountain man
Jim Beckwourth
land speculator
Santa Fe Trail
Oregon Trail
Mormon
Brigham Young

MAIN IDEA

Thousands of settlers followed trails through the West to gain land and a chance to make a fortune.

WHY IT MATTERS NOW

This migration brought Americans to the territories that became New Mexico, Oregon, and Utah.

ONE AMERICAN'S STORY

The mountain man **Jedediah Smith** was leading an expedition to find a route through the Rocky Mountains when a grizzly bear attacked. The bear seized Smith's head in its mouth, shredded his face, and partially tore off one ear. Smith's men chased the bear away. Jim Clyman recalled the scene.

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

I asked [Smith] what was best. He said, "One or two go for water and if you have a needle and thread get it out and sew up my wounds around my head." . . . I told him I could do nothing for his ear. "Oh, you must try to stitch it up some way or other," said he. Then I put in my needle and stitched it through and through.

Jim Clyman, quoted in *The West*, by Geoffrey C. Ward

Ten days after this attack, Smith was ready to continue exploring. The following spring, he found what he was looking for—a pass through the Rocky Mountains.

Jedediah Smith was one of the daring fur trappers and explorers known as **mountain men**. The mountain men opened up the West by discovering the best trails through the Rockies. Later, thousands of pioneers followed these trails. In this section, you will learn about the trails—and why people followed them west.

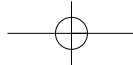


This likeness of Jedediah Smith shows the ruggedness and spirit of the mountain man.

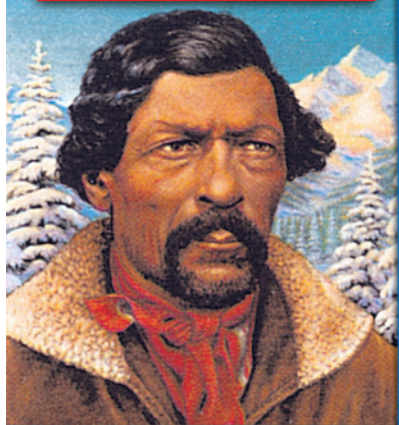
Mountain Men and the Rendezvous

Mountain men survived by being tough and resourceful. They spent most of the year alone, trapping small animals such as beavers. Easterners wanted beaver furs to make the men's hats that were in fashion at the time. To obtain furs, mountain men roamed the Great Plains and the Far West, the regions between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean, and set traps in icy mountain streams.

Because of their adventures, mountain men such as Jedediah Smith and **Jim Beckwourth** became famous as rugged loners. However, they were not as independent as the legends have portrayed them. Instead, they were connected economically to the businessmen who bought their furs.



AMERICA'S HISTORY MAKERS



JIM BECKWOURTH

1798–1867

Jim Beckwourth was born in slavery and set free by his owner. At the age of 25, Beckwourth joined a group of fur traders going west and in time became a daring mountain man.

For several years, Beckwourth lived with a Crow tribe. Later, he worked as an army scout and gold prospector. In 1850, he discovered a mountain pass that became the route into present-day northern California. This pass is still called Beckwourth Pass.

What was Beckwourth's most important contribution to the westward movement?

One businessman, William Henry Ashley, created a trading arrangement called the rendezvous system. Under this system, individual trappers came to a pre-arranged site for a rendezvous with traders from the east. The trappers bought supplies from those traders and paid them in furs. The rendezvous took place every summer from 1825 to 1840. In that year, silk hats replaced beaver hats as the fashion, and the fur trade died out.

Mountain Men Open the West

During the height of the fur trade, mountain men worked some streams so heavily that they killed off the animals. This forced the trappers to search for new streams where beaver lived. The mountain men's explorations provided Americans with some of the earliest firsthand knowledge of the Far West. This knowledge, and the trails the mountain men blazed, made it possible for later pioneers to move west.

For example, thousands of pioneers used South Pass, the wide valley through the Rockies that Jedediah Smith had publicized. Smith learned of this pass, in present-day Wyoming, from Native Americans. Unlike the high northern passes used by Lewis and Clark, South Pass was low, so snow did not block it as often as it blocked higher passes. Also, because South Pass was wide and less steep, wagon trails could run through it.

Smith wrote to his brother that he wanted to help people in need: "It is for this that I go for days without eating, and am pretty well satisfied if I can gather a few roots, a few snails, . . . a piece of horseflesh, or a fine roasted dog."

Vocabulary

rendezvous
(RAHN•day•voo):
meeting; from
a French word
meaning "present
yourselves"

ReadingHistory

A. Reading a

Map Find South Pass on the map on page 379.

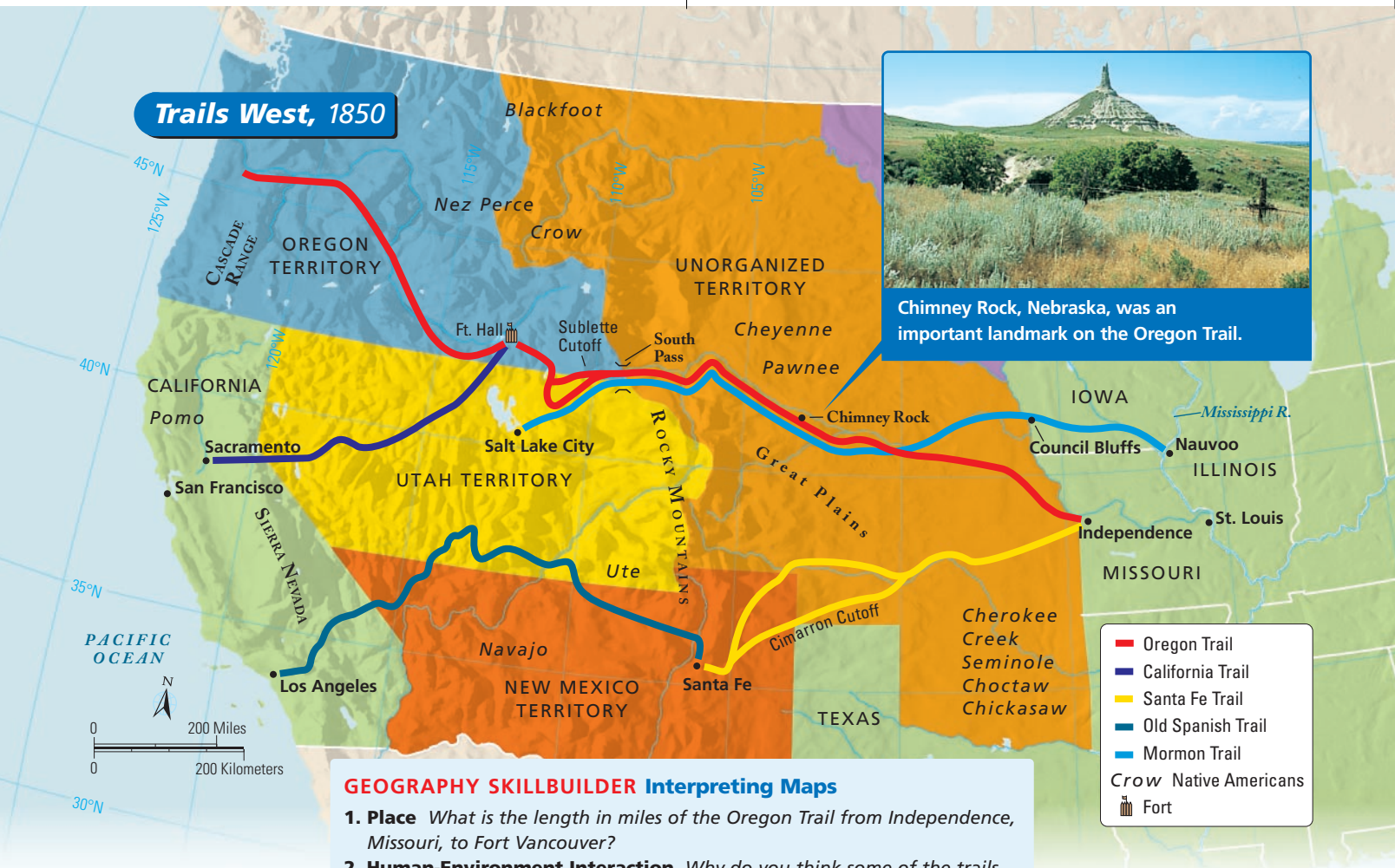
Notice which two trails used that pass.

The Lure of the West

Few of the people who went west shared Smith's noble motive. To many, the West with its vast stretches of land offered a golden chance to make money. The Louisiana Purchase had doubled the size of the United States, and some Americans wanted to take the land away from Native Americans who inhabited this territory.

People called **land speculators** bought huge areas of land. To speculate means to buy something in the hope that it will increase in value. If land value did go up, speculators divided their land holdings into smaller sections. They made great profits by selling those sections to the thousands of settlers who dreamed of owning their own farms.

Manufacturers and merchants soon followed the settlers west. They hoped to earn money by making and selling items that farmers needed. Other people made the trip to find jobs or to escape people to whom they owed money.



GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER Interpreting Maps

- Place** What is the length in miles of the Oregon Trail from Independence, Missouri, to Fort Vancouver?
- Human-Environment Interaction** Why do you think some of the trails ran along rivers?

The Trail to Santa Fe

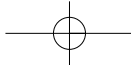
Traders also traveled west in search of markets. After Mexico gained independence from Spain in 1821, it opened its borders to American traders, whom Spain had kept out. In response, the Missouri trader William Becknell set out with hardware, cloth, and china for Santa Fe, capital of the Mexican province of New Mexico. By doing so, he opened the **Santa Fe Trail**, which led from Missouri to Santa Fe. Once in Santa Fe, he made a large profit because the New Mexicans were eager for new merchandise.

When Becknell returned to Missouri weeks later, a curious crowd met him. One man picked up one of Becknell's bags and slit it open with a knife. As gold and silver coins spilled onto the street, the onlookers gasped. The news spread that New Mexico was a place where traders could become rich.

The following spring, Becknell headed to Santa Fe again. This time he loaded his trade goods into covered wagons, which Westerners called prairie schooners. Their billowing white canvas tops made them look like schooners, or sailing ships.

Becknell could not haul wagons over the mountain pass he had used on his first trip to Santa Fe. Instead, he found a cutoff, a shortcut that avoided steep slopes but passed through a deadly desert to the south. As his traders crossed the burning sands, they ran out of water. Crazed by

ReadingHistory
B. Making Inferences What do you think other Missourians might decide to do after seeing Becknell's wealth?



daily life

DINNER ON THE TRAIL

To add to their limited supplies, pioneers on the trail gathered berries and wild onions. They also hunted buffalo and small game. Below is a recipe that many might have used.

Fricasseed Squirrel

1 squirrel, skinned
3 slices of bacon, chopped
1 tablespoon chopped onions
2 teaspoons lemon juice
½ cup water
salt, pepper, & flour
Cut squirrel in pieces. Rub pieces with salt, pepper, and flour. Fry with bacon for 30 minutes. Add onion, lemon juice, and water. Cover tightly. Cook for 1½ hours.

Nebraska Centennial First Ladies Cookbook



thirst, they lopped off mules' ears and killed their dogs to drink the animals' blood. Finally, the men found a stream. The water saved them from death, and they reached Santa Fe.

Becknell returned home with another huge profit. Before long, hundreds of traders and prairie schooners braved the cutoff to make the 800-mile journey from Missouri to New Mexico each year.

Oregon Fever

Hundreds of settlers also began migrating west on the **Oregon Trail**, which ran from Independence, Missouri, to the Oregon Territory. The first whites to cross the continent to Oregon were missionaries, such as Marcus and Narcissa Whitman in 1836. At that time, the United States and Britain were locked in an argument about which country owned Oregon. To the Whitmans' great disappointment, they made few converts among the Native Americans. However, their glowing reports of Oregon's rich land began to attract other American settlers.

Amazing stories spread about Oregon. The sun always shone there. Wheat grew as tall as a man. One tale claimed that pigs were "running about, . . . round and fat, and already cooked, with knives and forks sticking in them so you can cut off a slice whenever you are hungry."

Such stories tempted many people to make the 2,000-mile journey to Oregon. In 1843, nearly 1,000 people traveled from Missouri to Oregon. The next year, twice as many came. "The Oregon Fever has broken out," observed a Boston newspaper, "and is now raging."

One Family Heads West

The experiences of the Sager family show how difficult the trail could be. In 1844, Henry Sager, his wife, and six children left Missouri to find cheap, fertile land in Oregon. They had already moved four times in the past four years. Henry's daughter Catherine explained her family's moves.

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

Father was one of those restless men who are not content to remain in one place long at a time. . . . [He] had been talking of going to Texas. But mother, hearing much said about the healthfulness of Oregon, preferred to go there.

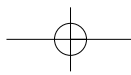
Catherine Sager, quoted in *The West*, by Geoffrey C. Ward

The Oregon Trail was dangerous, so pioneers joined wagon trains. They knew their survival would depend on cooperation. Before setting out, the wagon train members agreed on rules and elected leaders to enforce them.

Even so, life on the trail was full of hardship. The Sagers had barely begun the trip when Mrs. Sager gave birth to her seventh child. Two

Vocabulary

converts: people who accept a new religious belief



months later, nine-year-old Catherine fell under a moving wagon, which crushed her left leg. Later, “camp fever” killed both of the Sager parents.

ReadingHistory

C. Finding Main

Ideas What difficulties did families like the Sagers face?

Even though the Sager parents had died, the other families in the train cooperated to help the Sager orphans make it to Oregon. There, the Whitmans agreed to adopt them. When Narcissa met them, Catherine recalled, “We thought as we shyly looked at her that she was the prettiest woman we had ever seen.”

The Mormon Trail

While most pioneers went west in search of wealth, one group migrated for religious reasons. The **Mormons**, who settled Utah, were members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Joseph Smith had founded this church in upstate New York in 1830. The Mormons lived in close communities, worked hard, shared their goods, and prospered.

The Mormons, though, also made enemies. Some people reacted angrily to the Mormons’ teachings. They saw the Mormon practice of polygamy—allowing a man to have more than one wife at a time—as immoral. Others objected to their holding property in common.

ReadingHistory

D. Analyzing

Causes Why did Brigham Young lead the Mormons to Utah?

In 1844, an anti-Mormon mob in Illinois killed Smith. **Brigham Young**, the next Mormon leader, moved his people out of the United States. His destination was Utah, then part of Mexico. In this desolate region, he hoped his people would be left to follow their faith in peace.

In 1847, about 1,600 Mormons followed part of the Oregon Trail to Utah. There they built a new settlement by the Great Salt Lake. Because Utah has little rainfall, the Mormons had to work together to build dams and canals. These structures captured water in the hills and carried it to the farms in the valleys below. Through teamwork, they made their desert homeland bloom.

In the meantime, changes were taking place in Texas. As you will read in Section 2, Americans had been moving into that Mexican territory, too.

Section 1 Assessment

1. Terms & Names

Explain the significance of:

- Jedediah Smith
- mountain man
- Jim Beckwourth
- land speculator
- Santa Fe Trail
- Oregon Trail
- Mormon
- Brigham Young

2. Taking Notes

Use a cluster diagram like the one shown to review details about the trails west.



Which trail would you have wanted to travel? Why?

3. Main Ideas

- How did the mountain men open up the West for later settlement?
- What are two examples of pioneer groups who used cooperation to overcome hardship?
- What economic and social forces drew people to the West?

4. Critical Thinking

Drawing Conclusions Of all the hardships faced by people who went west, what do you think was the worst? Explain.

THINK ABOUT

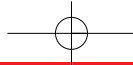
- the mountain men
- William Becknell
- the Sagers
- the Mormons

ACTIVITY OPTIONS

LANGUAGE ARTS

ART

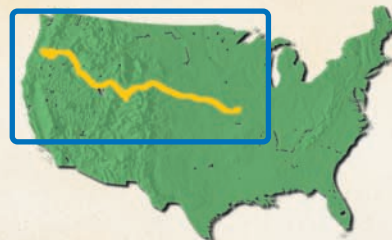
Research a pioneer from this section and either write a **letter** from his or her point of view to a friend or illustrate a **journal entry** with sights from your journey.



Interdisciplinary CHALLENGE

Survive the Oregon Trail!

You are part of a wagon train heading west on the Oregon Trail. During your journey, you will cross endless flat prairies and mountains that climb more steeply than a staircase. You will suffer through blazing heat and icy snowstorms. Food is scarce in the land you travel through—and human settlements are even more scarce.



COOPERATIVE LEARNING On this page are three challenges you will face on your journey. Working with a small group, create a solution for each challenge. To help your group work together, assign a task to each group member. You will find helpful information in the Data File. Be prepared to present your solutions to the class.

Fort Vancouver

Oregon City

END

Columbia River

Nez Perce

Fort Walla Walla

ROCKY MOUNTAINS

Fort Boise

Shoshone

Snake River

Fort Hall

Independence Rock

Sublette Cutoff

South Pass

Fort Laramie

Great Salt Lake

Fort Bridger

SCIENCE CHALLENGE

“The most terrible mountains”

One pioneer called the Rockies “the most terrible mountains for steepness.” Your oxen have struggled for hours to pull your wagon up a steep slope. Now you have to go down the other side without crashing—and wagon wheels have no brakes. How will you slow your descent? Use the Data File for help. Present your ideas using one of these options:

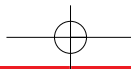
- Write instructions for climbing and descending the mountain.
- Illustrate your solution in a how-to diagram.

CIVICS CHALLENGE

“A thieving scoundrel”

You wake one morning to the sound of shouting. One of the men in the wagon train has been caught stealing another family’s ox—to replace an ox that died from drinking bad water. The wagon train leader asks you to help decide how to punish the thief. Present your decision using one of these options:

- As a group, role-play a discussion of what the punishment should be.
- Write an explanation of a punishment to the wagon train leader.



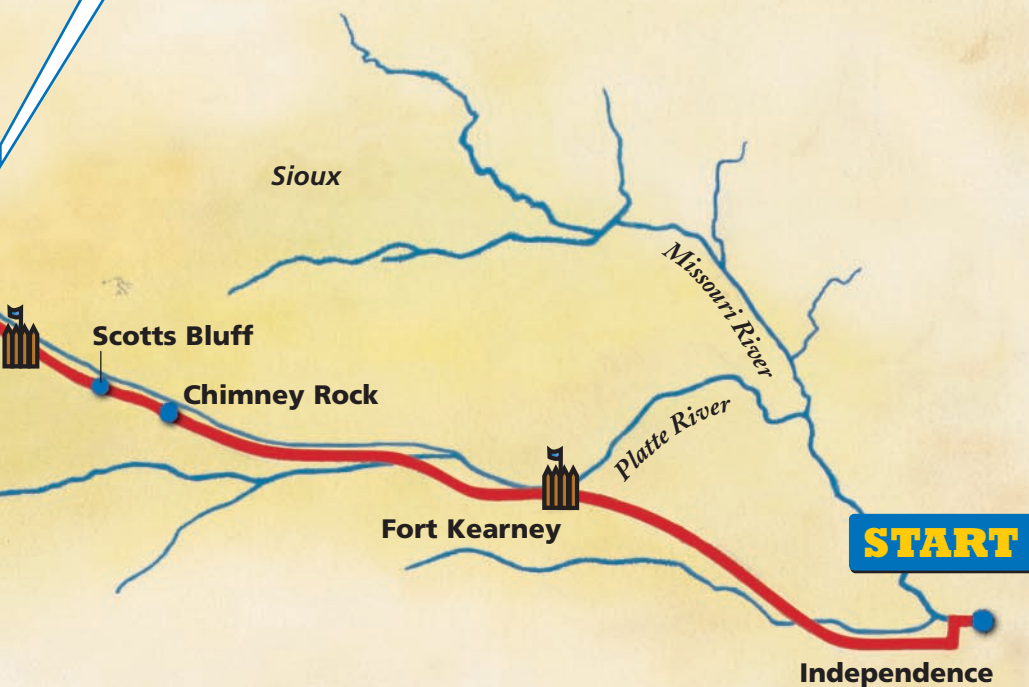
DATA FILE

HEALTH CHALLENGE

“A grand blow-out”

On July 4, your wagon train stops near Independence Rock for “a grand blow-out” to celebrate your progress. Each family will bring a dish to the party. What will you cook that is tasty and nutritious? You might use supplies from your wagon and berries or animals from the area. Look at the Data File for help. Present your choice using one of these options:

- Draw a picture of your dish and describe it.
- Write an original recipe.



The Journey

Distance: 2,000 miles
Length: 4–6 months
Average daily distance: 12–15 miles
Best time to travel: April–September

The Wagon

Size of box: 4 x 10 feet
Load: 1,600–2,500 pounds
Oxen needed per wagon: 4–8

Animals Taken

oxen, horses, dairy cows, cattle, chickens, mules, pigs, dogs, cats

Food Supplies

flour, corn meal, salt, baking soda, sugar, crackers, dried beans, rice, dried fruit, bacon, coffee, vinegar

Cooking Equipment

Dutch oven, large kettle, frying pan, bread pan, coffee grinder, rolling pin, tin cups and plates, water kegs, knives, spoons

Other Equipment

bedding, spare wagon parts, tar, rope, chains, pulleys, tools, fishing poles, guns, ammunition, matches, soap, medicines

Trail Hazards

Worst discomforts: heat, cold, wind, rain, dust, mud, mosquitoes, hunger, thirst

Biggest killer: disease

Most common accidents: shooting, drowning, crushing by wagon wheels, injuries from animals

For more about the Oregon Trail . . .



RESEARCH LINKS
CLASSZONE.COM

ACTIVITY WRAP-UP

Present to the class As a group, review your responses to the challenges of the Oregon Trail. Choose the most creative solution for each challenge and present these solutions to the class.



2 The Texas Revolution

TERMS & NAMES

Stephen Austin

Tejano

Antonio López de Santa Anna

Sam Houston

William Travis

Juan Seguín

Battle of the Alamo

Lone Star Republic

MAIN IDEA

American and *Tejano* citizens led Texas to independence from Mexico.

WHY IT MATTERS NOW

The diverse culture of Texas has developed from the contributions of many different groups.

ONE AMERICAN'S STORY

Son of a bankrupt Missouri mine owner, **Stephen Austin** read his mother's letter, written in 1821, in stunned silence. His father, Moses Austin, was dead. In his last moments, she told her son, "He called me to his bedside, . . . he begged me to tell you to take his place . . . to go on . . . in the same way he would have done."

Stephen knew what that meant. Moses Austin had spent the last years of his life chasing a crazy dream. He had hoped to found a colony for Americans in Spanish Texas.

Stephen's dream, though, was to be a lawyer—not a colonizer. Yet as a loving and obedient son, how could he deny his father's dying wish? A week after his father's death, Stephen Austin was standing on Texas soil. From that day on, his father's dream was to be his destiny.

This section explains how Stephen Austin, along with others, worked hard to make the lands of Texas a good place to live. Their spirit would create an independent Texas Republic. Later, Texas would become a state in the United States.

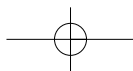


Stephen Austin, shown in this painting, helped fulfill his father's dream by establishing an American colony in Texas.

Spanish Texas

The Spanish land called *Tejas* (Tay•HAHS) bordered the United States territory called Louisiana. The land was rich and desirable. It had forests in the east, rich soil for growing corn and cotton, and great grassy plains for grazing animals. It also had rivers leading to natural ports on the Gulf of Mexico. It was home to Plains and Pueblo Native Americans. Even though *Tejas* was a state in the Spanish colony of New Spain, it had few Spanish settlers. Around 1819, Spanish soldiers drove off Americans trying to claim those lands as a part of the Louisiana Purchase.

In 1821, only about 4,000 *Tejanos* (Tay•HAH•nohs) lived in Texas. ***Tejanos*** are people of Spanish heritage who consider Texas their home. The Comanche, Apache, and other tribes fought fiercely against Spanish settlement of Texas. The Spanish officials wanted many more settlers to move to Texas. They hoped that new colonists would help to defend against Native Americans and Americans who illegally sneaked into Texas.



Vocabulary

empresarios: individuals who agreed to recruit settlers for the land

To attract more people to Texas, the Spanish government offered huge tracts of land to *empresarios*. But they were unable to attract Spanish settlers. So, when Moses Austin asked for permission to start a colony in Texas, Spain agreed. Austin was promised a large section of land. He had to agree that settlers on his land had to follow Spanish laws.

Mexican Independence Changes Texas

Shortly after Stephen Austin arrived in Texas in 1821, Mexico successfully gained its independence from Spain. *Tejas* was now a part of Mexico. With the change in government, the Spanish land grant given to Austin's father was worthless. Stephen Austin traveled to Mexico City to persuade the new Mexican government to let him start his colony. It took him almost a year to get permission. And the Mexican government would consent only if the new settlers agreed to become Mexican citizens and members of the Roman Catholic Church.

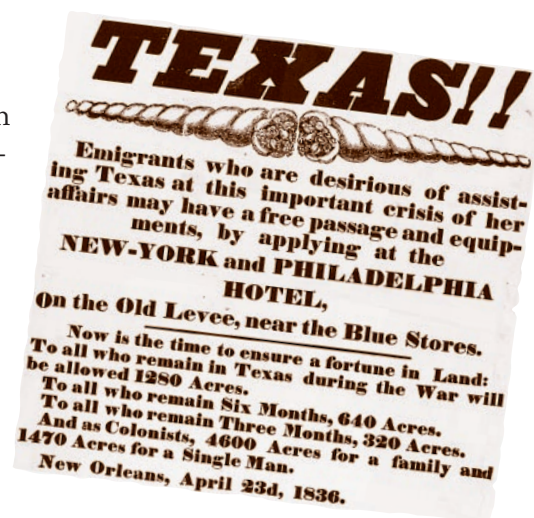
Between 1821 and 1827, Austin attracted 297 families to his new settlement. These original Texas settler families are known as the "Old Three Hundred." He demanded evidence that each family head was moral, worked hard, and did not drink. So law-abiding were his colonists that Austin could write to a new settler, "You will be astonished to see all our houses with no other fastening than a wooden pin or door latch."

The success of Austin's colony attracted more land speculators and settlers to Texas from the United States. Some were looking for a new life, some were escaping from the law, and others were looking for a chance to grow rich. By 1830, the population had swelled to about 30,000, with Americans outnumbering the *Tejanos* six to one.

Rising Tensions in Texas

As more and more Americans settled in Texas, tensions between them and the *Tejanos* increased. Used to governing themselves, Americans resented following Mexican laws. Since few Americans spoke Spanish, they were unhappy that all official documents had to be in that language. Slave owners were especially upset when Mexico outlawed slavery in 1829. They wanted to maintain slavery so they could grow cotton. Austin persuaded the government to allow slave owners to keep their slaves.

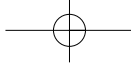
On the other hand, the *Tejanos* found the Americans difficult to live with, too. *Tejanos* thought that the Americans believed they were superior and deserved special privileges. The Americans seemed unwilling to adapt to Mexican laws.



Posters such as the one above encouraged Americans from the East to settle in Texas. Some people scrawled G.T.T. on their doors to indicate they had "gone to Texas."

Reading History

A. Analyzing Causes Why was there growing tension between Americans and *Tejanos*?



The Mexican government sent an official to Texas to investigate the tensions. He was not happy with what he found. In 1829, he reported to his government, “I am warning you to take timely measures . . . Texas could throw this whole nation into revolution.” His advice turned out to be right.

Responding to the warnings, the Mexican government cracked down on Texas. First, it closed the state to further American immigration. Next, it required Texans to pay taxes for the first time. Finally, to enforce these new laws, the government sent more Mexican troops to Texas.

ReadingHistory

B. Summarizing

What three actions did the Mexican government take to control Texas?

Texans Revolt Against Mexico

These actions caused angry protests. Some Texans even talked of breaking away from Mexico. Most, however, listened to Austin, who remained loyal to Mexico. In 1833, Austin set off for Mexico City with a petition. This document listed reforms supported by both Americans and *Tejanos*. The most important request was that Texas become a self-governing state within Mexico.

In Mexico City, Austin met General **Antonio López de Santa Anna**, the Mexican president. At first, the general agreed to most of the reforms in Austin’s petition. But then Santa Anna learned of a letter Austin had written. The letter said that if the changes weren’t approved Austin would support breaking away from Mexican rule. This was rebellion! The general had Austin jailed for an entire year. The Texans were furious and ready to rebel.

Santa Anna’s answer to talk of rebellion was to send more troops to Texas. In late September 1835, Mexican soldiers marched to the town of Gonzales. They had orders to seize a cannon used by the Texans for protection against Native Americans. Texas volunteers had hung a flag on the big gun that said, “Come and Take It.”

The Mexican troops failed to capture the cannon. Two months later, Texans drove Mexican troops out of an old mission in San Antonio that was used as a fortress. It was called the Alamo. Among the Texas volunteers were free African Americans such as Hendrick Arnold and Greenbury Logan. Angered by these insults, Santa Anna and 6,000 troops headed for Texas.

ReadingHistory

C. Analyzing Causes

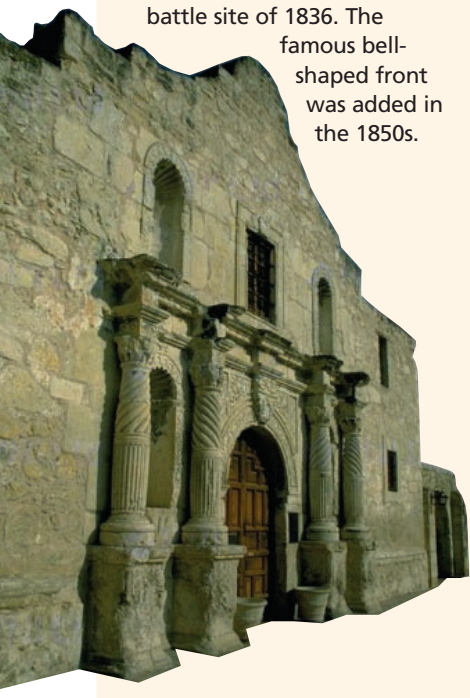
What Texan actions moved Santa Anna to head toward Texas?

America’s HERITAGE

REMEMBER THE ALAMO!

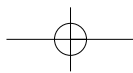
Today the Alamo, shown below, is again under siege. Moisture seeps into the limestone walls and causes them to crumble. Many people view the mission as a memorial to Americans’ willingness to fight for freedom, so a Texas group has begun attempts to preserve the Alamo from further damage. The Alamo looks quite different from the battle site of 1836. The

famous bell-shaped front was added in the 1850s.



The Fight for the Alamo

On March 1–2, 1836, Texans met at a settlement called Washington-on-the-Brazos to decide what to do about Santa Anna’s troops. They believed they could do only one thing: to declare Texas a free and independent republic. **Sam Houston**, the only man at the meeting with military experience, was placed in command of the Texas army.



“Remember the Alamo!”

a Texan soldier

The Texas army hardly existed. At that moment, there were two small forces ready to stand up to Santa Anna’s army. One was a company of 420 men, led by James Fannin, stationed at Goliad, a fort in southeast Texas. The second was a company of 183 volunteers at the Alamo. Headed by **William Travis**, this small force included such famous frontiersmen as Davy Crockett and Jim Bowie. In addition, **Juan Seguín** (wahn seh•GEEN) led a band of 25 *Tejanos* in support of revolt.

On February 23, 1836, Santa Anna’s troops surrounded San Antonio. The next day, Mexicans began their siege of the Alamo. Two nights later, Travis scrawled a message to the world.

ReadingHistory

D. Making

Inferences Why would William Travis address his message to all Americans?

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

The enemy has demanded a surrender. . . . I have answered the demand with a cannon shot, and our flag still waves proudly from the walls. I shall never surrender or retreat.

William Travis, “To the People of Texas and all the Americans in the World”

Because Juan Seguín spoke Spanish, he was chosen to carry the plea through enemy lines. Seguín got the message through to other Texas defenders. But when he returned, he saw the Alamo in flames.

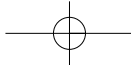
The Alamo’s defenders held off the Mexican attack for 12 violent days. Travis and the defenders stubbornly refused to surrender. On the 13th day, Santa Anna ordered more than 1,800 men to storm the fortress. The Texans met the attackers with a hailstorm of cannon and gun fire. Then suddenly it became strangely quiet. The Texans had run out of ammunition. At day’s end, all but five Texans were dead. The **Battle of the Alamo** was over.

HISTORY throughART

The Battle of the Alamo was so intense that Davy Crockett did not have time to reload his gun, which he called “Betsy.” He used it as a club. This print is by a 20th-century illustrator, Frederick Yohn.

What does the print reveal about the battle?





AMERICA'S HISTORY MAKERS



JUAN SEGUÍN

1806–1890

Juan Seguín was a *Tejano* hero of the Texas Revolution. It was Seguín who dashed through enemy lines at the Alamo with a last desperate attempt for aid.

And after the war, it was Seguín who arranged for the remains of the Alamo defenders to be buried with full military honors.

Newcomers to Texas who disliked all *Tejanos* falsely accused Seguín of planning rebellion. Fearing for his life, he fled to Mexico in 1842, there “to seek a refuge amongst my enemies.”

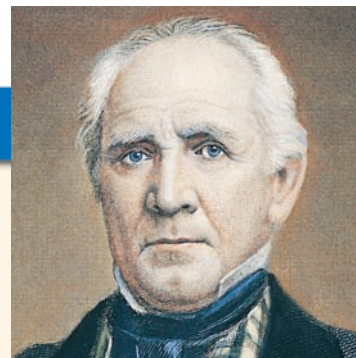
SAM HOUSTON

1793–1863

Raised by a widowed mother, Sam Houston grew up in Tennessee. He lived with the Cherokee for about three years. Later, he served in the U.S. Army, in Congress, and as the governor of Tennessee.

“I was a General without an army,” wrote Houston, after taking command of the Texas forces in 1836. Yet by the time the war was over, he and his troops had defeated Santa Anna’s larger army.

Houston was elected the first president of the Republic of Texas. When Texas became a state, he served as a U.S. senator.



In what ways did the experiences of Seguín and Houston differ?

Those men who had not died in the fighting were executed at Santa Anna’s command. A total of 183 Alamo defenders died. A few women and children were not killed. Susanna Dickinson, one of the survivors, was ordered by Santa Anna to tell the story of the Alamo to other Texans. He hoped the story would discourage more rebellion. The slaughter at the Alamo shocked Texans—and showed them how hard they would have to fight for their freedom from Mexico.

Victory at San Jacinto

With Santa Anna on the attack, Texans—both soldiers and settlers—fled eastward. Houston sent a message to the men at Goliad, ordering them to retreat. They were captured by Mexican forces, who executed more than 300. The Texans would not soon forget the massacre at Goliad. But even in retreat and defeat, Houston’s army doubled. Now it was a fighting force of 800 angry men. It included *Tejanos*, American settlers, volunteers from the United States, and many free and enslaved African Americans.

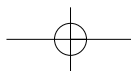
In late April, Santa Anna caught up with Houston near the San Jacinto (san juh•SIN•toh) River. Late in the afternoon of April 21, 1836, the Texans advanced on the Mexican army “with the stillness of death.” When close to Santa Anna’s camp, they raced forward, rifles ready, screaming “Remember the Alamo!” “Remember Goliad!”

In just 18 minutes, the Texans killed more than half of the Mexican army. Santa Anna was forced to sign a treaty giving Texas its freedom. With the Battle of San Jacinto, Texas was now independent.

ReadingHistory

E. Reading a Map

Use the map on page 389 to see where battles were taking place.



Lone Star Republic

In September 1836, Texans raised a flag with a single star. They adopted a nickname—**Lone Star Republic**—and proclaimed Texas an independent nation. The new nation set up its own army and navy. Sam Houston was elected president of the Lone Star Republic by a landslide.

Many Texans did not want Texas to remain independent for long. They considered themselves Americans and wanted to be a part of the United States. In 1836, the Texas government asked Congress to annex Texas to the Union.

Many Northerners objected. They argued that Texas would become a slave state, and they opposed any expansion of slavery. If Texas joined the Union, slave states would outnumber free states and have a voting advantage in Congress. Other people feared that annexing Texas would lead to war with Mexico.

In response, Congress voted against annexation. Texas remained an independent republic for almost ten years. In the next section, you will learn that the question of annexing Texas did lead to a war between the United States and Mexico.

Vocabulary

annex: to join territory to an existing country

ReadingHistory

F. Analyzing Causes Why didn't Congress annex Texas?



- 1. Movement** About how many total miles did Santa Anna travel from Mexico to San Jacinto?
- 2. Movement** Look at the distances traveled by Mexican forces and those traveled by the Texans. Which side do you think had an advantage? Explain.

Section 2 Assessment

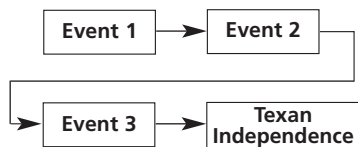
1. Terms & Names

Explain the significance of:

- Stephen Austin
- *Tejano*
- Antonio López de Santa Anna
- Sam Houston
- William Travis
- Juan Seguín
- Battle of the Alamo
- Lone Star Republic

2. Taking Notes

Use a diagram like the one shown to review events that led to Texan independence and put them in order.



3. Main Ideas

- Why did Americans want to move to Texas?
- How did the Mexican government respond to the Texas rebellion?
- Why did Congress refuse to annex Texas?

4. Critical Thinking

Recognizing Effects How did losing the Battle of the Alamo help the Texans win their independence?

THINK ABOUT

- the Texans' and Americans' shock over the loss of the battle to the Mexicans
- the need to recruit more forces to fight with the Texas army

ACTIVITY OPTIONS

ART
TECHNOLOGY

Research a figure from the Texas Revolution. Create a **trading card** or design that person's **Web page** for the Internet.



3 The War with Mexico

TERMS & NAMES

James K. Polk
 manifest destiny
 Zachary Taylor
 Bear Flag Revolt
 Winfield Scott
 Treaty of
 Guadalupe
 Hidalgo
 Mexican Cession

MAIN IDEA

The United States expanded its territory westward to stretch from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast.

WHY IT MATTERS NOW

Today, one-third of all Americans live in the areas added to the United States in 1848.

ONE AMERICAN'S STORY

Henry Clay sneered, "Who is **James K. Polk**?" Clay had just learned the name of the man nominated by Democrats to run against him for president in 1844. "A mistake!" answered Washington insiders.

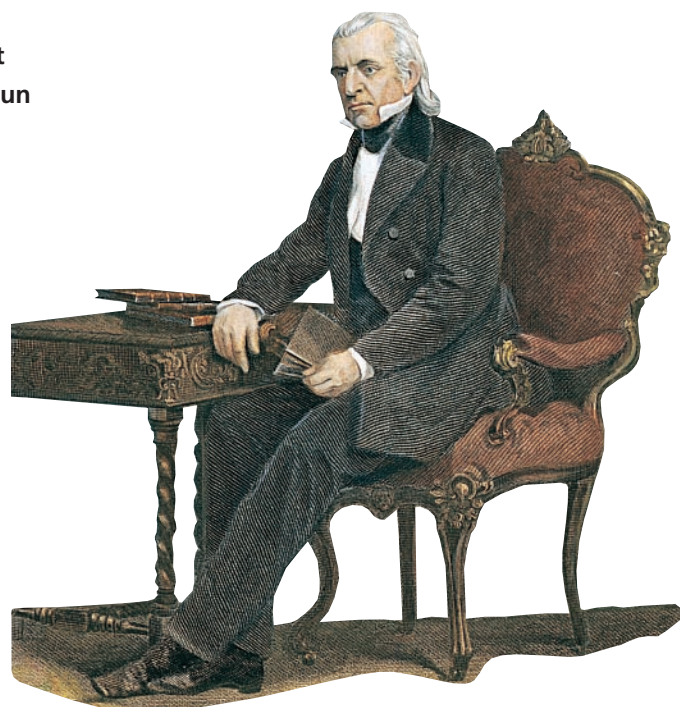
News of Polk's nomination was flashed to the capital by the newly invented telegraph machine. People were convinced that the machine didn't work. How could the Democrats choose Polk? A joke!

Polk was America's first "dark horse," a candidate who received unexpected support. The Democrats had nominated this little-known man only when they could not agree on anyone else.

Still, Polk wasn't a complete nobody. He had been governor of Tennessee and served seven terms in Congress. Polk was committed to national expansion. He vowed to annex Texas and take over Oregon. Americans listened and voted.

When those votes were counted, Clay had his answer. James Knox Polk was the eleventh president of the United States.

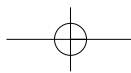
During his campaign, Polk's ideas about expanding the country captured the attention of Americans. As you will read in this section, after his election Polk looked for ways to expand the nation.



James Polk's presidential campaign emphasized expansion of the United States.

Americans Support Manifest Destiny

The abundance of land in the West seemed to hold great promise for Americans. Although populated with Native Americans and Mexicans, those lands were viewed by white settlers as unoccupied. Many Americans wanted to settle those lands themselves, and they worried about competition from other nations. Mexico occupied the southwest lands, and Britain shared the northwest Oregon Territory with the United States. Many Americans believed that the United States was



destined to stretch across the continent from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. In 1845, a newspaper editor named John O'Sullivan gave a name to that belief.

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

Our manifest destiny [is] to overspread and possess the whole of the continent which Providence [God] has given us for the development of the great experiment of liberty and . . . self-government.

John O'Sullivan, *United States Magazine and Democratic Review*

ReadingHistory

A. Drawing Conclusions

What were the positives and negatives of the idea of manifest destiny?

John O'Sullivan used the word *manifest* to mean clear or obvious. The word *destiny* means events sure to happen. Therefore, **manifest destiny** suggested that expansion was not only good but bound to happen—even if it meant pushing Mexicans and Native Americans out of the way. After Polk's election in 1844, manifest destiny became government policy.

The term “manifest destiny” was new, but the idea was not. By the 1840s, thousands of Americans had moved into the Oregon Territory. Since 1818, Oregon had been occupied jointly by the United States and Britain. In his campaign, Polk had talked of taking over all of Oregon. “Fifty-four forty or fight!” screamed one of his slogans. The parallel of 54° 40' N latitude was the northern boundary of the shared Oregon Territory.

Rather than fight for all of Oregon, however, Polk settled for half. In 1846, the United States and Great Britain agreed to divide Oregon at the 49th parallel. This agreement extended the boundary line already drawn between Canada and the United States. Today this line still serves as the border between much of the United States and Canada.



“Our manifest destiny [is] to . . . possess the whole of the continent.”

John O'Sullivan

Troubles with Mexico

Polk had good reason for avoiding war with Britain over Oregon. By 1846, he had much bigger troubles brewing with Mexico over Texas.

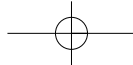
In 1845, Congress admitted Texas as a slave state, in spite of Northern objections to the spread of slavery. However, Mexico still claimed Texas as its own. Mexico angrily viewed this annexation as an act of war. To make matters worse, Texas and Mexico could not agree on the official border between them. Texas claimed the Rio Grande, a river south of San Antonio, as its southern boundary. Mexico insisted on the Nueces (noo•AY•sis) River as the border of Texas. The difference in the distance between the two rivers was more than 100 miles at some points. Many thousands of miles of territory were at stake.

Mexico said it would fight to defend its claim. Hoping to settle the dispute peacefully, Polk sent John Slidell, a Spanish-speaking

ReadingHistory

B. Reading a Map

Use the map on page 392 to find the locations of the disputed border between Texas and Mexico.



ambassador, to offer Mexico \$25 million for Texas, California, and New Mexico. But Slidell's diplomacy failed.

Believing that the American people supported his expansion plans, Polk wanted to force the issue with Mexico. He purposely ordered General **Zachary Taylor** to station troops on the northern bank of the Rio Grande. This river bank was part of the disputed territory. Viewing this as an act of war, Mexico moved an army into place on the southern bank. On April 25, 1846, a Mexican cavalry unit crossed the Rio Grande. They ambushed an American patrol and killed or wounded 16 American soldiers.

When news of the attack reached Washington, Polk sent a rousing war message to Congress, saying, "Mexico has invaded our territory and shed American blood upon American soil." Two days later, Congress declared war. The War with Mexico had begun. Thousands of volunteers, mostly from western states, rushed to enlist in the army. Santa Anna, who was president of Mexico, built up the Mexican army.

However, Americans had mixed reactions to Polk's call for war. Illinois representative Abraham Lincoln questioned the truthfulness of the president's message and the need to declare war. Northerners questioned the justice of men dying in such a war. Slavery became an issue in the debates over the war. Southerners saw expansion into Texas as an opportunity to extend slavery and to increase their power in Congress. To

ReadingHistory

C. Analyzing Causes How did the War with Mexico start?

The War with Mexico, 1846–1847

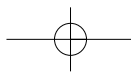


A symbol of the Bear Flag Revolt, this flag has a grizzly bear and a star made with blackberry juice. The revolt declared California independent from Mexico.



GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER Interpreting Maps

- 1. Movement** About how far did General Kearny's troops move to reach San Diego?
- 2. Location** Why would defending Texas be much easier than defending Mexico?



prevent this from happening, antislavery representatives introduced a bill to prohibit slavery in any lands taken from Mexico. Frederick Douglass, the abolitionist, summarized the arguments.

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

The determination of our slaveholding President to prosecute the war, and the probability of his success in wringing from the people men and money to carry it on, is made evident, . . . None seem willing to take their stand for peace at all risks; and all seem willing that the war should be carried on in some form or other.

Frederick Douglass in *The North Star*, January 21, 1848

Despite opposition, the United States plunged into war. In May 1846, General Taylor led troops into Mexico. Many Americans thought it would be easy to defeat the Mexicans, and the war would end quickly.

Capturing New Mexico and California

Not long after the war began, General Stephen Kearny (KAHR•nee)—a U.S. Army officer—and his men left Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, with orders to occupy New Mexico. Then they were to continue west to California. As his troops marched along the Santa Fe Trail, they sang songs like this one.

ReadingHistory

D. Making Inferences

How does this song support the idea of manifest destiny?

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

Old Colonel Kearny, you can bet,
Will keep the boys in motion,
Till Yankee Land includes the sand
On the Pacific Ocean.

Six weeks and 650 hot and rugged miles later, Kearny's army entered New Mexico. Using persuasion instead of force, he convinced the Mexican troops that he meant to withdraw. This allowed him to take New Mexico without firing a shot. Then Kearny and a small force of soldiers marched on toward California, which had only 6,000 Mexican residents. The remainder of the force moved south toward Mexico.

In California, Americans led by the explorer John C. Frémont rebelled against Mexican rule in the **Bear Flag Revolt**. They arrested the Mexican commander of Northern California and raised a crude flag showing a grizzly bear sketched in blackberry juice. The rebels declared California independent of Mexico and named it the Republic of California. In the fall, U.S. troops reached California and joined forces with the rebels. Within weeks, Americans controlled all of California.

The Invasion of Mexico

The defeat of Mexico proved far more difficult. The Mexican army was much larger, but the U.S. troops

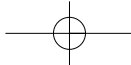
STRANGE but True

SANTA ANNA'S LOST LEG

Santa Anna lost his left leg in a battle with the French. In 1842, he held a funeral for his severed limb. On that day, church and political officials followed the dictator's leg through the streets of Mexico City to its final resting place—an urn placed on a column.

Two years later, an angry mob broke the urn and threw the leg away. The leg was rescued by a loyal soldier who took it home and hid it.

Thirty years later, that soldier visited Santa Anna and returned the bones of his long-lost leg.



were led by well-trained officers. American forces invaded Mexico from two directions.

General Taylor battled his way south from Texas toward the city of Monterrey in northern Mexico. On February 22, 1847, his 4,800 troops met General Santa Anna's 15,000 Mexican soldiers near a ranch called Buena Vista. After the first day of fighting, Santa Anna sent Taylor a note offering him a chance to surrender. Taylor declined. At the end of the second bloody day of fighting, Santa Anna reported that "both armies have been cut to pieces." However, it was Santa Anna who retreated after the Battle of Buena Vista. The war in the north of Mexico was over.

In southern Mexico, fighting continued. A second force led by General **Winfield Scott** landed at Veracruz on the Gulf of Mexico and battled inland toward Mexico City. Outside the capital, Scott met fierce resistance at the castle of Chapultepec (chuh•POOL•tuh•pek). About 1,000 soldiers and 100 young military cadets bravely defended the fortress. Despite their determined resistance, Mexico City fell to Scott in September 1847. As he watched, a Mexican officer sighed and said, "God is a Yankee."

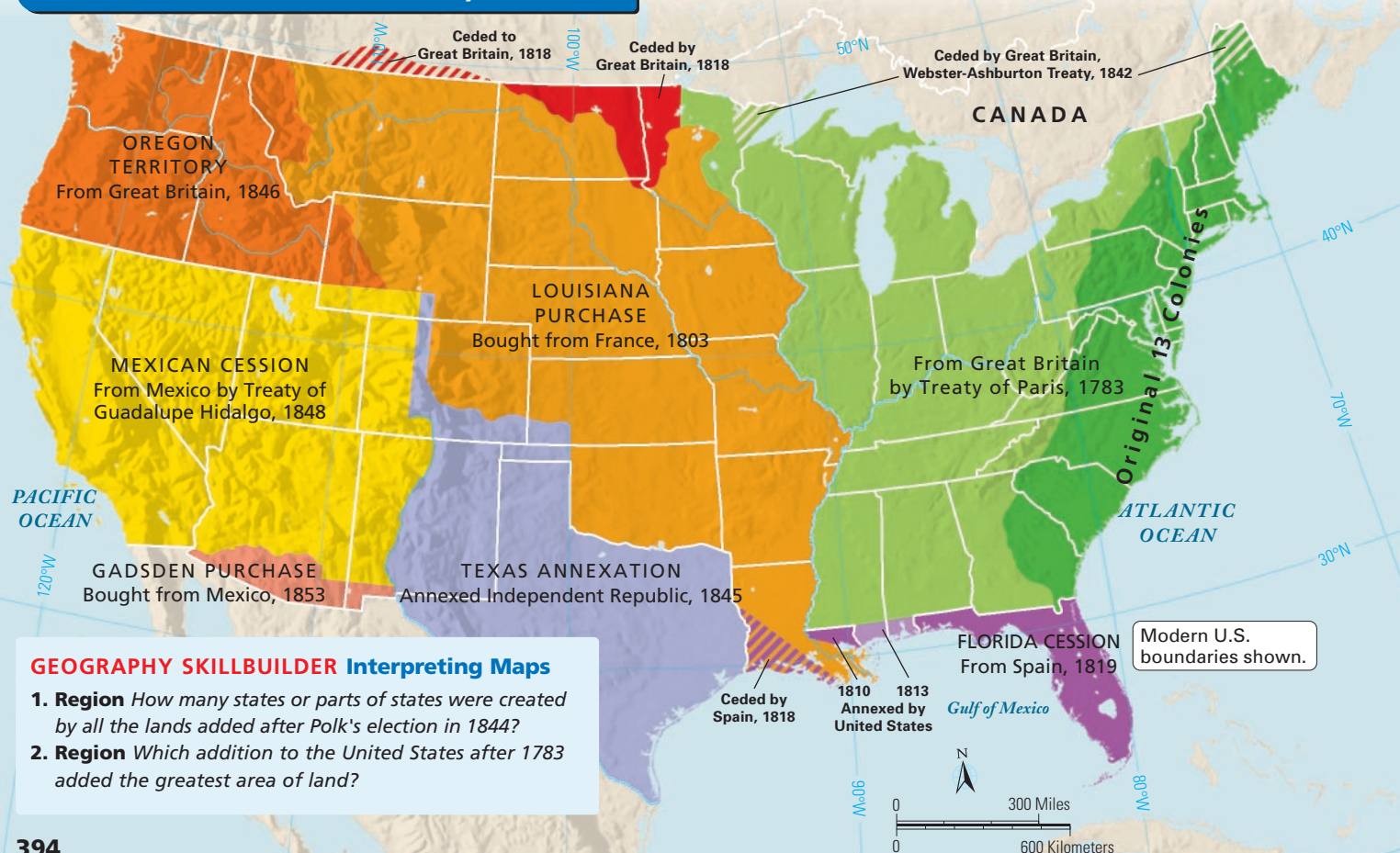
Background

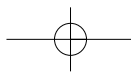
General Winfield Scott had become a national hero during the War of 1812.

The Mexican Cession

On February 2, 1848, the war officially ended with the **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo** (gwah•duh•LOOP•ay hih•DAHL•go). In this treaty, Mexico recognized that Texas was part of the United States, and the

Growth of the United States, 1783–1853





ReadingHistory

E. Finding Main Ideas What were the three main parts of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo?

Rio Grande was the border between the nations. Mexico also ceded, or gave up, a vast region known as the **Mexican Cession**. This area included the present-day states of California, Nevada, Utah, most of Arizona, and parts of New Mexico, Colorado, and Wyoming. Together with Texas, this land amounted to almost one-half of Mexico. The loss was a bitter defeat for Mexico, particularly because many Mexicans felt that the United States had provoked the war in the hope of gaining Mexican territory.

In return, the United States agreed to pay Mexico \$15 million. The United States would also pay the \$3.25 million of claims U.S. citizens had against Mexico. Finally, it also promised to protect the 80,000 Mexicans living in Texas and the Mexican Cession.

Mexicans living in the United States saw the conquest of their land differently. Suddenly they were a minority in a nation with a strange language, culture, and legal system. At the same time, they would make important contributions to their new country. They taught new settlers how to develop the land for farming, ranching, and mining. A rich new culture resulted from the blend of many cultures in the Mexican Cession.

ReadingHistory

F. Making Inferences Why did the United States pay a large price for the Gadsden Purchase?

“From Sea to Shining Sea”

The last bit of territory added to the continental United States was a strip of land across what is now southern New Mexico and Arizona. The government wanted the land as a location for a southern transcontinental railroad. In 1853, Mexico sold the land—called the Gadsden Purchase—to the United States for \$10 million.

On July 4, 1848, in Washington, President Polk laid the cornerstone of a monument to honor George Washington. In Washington’s day, the western border of the United States was the Mississippi River. The United States in 1848 now stretched “from sea to shining sea.” In August, Polk learned that gold had been found in California. In the next section, you will read about the California gold rush.

Section 3 Assessment

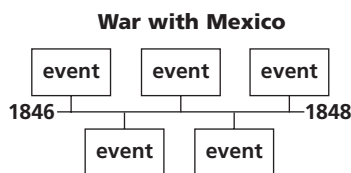
1. Terms & Names

Explain the significance of:

- James K. Polk
- manifest destiny
- Zachary Taylor
- Bear Flag Revolt
- Winfield Scott
- Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo
- Mexican Cession

2. Taking Notes

Review the chapter and find five key events to place on a time line as shown.



3. Main Ideas

- a.** How did the acquisitions of Oregon and the Mexican Cession relate to the idea of manifest destiny?
- b.** Why were some people opposed to the War with Mexico?
- c.** What does the phrase “sea to shining sea” mean?

4. Critical Thinking

Comparing Compare the different ways land was acquired by the United States in the period of manifest destiny from 1844 to 1853.

THINK ABOUT

- the acquisition of the Oregon Territory
- lands in the Southwest

ACTIVITY OPTIONS

MATH
GEOGRAPHY

In an almanac, find the current population of the states formed from the Mexican Cession. Create a **graph** or a **map** to display the information.



4 The California Gold Rush

TERMS & NAMES

forty-niner
Californio
 Mariano Vallejo
 John Sutter
 James Marshall
 California gold rush

MAIN IDEA

Gold was found in California, and thousands rushed to that territory. California quickly became a state.

WHY IT MATTERS NOW

The gold rush made California grow rapidly and helped bring about California's cultural diversity.

ONE AMERICAN'S STORY

Luzena Wilson said of the year 1849, "The gold excitement spread like wildfire." The year before, James Marshall had discovered gold in California. Luzena's husband decided to become a **forty-niner**—someone who went to California to find gold, starting in 1849.

Most forty-niners left their families behind, but Luzena traveled to California with her husband. She later said, "I thought where he could go I could, and where I went I could take my two little toddling babies."

Luzena discovered that women—and their homemaking skills—were rare in California. Shortly after she arrived, a miner offered her five dollars for the biscuits she was baking. Shocked, she just stared at him. He quickly doubled his offer and paid in gold. Luzena realized she could make money by feeding miners, so she opened a hotel.

Like the Wilsons, thousands of people from around the world became forty-niners. In this section, you will read about the forty-niners and what their mining experiences were like. You will learn how the rapid growth of California's population caused problems for the people who lived there before 1849. You will also discover how the gold rush boosted California's economy and changed the nation's history.

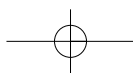


This woman is carrying food to miners, just as Luzena Wilson did.

California Before the Rush

Before the forty-niners came, California was populated by as many as 150,000 Native Americans and 6,000 *Californios*—settlers of Spanish or Mexican descent. Most *Californios* lived on huge cattle ranches. They had acquired their estates when the Mexican government took away the land that once belonged to the California missions.

One important *Californio* was **Mariano Vallejo** (mah•RYAH•noh vah•YEH•hoh). A member of one of the oldest Spanish families in America, he owned 250,000 acres of land. Proudly describing the accomplishments of the *Californios*, Vallejo wrote, "We were the pioneers of the Pacific coast . . . while General Washington was carrying on the war of the Revolution." Vallejo himself had been the commander of Northern California when it belonged to Mexico.



Vocabulary

immigration: the movement of people into a country or region where they were not born

When Mexico owned California, its government feared American immigration and rarely gave land to foreigners. But **John Sutter**, a Swiss immigrant, was one exception. Dressed in a secondhand French army uniform, Sutter had visited the Mexican governor in 1839. A charming man, Sutter persuaded the governor to grant him 50,000 acres in the unsettled Sacramento Valley. Sutter built a fort on his land and dreamed of creating his own personal empire based on agriculture.

In 1848, Sutter sent a carpenter named **James Marshall** to build a sawmill on the nearby American River. One day Marshall inspected the canal that brought water to Sutter's Mill. He later said, "My eye was caught by a glimpse of something shining. . . . I reached my hand down and picked it up; it made my heart thump for I felt certain it was gold."

Rush for Gold

News of Marshall's thrilling discovery spread rapidly. From all over California, people raced to the American River—starting the **California gold rush**. A gold rush occurs when large numbers of people move to a site where gold has been found. Throughout history, people have valued gold because it is scarce, beautiful, easy to shape, and resistant to tarnish.

Miners soon found gold in other streams flowing out of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Colonel R. B. Mason, the military governor of California, estimated that the region held enough gold to "pay the cost of the present war with Mexico a hundred times over." He sent this news to Washington with a box of gold dust as proof.

The following year thousands of gold seekers set out to make their fortunes. A forty-niner who wished to reach California from the East had a choice of three routes, all of them dangerous:

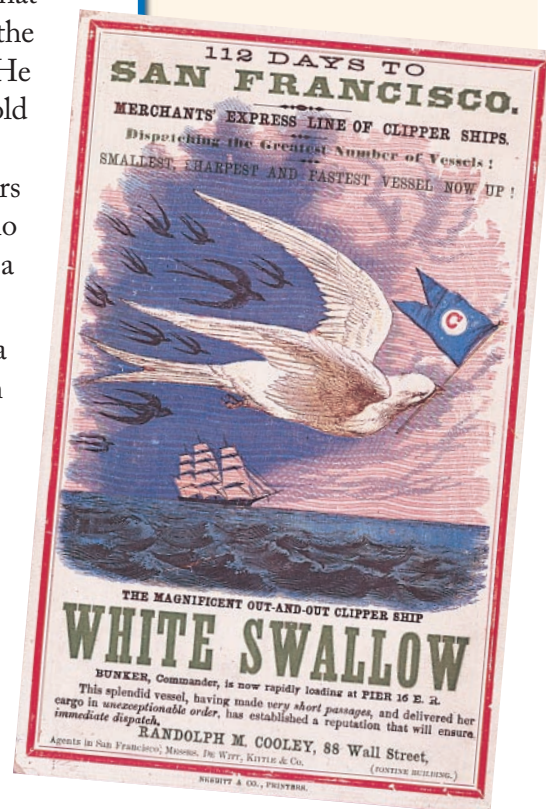
1. Sail 18,000 miles around South America and up the Pacific coast—suffering from storms, seasickness, and spoiled food.
2. Sail to the narrow Isthmus of Panama, cross overland (and risk catching a deadly tropical disease), and then sail to California.
3. Travel the trails across North America—braving rivers, prairies, mountains, and all the hardships of the trail.

Because the adventure was so difficult, most gold seekers were young men. "A gray beard is almost as rare as a petticoat," observed one miner. Luzena Wilson said that during the six months she lived in the mining city of Sacramento, she saw only two other women.

HISTORY through ART

Clipper ship companies used advertising cards such as this one to convince Easterners that their line provided the fastest, most pleasant voyages.

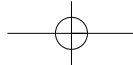
How has the artist tried to project a positive image for sailing west?



Reading History

A. Categorizing

What were the three different types of transportation that people took to get to California?



Now and then

LEVI'S BLUE JEANS

Nearly everyone in the United States owns at least one pair of faded, comfortable blue jeans. The first jeans were invented for California miners.

In 1873, a man named Levi Strauss wanted to sell sturdy pants to miners. Strauss made his pants out of the strongest fabric he could buy—cotton denim. He reinforced the pockets with copper rivets so that they could hold heavy tools without ripping.

For more than 125 years, jeans have remained popular. Levi Strauss's pants have

proved to be durable in more ways than one.



Life in the Mining Camps

The mining camps had colorful names like Mad Mule Gulch, Hangtown, and Coyote Diggings. They began as rows of tents along the streams flowing out of the Sierra Nevada. Gradually, the tents gave way to rough wooden buildings that housed stores and saloons.

Mining camps could be dangerous. One woman who lived in the region wrote about camp violence.

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

In the short space of twenty-four days, we have had murders, fearful accidents, bloody deaths, a mob, whippings, a hanging, . . . and a fatal duel.

Louise Clappe, quoted in *Frontier Women*

The mining life was hard for other reasons. Camp gossip told of miners who grew rich overnight by finding eight-pound nuggets, but in reality, such easy pickings were rare. Miners spent their days standing knee-deep in icy streams, where they sifted through tons of mud and sand to find small amounts of gold. Exhaustion, poor food, and disease all damaged the miners' health.

Not only was acquiring gold brutally difficult, but the miners had to pay outrageously high prices for basic supplies. In addition, gamblers and con artists swarmed into the camps to swindle the miners of their money. As a result, few miners grew rich.

Miners from Around the World

About two-thirds of the forty-niners were Americans. Most of these were white men—many from New England. However, Native Americans, free blacks, and enslaved African Americans also worked the mines.

Thousands of experienced miners came from Sonora in Mexico. Other foreign miners came from Europe, South America, Australia, and China. Most of the Chinese miners were peasant farmers who fled from a region that had suffered several crop failures. By the end of 1851, one of every ten immigrants was Chinese.

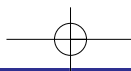
Used to backbreaking labor in their homeland, the Chinese proved to be patient miners. They would take over sites that American miners had abandoned because the easy gold was gone. Through steady, hard work, the Chinese made these “played-out” sites yield profits. American miners resented the success of the Chinese and were suspicious of their different foods, dress, and customs. As the numbers of Chinese miners grew, American anger toward them also increased.

ReadingHistory

B. Making Inferences Why do you think life in the mining camps was so rough?

ReadingHistory

C. Analyzing Causes Why did some Americans resent Chinese miners?



Technology OF THE Time

Surface Mining

Gold is found in cracks, called veins, in the earth's rocky crust. As mountains and other outcrops of rock erode, the gold veins come to the surface. The gold breaks apart into nuggets, flakes, and dust. Flood waters then wash it downhill into stream beds. To mine this surface gold, forty-niners had to use tools designed to separate it from the mud and sand around it. American miners learned some technology from Mexicans who came from the mining region of Sonora.

Miners shoveled dirt into the sluice. The rushing water carried lightweight materials along with it. Heavy gold sank to the bottom and was trapped between the ridges.

A sluice was a series of long boxes with ridges on the bottom. Water ran through the sluice, which angled downward.

Although this photograph shows American and Chinese miners working together, in many places Americans chased the Chinese away.

Mexican miners introduced the use of the pan. A miner would fill a pan with dirt and water. Then he would swirl the pan. Water sloshed over the sides, carrying lightweight minerals with it. Gold settled in the bottom.

CONNECT TO HISTORY

1. Drawing Conclusions

Which mining method could be used by an individual miner and which needed a group of miners? Explain your answer.



See Skillbuilder Handbook, page R13.

CONNECT TO TODAY

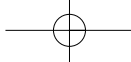
2. Researching

How is gold mined today?

For more about the California gold rush . . .



RESEARCH LINKS
CLASSZONE.COM



Conflicts Among Miners

A mixture of greed, anger, and prejudice caused some miners to cheat others. For example, I. B. Gilman promised to free an enslaved African American named Tom if he saved enough gold. For more than a year, Tom mined for himself after each day's work was done. When he finally had \$1,000, Gilman gave him a paper saying he was free. The next day, the paper suspiciously disappeared. Even though Tom was certain he had been robbed, he couldn't prove it. He had to work for another year before Gilman would free him.

Once the easy-to-find gold was gone, American miners began to force Native Americans and foreigners such as Mexicans and Chinese out of the gold fields to reduce competition. This practice increased after California became a state in 1850. One of the first acts of the California state legislature was to pass the Foreign Miners Tax, which imposed a tax of \$20 a month on miners from other countries. That was more than most could afford to pay. As the tax collectors arrived in the camps, most foreigners left.

Driven from the mines, the Chinese opened shops, restaurants, and laundries. So many Chinese owned businesses in San Francisco that their neighborhood was called Chinatown, a name it still goes by today.

The Impact of the Gold Rush

By 1852, the gold rush was over. While it lasted, about 250,000 people flooded into California. This huge migration caused economic growth that changed California permanently. The port city of San Francisco grew to become a center of banking, manufacturing, shipping, and trade. Its population exploded from around 400 in 1845 to 35,000 in 1850. Sacramento became the center of a productive farming region.

However, the gold rush ruined many *Californios*. The newcomers did not respect *Californios*, their customs, or their legal rights. In many cases,

ReadingHistory

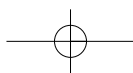
D. Analyzing Causes How did the state government make mining harder for foreigners?

CAUSE AND EFFECT: U.S. Expansion, 1846–1853

CAUSE	EFFECT
Westward trails move thousands to new territories.	Oregon Territory acquired by the United States.
Austin and others colonize Texas.	Texas Revolution
United States annexes Texas.	War with Mexico
Mexican Cession acquired by the United States.	United States expands "sea to sea."
Transcontinental railroad route needed.	Gadsden Purchase
Thousands of gold seekers rush to California.	California becomes a state.

SKILLBUILDER Interpreting Charts

- Which two causes are related to transportation?
- Which cause fulfilled the nation's "manifest destiny"?



ReadingHistory

E. Recognizing Effects What impact did the gold rush have on the people who lived in California before the forty-niners came?

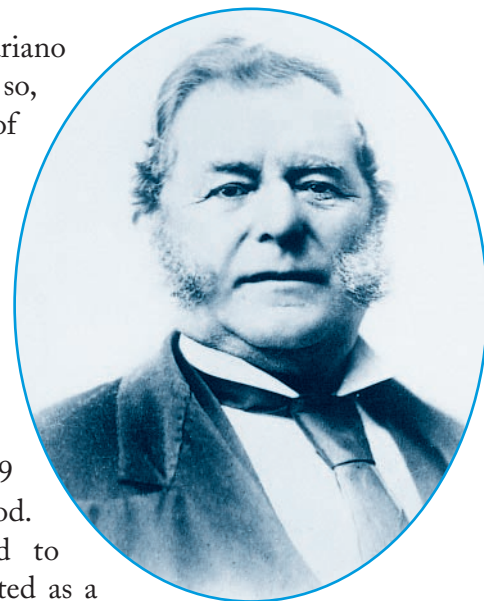
Americans seized their property. For example, Mariano Vallejo lost all but 300 acres of his huge estate. Even so, their Spanish heritage became an important part of California culture.

Native Americans suffered even more. Thousands of them died from diseases brought by the newcomers. The miners hunted down and killed thousands more. The reason was the Anglo-American belief that Native Americans stood in the way of progress. By 1870, California's Native American population had fallen from 150,000 to only about 58,000.

A final effect of the gold rush was that by 1849 California had enough people to apply for statehood. Skipping the territorial stage, California applied to Congress for admission to the Union and was admitted as a free state in 1850. Although its constitution outlawed slavery, it did not grant African Americans the vote.

For some people, California's statehood proved to be the opportunity of a lifetime. The enslaved woman Nancy Gooch gained her freedom because of the law against slavery. She then worked as a cook and washerwoman until she saved enough money to buy the freedom of her son and daughter-in-law in Missouri. Nancy Gooch's family moved to California to join her. Eventually, they became so prosperous that they bought Sutter's sawmill, where the gold rush first started.

On a national level, California's statehood created turmoil. Before 1850, there was an equal number of free states and slave states. Southerners feared that because the statehood of California made free states outnumber slave states, Northerners might use their majority to abolish slavery. As Chapter 18 explains, conflict over this issue threatened the survival of the Union.



Mariano Vallejo, unhappy that *California* culture was ignored in the new American California, named his home "Tear of the Mountain."

Section 4 Assessment

1. Terms & Names

Explain the significance of:

- forty-niner
- *California*
- Mariano Vallejo
- John Sutter
- James Marshall
- California gold rush

2. Taking Notes

Use a chart like the one shown to review and record hardships faced by the forty-niners.

HARDSHIPS	
In the camps	
At work mining	

Which hardships would you have found most difficult?

3. Main Ideas

- How did the California gold rush get started?
- Why didn't many forty-niners become rich?
- How did women and people of different racial, ethnic, or national groups contribute to the California gold rush?

4. Critical Thinking

Recognizing Effects

What were some of the effects of the California gold rush?

THINK ABOUT

- changes in San Francisco
- California's bid for statehood

ACTIVITY OPTIONS

SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY

Research the hazards of mining gold and either plan a **science exhibit** or give an **electronic presentation**.



**VISUAL
SUMMARY**

Manifest Destiny



Trails West

Mountain men and traders opened trails in the Far West. Pioneers then went west to gain land, wealth, or religious freedom.

The Texas Revolution

Americans moved into the Mexican territory of Texas. Conflicts led those Americans to revolt, and Texas gained independence.

The War with Mexico

President Polk wanted to expand the nation. He negotiated to gain Oregon. The United States fought Mexico to gain much of the Southwest.

The California Gold Rush

The discovery of gold lured thousands of people to California. California's economy and population grew, resulting in statehood.



Chapter 13 ASSESSMENT

TERMS & NAMES

Briefly explain the significance of each of the following.

1. mountain man
2. Oregon Trail
3. Stephen Austin
4. *Tejano*
5. Antonio López de Santa Anna
6. manifest destiny
7. Bear Flag Revolt
8. Mexican Cession
9. forty-niner
10. California gold rush

REVIEW QUESTIONS

Trails West (pages 377–383)

1. What were three reasons why people moved west?
2. What were the three main trails that led to the West?
3. How did the Mormons make the land in Utah productive?

The Texas Revolution (pages 384–389)

4. Why were Texans unhappy with Mexican rule?
5. Why were the battles of the Alamo and San Jacinto important to the Texas Revolution?

The War with Mexico (pages 390–395)

6. What areas did the United States gain as a result of Americans' belief in manifest destiny?
7. How is the Bear Flag Revolt related to the War with Mexico?
8. What lands did the United States acquire as a result of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo?

The California Gold Rush (pages 396–401)

9. Who were four groups of people who became forty-niners?
10. What were three ways California changed because of the gold rush?

CRITICAL THINKING

1. USING YOUR NOTES

	Types of people who traveled there	Why they went there	Key events that allowed the U.S. to take ownership of the territory
New Mexico			
Utah			
Oregon			
Texas			
California			

Using your completed chart, answer the questions below.

- a. In what ways were the reasons people went west similar?
- b. Which of the five regions listed on your chart entered the United States peacefully?
- c. Which event added the most territory to the United States?

2. ANALYZING LEADERSHIP

Think about the leaders discussed in this chapter. What characteristics did they have that made them good leaders?

3. THEME: EXPANSION

How did the idea of manifest destiny help bring about the expansion of the United States?

4. DRAWING CONCLUSIONS

How did the War with Mexico and the California gold rush contribute to the cultural diversity of the United States?

5. APPLYING CITIZENSHIP SKILLS

What were the different viewpoints that people held about the War with Mexico?

Interact with History

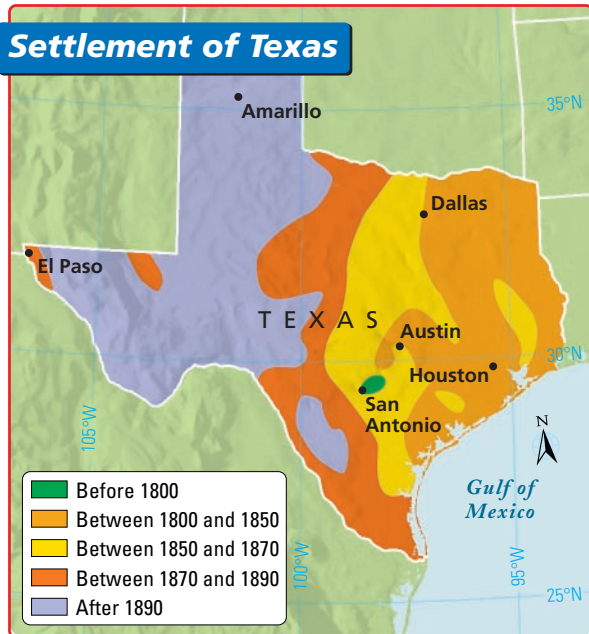
Based on this chapter, what do you think you would have gained or lost by going west?



HISTORY SKILLS

1. INTERPRETING MAPS: Movement

Study the map. Answer the questions.



Basic Map Elements

- What is the subject of the map?
- What years are covered by the map?
- What do the colors indicate?

Interpreting the Map

- Which area of Texas was settled first?
- In what general direction was Texas settled?

2. INTERPRETING PRIMARY SOURCES

This photograph was taken of a man who planned to go to California to find gold. Study the photo carefully. Answer the questions.

- What does the photo reveal about the man's expectations of danger?
- What does the photo suggest about how successful he hopes to be?



ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT

1. INTERDISCIPLINARY ACTIVITY: Science

Creating a Diagram Do research to learn how gold is deposited into veins in the earth and how erosion later exposes the gold. Draw diagrams showing the processes of gold vein formation and erosion. Share your diagram with the class.

2. COOPERATIVE LEARNING ACTIVITY

Creating a News Magazine Show With the support of President Polk, Congress declared war on Mexico in 1846. Though many Americans supported the decision, some groups felt that war with Mexico was unnecessary and unjust. Working with a small group, create a news magazine show that explores the different viewpoints surrounding the Mexican War. Research these opinions. Then write and perform the news magazine for the class. One student should be the moderator, while the other students in the group should choose one of the following groups to represent.

- President Polk and his supporters
- Northerners, including Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass
- Southerners

3. TECHNOLOGY ACTIVITY

Making a Class Presentation Life in the mining camps was not like life "back east." Information about the camps comes from primary sources, like diaries and newspaper articles. Using the Internet and library, find sources about life in the mining camps.

For more about gold mining . . .



Your sources might include:

- images of mines, miners, or miners' shacks
- images of items that the general store sold to miners
- tales of the gold fields
- information about the diversity of cultures in the camps

4. HISTORY PORTFOLIO

Review the concept of manifest destiny. Then write a brief report listing the political, economic, and social roots of the concept. Be sure to use standard grammar, spelling, sentence structure, and punctuation in your report. Add your report to your portfolio.

Additional Test Practice,
pp. S1-S33

