



IMPACT

CALIFORNIA SOCIAL STUDIES

California

A Changing State

RESEARCH COMPANION

**Mc
Graw
Hill
Education**

4

Chapter

4

The Golden State

Lesson 1

The Bear Flag Republic

Lesson 2

The Gold Rush

Lesson 3

California Becomes a State



What Early Events and People Defined the State of California?

In this chapter, you will read about important events and people who helped California become part of the United States. You'll think about why these events and people were important to California's change from Mexican rule to an American state. You'll also think about how these changes still affect California today.

Step Into the Time Chronological Thinking

Look at the timeline. What was going on in the rest of the world during the same years as California was becoming an American state?

Americas

1846

U.S. declares war on Mexico.

1848

Mexican War ends. California becomes American territory.

1846

1847

1848

World Events

1846

Potato crop fails causing widespread hunger in Ireland.

1848

First European settlers arrive in New Zealand.



Step Into the Place Exploring Geography

In 1848 the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the Mexican-American War.

This map shows the land that Mexico handed over to the United States as part of that agreement. The map also shows other land the United States got from Mexico before and after that war.

1. Which present-day states include land that was surrendered by the Mexican government in 1848?
2. What did this new land contribute to the United States?

1849

1849

California Gold Rush begins.

1849

David Copperfield by Charles Dickens is published.

1850

1850

California joins U.S. as a free state where slavery is not allowed.

1850

First free public library opens in England.

1851

1851

Gold is found in Australia.

Connect Through Literature

Sweet Betsy from Pike

Traditional

This folk song describes people who traveled to California to make their fortunes. Like most folks songs, there are many different versions of the melody and the words.

Verse

C **G7** **C**

1. Oh, do you re - mem - ber sweet Bet - sy from Pike, Who

C **D7** **G7**

crossed the wide prai - ries with her hus - band Ike? With

C **Em** **F** **C**

two yoke of ox - en, a big yal - ler dog, A

C **G7** **C** **Chorus**

tall Shang - hai roost - er and one spot - ted hog. Hoo - dle

C **G7** **C**

dang, fol - de - dye - do, hoo - dle dang, fol - de - day.

2. The rooster ran off and the oxen all died;
The last piece of bacon that morning was fried.
Poor Ike got discouraged and Betsy got mad;
The dog wagged his tail and looked wonderfully sad.

Chorus

3. The alkali desert was burning and hot,
And Ike, he decided to leave on the spot:
“My dear old Pike County, I’ll go back to you.”
Said Betsy, “You’ll go by yourself if you do.”

Chorus

4. They swam the wide rivers, they crossed the tall peaks,
They camped out on prairies for weeks upon weeks,
Fought off starvation and big storms of dust,
Determined to reach California or bust.

Chorus

5. They passed the Sierras through mountains of snow,
’Til old California was sighted below.
Sweet Betsy, she hollered, and Ike gave a cheer,
Said, “Betsy, my darlin’, I’m a made millionaire.”

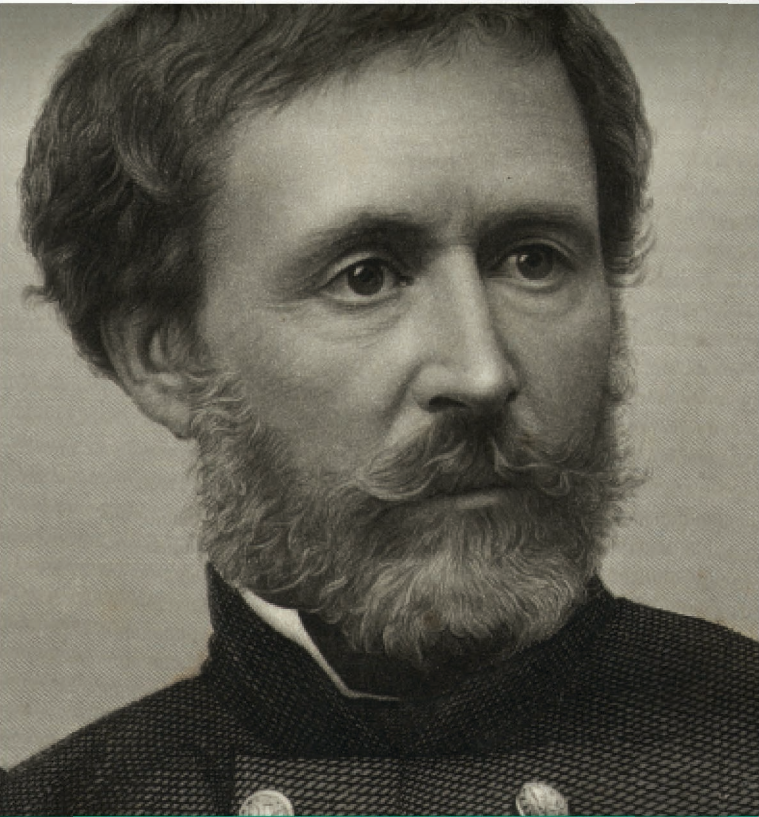
Chorus

Think About It

1. What is this song about?
2. What geographic features do Betsy and Ike see?
3. Why are Betsy and Ike so determined to get to California?

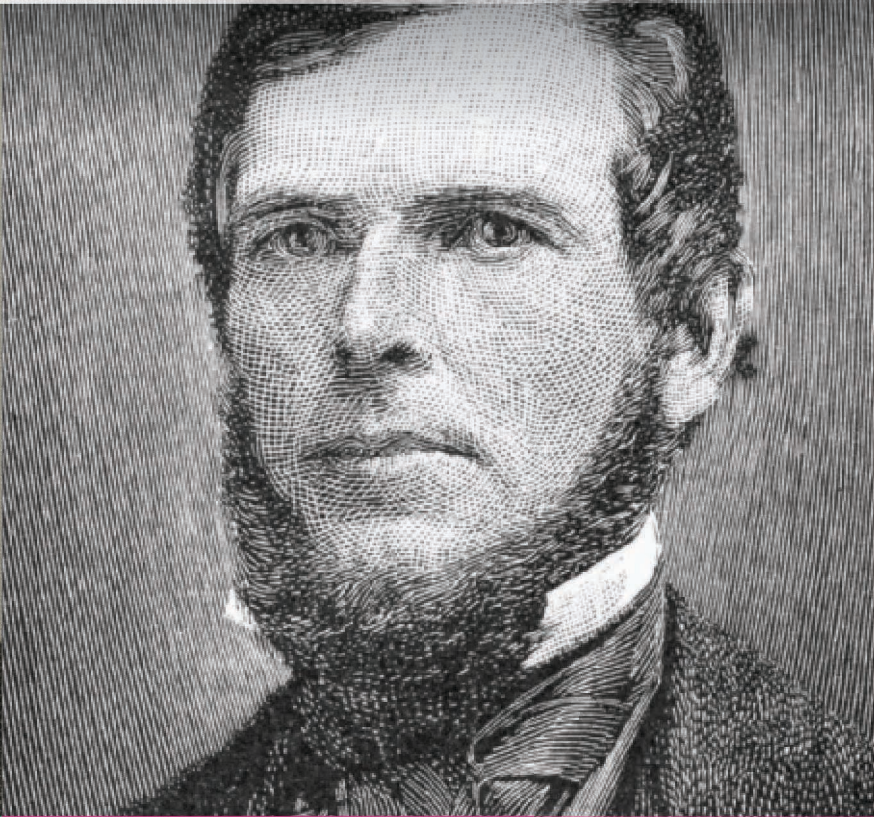


People You Should Know



John C. Frémont

John C. Frémont was an adventurous young explorer who created maps of the land between the Mississippi Valley and the Pacific Ocean. As a military officer, he played an important role in helping California become part of the United States. When the war with Mexico began in 1846, Frémont led soldiers from California to victory for America. His bravery made him a national hero. Frémont was against slavery and ran for president in 1856 on that issue. Although he lost, he remained a beloved figure in California, where he spent the rest of his life.



John Bidwell

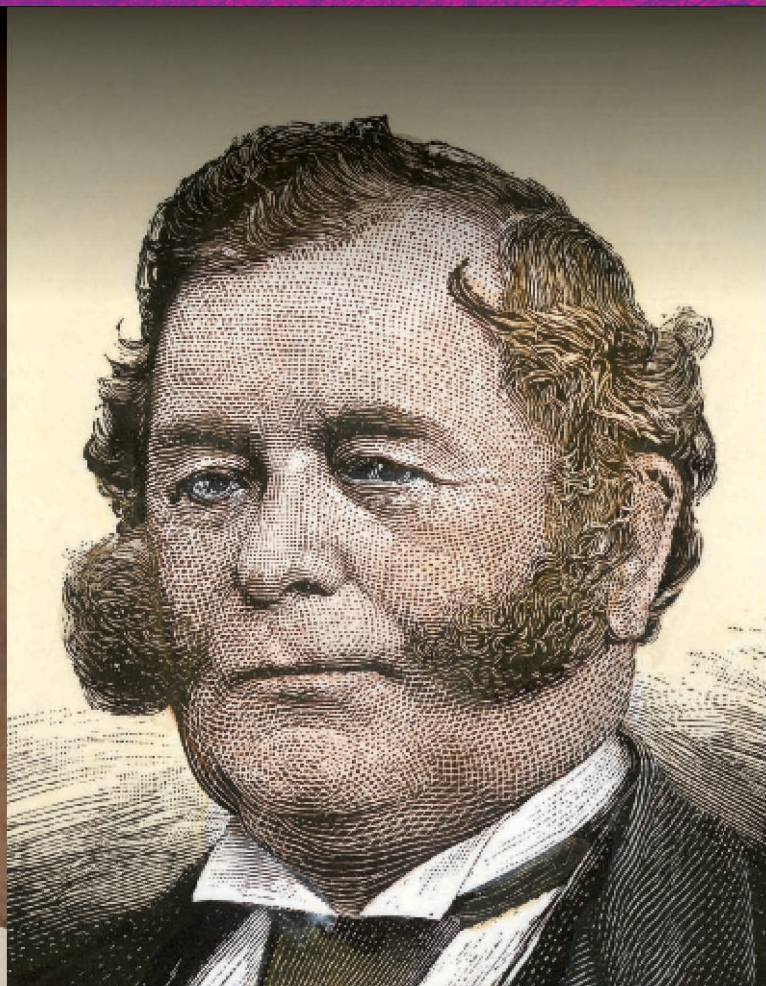
Bidwell settled in California as a young man and became a supporter of California's independence from Mexico. In 1846, he fought in the Mexican War with John Frémont. After the war, Bidwell found gold on the Feather River. He bought a huge ranch near Sacramento and became involved in California politics. Bidwell was a founder of the city of Chico, named for his ranch. He was elected to the California state senate and, in 1864, to Congress. Although Bidwell lost his run for president three times, he is remembered for developing Chico into a center for agriculture and business.

(1) Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, LC-DIG-ppmsca-23075;
(2) Bettmann/Getty Images



Biddy Mason

Bridget “Biddy” Mason was an enslaved African-American woman. When she arrived in the free state of California in 1856, she won her freedom in court. She used her skills as a nurse to earn and save money to buy property in Los Angeles. She was one of the first African-American women to own property in that city. Biddy gave back to the community. She founded the city’s first black church and elementary school and fed and housed the poor of all races. November 16 is celebrated as Biddy Mason Day in Los Angeles.



Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo

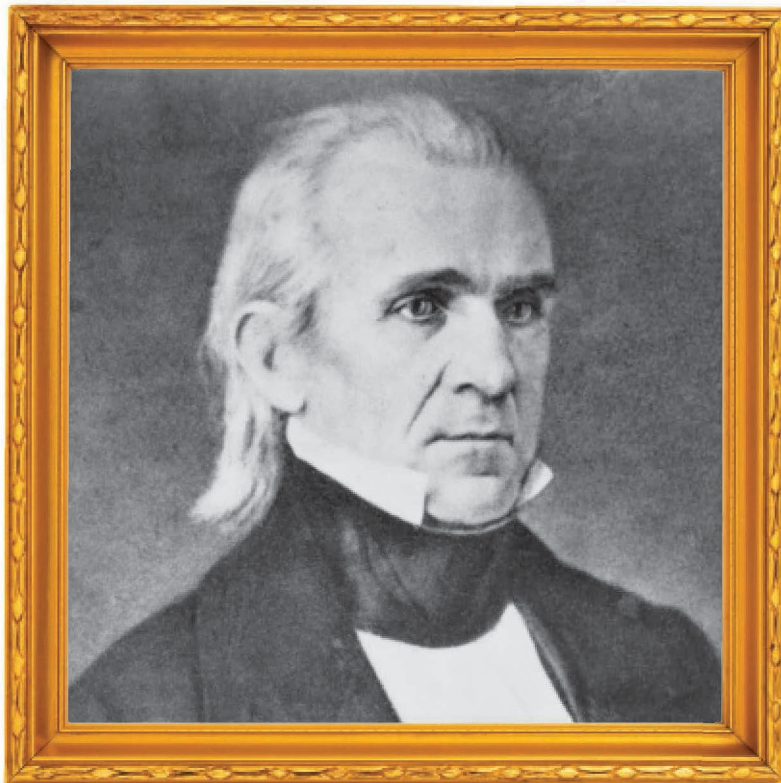
Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo was born in 1807 in Monterey, the capitol of Alta (Upper) California. In 1836, Vallejo became commandant general of the “Free State of Alta California.” As conflict grew between Mexico and the United States, Vallejo remained neutral and would not allow his soldiers to fight on either side. When California became part of the United States in 1848, Vallejo continued to work for his homeland. In the following year he became a delegate to the California state constitutional convention and was elected a state senator.

Lesson 1

How Did War and Revolt Affect California?

War with Mexico

In the early 1800s, many Americans believed in **Manifest Destiny**—the idea that the United States had a right and a duty to take control of the land westward all the way to the Pacific Ocean. In 1845, this belief gained a strong supporter. James K. Polk became president of the United States. He wanted to annex Texas and acquire the rich, fertile lands of California for the United States.



James K. Polk became the eleventh president of the United States in 1845.

Timeline

December
The Mexican Army orders John Frémont to leave California.

May
The United States declares war on Mexico.

January
The Mexican War in California ends at Cahuenga Pass.

February
The war ends with Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

June
Bear Flag Republic lasts one month.

The U.S. Army Comes to California

John C. Frémont was an officer in the U.S. Army. He traveled around the western territories, exploring these lands for the army. Like President Polk, Frémont was a strong believer in Manifest Destiny.

Frémont went to California in December 1845. He came to make a map for the army, and he brought sixty armed men with him. Frémont and his men went to Monterey, a town on the coast. When they arrived, a Mexican Army colonel named José Castro ordered Frémont and his men to leave California.



John C. Frémont

Did You Know?

Frémont's guide on his travels through the West was a young American frontiersman named Kit Carson. Frémont wrote regular reports about his expeditions, and these were widely read throughout the United States. Frémont's stories about his rugged and resourceful guide quickly made Kit Carson a national hero. Kit was soon elevated in popular fiction to the status of a western superhero, which is how we remember him today.

Frémont crossed over the border into Oregon. While there, he spread the rumor that Colonel Castro planned to force all American settlers out of California. Many of the settlers living in California had come without the permission of the Mexican government. The story that Frémont spread alarmed them.

Biography

Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo 1808–1890

Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo helped to shape the transition of Alta California from a territory of Mexico to a state of the United States. He was born in 1808 in Monterey, the capital of Alta (Upper) California. Born into a wealthy ranching family, he chose a career of military and public service. In 1838, after the territory revolted against the governor, Vallejo became commandant general of the “Free State of Alta California.”



Commander Mariano
Guadalupe Vallejo

Vallejo was loyal to Mexican California, but he also believed that it would benefit from friendship with the United States. In the growing conflict between Mexico and the United States, Vallejo decided to remain neutral. He refused to allow his soldiers to fight on either side.

In 1846, American settlers in California revolted against the Mexican leaders. Although Vallejo had supported stronger ties between California and the United States, the rebels arrested and imprisoned him for two months.

After California became part of the United States in 1848, Vallejo continued to work for his homeland. In the following year, he became a delegate to the California state constitutional convention and was elected a state senator.

The United States Declares War on Mexico

Meanwhile, across the country on May 13, 1846, President Polk asked the U.S. Congress to declare war on Mexico. He hoped for a quick war that would add Texas and California to the United States. News traveled slowly, however. No one in California knew that war had been declared.

The Bear Flag Revolt

In June, Frémont went back to California with his men. His return gave a group of American settlers the courage to revolt, or rebel, against the Mexican government of the territory. This became known as the Bear Flag Revolt.

On June 14, 1846, American settlers arrested and jailed Commander Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo. Even though Vallejo had supported the rights of settlers, the rebels told him that they could not accept his government.

The rebels then declared California to be a **republic** that was independent of Mexico. The rebels raised a flag with a picture of a grizzly bear, the fiercest animal in California. This flag became known as the Bear Flag.

Did You Know?

The rebels painted the original Bear Flag on a piece of cotton cloth. Some said the grizzly bear looked more like a pig! In 1911, the version we know today became the official state flag.



Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



Talk What events led to the war between the United States and Mexico?

Find Details As you read, add additional information to the graphic organizer on page 145 in your Inquiry Journal.

The United States Expands

The Bear Flag Republic lasted several weeks. On July 7, 1846, Commodore John D. Sloat of the U.S. Navy took Monterey. The rebels joined him. The Californios won some battles, but the Americans had more soldiers and weapons. Eventually, the United States won the war with Mexico.

In Santa Barbara, a woman named Bernarda Ruiz was tired of all the bloodshed. She decided to help end the war. She set up a meeting between John Frémont and Andrés Pico at Cahuenga Pass, near Los Angeles. On January 13, 1847, the Californios surrendered to the United States. Frémont and Pico signed a **treaty**, a written agreement signed by both sides to make peace and say how they would settle their differences.

The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo

The Mexican War, also called the Mexican-American War, had ended in California, but it continued elsewhere for more than a year. On February 2, 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the war. Mexico gave nearly half its Alta California territory to the United States. The United States now reached from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. For many Americans, the dream of Manifest Destiny had been achieved. For Californians, they were now U.S. citizens.



Cannon like this one were used in the Mexican War.



Lands Acquired from Mexico, 1845–1854

Map Skills Which three present-day states include land acquired in both 1845 and 1848?

As a result of the treaty, the United States gained the present-day states of California, Nevada, and Utah. Large parts of present-day Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, and Wyoming also became part of the country.

California was a great prize. It had a warm climate, fertile soil, and many miles of coastline. California also had a secret treasure. Only nine days before the treaty was signed, gold was discovered in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. California would be even more valuable than anyone dreamed.

Perspectives: Californians on the Mexican War

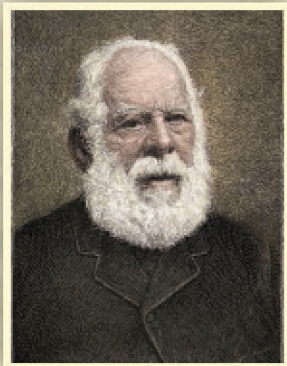
Some people thought Mexico should continue to govern California.
Others wanted California to become part of the United States.
Below are three points of view about the Mexican War.



*"To rely any longer on Mexico ... would be ... absurd
[The United States] is our adjoining neighbor ...
[and] we shall not become subjects, but fellow citizens ..."*

Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo

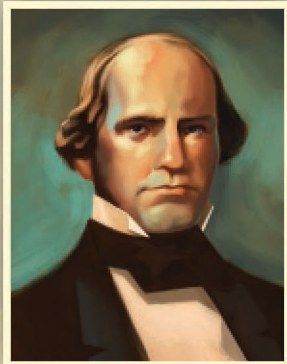
Mexican military commander
Excerpt from a speech, 1846



*"North American adventurers [have invaded] ...
The North Americans can never be our friends [because]
they have laws, religion, language, and dress totally the
opposite of ours."*

Pío Pico

Governor of California
Excerpt from a proclamation from Santa Barbara, 1846



*"What ... folly it is ... to attempt to check the emigration
to this country; they might just as well, attempt ...
to restrain the mighty waters flow ..."*

Lansford Hasting

United States settler
Excerpt from a letter, 1846

(border)McGraw-Hill Education; (bkgd)Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, LC-USZC4-6127; (t)North Wind Picture Archives/Alamy Stock Photo, TEX; (t)Thompson, R. A. *Conquest of California: Capture of Sonoma by the Bear Flag Men: Raising the American Flag in Monterey: Historical Address Delivered by R. A. Thompson in Sonoma on June 14, 1896*, Santa Rosa: Sonoma Democrat Publishing Company, 1896.; (c)Proclamation from Santa Barbara, 1846.; (b)Hastings, Lansford Warren. Letter to John Marsh, March 26, 1846, In Marsh Papers, California State Library.

Leadership

1. Which of these speakers feels most strongly that the Americans are not trustworthy? Give reasons for your answer.
2. Which of these speakers seems to believe most strongly in good citizenship? Give reasons for your answer.
3. Why do you think American settlers and the Mexican inhabitants of Alta California had different opinions about the Mexican War?

Points of View

1. Why do you think Governor Pico wanted to fight against the United States?
2. Do you think Commander Vallejo's opinion about being fellow citizens was realistic? Why or why not?
3. What other opinions do you think people might have had about the Mexican War?



Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



Talk What made California such a valuable addition to the United States?

Lesson 2

How Did the Gold Rush Change California?

Discovery of Gold

Johann Sutter was a German immigrant. While building a sawmill upstream from Sutter's Fort, one of his carpenters made a historic discovery. On January 24, 1848, James Marshall spotted a shiny lump of metal, the size of a pea, in the riverbed. Marshall examined the metal with Sutter. It was gold! The Gold Rush was about to begin.

Sutter tried to keep the discovery a secret, but by May, the news reached San Francisco. A merchant named Sam Brannan bought a lot of mining equipment. He went through the city, waving a bottle of gold dust and shouting, "Gold! Gold! Gold from the American River!" Within days, half of the city's population left to find gold. By June, three-fourths of San Franciscans were seeking riches in the gold fields. These were the areas where gold had been found, usually along the banks of rivers and streams. Brannan became rich selling mining equipment.

Within weeks, the news spread to San Diego. Within months, news reached the East Coast of the United States. In December, President James K. Polk announced that large amounts of gold had been discovered in California. News spread to Latin America, Europe, and Asia. In 1849, almost 80,000 people from around the world rushed to California to seek their fortune. These people were known as "forty-niners." The Gold Rush was on!



Timeline

January 24
James Marshall
discovers gold in
the American
River.

The Gold Rush
begins.

The Foreign
Miners Tax Law
is passed.

San Francisco's
population
reaches
40,000.

1848

1849

1850

1851

1852



Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



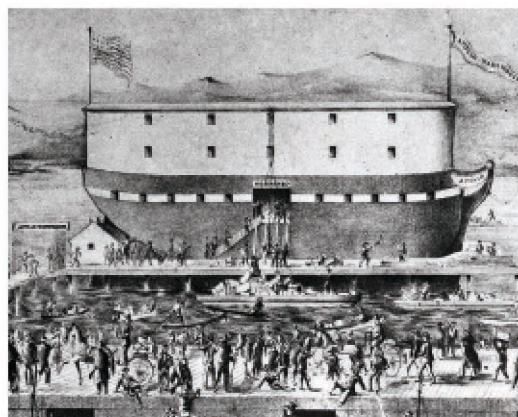
Talk What effect did James Marshall's discovery and Sam Brannan's actions have?

Find Details As you read, add additional information to the graphic organizer on page 153 in your Inquiry Journal.

Coming to California

Routes to California

Many people left for California to join the Gold Rush. The first people to reach the gold fields came by boat. They came from places like Mexico, Chile, and Peru to the south, from Oregon to the north, and from Hawaii and China to the west. People from the eastern United States and Europe could choose from three primary routes to California. No route was quick or easy.



Gold rush ship *Apollo* at San Francisco harbor, 1850



Routes of the Forty-Niners to California, Around 1850

Migration Changes Population

The rush to California during the Gold Rush created a diverse population. By 1850, 25 percent of the people living in California were born outside the United States. The Gold Rush resulted in the largest mass migration in U.S. history. Asians, Latin Americans, Europeans, and people from the eastern United States arrived with dreams of become rich. The migration transformed settlements, politics, and daily life.

Before the discovery of gold, only about 157,000 people lived in California. By the mid-1850s, more than 300,000 additional people lived there. The customs of the diverse newcomers affected the culture of California. The merchant William Perkins commented in 1849: “Here were to be seen people of every nation in all varieties of costume, and speaking 50 different languages, and yet all mixing together amicably and socially.” The newcomers were willing to endure hardship and danger. They helped to create the California spirit of independence and determination.



Stop and Check

Talk What effect did the newcomers have on California?

COLLABORATE



Life in the Mining Camps

The miners gathered in camps near the gold fields. Each miner staked a **claim** by a stream or river. A claim was a piece of land where the miner declared exclusive mining rights. Often, the land legally belonged to someone else. Landowners could not stop the huge numbers of miners squatting, or living illegally, on their land.

Before the Gold Rush, the population of California was made up almost entirely of California Indians and Californios. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, at the end of the Mexican War, had guaranteed the property rights of the Californios. However, many of the “forty-niners” believed that the land belonged to anyone who took possession of it.

At first, the camps were peaceful, but conflicts grew as the camps became more crowded. The mining camps became more lawless. Towns sprang up around the camps. Merchants provided goods and services to miners who were eager to spend the money they made from gold.



Miners working a claim in the Sierra Nevada

Photo: Resen/Charts, Inc./Alamy Stock Photo



Few women came to the gold fields.

Women in the Gold Rush

In 1852, 92 percent of the miners were men. However, women's efforts played an important part in the Gold Rush. Louise Clappe's letters to her sister gave eyewitness accounts about the gritty life in mining camps. Other women who made their way to California played different roles. A few mined for gold, but life in the gold fields was dangerous. Some women miners dressed like men as a way to stay safe.

Other women set up businesses in or near the camps. In fact, they often made more money by cooking, sewing, and doing laundry than the miners made by searching for gold. Even some men started doing laundry and other "women's work" to make money.



Stop and Check

Think Why did squatting create conflicts? What part did women play in the Gold Rush? What part did men play? What do you think would be the same, or different, in their roles today?

A Mining Camp

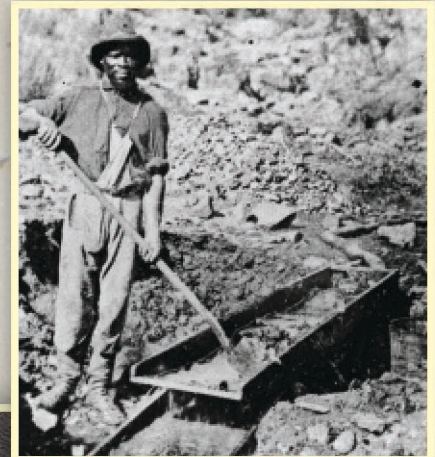
Miners worked hard all day to find gold. Some found gold along the banks of sandy streams. Some mined for gold in the water. The most popular way to mine was by panning. The miner used a round pan to scoop the bottom of a stream. Then, the miner swirled out the water, dirt, and sand. The heavier gold was left in the bottom of the pan.

Panning was a slow process. Miners tried other ways to sift through larger amounts of dirt. Some miners used a cradle. A cradle had two stacked wooden trays. The top tray had holes for the water and mud to drain, so gold was left at the top. Other miners used a long tom. A long tom was similar to a cradle, but it had a long slide to wash out large amounts of dirt and rocks, leaving gold at the bottom.

After working all day in the gold fields, miners were hot, dirty, and exhausted. They returned to crowded tents and camps. To entertain themselves, miners sang songs such as “My Darling Clementine” around campfires.



a gold miner using a cradle to wash gold



an African American miner using a long tom



gold miners dancing at miners' ball



Chinese miners use a cradle to search for gold.

Mining Camp Conflicts

As less gold was found, conflicts increased. The Californios tried to hold onto their property. The increasing number of illegal claims, however, made that a challenge. Miners chased many California Indians from their diggings. Some Indians were forced to work for little pay for other miners. Under the Indian Indenture Act of 1850, some Indians were forced to work for landowners.

Many newly-arrived Americans saw Mexicans as enemies from the recent war with Mexico. The newcomers wanted to stop Mexicans from mining in California. A law called the Foreign Miners Tax Law of 1850 was passed. As a result, many Mexican and foreign-born miners could no longer afford to mine. Another tax was passed against Chinese miners in 1852.

As the mining camps became more dangerous, groups of vigilantes emerged. They were people who decided to create and enforce laws themselves. Sometimes vigilantes punished their enemies and rivals who had not actually broken any laws.



Stop and Check

Think What caused conflicts in the mining camps?

What Do You Think? How do you think miners could have governed themselves? Brainstorm rules and laws. Role-play a conflict between miners. Assign the role of a sheriff and a judge to settle the conflict.

The Effects of the Gold Rush

The Growth of Towns and Businesses

Almost overnight, towns and cities formed near ports and mining camps. These quickly formed towns are called **boomtowns**. Wherever there were miners, there were merchants, entertainers, and others willing to provide goods or services. Many business owners got rich providing the miners with what they needed.

San Francisco was a boomtown. It had been a small village in 1847. By 1852, it was home to 40,000 people. The city grew so quickly that lumber was in short supply. As a result, some of the early buildings were made of wood from the ships that had brought miners. San Francisco soon became a hub of industry, banking, and culture on the West Coast.

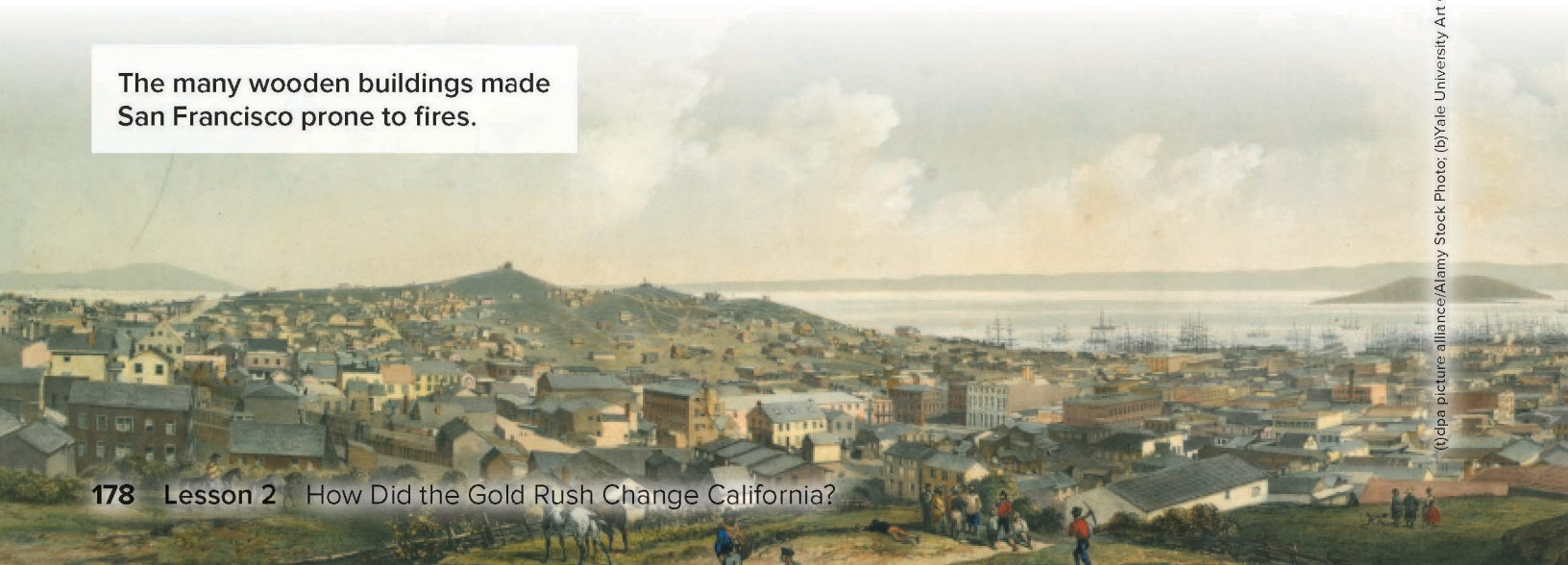
Did You Know?

The Birth of Blue Jeans

In 1853, Levi Strauss opened a small clothing store in San Francisco. He sold clothing and boots to miners. The miners needed tough clothing, so Strauss created pants, or “jeans,” out of heavy brown duck cloth and blue denim. His “blue jeans” became especially popular. Strauss patented his blue jeans in 1873.



The many wooden buildings made San Francisco prone to fires.





Hydraulic mining caused environmental damage.

The Environment and the Gold Rush

The Gold Rush changed the land. In their quest for gold, the miners damaged California's natural resources. In a few years, miners took the gold on the surface. Then they turned to hydraulic mining to dig deep into the earth. Miners blasted water at hillsides. This process demolished hills and dirtied the water. It killed fish and wildlife. Shifting tons of dirt and sand also contributed to flooding. The damage would affect Californians for generations to come. During heavy rains, floods and mudslides often occur in these areas today.

Because the Gold Rush population explosion required lumber for new buildings, forests were stripped for wood. Growing cities produced large amounts of sewage and garbage. This waste found its way into waterways and affected food sources.



Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



Talk What were the effects of hydraulic mining? What responsibility does industry have toward the environment?

What Do You Think? How did the Gold Rush affect California?



Why Is It Important That California Became a State?

Writing a Constitution

When California was part of New Spain, government leaders were not elected. California's governor was appointed by the king. There was no court system. Most decisions were made by priests at missions or by military generals at forts.

After Mexico became independent, California's governors were still not elected. Wealthy land owners with huge ranchos made their own rules and took care of the people who lived and worked on their ranchos.

California was now part of the United States. However, it was not a state and it had had military governors since the war with Mexico. This system of government did not work anymore. California needed new laws.

The Gold Rush brought many people. The towns that were forming began making their own rules to follow. It was becoming more and more important for California to become a state. It needed to write its own plan of government. Then the people could decide what kind of government they wanted.



Timeline

Forty-eight California delegates meet to plan the Constitution of California.

California becomes the 31st state of the United States of America.

Sacramento is chosen to be the capital of California.

Biddy Mason wins in court to secure her freedom.

1849

1850

1851

1852

1853

1854

1855

1856

California: Borders in 1849 Constitution



Map Skills

Describe California's boundaries using latitude and longitude.



The first constitutional convention for California was held at Colton Hall in Monterey.

General Bennett F. Riley, the military governor, asked the people of California to choose **delegates**. These representatives of the people would go to the nation's capital in Washington, D.C. They would present a plan that outlines the rights and responsibilities of the government for the state. This plan is called a **constitution**.

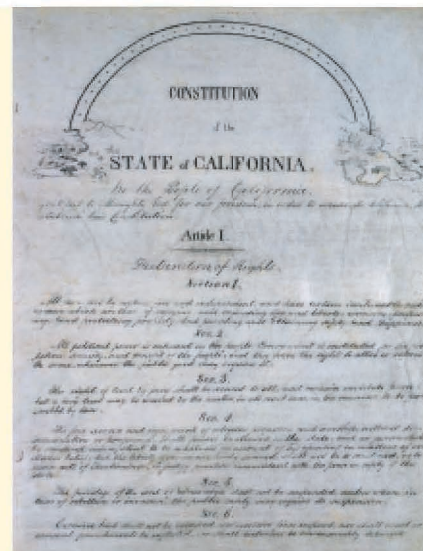
On September 1, 1849, forty-eight delegates from all the districts of California met in Monterey. They modeled their plan after the United States Constitution. Their plan included a Declaration of Rights that divided the government into three branches. They outlined the responsibilities of each branch. The state constitution allowed people to elect their representatives rather than appoint them. It also protected the rights of people who lived in California. It limited the amount of power the local government could have over them.

Constitutions are important documents in governments run by the people living under them, because they can change as the needs of the people change. The original constitution drafted by the delegates in 1849 has changed. These changes are called **amendments**. Amendments better serve the citizens of California. For example, when it was first written, California's constitution allowed only white males to vote.

PRIMARY SOURCE

In Their Words ... Declaration of Rights from the California Constitution

"Section 1. All people are by nature free and independent and have inalienable rights. Among these are enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining safety, happiness, and privacy."



Framing the Constitution

The 48 delegates came from diverse backgrounds. Most had lived in California before the Gold Rush. Among the delegates were Californios who had fought in the Mexican-American War, such as Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo.

The delegates debated the kinds of laws they wanted to include. For example, they created property rights for married women. This was the first time in a state's history this right was granted. They also decided the boundaries of the state's borders with Mexico and neighboring territories.



Stop and Check

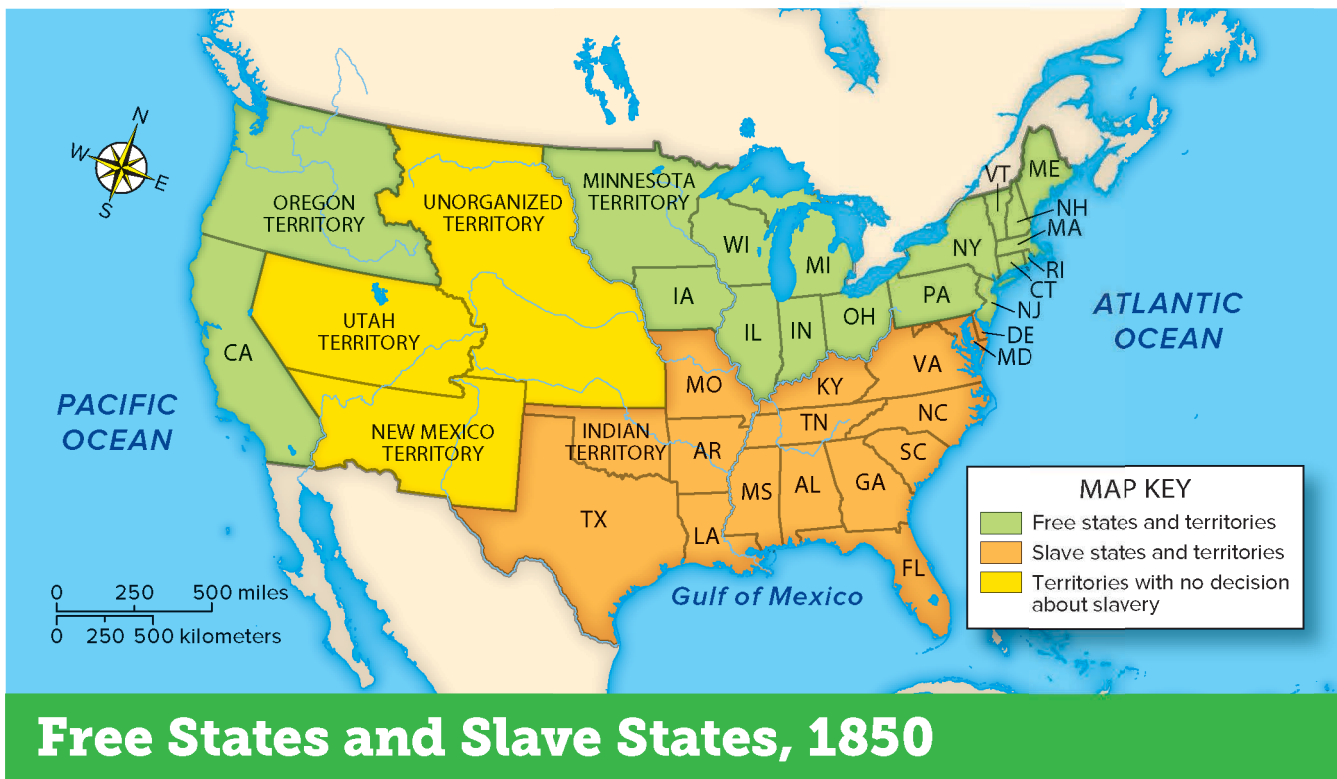
Think Why do you think California's constitution was modeled after the U.S. Constitution?

Find Details As you read, add additional information to the graphic organizer on page 161 in your Inquiry Journal.

The Compromise of 1850

The issue of slavery was an important topic in the United States when California asked to become a state. Many states had already outlawed slavery. The country was divided evenly between states that allowed slavery and states that did not.

The delegates from California asked to become a free state. The northern states were in favor of this idea. With California, there would be 16 free states and 15 slave states. The southern states did not want to be outnumbered. They did not want California to be a free state. Many in Congress thought this issue could start a civil war, or a war within one country.





Henry Clay, a senator from Kentucky, came up with a **compromise**. With his plan, both sides would agree to give up something. This became known as the Compromise of 1850.

One important part of the compromise was that police in free states would have to capture and return slaves who had escaped from slave states.

Major Points of the Compromise of 1850

The North	The South
California becomes a free state.	Utah and New Mexico Territories have no slave restrictions.
Texas must give up a third of its land.	Texas gets \$10 million to pay off debts.
Slave trading is not allowed in Washington, D.C.	Owning slaves is still allowed in the capital.
	Fugitive Slave Law returns escaped slaves to their slave owners.

**Stop and Check**

**COLLABORATE**

Talk Discuss with a partner how the issue of slavery affected California’s request to join the United States.

Biddy Mason

1818–1891

During the Gold Rush, many miners who came to California owned slaves. When a slave owner named Robert Smith arrived in 1851, he brought Biddy Mason and her children with him as slaves. By this time, California was a free state. Slavery was against the law.

Later, Smith decided to move to Texas, where slavery was allowed. Biddy Mason did not want to go. She went to court in the state of California to keep her right to live in a free state.

In 1856, Biddy Mason secured freedom for herself and her children. The judge who ruled in her favor said that “they are entitled to their freedom and are free forever.”

Mason worked as a nurse and midwife in Los Angeles. In ten years, she saved enough money to buy her own land. She became the first African American woman to own land in Los Angeles. She was known for being kind and giving to others.



Biddy Mason was granted her freedom in 1856.

taviphoto/Stock/Getty Images; TEXT: Mason v. Smith, District Court of the First Judicial District State of California (1856).

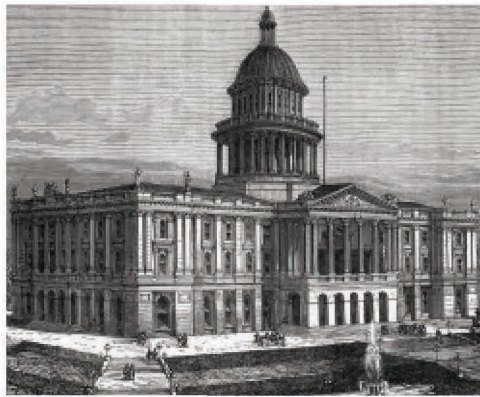
The 31st State

The United States Congress accepted Clay's compromise, and California was allowed to become a state. President Millard Fillmore signed the papers that made California the 31st state on September 9, 1850.

Despite the long debate in Congress, Californians celebrated their win. This date became known as "Admission Day" across the state. Many hoped Clay's compromise had solved the problems in Congress. However, the issue of slavery did not go away. Northern states refused to follow the Fugitive Slave Law. Southern states thought they had been cheated by the deal. The Compromise of 1850 did not prevent war for long.

Did You Know?

After California became a state, many cities wanted to be the capital. San José, Vallejo, and Benicia all got to share that honor for a short time—some more than once. Sacramento was named the permanent capital in 1854.



The state capitol building was topped with a gold dome.



Stop and Check

Talk Discuss with a partner the role that compromise played in California's statehood.

COLLABORATE



What Do You Think? What important events led to California becoming a state?

The State Capitol Building

Just as California has gone through many changes on its journey to statehood, the state capitol building also has a diverse history.

Not the First Choice

The first delegates named San José the capital city in the 1849 constitution. Once the new lawmakers saw the building they had been offered, they decided to move. The capital moved several times during California's early years as a state. Sacramento was officially made the capital city in 1854. The government set aside \$500,000 for the construction of a new capitol building. Construction started in 1860 and took 14 years to complete.

California's state capitol building was completed in 1874.

(b) Sponcyk/Innesis/Stockphoto/Getty Images

A Building with a Purpose

The main function of the state capitol building is to house the legislature. These are the lawmakers for the state of California. Offices and meeting rooms take up most of the space. There is also a room just for bills that have been signed into laws. Today the building is used for government and as a museum. Visitors can learn about the state's history and watch government in action. The state capitol building sits on 40 acres of park land. Visitors can see monuments, statues of famous Californians, gardens, and other points of interest.

The Great Seal

The Great Seal of California was adopted in 1849, at the same time as the constitution. Minerva, the Roman goddess of wisdom and commerce, appears on it. She stands beside a bear eating grapes. The background includes sailing ships and a prospector digging for gold. All of these symbols represent important parts of California's history.



Inside the Senate Chamber, visitors can watch the law making process.



The Capitol Rotunda connects the Senate and the State Assembly.

The Great Seal of the State of California features the phrase, "Eureka."



Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



Talk What do the symbols on the Great Seal of California mean?

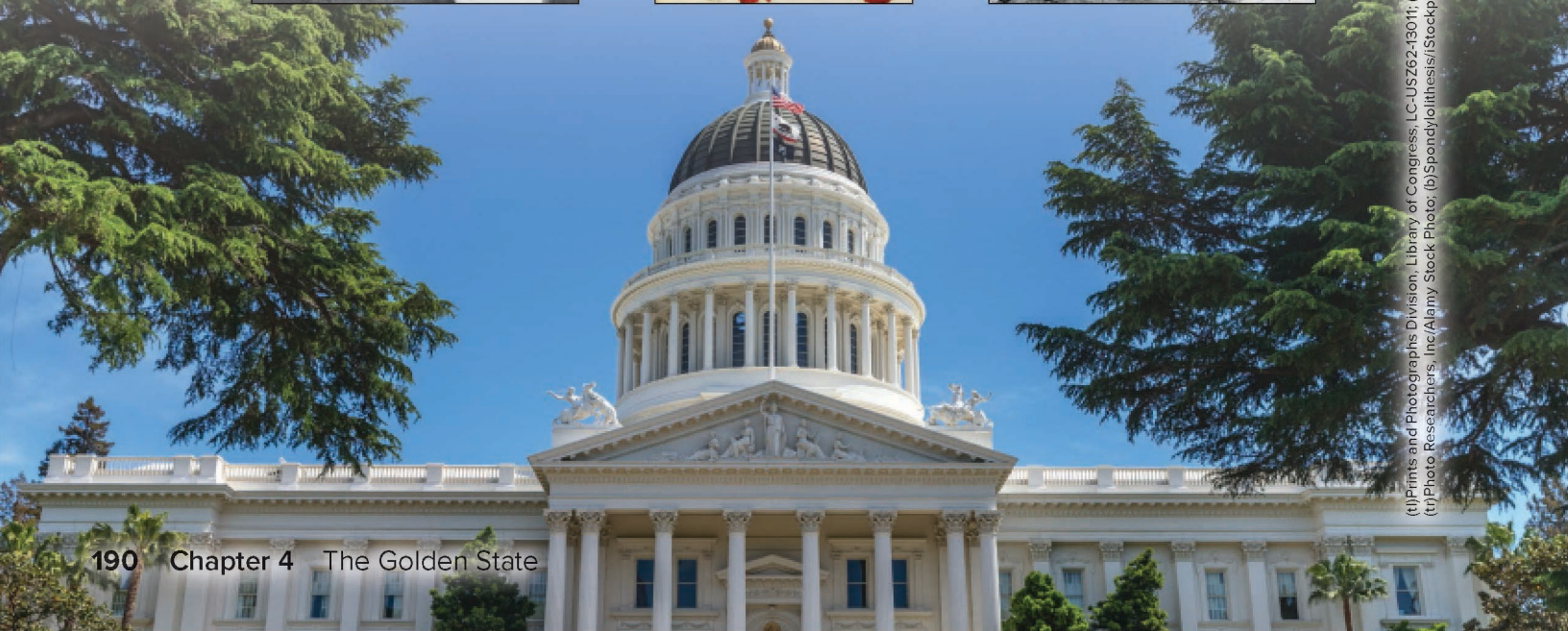
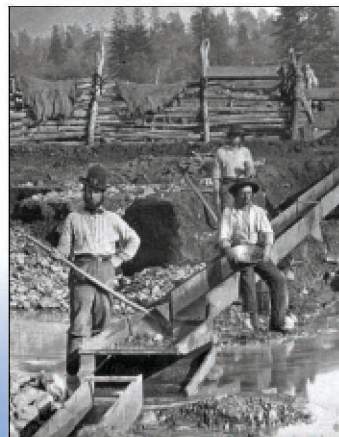
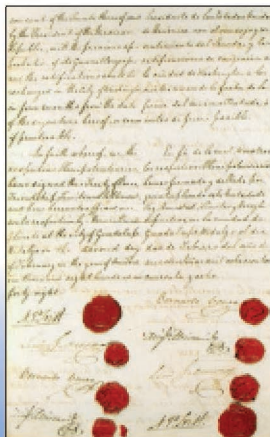
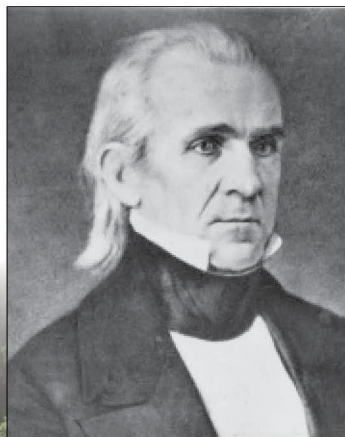


Connections in Action!

Back to the EQ

Think about the Chapter Essential Question, “What early events and people defined the state of California?”

- **Talk** with a partner about the people and events that you read about in this unit. Consider ways that they contributed to the creation of the state of California.
- **How** do these people and events continue to influence our state today?
- **Make a list** of ways that two important people or events influenced what California is like today.
- **Share** your list with the class.



(t) Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-13011; (c) World History Archive/Alamy Stock Photo; (r) Photo Researchers, Inc./Alamy Stock Photo; (b) Spondylolithesis/Stockphoto/Getty Images

More to Explore

How can you make an IMPACT?

Word Play

Choose three words from the chapter Word Bank. For each of those words, find a word or phrase that has the same meaning. Write the synonym you found for each word. For example, for the word *amendment*, a synonym might be *addition* or *correction*. Get together with a partner and switch word lists. Take turns using each new word in a sentence.

Defend Your Opinion

Did all the people of California benefit when it became an American state? Write your answer to this question in a few sentences. Make a list of the reasons for your opinion. Use evidence from the text to support your opinion. Get together with a partner or small group and talk about your answer. Be prepared to defend your ideas!

Write About It

Write a letter to one of the people you read about in this chapter. In your letter, tell why you admire his or her contribution to the state of California.

A Growing State

Lesson 1

The Transportation Revolution

Lesson 2

Immigrants in the New State

Lesson 3

A Thirsty State

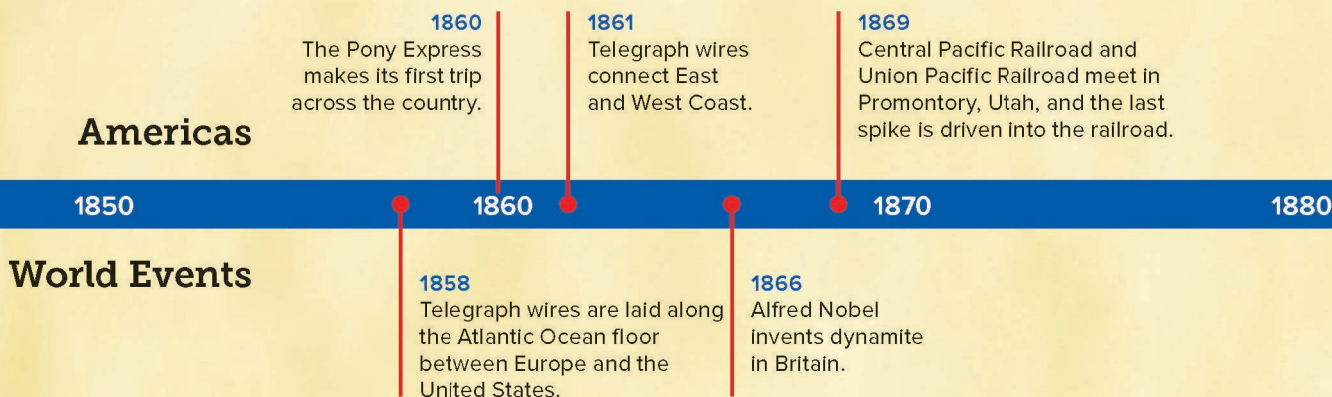


How Did California Change After Becoming a State?

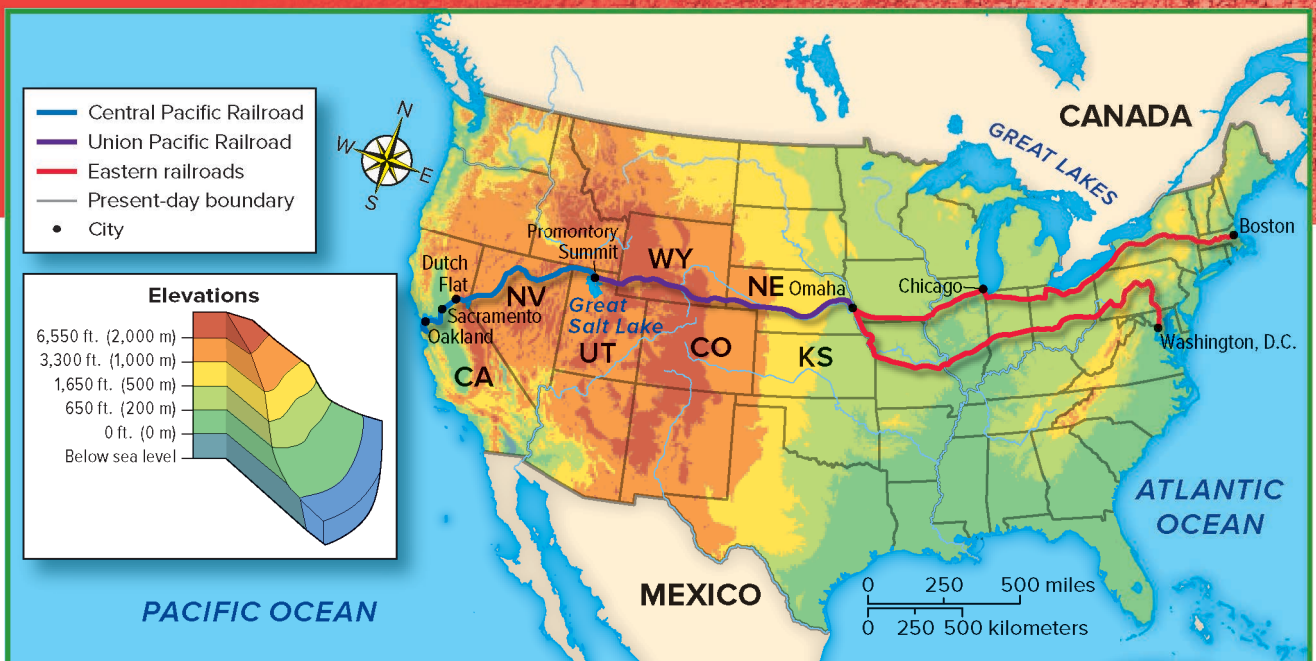
In this chapter, you'll read how California managed being so distant from other states in the eastern part of the United States. You'll also discover how water problems and increased immigration affected the young state.

Step Into the Time Chronological Thinking

Look at the timeline. What was happening in the rest of the world while settlers moving to California were trying to find water and connect with the rest of the United States?



HSS.4.4.1, HSS.4.4.3, HSS.4.4.4, HSS.4.4.7



Step Into the Place Exploring Geography

The transcontinental railroad passed through many different types of terrain. It linked one coast of the nation to the other.

1. Why is the section from the West Coast a lot shorter than the section from the East?
2. Why was half of the transcontinental railroad not built by the Union Pacific or the Central Pacific?

1890

1893

New Zealand is first country to grant women the right to vote.

1900

1901

Canals bring water from the Colorado River to the "Imperial Valley" desert.

1910

1905

The Russian Revolution begins.

1913

The Los Angeles Aqueduct is built.

1920

1912

The Titanic sinks, and 1,500 passengers are lost.

Connect Through Literature

EXCERPT FROM

Yao Bai and the Egg Pirates

by Tim Myers

Illustrated by Michael Kress-Russick

Before and during the Gold Rush, Chinese immigrants settled and fished along San Francisco's coast. Getting food to the people in the growing city was an important business. In this story, Yao Bai and his father and uncle sail their small fishing boat to the Farallon Islands, 26 miles west of the mainland.

The noon sun was high overhead when they reached the islands. Everywhere seabirds were calling or circling or paddling on the swells.

"Murre," Yao's uncle said. "They lay the best eggs—thick, so they're hard to break. And big enough that one can feed three people!" Easing the boat beside a rock ledge, they leapt out and made it fast.

Soon Yao, his father, and his uncle were scrambling over the rocks. Everywhere they found eggs. Sweating in the sun, they filled sack after sack. Two hours later the boat was full and they'd set sail again toward home, the eggs clicking gently against each other with the rocking of the hull.

For a time there was little to do, so they just watched the mainland slowly grow larger as the westerly filled their sail and the boat churned landward. All three were silent.

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Suddenly a great blast of air sounded behind Yao, and he gasped, terrified. Turning, he saw something that would never leave his memory.

Not twenty feet off their stern, a great blue-gray bulk lifted out of the sea, foaming water sliding from it in sheets. As the shape moved forward, Yao saw a small fin at its crest, then two great dripping dark flukes as they slipped almost straight down into the green depths.

“Yao!” his uncle cried. “Whales!”

Just then two more broke the surface nearby, like sudden small hills among the waves. But even as Yao thrilled to the whales, he spotted something else.

“Southeast!” he shouted. “A sail! Coming toward us!”

The men jumped up, shielding their eyes against the glare.

“Pirates?” Yao asked fearfully. His uncle nodded.

The two men slumped back down. For a moment no one spoke. “They’ll have guns,” Yao’s father said at last.

Yao looked down at the nets, and an idea suddenly came to him. “We can hide them!” he shouted.

“The eggs? Where could we possibly hide them in this small boat?” his uncle said, sounding annoyed.

“Father, you brought our shrimping nets. The eggshells are hard—you said so, Uncle! We can load the eggs in the nets, and put the nets out. The pirates won’t be able to see the eggs under the water. They’ll think we’re just fishing!”

Yao’s uncle’s mouth fell open. “It might work!” he gasped.



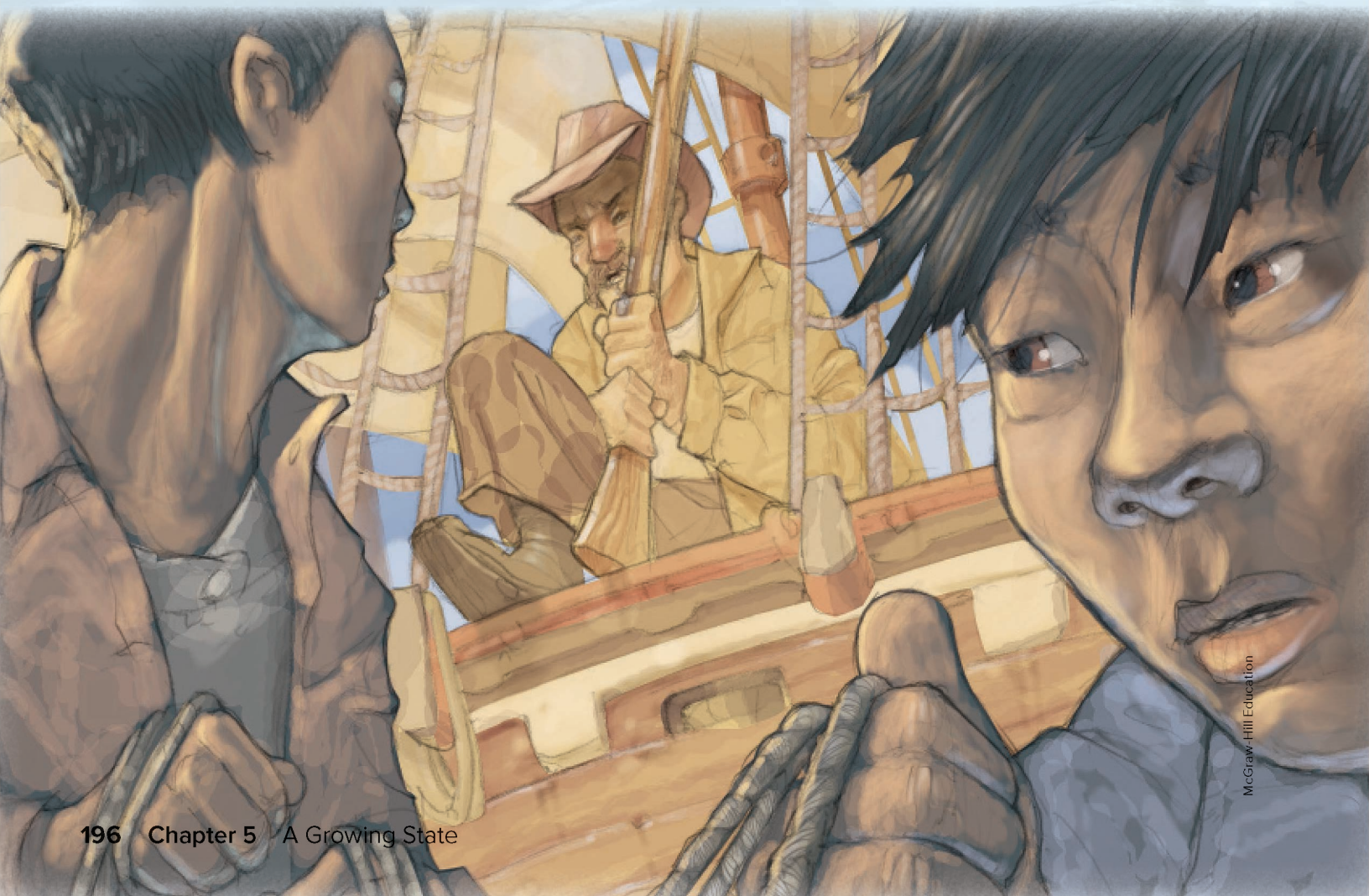
Jumping up, they quickly spread the nets and filled them with eggs. Then they eased each net over the side. Yao kept looking over his shoulder; the other boat was closing fast, but it was still a half-mile off when they finished. Not an egg could be seen. “Now,” Yao’s father said, “we pretend to fish.”

“We have lots of practice at that!” Yao’s uncle said, smiling.

Yao was bent over the side tending the nets when the larger boat drew up beside them. He straightened, pretending to be surprised. He could see egg baskets piled on the deck, hard-looking white faces, rifles.

“Chinaman!” a big, mustachioed sailor called out. “What’re you doin’ here?”

Yao saw his father wince angrily at the hated word and noticed how his uncle’s jaws tightened.



“Fishing,” Yao’s father answered, his voice calm but firm.

“Just fishin’?” the man asked suspiciously, gripping his gun.

“Yes,” said Yao’s uncle. “Not much else to do out here.”

The big man flushed. “You givin’ me lip, boy?”

“No,” said Yao’s uncle. But he kept looking straight into the big man’s eyes.

“Ease up, Jeffries,” came a voice from the far side of the boat. Yao turned to see an older man, with white hair and a rough face, emerging from behind a pile of baskets. He looked their boat over carefully. Then he said to his crew, “They’re just workin’ men like us, trying to make do. And they obviously ain’t got eggs. Let’s clear out.” He smiled at Yao. “Good luck with your fishin’,” he said, tipping his hat. His heart thumping, Yao watched as the big boat slowly pulled away.

When the pirate sail was just a spot on the horizon, the three worked together to haul in the nets. The eggs felt cold to the touch as Yao helped load them back into the hull. Of all the hundreds they’d gathered, only three had broken. Gulls screeched and dove when Yao’s uncle threw the dripping shells overboard.

Yao looked up to see his father smiling. “I’m proud of you, my son!” he said, and Yao was filled with joy.

Think About It

1. What are Yao Bai and his family doing at the beginning of the story?
2. How do the pirates treat the fishermen?
3. What problem does Yao Bai solve? How does he solve it?

People You Should Know



Levi Strauss

Levi Strauss came to America from Germany to escape religious discrimination. His family was Jewish. Strauss arrived in California during the Gold Rush. He made his fortune supplying rugged work clothing to the miners. In 1873, he and another tailor perfected a way to put metal rivets into the seams of their pants so they would not tear. The name “Levis” stuck to these popular pants.



Mary Tape

When Mary Tape’s daughter, Mamie, tried to go to school, the principal stood in the doorway to block her. The government of San Francisco had banned Chinese students. Mary Tape fought for her family’s right to an education. Even after the California Supreme Court ruled in Mamie’s favor, the school system barred her because she didn’t have her vaccinations. Tape wrote letters and continued her fight.

(f)dpaa picture alliance/Alamy Stock Photo;
(g)Smith Collection/Gado/Archive Photos/Getty Images



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in the product.

George Chaffey

A self-taught engineer, George Chaffey joined other families from Canada in a settlement along the Santa Ana River. His plan was to purchase land and use concrete pipes to move water from the river. He purchased water rights and built model communities alongside the farms he was irrigating. He also installed electric lighting and the first telephones.

William Mulholland

William Mulholland's job was to get water for the city of Los Angeles. He used political trickery to get control of water in the distant Owens Valley. Much of the water ended up irrigating farms in the San Fernando Valley near Los Angeles, making Mulholland's friends rich. Fighting over water continued until Mulholland was forced to resign after a dam he had built collapsed, killing 500 people.



What Role Did the Transportation Revolution Play in the Growth of California?

Better Communication

In the 1850s, California's growing population was separated from the East by great distances. It took months for people, supplies, news, and mail to travel across the country in wagon trains. California needed a better system for **communication** and travel. Communication is the exchange of information between people.

A stagecoach is a carriage that is pulled by horses.



Timeline

1860

The Pony Express makes its first trip across the country.

1862

The Pacific Railway Act is passed.

1869

The Transcontinental Railroad is completed.

1860

1869

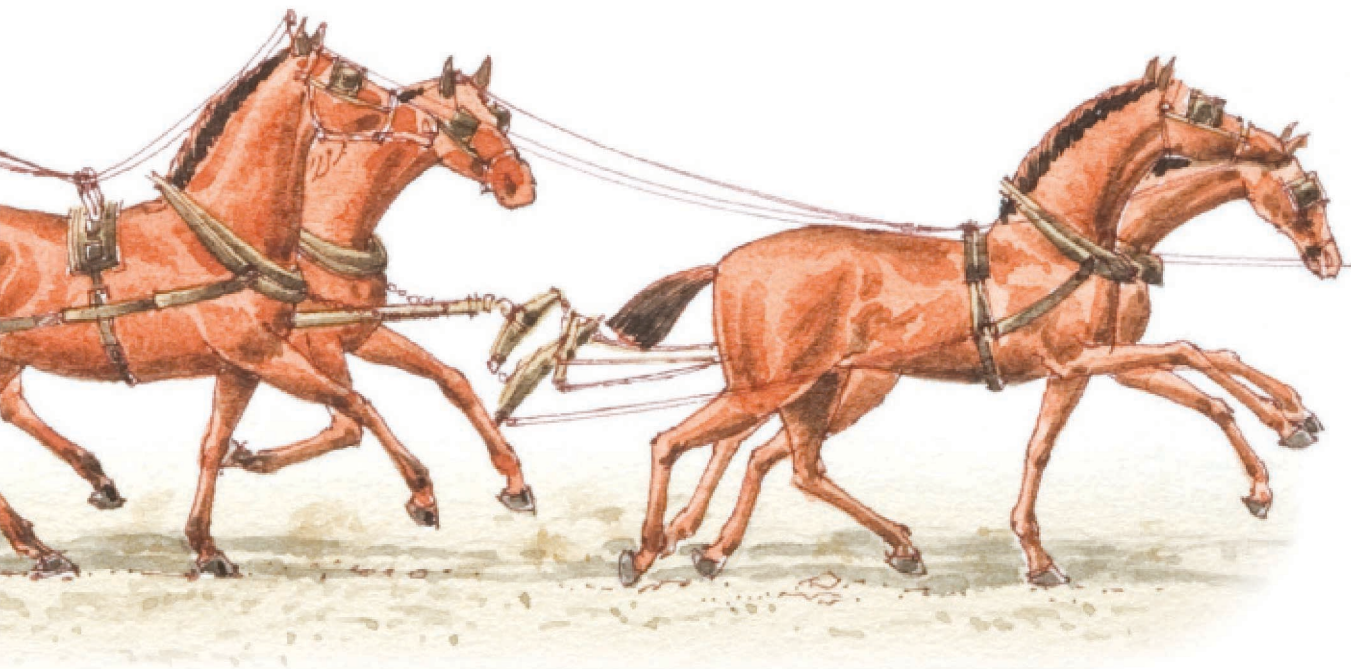
1861

Telegraph wires connect East and West Coasts.

Stagecoach

The United States government started paying stagecoach companies to transport mail across the country. A stagecoach was a carriage pulled by horses. It was faster, but it still took a stagecoach from the Overland Mail Service three weeks to travel 2,800 miles from Missouri to San Francisco. Stagecoaches stopped at stations along the way to change horses.

Stagecoaches also carried passengers. Travel in the carriages was uncomfortable and difficult. Sometimes passengers faced dangers along the routes. The roads were uneven with potholes, sharp drops, and sharp turns. Stagecoaches also faced robbers who stole goods and gold.



Pony Express

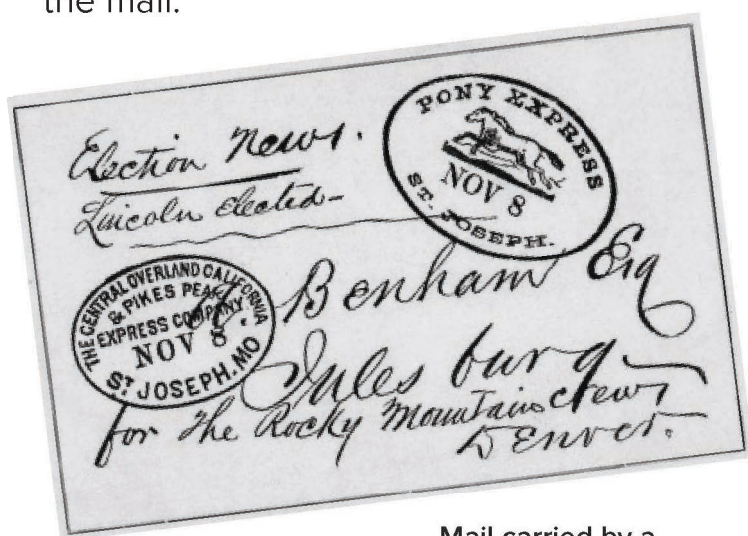
Californians wanted faster ways to get news and to get from place to place. In 1860, Billy Hamilton made the first mail delivery for the Pony Express. The Pony Express was set up like a relay race. The route was almost 2,000 miles long. Each trip was split up into a number of stations. About 160 stations were set up along the route. California had about 18 stations. After a 10- to 15-mile ride, a rider would pass off a bag of mail to another rider. Then, a fresh horse and rider would continue the route. The service was expensive. It was faster than a stagecoach, but it still took more than a week to deliver the mail.



Route of the Pony Express, 1860–1861



Pony Express riders changed horses every 10 to 15 miles on an 80- to 100-mile route.



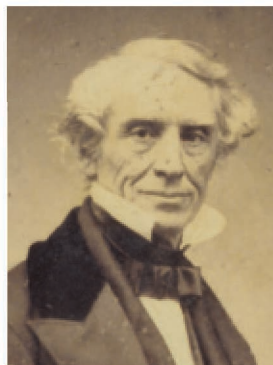
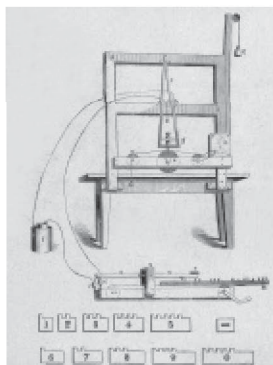
Mail carried by a Pony Express rider

The telegraph, introduced by Samuel Morse in 1836, was a way to communicate quickly. The time it took to deliver messages was seconds. Communication did not depend on the speed of stagecoaches or horses.

By 1860, Congress wanted a telegraph system linking the East and West Coasts. The Western Union Telegraph Company built a transcontinental telegraph line. By 1861, telegraph communication between Washington, D.C. and San Francisco was possible, putting the Pony Express out of business.

Did You Know?

The telegraph used Morse code, which is a system that uses dots and dashes to represent letters. A telegraph operator used the lever on the telegraph key to tap out long beats for dashes and short beats for dots. Another operator at the end of the line had a machine called a sounder. The sounder clicked with every beat and marked a strip of paper with dots and dashes. The operator then decoded the message.



Samuel Morse invented the telegraph.



Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



Talk With a partner, discuss different types of communication. Using what you read, discuss the Overland Mail Service, the Pony Express, and the telegraph.

Find Details As you read, add additional information to the graphic organizer on page 175 in your Inquiry Journal.

The Dream of a Railroad

By 1850, railroads crisscrossed the eastern part of the United States. The government hoped to build a new railroad that stretched across the country from the East to the West. The railroad would be a **transcontinental** railroad, meaning it would cross the continent.

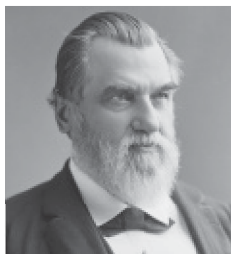
Theodore Judah was an engineer. He believed the dream of a transcontinental railroad could be a reality. Judah wanted to help make it happen. The biggest obstacle was the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Building tracks through the mountains would require many workers. They would need to build bridges and dig tunnels through the rock. Judah figured out a path through the Sierra Nevada. The path was near Dutch Flat and rose up to Donner Pass. Judah found four wealthy **investors** who were willing to invest in the railroad. They became known as the Big Four.

Judah convinced Congress that the railroad should be built. In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Pacific Railway Act. This act allowed the government to loan money to two railroad companies, the Union Pacific Railroad and the Central Pacific Railroad. It also gave the companies ten square miles of land on both sides of the railroad. The Big Four could build towns along the railroad tracks.

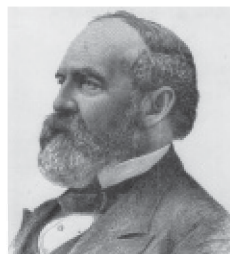


Theodore Judah dreamed of building a railroad.

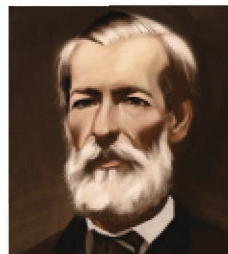
The Big Four



Leland Stanford



Collis P.
Huntington

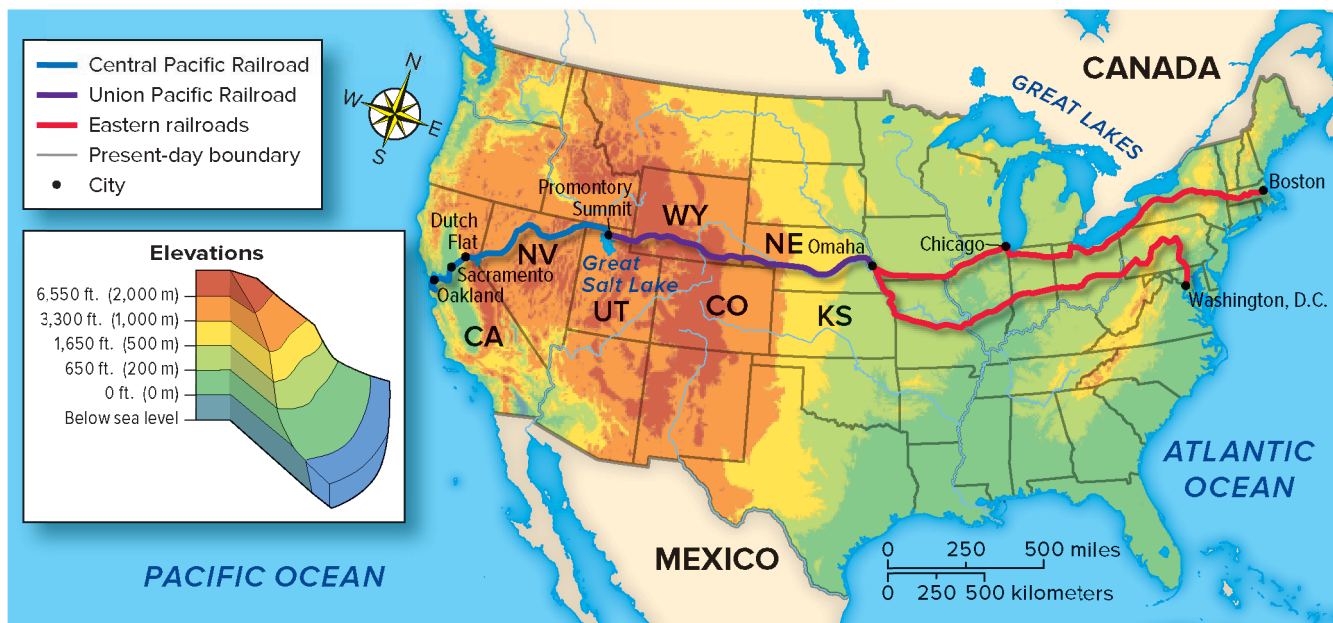


Mark Hopkins



Charles Crocker

(bkg)ktimages/Getty Images; (t)GL Archive/Alamy Stock Photo; (bl)Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, LC-DIG-bellcm-00976, (bc) Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-63955; (br)MPI/Archive Photos/Getty Images



Route of the Transcontinental Railroad, 1869



Map Skills Compare and contrast the routes of the Union Pacific Railroad and Central Pacific Railroad. Use the map to provide evidence.

Laying the Tracks

Building the railroad tracks required thousands of workers. The Central Pacific Railroad route started in Sacramento and moved east across the Sierra Nevada and the desert. The Union Pacific Railroad route started in Omaha and moved west across the plains.



Stop and Check

Think Why did the “Big Four” want a transcontinental railroad? Discuss your opinion with a partner.

What Do You Think? Why do you think people dreamed of building a railroad to connect the coasts?

The Race to Promontory Summit

The Union Pacific Railroad went west from Omaha. The Central Pacific Railroad went east from Sacramento. The two companies raced to meet at Promontory Summit, Utah. On May 10, 1869, the crowd cheered as Central Pacific Railroad president Leland Stanford drove the last spike into a railroad tie.

The coast-to-coast train could carry California products and produce to the East. Goods from the East could be carried to the growing Californian population. The railroad also connected Eastern cities with Asian trade through new seaports in the California cities of Los Angeles, Sacramento, and San Francisco.

California Grows

The Transcontinental Railroad and the new seaports in California made trade easier. Thousands of new immigrants from across the world came to California. In 1850, California's population was around 90,000. By 1860, the population had grown to more than 370,000. Immigrants came from Europe, Asia, and South America. Some came in search of gold, fortune, and jobs on farms. Others came in search of a new or better life.

In the 1860s, twenty-two Japanese families established the Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony east of Sacramento. This was the first Japanese colony in the United States. The farmers raised silk worms and grew tea and oil plants and rice. The farm was sold after only two years, but the new owners preserved the Japanese history of the farm.

Business Boom

Along with the immigrants came businesses and larger cities. In 1852, San Francisco's population was about 35,000. These 35,000 people needed banks, housing, grocery stores, restaurants, mail services, transportation, and clothes. New businesses opened and industries changed.

Did You Know?

Henry Wells and William Fargo started Wells Fargo and Company as a banking company for the West during the Gold Rush. The company transported money with stagecoaches, and later with trains. Over time the company continued to grow. Today, it is one of the biggest banks in the United States.



Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



Write Based on what you've read, why do you think businesses grew and changed so quickly in California during the middle of the 1800s?



Workers pose at the completion of the railroad.

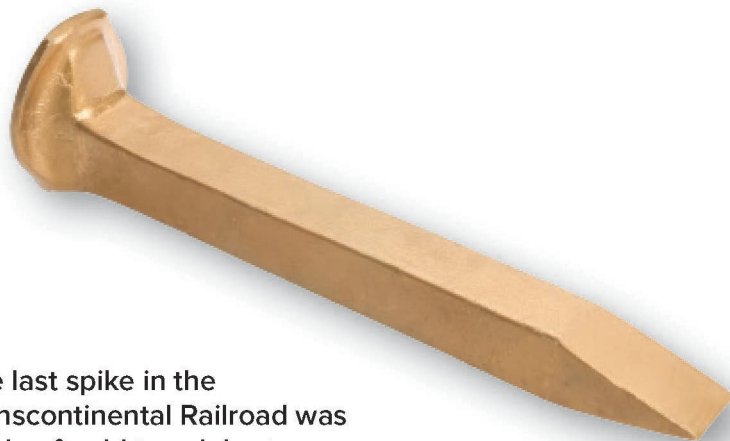
(b)Gardner-Whitcomb Education; (c)Ewing Galloway/Alamy Stock Photo



How Were Immigrants to California Treated After the Gold Rush?

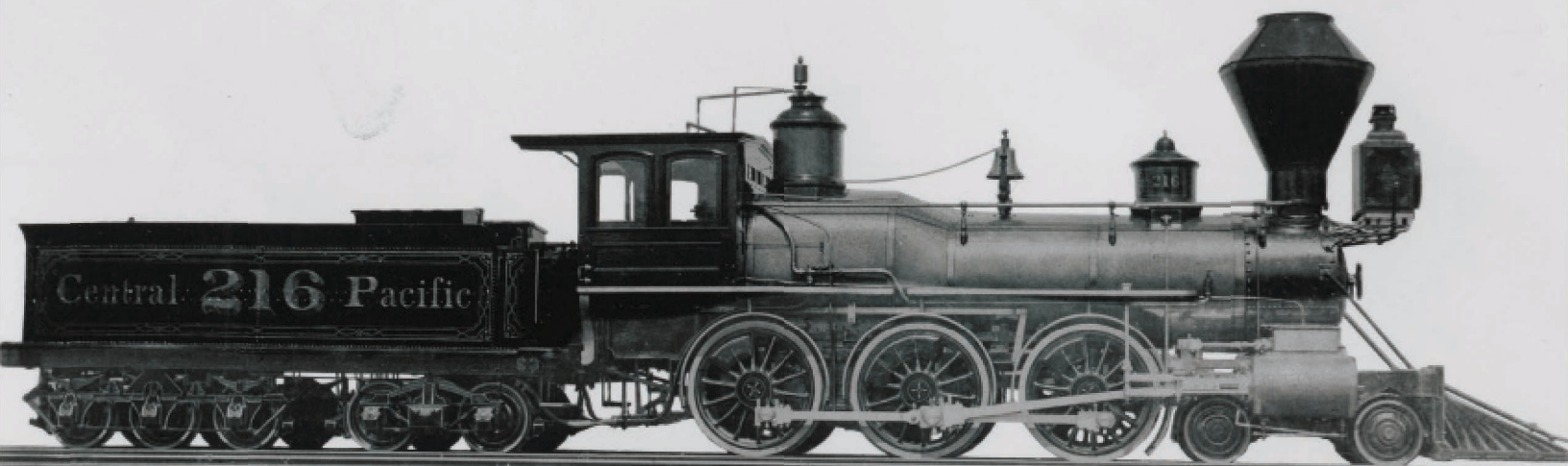
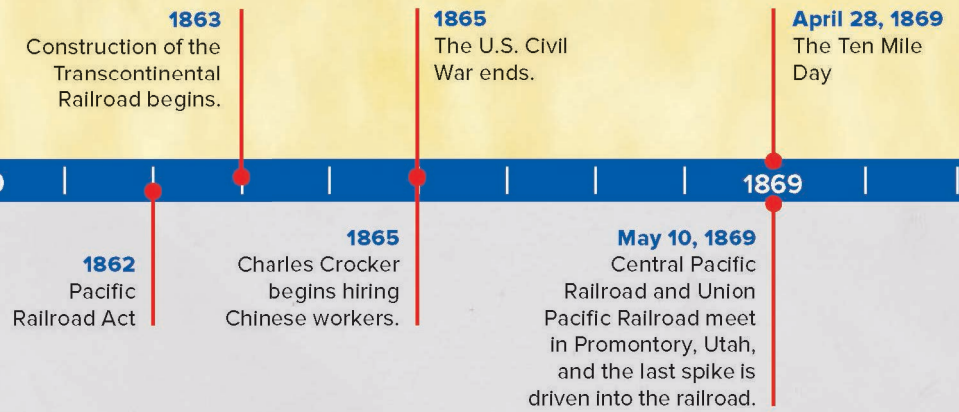
Who Built the Railroad?

The Transcontinental Railroad was built mostly by Chinese and Irish immigrants. About 10,000 Chinese immigrants worked for the Central Pacific Railroad. Charles Crocker, a major investor in the Central Pacific Railroad, first hired fifty Chinese workers. He was impressed with their work. He sent people to Guangdong Province in China to advertise for more workers. Many Chinese men saw this as an opportunity, or chance, for a better life. They made the journey across the ocean to help connect America from coast to coast.



The last spike in the Transcontinental Railroad was made of gold to celebrate completing the railroad.

Timeline



The Transcontinental Railroad provided transportation across the United States.

The Chinese

In the mid-nineteenth century, the economy in China was struggling. Wars left many parts of the nation suffering. Thousands of Chinese made the journey to California for a better life. Some came earlier for the Gold Rush. Others came to build the Transcontinental Railroad.

Railroad workers used carts to move equipment along the tracks.



Bettmann/Getty Images

Building the railroad was hard work. Chinese workers faced a lot of hardships. They worked for 12 hours a day, 6 days a week. They made between \$24 and \$31 a month and had to pay for their own meals and tents. Some of the more dangerous jobs paid an extra dollar a month but caused many more accidents.

Workers did not have large equipment or machines to help them build the railroad. They used pickaxes, hammers, crowbars, and carts. They cleared the path by chopping down trees, pulling up stumps, and hauling away dirt and stone.

They faced dangerous challenges throughout construction. These challenges included building tunnels high up in the Sierra Nevada. They also had to level large areas of solid granite in a place called Bloomer's Cut. Another challenge the workers faced was in building the railroad on Cape Horn in the Sierra Nevada. A steep cliff rose over 1,300 feet into the air. There was no place for workers to stand. Workers lowered each other over the side of the cliff in baskets. Hovering beside the cliff, workers chipped away at the stone. They used gunpowder to fill the holes, lighting it to cause an explosion. The workers had to signal each other to be pulled out of harm's way before the gunpowder exploded.

One winter, the Sierra Nevada were hit with forty four blizzards. Deep snow drifts covered the camps and the railroad beds. Avalanches swept workers away. Tunnels were dug through the snow just to get back to work. The Chinese workers spent two years completing the railroad tracks through the Sierra Nevada. By the end of the project, the Central Pacific Railroad completed 689 miles of tracks through mountainous terrain.



Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



Talk What made work on the Transcontinental Railroad dangerous? Discuss the answer with a partner as you identify specific examples in the text.

Find Details As you read, add additional information to the graphic organizer on page 213 in your Inquiry Journal.

Around the World

Around the World: Russia and China

Throughout the world, railroads were becoming more important.

In Russia, Tsar Alexander III

began construction of the

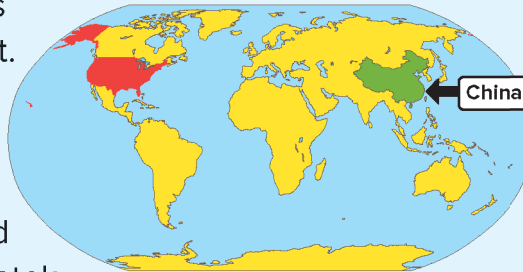
Trans-Siberian Railroad in 1891.

This large railway system linked

Moscow in the West to Vladivostok

and the port city Nakhodka in the East of the nation. The Trans-Siberian Railroad became an important transportation line for both the Russian Empire and, later, the Soviet Union.

The Qing Dynasty in China refused to allow railroads to be built in China for decades. Chinese leaders thought railroads might cut through important defenses, ruin farmland, and disrupt natural features. Great Britain and the United States built the first railroad in China without government approval, stretching only 7.5 miles to connect the cities of Wusong and Shanghai. By 1881, Li Hongzhang had convinced the Chinese government to build a railway to transport coal from Tangshan to Xugezhuang. The Tangxu Rail Line was the first Chinese-built railway and is still in use today.



Ten Mile Day

Charles Crocker heard that workers for the Union Pacific Railroad in the East had set a record. They laid over seven miles of tracks in one day. He bet that his crews could do better by laying ten miles in one day. Eight Irish rail handlers and 4,000 workers, mostly Chinese, took up the challenge.

Workers lined up along the railroad tracks for miles at a time. Carts of supplies were sent up the finished tracks to where they were needed. Empty carts were rolled back down the line. Workers tipped the empty carts off of the tracks to make room for the full carts. Runners brought tea to the Chinese workers throughout the day.



In 1877, workers built 62 miles of tracks for the Central Pacific Railroad from Sacramento through the high Sierra Nevadas.

First, the rail ties were laid. Then, they were bolted and spiked into place. Next, gravel and sand were packed beneath the ties to hold them in place. The tracks were then straightened as necessary. Finally, about 400 workers came through to press, or tamp, the dirt and ties down into place.

The tracks grew a mile an hour that day. Work stopped only for lunch and then continued. By the end of the day, the Central Pacific Railroad had laid ten miles and fifty-six feet of railroad tracks. They were only three miles away from Promontory, Utah, where their tracks would meet up with the Union Pacific Railroad to complete the Transcontinental Railroad.

Points of View

Letters of Railroad Life

"The work at Hope was very dangerous. On one occasion, there was a huge rock, on the slope of the mountain, which stood in the railroad's path and must be removed by blasting before the tracks could go through.... The workers had to scramble to the top by use of timber scaffolding and by ropes fastened to the rock. After they reach the top they drilled holes in the rock to hold the dynamite charges. "

—a Chinese railroad worker

The Irish

The Potato Famine struck Northern Europe in the 1840s. More than a million Irish people died during this time. Many immigrants fled the country and made their way to America.

Irish immigrants faced many hardships and struggled to find work. Railroad work was hard and dangerous, but Irish immigrants were willing to take those risks. Irish immigrants were also treated better by the railroads than their Chinese colleagues were. Irish immigrants were paid more for the same work. The railroad also paid for their meals and their lodging during the project. This meant they got to keep more of their pay than the Chinese immigrants did.

While the Central Pacific Railroad crews were largely Chinese, there were still Irish immigrants to be found in their ranks, too. Eight notable Irish immigrants served as rail handlers during Charles Crocker's famous Ten Mile Day.

The Union Pacific Railroad's workforce, on the other hand, was almost entirely made up of Irish immigrants. This group laid tracks across the Great Plains. They were nicknamed the "sledge-and-shovel army." Their teams faced attacks by American Indian tribes. Workers would throw down their tools and pick up their rifles to fight back.

The Union Pacific Railroad workers completed 1,086 miles of tracks by the time the Transcontinental Railroad was complete.

It took large teams of men to build railroads.



Not Just Working on the Railroad

Chinese immigrants began working in many industries in California after they arrived. They took jobs in factories and in agriculture. Many worked laundering clothes. This was a growing industry in a time when miners and railroad workers didn't have the means to launder their own clothing. One such immigrant was Lee Chew. He came to the United States when he was sixteen, traveling for two months across the Pacific. Chew started working in a laundry when he first arrived. After two years, he opened his own laundry and worked for the Central Pacific Railroad.

PRIMARY SOURCE

"My father gave me \$100, and I ... got steerage passage on a steamer, paying \$50. ... Everything was new to me. All my life I had been used to sleeping on a board bed with a wooden pillow, and I found the steamer's bunk very uncomfortable, because it was so soft."

—From an article by Lee Chew in *Independent Magazine*, February 1903



Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



Talk Do you think the immigrants who worked for the railroads were treated fairly? Share your thoughts with a partner and support your ideas with information from the text.

After the Railroad

When railroad work ended, large communities of Chinese immigrants, often called Chinatowns, grew in big cities. In these thriving neighborhoods, immigrants opened shops and schools. Festivals were held celebrating traditional Chinese holidays. These communities provided a sense of familiarity and belonging for immigrants in the United States.

Times were not easy, however. Work became harder to find after the railroad was finished. Many Californians accused Chinese immigrants of taking their jobs. They demanded laws to stop Chinese immigration.

The **discrimination**, or unfair treatment, allowed by such laws made life even more difficult for Chinese immigrants. In 1882, Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act. This act prevented any new Chinese workers from entering the United States for the next ten years.

The Geary Act of 1892 extended the Chinese Exclusion Act. It also required all Chinese immigrants in the United States to carry a certificate of residency. Immigrants could be detained and deported if they didn't have the certificate.

Did You Know?

In 1868, the United States signed a treaty with China. Within its articles, both nations agreed to respect the rights of citizens to move from one country to the other. In fact, Article 6 of the treaty states:

“Chinese subjects visiting or residing in the United States shall enjoy the same privileges, immunities and exemptions in respect to travel or residence as may there be enjoyed by the citizens or subjects of the [United States].”

The Chinese Exclusion Act directly violated the terms of the treaty, and relations between the two nations weakened.

Put Yourself in Their Shoes

The legislation restricting Chinese immigration to the United States affected individuals in important ways. The following are a couple of the many court cases that highlight the discrimination faced by Chinese residents in America.

Mamie Tape was born in the United States. Her parents tried to enroll Mamie in a local public school. The principal refused to allow Mamie to be enrolled because her family was Chinese. The family sued the principal. In 1885, the California Supreme Court decided in favor of the Tape family. Chinese children gained the right to be educated by the state. Still, separate Chinese schools were formed instead of letting Chinese children enroll alongside other Californians. Fair and equal treatment was still a long way off.

Fong Yue Ting and two other Chinese U.S. residents were arrested for not having a certificate of residency. They sued the government, claiming the requirement for a certificate was unconstitutional. One of the men had even tried to get a certificate but had been denied. The only witnesses he could find to support his claim were Chinese. The Geary Act required white witnesses to get a certificate. The Supreme Court ruled against the men in a 6–3 decision to **deport** them, or legally remove them from the country. The justices who argued for the men insisted that all legal residents deserved equal protection under the constitution. One said that legal residents deserved a fair trial, which the Geary Act did not allow. Unfortunately, the Chinese Exclusion Act was not repealed until 1943.



Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



Talk What benefits did Chinese neighborhoods have for immigrants during this period of discrimination? Share your ideas with a partner using examples from the text.

Chinatown

San Francisco's Chinatown attracts around two million tourists each year. It is the largest and oldest Chinatown in the United States. Chinese architecture lines the streets. Chinese food is sold in restaurants and grocery stores. Artists, musicians, and dancers help bring the neighborhood's culture to life.



This colorful gate at the south entrance of Chinatown displays the message "All under heaven is for the good of the people."

The Golden Gate Cookie Company lets visitors see how fortune cookies are made. These cookies are a Chinese American tradition that is popular across the nation.



(border)McGraw-Hill Education; (bkgd)Spondylolithesis/Stock/Getty Images; (t)Naeblys/Alamy Stock Photo; (b)Naeblys/Alamy Stock Photo



This paper dragon is a symbol of spring and good luck. Fifty people hold it up and make it dance during the dragon parade in Lunar New Year celebrations.



Tin How Temple was built in honor of the Chinese goddess Tin How for her protection of Chinese immigrants during their journey to the United States.

✓ Stop and Check

Think In what ways does San Francisco's Chinatown help preserve Chinese American culture? Look through the text and find examples.



How Did California's Growing Population Get Enough Water to Meet Its Needs?

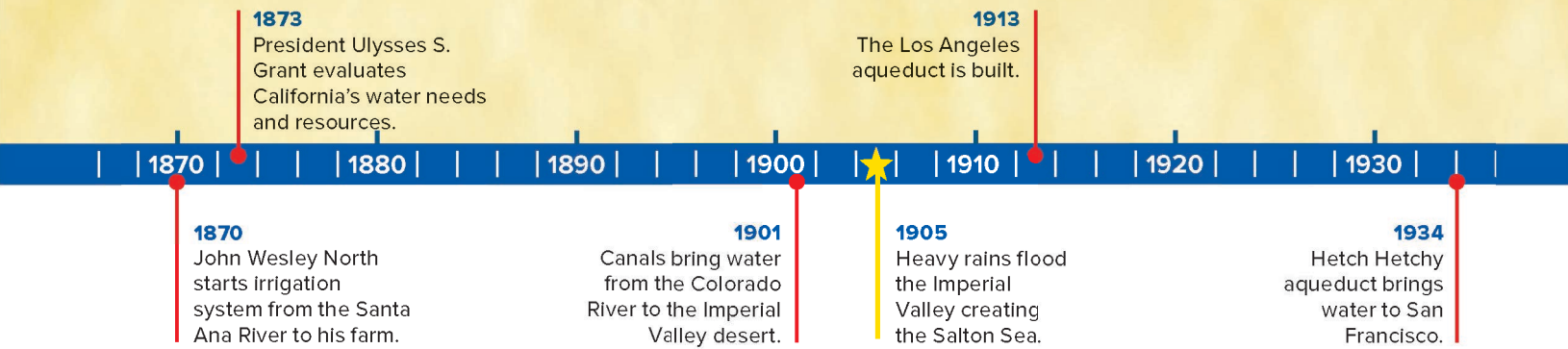
California's Thirst for Water

A good supply of fresh water is important for any community. People need water to drink, cook, wash, and bathe. They also need water to grow food. As California's population grew at the turn of the twentieth century, so did its need for water.

The Sierra Nevada mountain range supplies California with more than half of its water. The water is stored as snow on the mountains. When the snow melts, the water runs along rivers, streams, and other waterways. California also gets its water from rainfall. However, rainfall varies from season to season, from year to year, and from place to place. The northern areas of the state get about fifty six inches of rain each year and areas in the south get just a few inches, but most of California's people live in Southern California.



Timeline



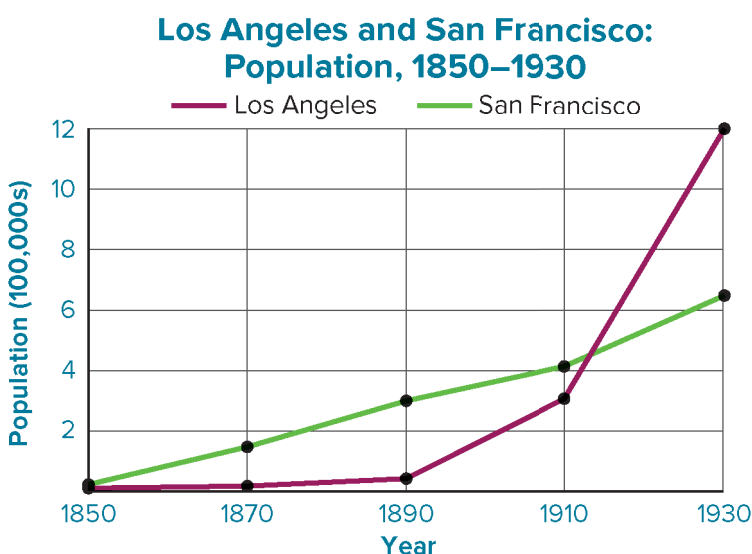
Throughout history, California's climate and geography have caused problems with the water supply. For example, when California became a state in 1850, many ranchers in the Central Valley were raising cattle. Then, two **droughts**, or dry periods of little rain, caused many ranchers to go out of business. Their land sat empty. Soon, farmers started growing wheat on that land. The area's soil and long, dry summers were perfect for growing the crop. However, not all places in California could support farming. Some places were too dry. Other places were too wet. Farms in California needed even and reliable water to improve its agriculture. Just as the farmers needed water, the growing number of people in California's cities needed it as well.



rows of crops growing
in California valley

Between 1850 and 1920, Los Angeles and San Francisco welcomed so many people, they outgrew their water supply. Solving this crisis became an urgent challenge for both cities.

The need for water by people, communities, and farmland in a difficult geography has contributed to California's water woes. Over time, however, California has developed solutions to support farming and make certain that people have enough water to meet their needs.



Sources: U.S. Census Bureau; Los Angeles Almanac;
Metropolitan Transportation Commission;
Association of Bay Area Governments



Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



Talk Why did the growing population of California affect its water supply?

Find Details As you read, add additional information to the graphic organizer on page 191 in your Inquiry Journal.

Water: Too Much and Too Little

California has always been a land of both too much and too little water. This can be a problem for farmers. Too much water can kill crops, as can too little. Over time, however, farmers and others have found ways to solve these problems.

One area of California that is too wet is the delta region, a triangle-shaped area of land between Sacramento, Stockton, and San Francisco. Several rivers, including the Sacramento River, run through the delta. This makes the soil very wet. It is also rich with nutrients. In the mid-1800s, farmers tried to grow crops here. However, the Sacramento River often flooded, ruining the crops. Some farmers wanted to find a way to dry out the land. In 1861, the state government said they could build **levees**, or high walls of earth that keep flood water from overflowing onto land. By 1930, farmers were successfully growing crops.



The California Delta



Map Skills Look at the map. In addition to the Sacramento River, what other river runs through the delta region?

While some land was too wet to grow crops, other land was too dry. The central and southern areas do not get as much rain as the northern areas, so drought has often been a problem that people have dealt with in different ways.

In 1870, a farmer named John Wesley North was growing orange trees in Riverside, a town he founded in Southern California. Because the area was dry, he needed to figure out a way to get water to his trees. He decided to dig a long ditch from the nearby Santa Ana River to his farm.

Soon, other farmers in Southern California used **irrigation** to turn thousands of acres of dry land into working farmland. In 1901, an engineer named George Chaffey built a canal from the Colorado River to an area of desert in southeastern California. He named the area “Imperial Valley” and sold the land to farmers. However, in 1905 heavy rains flooded the area. The farmland sat underwater for two years. The water eventually drained but a huge lake called the Salton Sea remained. Today people use the lake for fishing and boating.

Did You Know?

Drought is still a huge problem in California. In May 2016, Governor Jerry Brown issued an order to residents to save water. California uses more water than any other state. Each person in California uses an average of 181 gallons of water each day. Most of that water is used to irrigate farmland and to water lawns and gardens, but it is also used in toilets, washing machines, dishwashers, faucets, showers, and baths.

California Feeds the Nation

Today, California is known for its juicy navel oranges. The navel orange has not always been grown here, however. In 1873, Eliza and Luther Tibbets planted two navel orange trees near their home in Riverside. The navel orange is juicier and sweeter than other oranges and it has no seeds. When news spread about the oranges, other people wanted to grow their own. Several people came to the Tibbets home and snipped off pieces of the trees, took them home, and planted them. Soon, navel oranges were growing all over Southern California.



California oranges



Eliza Tibbets grew the first navel oranges in California.

California farmers introduced other fruits and vegetables, too. In 1875, plant scientist Luther Burbank went to Santa Rosa, California, and created over 800 kinds of fruits, grains, nuts, vegetables, and flowers. By 1900, farmers in Riverside, a town that had been too dry for farming, produced 24,000 boxes of lemons and two million boxes of oranges. Today, California farmers grow over one-third of the country's vegetables and two-thirds of the fruits and nuts.

farmland by the Salton Sea



Stop and Check

Talk How did irrigation help California's water supply problems?

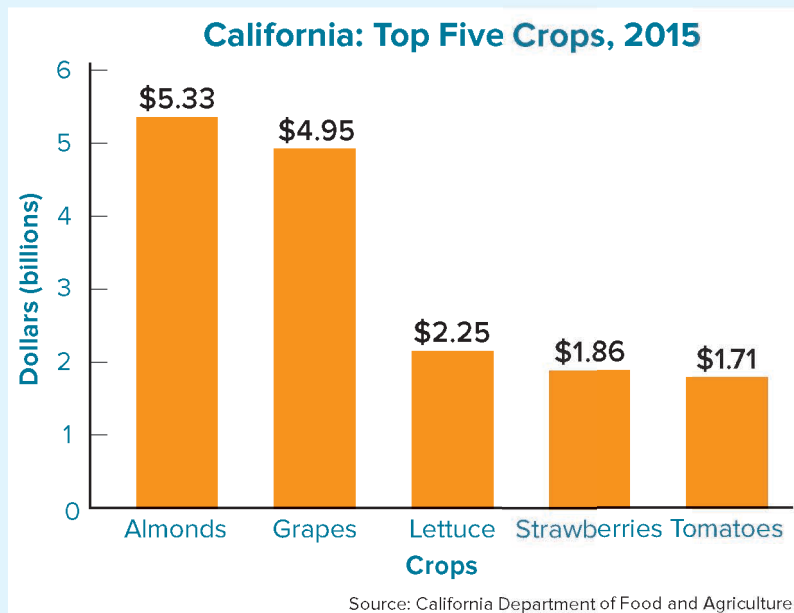
The inventions of irrigation and levees made it possible for farmers to grow successful crops. Another invention allowed them to share their products with the rest of

the country: the refrigerated railroad car. Before these cars were invented in the 1800s, farmers could deliver produce to other states, but it would often be ruined. **Refrigeration** keeps food fresh by keeping it cool. By the 1880s, many farmers could ship their produce across the country in refrigerated railroad cars. By 1920, California was a leading supplier of fresh fruits and vegetables to the rest of the country.



California grapes and other produce were delivered across the country by refrigerated railroad car.

Infographic



Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



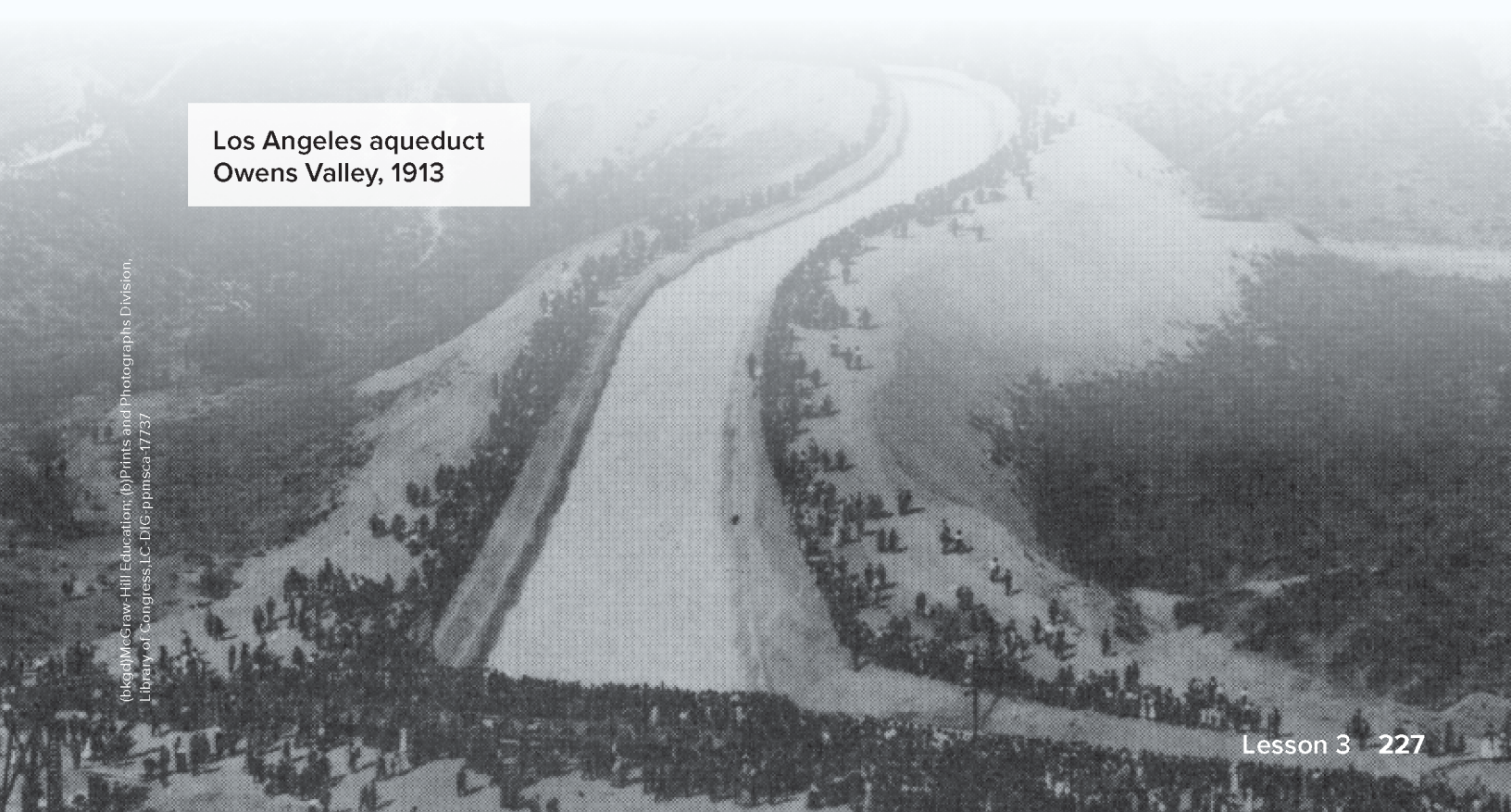
Think Why were refrigerated railroad cars important to farmers?

Addressing California's Water Problems

As people flooded into Los Angeles and San Francisco between 1850 and 1920, the water supply started to dry up. New ideas were needed to quench the cities' thirst for water.

In 1873, President Ulysses S. Grant requested that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers investigate California's water needs and resources. The report surveyed the Central Valley's needs and recommended the Sierra watersheds be developed. Soon after, the state completed its own study, agreeing that the Central Valley should be developed for the good of the state.

In the 1890s, William Mulholland, head of the Los Angeles water department, decided the city could use an aqueduct to carry water from the Owens River to Los Angeles, a distance of about 200 miles. An **aqueduct** is a pipe or other channel that carries water over long distances. Finished in 1913, the aqueduct supplied water to farms and the people of Los Angeles.

An aerial photograph showing a long, straight aqueduct channel cutting through a hilly, arid landscape. The channel is flanked by rows of trees and vegetation. In the background, a winding river is visible. The terrain is rugged with some buildings and structures scattered across the valley floor.

Los Angeles aqueduct
Owens Valley, 1913

San Francisco had a similar problem. Engineers thought a dam across the Tuolumne River would solve it. A dam is a wall built across a river to create a **reservoir**, a lake used to store water. An aqueduct would carry that water from the reservoir to San Francisco. Some people argued that a dam would flood and ruin the natural beauty of Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park. Others thought a water supply was more important. In 1913, the U.S. Congress sided with those in favor of the dam. The 150-mile aqueduct was completed in 1934.

PRIMARY SOURCE

In His Words... John Muir, Naturalist

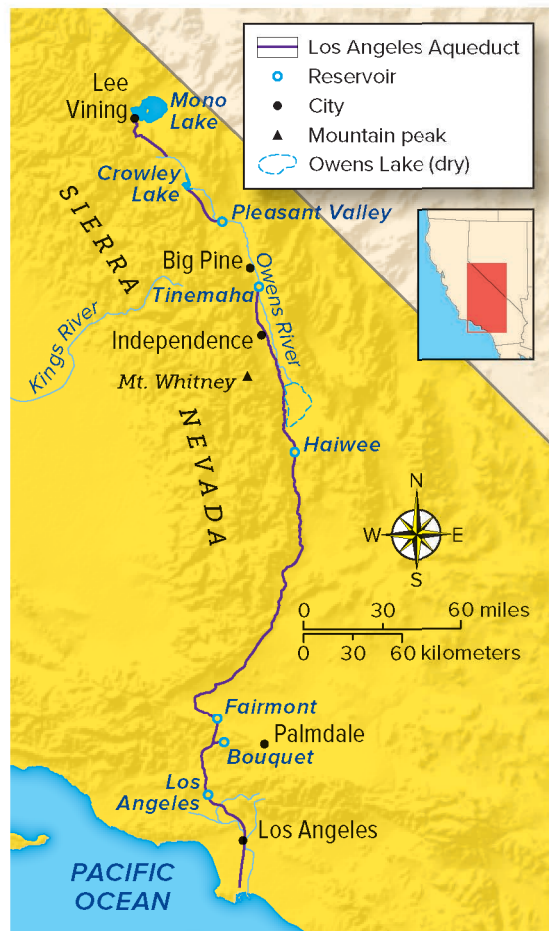
“[Hetch Hetchy] is a grand landscape garden, one of nature’s rarest and most precious mountain temples.... These temple destroyers, devotees of ravaging commercialism, seem to have a perfect contempt for Nature, and, instead of lifting their eyes to the God of the mountains, lift them to the Almighty Dollar.”

—From *The Yosemite* by John Muir

Soon, California planned for systems of dams, reservoirs, and aqueducts to store and deliver water to other areas that needed water. The Central Valley Project and the California State Water Project were part of that plan. The Central Valley Project started in the 1930s. The water from the rainy Sacramento Valley area would be brought to the drier San Joaquin Valley. By the 1950s, construction began on another plan, the State Water Project. It was designed as a system of reservoirs, aqueducts, power plants, and pumping plants to store and deliver water to cities and farms in California. These two projects are now some of the largest water storage and transportation systems in the world, bringing much needed water to people and farmlands across California.

Then and Now

Los Angeles Aqueduct



California's Water System



Water Management Today

The Central Valley Water Project was one of the first to bring water to drier parts of California. Today the state has several projects to quench the thirst for water—carrying millions of gallons of water across the state. The water supplies meet the needs of residents and farmers.

What Do You Think? Do you think the dam at the Hetch Hetchy Valley should have been built? Who owns a source of water, such as a stream, lake, or river?



Stop and Check

COLLABORATE



Talk How has California worked to solve its water problems?



Connections in Action!

Back to the EQ

Think about the Chapter EQ, “**How Did California Change After Becoming a State?**”

- **Talk** about the ways in which California changed for the better or for the worse with the coming of the railroad, increased immigration, and struggles for water. Consider the effects these changes had on the state.
- **Pair** with a partner. Make lists of changes that occurred in California. Then exchange lists and discuss your ideas.
- **Share** your list of changes with the class and encourage discussion and suggestions for improvement.



More to Explore

How can you make an IMPACT?

Word Play

Choose three words that have an affix from the Word Bank. Identify the word's part of speech. Write a sentence for the word. Then identify the base word and its part of speech. Write a sentence for the base word. For example, *communication* is a noun. *The telegraph sped up communication.* *Communicate* is the base word and a verb. *I communicate news with a telegram.*

Write About It

Compose a brief letter to be carried on the Pony Express. Imagine that you are an early settler in California who is dealing with the problem of a lack of water. Explain how it feels to be part of the United States but separated by so much distance from people who live in the East.

State Your Case

Divide into groups to represent the workers of the Union Pacific Railroad and the Central Pacific Railroad. Taking turns, describe the work you are doing and debate which railroad company has the more difficult job and explain why.