

AMERICA'S FRONTIER WEST

“The existence of an area of free land, its continuous recession, and the advance of American settlement westward, explain American development...”

—Historian Frederick Jackson Turner

- ◆ Extension of America’s “manifest destiny”
 - ✓ Manifest Destiny, Part 1 (esp. 1820s, ‘30s, & ‘40s)
 - _____ the Civil War
 - _____ of western lands (+ footprints)
 - ended with _____ of 1853
 - ✓ Manifest Destiny, Part B (esp. 1870s & ‘80s)
 - _____ the Civil War
 - _____ of western lands (communities...statehoods)
 - land chunk → territory → statehood formula based on _____
- ◆ Description of American “frontier”
 - ✓ Place where _____ meets _____
 - ✓ Line running generally _____
 - ✓ Gradually, constantly moving _____
- ◆ Frederick Jackson Turner’s “Frontier Thesis”
 - ✓ American character largely a product of frontier experience
 - ✓ Some positives; some negatives
 - ✓ Continental frontier ceased to exist in _____
 - ✓ Thereafter, Americans’ frontier need satisfied by _____
- ◆ Myth of the “Wild West”
 - ✓ Legends → “Wild Bill” Hickok, Wyatt Earp & Doc Holliday, more
 - ✓ Artists → Catlin, Ralston, Remington, Russell many others
 - ✓ Hollywood → *Bonanza*, *Gunsmoke*, countless more
 - ✓ Reality → adapting to stiff conditions to survive day-to-day



WESTERN STATEHOODS



"[The vast territory west of the Missouri River is] unfit for cultivation and of course inhabitable by a people depending upon agriculture. [It is nothing more than a] Great Desert."

—Stephen Harriman Long

◆ Reasons for heading westward

- ① _____ (Homestead Act of 1862)
- ② _____ (California, Colorado, Black Hills, more)
- ③ _____ (Pacific Railway Act of 1862)
- ④ _____ (America's true cowboy)

◆ Settlement & statehoods

- ✓ 5 states w/ 2 million ← WEST 1865 EAST → 31 states w/ 42 million
- ✓ Three states just prior to Civil War (_____, _____, _____)
- ✓ Two states during the war (_____ & _____)
- ✓ Nebraska #37 in 1867 thru Utah #45 in 1896
- ✓ South Dakota in 1889 (+ _____, _____, _____)
- ✓ After 1900 → Oklahoma; Arizona & New Mexico; Alaska & Hawaii





THE TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD



“Everything—rails, ties, bridging, fastenings, all railway supplies, fuel for locomotives and trains, and supplies for men and animals on the entire work—had to be transported from the Missouri River.”

—Grenville Dodge

- ◆ Pacific Railway Act (1862)
 - ✓ Fed'l gov't subsidized construction of first western railroad
 - ✓ Union Pacific
 - directed by Grenville Dodge (many _____ immigrants)
 - went westward from _____ ≈ 1,000 miles
 - ✓ Central Pacific
 - under Theodore Judah (many _____ laborers)
 - headed eastward from _____ ≈ 700 miles
 - ✓ Averaged 4-7 miles/day; sometimes microscopic progress
- ◆ Joined at Promontory Point, Utah (1869)
 - ✓ Ceremonial golden spike driven by _____
 - ✓ By 1900, 4 gov't aided + 1 privately funded = 5 total routes
 - ✓ Public land granted to railroads = _____
 - ✓ System of _____ (Charles F. Dowd)
 - ✓ B & O, Pennsylvania, Reading, Short Line





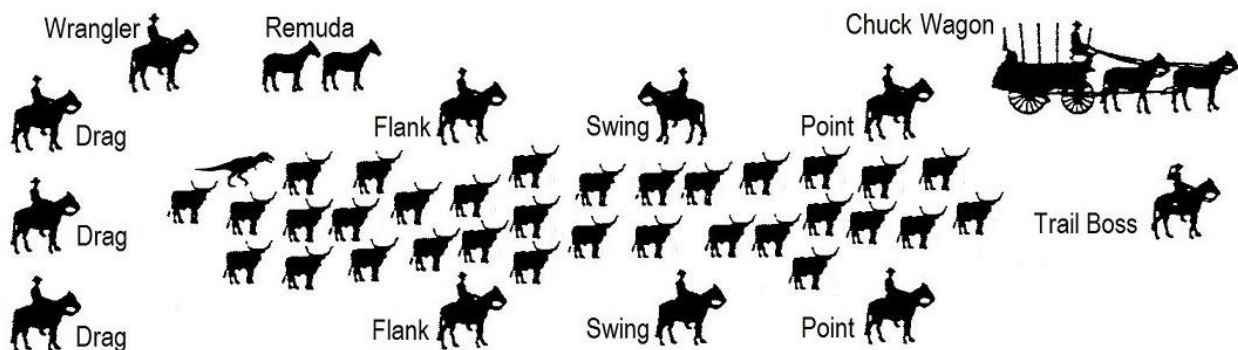
THE GREAT CATTLE DRIVES



“The cattle were nervous and easily frightened, and the slightest noise might startle them into running.”

—Charles Goodnight

- ◆ American cowboy → heavily influenced by Mexican culture
 - ✓ Horses & cattle introduced to North America by _____
 - ✓ Significant number of cowboys were Mexican or black
 - ✓ Age of the cowboy peaked during mid-1870s
- ◆ Cattle drives → substantial profits; hard & dangerous work
 - ✓ _____ = ornery crossbreed of Spanish & English cows
 - ✓ Headed northward twice yearly from near _____
 - ✓ Destination was any of numerous “_____” (esp. Kansas)
 - ✓ East to slaughterhouses in Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, more
 - ✓ Towns meant booze, baths, brothels
 - ✓ Sedalia Trail first to open; Chisholm Trail most heavily traveled
 - ✓ Typical = 8-18 cowboys; 2,500 cattle; 15-20 miles/day; 3-4 mos.
 - ✓ Declined rapidly in late 1880s due to combo of reasons
 - searing 1886 summer between two bitter winters
 - collapse of beef prices due to market saturation
 - land increasingly overgrazed and homesteaded





THE PLAINS INDIAN WARS



“From where the sun stands now, I will fight no more forever.”

—Chief Joseph (Nez Percé), 1877

- ◆ Tribes of the Great Plains
 - ✓ _____ (Minnesota & Dakotas)
 - ✓ _____ (Colorado & Wyoming)
 - ✓ _____ (Oklahoma & northern Texas)
 - ✓ Arapaho, Crow, Kiowa, others
- ◆ Common elements among many Plains tribes
 - ✓ _____ provided mobility (travel, hunting, warfare)
 - ✓ _____ supplied basic necessities of life (plus some extras)
- ◆ Prior government measures
 - ✓ Proclamation of 1763
 - ✓ Indian Removal Act of 1830
- ◆ Early Indian conflicts
 - ✓ _____ (aka Little Crow’s War) in Minnesota (1862)
 - ✓ _____ at Sand Creek in Colorado (1864)
 - ✓ _____ on Bozeman Trail in Wyoming (1866)
- ◆ Ft. Laramie Treaty of 1868
 - ✓ Arose from tenacious campaign of _____ along Bozeman Trail
 - ✓ Created the _____ in southern Dakota Territory
 - ✓ Indians free to roam between Black Hills & _____
 - ✓ Caused factions within Sioux tribe
- ◆ Custer Expedition of 1874
 - ✓ Solve question of gold in _____
 - ✓ Determine site to construct fort to supervise roaming Indians
- ◆ Battle of the Little Bighorn (June 1876)
 - ✓ Bluecoats (inc. Custer’s 7th Cavalry) to southeastern _____
 - ✓ Alliance of Sioux & Cheyenne led by _____ & _____
 - ✓ Greatest victory for Plains Indians over U.S. Army
 - ✓ “Last Stand” for both Custer & Plains Indians
 - five companies under Custer annihilated (260+ casualties)
 - certain groups more determined than ever to crush Plains Indians

- ◆ Other notable campaigns
 - ✓ Nez Percé under _____ (1876)
 - ✓ Apaches under _____ (1886)
- ◆ Humanitarian efforts
 - ✓ Helen Hunt Jackson, *A Century of Dishonor* (1881)
 - ✓ Dawes Severalty Act (1887) → ill-conceived policy of assimilation
 - tribal lands split into individual farming plots
 - funds for education (& more); U.S. citizenship offered as incentive
 - no desire among Indians to farm; much of the land unsuitable
 - concept of land ownership incomprehensible
- ◆ Wounded Knee Massacre (December 1890)
 - ✓ End of Indian-white warfare
 - ✓ Prelude was attempted arrest & accidental killing of Sitting Bull
 - ✓ Precipitated by frustration, misunderstanding, paranoia
 - distortion by some Sioux of passive _____ cult
 - over-response by gov't to perceived renewed Sioux militancy
 - ✓ Casualties: Sioux ≈ 200; 7th Cavalry ≈ 35

