

Manifest Destiny



Expansion of the United States to 1853

Manifest Destiny

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

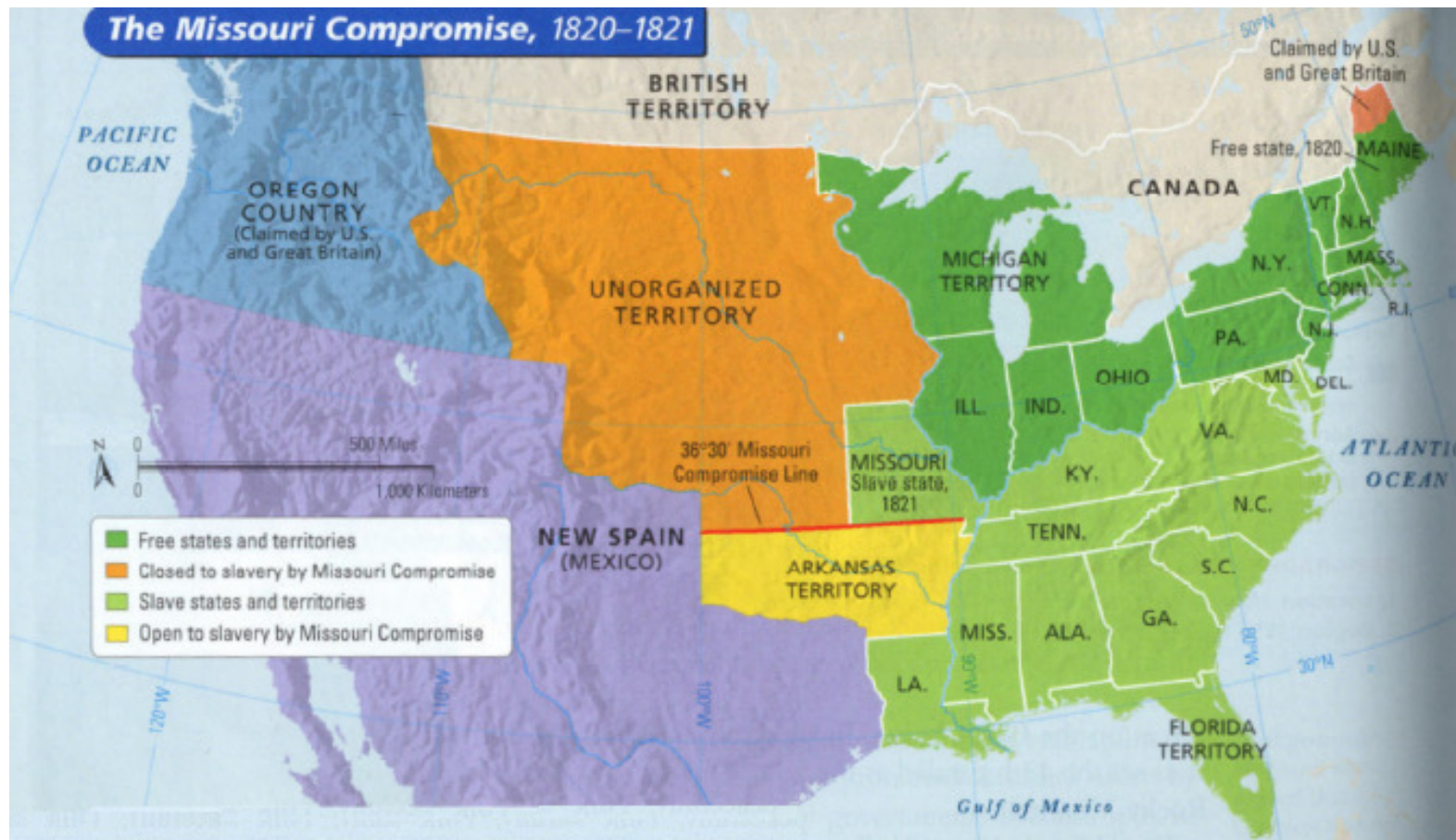
John O’Sullivan, *United States Magazine and Democratic Review*, 1845

Manifest ~ clear or obvious

Destiny ~ events meant to be



United States in 1821



Oregon Country

With the Lewis and Clark Expedition, interest in the disputed territory of the Northwest grew.

- Fur traders and trappers, mountain men, settled in Oregon Country, living among Indians and adapting to their culture.
- *Rendezvous*: yearly meeting between fur trappers and fur company agents to exchange goods
- 1811 ~ John Jacob Astor ~ American Fur Company
- Convention of 1818 allowed joint occupation of Oregon by US & Canada
- Demand for fur falls off in the 1840's when silk top hats are popular



Oregon Trail

- After Panic of 1837, farmers, ranchers, and miners move to Oregon's fertile land and great climate via wagon train on the Oregon Trail from Independence to Portland .
 - Promise of FREE land
 - Families could claim 640 acres, individuals could claim 320 acres
- Polk wanted to claim all of Oregon for the US
 - “Fifty-Four Forty or Fight!” became rallying cry for expansionist Democrats
 - Outbreak of Mexican-American war led Polk to seek peaceful compromise
- 1846 ~ Britain and U.S. signed treaty extending the border at the 49th parallel to the Pacific Ocean
- 1848 ~ Oregon becomes a U.S. territory

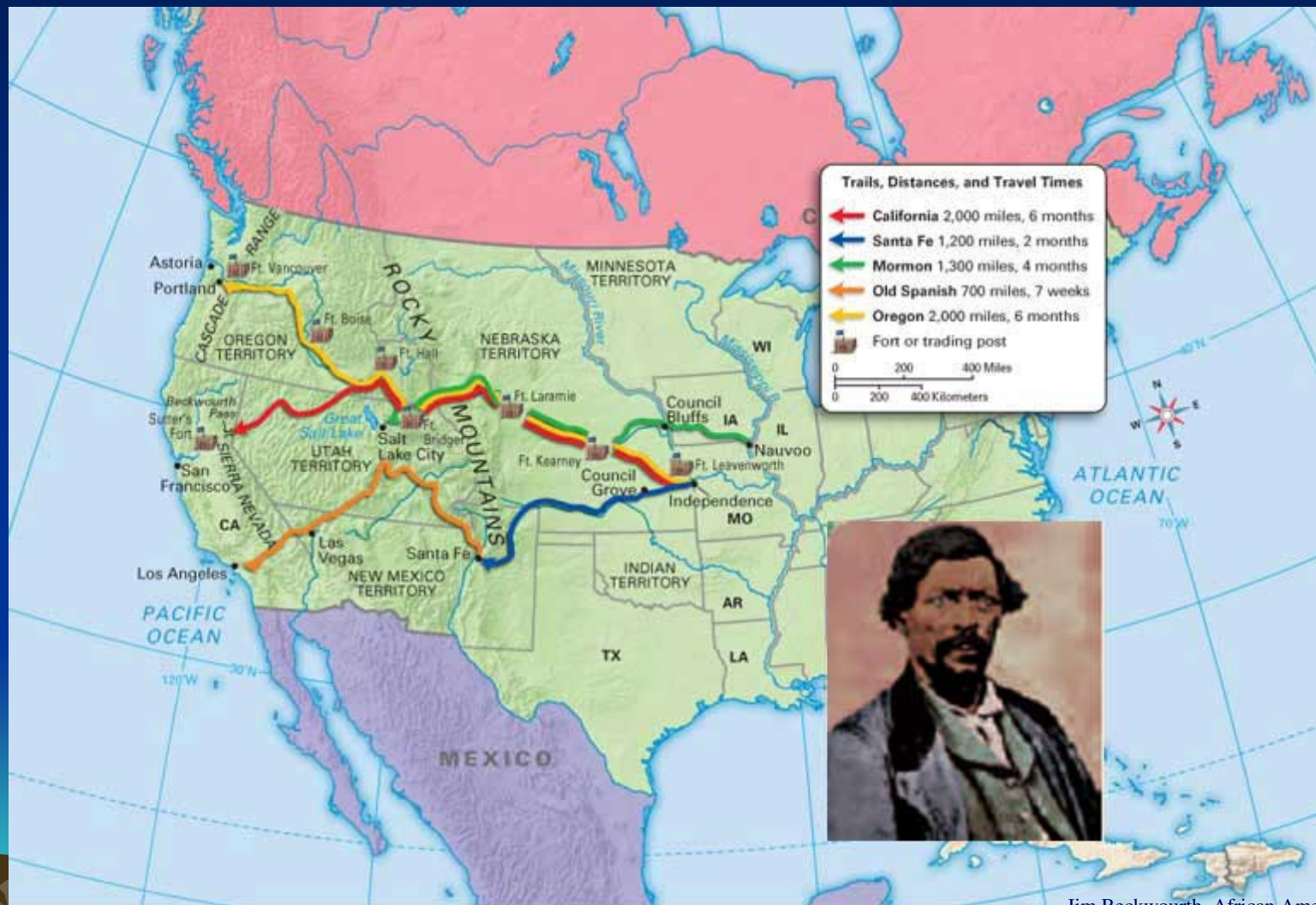


The Mormon Trail

- Led by Joseph Smith, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints travel from New York to Ohio and Missouri to Illinois seeking religious freedom in the 1830's
- Smith murdered in Nauvoo, Illinois in 1844
- Brigham Young decides to move the Mormon community to land outside the United States
- In 1847, Mormons follow the Oregon Trail to Utah, a desolate region and part of Mexico
- Establish a settlement near the Great Salt Lake



Trails West



Jim Beckwourth, African American fur trapper and explorer of the early 1800's

Spanish West and Southwest

- Settlements built around the mission system
- Includes Texas, New Mexico, and California
- Few settlers of Spanish descent in 1821
 - Texas--Tejanos
 - Missions located farther apart
 - Conflict with the Indian population
 - Influenced by revolutions in Central and South America
 - California--Californios
 - Missions located one day's travel apart along the coast
 - Isolated by distance from New Spain
 - Indians provided the primary labor force



Independence for Texas

After Mexico gains independence from Spain in 1821, Stephen Austin establishes an American colony of 300 families in Texas

- “Old Three Hundred” resist following Mexican laws & customs
- 1830 ~ 30,000 American settlers outnumber Tejanos by 6:1
 - Tensions increase
 - Santa Anna sends troops to Texas



Remember the Alamo!

- Texans occupy the Alamo in November 1835
- Santa Anna surrounds Alamo on February 23rd
- Alamo's defenders hold off Mexican attack for 12 days
- March 6, Santa Anna leads 1,800 troops against 189 men. 184 are killed in the battle; survivors are executed by Santa Anna
- March 2, Texas declares independence from Mexico
- Sam Houston named commander of Texas Army



- Santa Anna's cruelty encourages Texans to fight for their freedom from Mexico

The Lone Star Republic



- Santa Anna's cruelty at the Alamo and later at Goliad angers Texans and Houston's army doubles in size
- Battle of San Jacinto
 - April 1836
 - Texans attack Santa Anna's camp
 - Half of Mexican Army is killed in 18 minutes

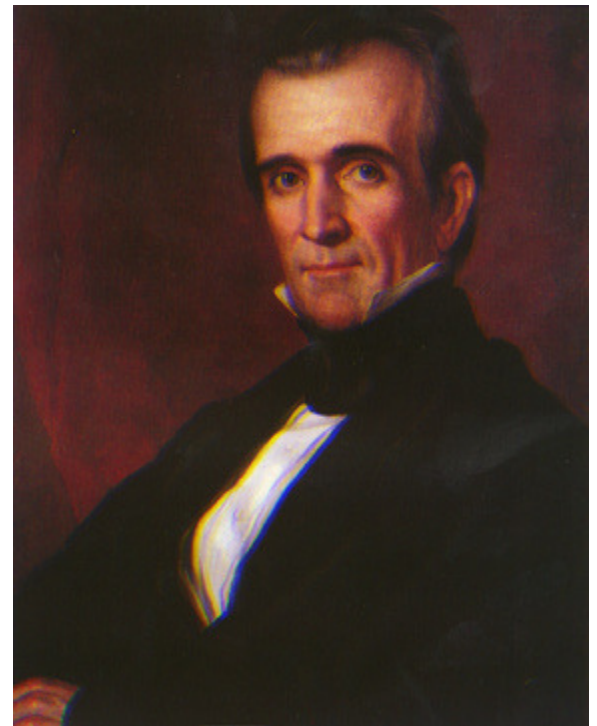
Republic of Texas

- Defeat at San Jacinto forces Santa Anna to sign a treaty granting Texas its freedom
- Sam Houston is elected president
- Texas request for annexation in 1837 is denied
 - Expansion of slavery would upset balance between slave and free states in Congress
 - Fear annexation may lead to U.S. war with Mexico
- Texas offers land grants to new settlers
 - Panic of 1837 spurs U.S. immigration into Texas
 - +100,000 people from Europe & U.S. by 1847
 - + 65,000 slaves by 1845



War with Mexico

- ❑ Polk was committed to national expansion and promised to annex Texas and take over Oregon
- ❑ Defeated Henry Clay in 1844
- ❑ 1845 Congress admits Texas as a slave state despite the North's objections
- ❑ Mexico still claims Texas and disagrees on the national border



President James K. Polk

War with Mexico

- ❑ Polk sends Gen. Zachary Taylor to defend the border at the Rio Grande against Mexico's claims
- ❑ Mexicans refuse to negotiate with U.S. government
- ❑ Congress declares war May 11, 1846
- ❑ Taylor wins early victories at Rio Grande and Palo Alto
- ❑ Taylor, "Old Rough and Ready," drives the Mexican army deeper into Mexico.



Battle of Palo Alto (Carl Nebel)

War with Mexico



- ❑ Santa Anna retreats at Buena Vista
- ❑ Polk gives command to General Winfield Scott “Old Fuss and Feathers,” who attacks from Veracruz to Mexico City
- ❑ Mexico City falls to Scott in September 1847



The War in California: Bear Flag Revolt

- ❑ Polk orders General Stephen Kearny to attack New Mexico where he takes Sante Fe without a fight, claims New Mexico for U.S.
- ❑ Kearny's army marches toward California
- ❑ John Fremont leads a rebellion against Mexican rule and the Californios
- ❑ Rebels declare their independence and join forces with Kearny and U.S. Navy ships that sail up the Pacific Coast
- ❑ Californios surrender early in 1847

War with Mexico



Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo

February 1848

- Texas is part of the United States
- Rio Grande is the border between the nations
- Mexican Cession ~ Mexico gives up present-day California, Nevada, Utah, most of Arizona, and parts of New Mexico, Colorado, and Wyoming
- U.S. pays \$18.25 million to Mexico
- U.S. will protect 80,000 Mexican citizens living in Texas and the Mexican Cession
 - Allow for their return to Mexico or the opportunity for American citizenship
- Gadsden Purchase~1853 ~ U.S. pays Mexico \$10million for southern Arizona and New Mexico
- Today's continental boundaries of the U.S. are complete



California Gold Rush

- Jan. 1848 - James Marshall found gold particles at Sutter's Mill in the American River
- Rumors of the discovery spread quickly and by 1849, 100,000 immigrants followed the Oregon and California trails, flocking to the area
 - These immigrants were called “forty-niners”
 - From Germany, France, England, Ireland, US
 - Hope of instant riches – “easy money”
 - A few prospectors struck it rich, but most did not find enough gold to pay their expenses



California Gold Rush

- Enterprising merchants rushed to supply the new immigrants
 - Machinery, food, supplies, clothing were needed
 - German immigrant Levi Strauss sold tough mining pants now known as blue jeans
 - Wheat farms were created to feed the forty-niners
- By 1855, gold could only be recovered profitably by large groups
 - More money could be made in new farms and businesses than in full- time prospecting



California Gold Rush



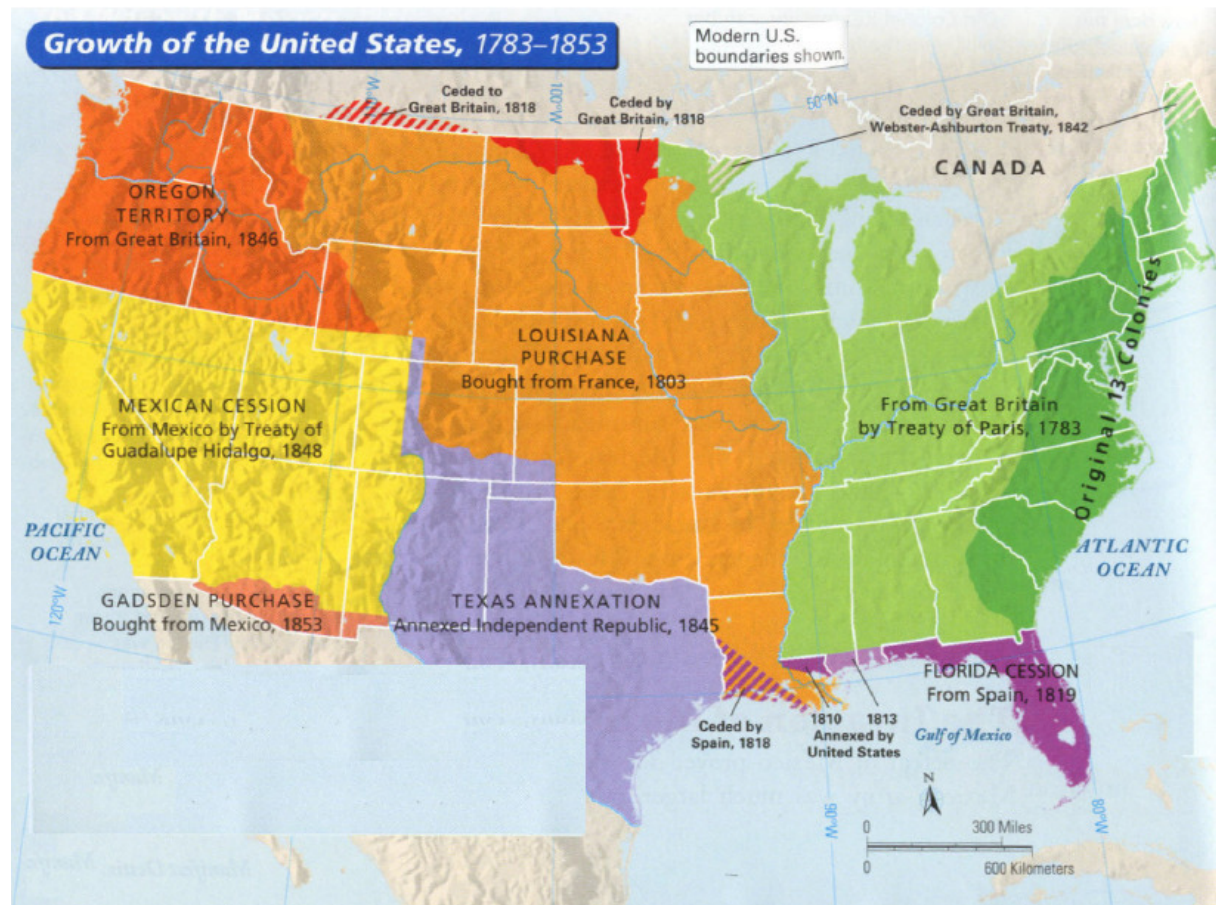
The American River (near Sacramento) 1853

The Legacy of the Gold Rush

- California became center of global immigration
 - Hundreds of thousands of immigrants
 - Idea of “California Dream” created
- New cities, local governments, roads, businesses, farms created
- Improved transportation between East and West coasts
 - Steamship companies began regular service between San Francisco and Panama
 - Encouraged development of Transcontinental Railroad and telegraph



United States in 1853



The Way West



"Manifest Destiny II" by Kevin W. Smith

Manifest Destiny

Manifest Destiny

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graph TD; A[Manifest Destiny] --> B[Social Factors]; A --> C[Political Factors]; A --> D[Economic Factors];
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Social Factors

- Religious freedom
- Ease overcrowding in cities
- Belief in American superiority/nationalism

Political Factors

- To spread democracy and ideals of liberty

Economic Factors

- Land or profit
- Panics of 1837 & 1839
- New markets for growth
- Natural resources

Images obtained from:

- ❑ www.latinamericanstudies.org/.../austin-1.jpg
- ❑ <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~cap/smithson/polk.html>
- ❑ www.tsha.utexas.edu/supsites/chamber/media/cover/nebel.jpg
- ❑ <http://ngeorgia.com/images/scottatveracruz.jpg>
- ❑ <http://neatorama.cachefly.net/images/2006-03/california-gold-rush-flyer.jpg>
- ❑ www.homepages.wmich.edu/~nwitschi/teaching/crowd.jpg
- ❑ Maps from *Creating America*, McDougal Littell, 2003 and *United States History Growth and Development: Beginnings to 1914*, Holt McDougal, 2010