

8th Grade US History - American Progress Notes

Manifest Destiny

Reporter John O'Sullivan coined the term "Manifest Destiny"

- Sense of PRIVILEGE
 - They think God has ordained this!
 - 95% of the people who move west are Christian
 - We're offering DEMOCRACY
 - With democracy comes EDUCATION => CIVILIZATION => TECHNOLOGY => TRANSPORTATION => COMMUNICATION
 - We're going to spread from sea to shining sea
- Never really written down
- We're going to be able to revive old Europe and have democracy
- Democratic idea
- Whigs and Northerners were hesitant about moving west
- Northwest Ordinance of 1787
- Very controversial; not all Americans were behind it
- Occurs in the mind of nationalism and spirit

IRONY IN THE MANIFEST DESTINY: They fought the Revolutionary War because they felt that no one had the right to justify actions by God, but they're justifying the manifest destiny by divine right.

ACQUIREMENT OF TEXAS

- Texas was originally Spai



- TEJAS (Texas) was a Spanish controlled land that bordered the United States territory
 - Spain tried to encourage Americans to move to Texas by giving them huge tracts of land → many immigrants to Texas, but settlers had to agree to follow Spanish and then Mexican laws (learn Spanish, become Catholic, no slaves, become Mexican citizen)
- Spanish government invited people to come live in Texas because there's not much people.
 - If there's not enough people, Spain will lose the territory
 - Spanish offered cheap land; all the Americans have to do is obey the laws
 - The Americans were in no rush to follow the laws because no one was going to enforce them
 - THE AMERICANS WERE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

DURING THIS TIME:

- Thousands of Americans are filtering into Texas
- Mexican government is worried because the American immigrants are outnumbering the native citizens.
- The Americans start a REBELLION
- Stephen Austin talks to General Santa Anna (Mexican leader), Austin is sent to jail
- 2 years later, Austin was released and Texas was still in rebellion
- Santa Anna and his army tried to crush the rebellion

Battle of the Alamo

- The WORST BATTLE was at the Alamo, an old Spanish mission
- People were stockpiling weapons at the Alamo, Santa Anna ambushes them and kills EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM
- It was a symbolic battle because it rallied people and marked the start of the revolution.

The Lone-star Republic

- About a month after the battle of the Alamo, the Texas settlers organized and unified, and they ambushed Santa Anna and his troops
 - They captured Santa Anna and gave him an ultimatum: give us independence or die
 - Santa Anna opts to give the Americans independence
 - Texas is now an INDEPENDENT country, they aren't joining America yet
 - Texas applies to statehood, but Jackson rejects them, so they have to apply again
- Texas calls itself the Lone-Star Republic
 - It was independent for 9 years before it became part of the US
 - ANNEXED - it was absorbed into America, there was no peace treaty, purchase, or fighting

Texas

- Texas was independent for 9 years before becoming part of the United States in 1845
- The 6 Flags of Texas (sounds familiar?)
 - Texas starts as French Territory 
 - Spanish Territory (named Tejas) 
 - Mexican Territory (Texas) 
 - Lone Star Republic (independent nation) 
 - **Annexed** to United States 
 - Joins Confederate States of America (the South) during the Civil War 
 - Rejoins the United States after the Civil War 

THE MEXICAN CESSION

- Mexico thinks Texas was stolen from them, so it's immoral for America to annex Texas
- Mexico says the border is at the Nueces River, but the AMericans think it's the Rio Grande River.
- Congress declares war on Mexico because President Polk declares that Mexico has invaded our land

Mexican-American War

- Mexican-American War lasts for 2 years
- Invade and capture Mexico City
- In the meantime, Americans in California declare themselves independent of Mexico and create the Bear Flag Republic
- War ends with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo
- It cedes a lot of land to the US, including California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, and Wyoming

Gadsden Purchase

- Area of land bought by the US from Mexico for 10 million dollars
- They buy it because they want a route for the transcontinental railroad