

WESTWARD EXPANSION MASTER TIMELINE

- 1783**—The Revolutionary War ends (with the Treaty of Paris)
- 1803**—Louisiana Purchase
- 1803**—Lewis and Clark explore the Louisiana Territory
- 1825**—Erie Canal is completed
- 1845**—Texas becomes 28th state in U.S.
- 1846**—Great Britain and U.S. sign Oregon Treaty—makes Oregon Territory part of the U.S. (not a British possession any longer)
- 1846**—Settlers began moving west in covered wagons to Oregon and California on the Oregon and California trails
- 1848**—U.S. and Mexico sign Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo—adds 1.2 million square miles to U.S.—southwestern U.S.—U.S. paid \$15 million
- 1849**—California Gold Rush begins
- 1861–1865**—American Civil War
- 1862**—Homestead Act—settlers are able to make a claim on land in western territories; if they stay for a year, the land is theirs (for free)
- 1869**—Transcontinental Railroad—railroad connects Atlantic and Pacific oceans