

CHRONOLOGY

1609	First Spanish settlement in New Mexico	1833–34	Prince Maximilian and Karl Bodmer visit Plains Indians
1670s	British and French Canadians begin fur trade in western Canada	1834	Jason Lee establishes first mission in Oregon Country
1716	First Spanish settlements in Texas	1835	Texas revolts against Mexico
1769	First Spanish settlement in California	1836	Battles of the Alamo and San Jacinto Republic of Texas formed
1780s	New England ships begin sea otter trade in Pacific Northwest	1843–44	John C. Frémont maps trails to Oregon and California
1790	First American ship visits Hawaii	1844	Democrat James K. Polk elected president on an expansionist platform
1803	Louisiana Purchase	1845	Texas annexed to the United States as a slave state John O'Sullivan coins the phrase "manifest destiny"
1804–06	Lewis and Clark expedition	1846	Oregon question settled peacefully with Britain Mexican-American War begins Bear Flag Revolt in California Wilmot Proviso
1806	Russian-Californio trade begins	1847	Cayuse Wars begin in Oregon Americans win battles of Buena Vista, Veracruz, and Mexico City
1806–07	Zebulon Pike's expedition across the Great Plains to the Rocky Mountains	1848	Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Free-Soil Party captures 10 percent of the popular vote in the North General Zachary Taylor, a Whig, elected president
1819–20	Stephen Long's expedition across the Great Plains	1849	California Gold Rush
1821	Hudson's Bay Company gains dominance of western fur trade Mexico seizes independence from Spain Santa Fé Trail opens, soon protected by U.S. military Stephen F. Austin becomes first American empresario in Texas		
1824	First fur rendezvous sponsored by Rocky Mountain Fur Company Hudson's Bay Company establishes Fort Vancouver in Oregon Country		
1830	Indian Removal Act moves eastern Indians to Indian Territory		