
Table Of Contents

Paleo Archaic Indians	2
American Indian Tribes of California	3
Early Spanish Exploration	4
Spanish Mission System in California	5
Spanish Settlement in California	7
The Arrival of the Americans	8
The Mexican American War and the California Bear Flag Revolution	10
The Gold Rush	11
Chinese Immigration	13
The Hispanic Folk Hero Joaquin Murieta	14
Statehood	15
California and the Civil War	16

Paleo Archaic Indians

[00:00:20] male narrator: FOG-SHROUDED COASTLINES,
 [00:00:25] SPECTACULAR MOUNTAIN PEAKS,
 [00:00:30] RICH AGRICULTURAL VALLEYS,
 [00:00:36] VAST BARREN DESERTS,
 [00:00:41] GLIMMERING HIGH-TECH CAMPUSES,
 [00:00:46] VIBRANT URBAN CENTERS
 [00:00:49] ARE ALL PART OF THE GOLDEN STATE,
 [00:00:54] THE MOST POPULOUS STATE IN THE NATION:
 [00:00:59] CALIFORNIA.
 [00:01:05] CALIFORNIA IS BOUNDED BY THE PACIFIC OCEAN ON THE WEST
 [00:01:11] AND AMERICA'S GREAT DESERTS ON THE EAST.
 [00:01:18] ITS DIVERSE POPULATION TELLS THE STORY
 [00:01:20] OF SPANISH COLONIZATION,
 [00:01:24] WAVES OF IMMIGRANTS FROM EASTERN STATES,
 [00:01:30] IMMIGRANTS FROM EUROPE,
 [00:01:34] AND IMMIGRANTS FROM ASIA.
 [00:01:39] GOLDFIELDS,
 [00:01:44] HOLLYWOOD,
 [00:01:47] BOUNTIFUL CROPS,
 [00:01:51] AND FINANCIAL CENTERS TELL STORIES OF RICHES,
 [00:01:58] OF AMERICA'S PROMISED LAND.
 [00:02:03] CALIFORNIA HAS ALWAYS BEEN AMERICA'S CENTER OF INNOVATION,
 [00:02:07] MOST RECENTLY DRIVING THE WORLD INTO THE INFORMATION AGE.
 [00:02:13] IN THIS PROGRAM, WE WILL PRESENT THE HISTORY OF CALIFORNIA
 [00:02:17] FROM ITS FIRST INHABITANTS
 [00:02:19] TO AMERICA'S CIVIL WAR.
 [00:02:47] SPECTACULAR ROCK ART
 [00:02:49] LOCATED IN THE CAVES ON CALIFORNIA'S MODOC PLATEAU
 [00:02:53] ARE SUPERB INDICATORS OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURES
 [00:02:56] THAT HAVE OCCUPIED THE STATE FOR OVER 14,000 YEARS.
 [00:03:02] TODAY MANY ARCHAEOLOGISTS BELIEVE
 [00:03:05] THAT WATERCRAFT FROM ASIA
 [00:03:07] TRAVELED ALONG CALIFORNIA'S COASTLINE
 [00:03:10] AS EARLY AS 25,000 YEARS AGO.
 [00:03:14] THOSE EXPLORERS MIGHT HAVE STAYED
 [00:03:17] AND WOULD HAVE BUILT THEIR ECONOMY AROUND GATHERING
 [00:03:20] THE ABUNDANT FISH AND SHELLFISH AVAILABLE ALONG THE COAST.
 [00:03:26] DURING THE PALEO-INDIAN PERIOD,
 [00:03:29] THERE WERE NO MORE THAN 1,000 TO 2,000 PEOPLE
 [00:03:32] LIVING IN PRESENT-DAY CALIFORNIA.
 [00:03:37] THE PALEO-INDIAN PERIOD WAS FOLLOWED BY THE ARCHAIC PERIOD,
 [00:03:42] WHICH LASTED FROM 9000 B.C. TO 2000 B.C.,
 [00:03:47] WHEN CALIFORNIA INDIANS BEGAN LIVING IN FAMILY GROUPS
 [00:03:51] AND RELATED CLANS.
 [00:03:55] DURING THIS TIME, SOME INDIANS BEGAN TO HUNT SMALL GAME;
 [00:04:02] OTHERS, CONTINUED TO GATHER FISH AND SHELLFISH;
 [00:04:07] AND STILL OTHERS SURVIVED ON WILD PLANTS,
 [00:04:10] ESPECIALLY SEEDS AND NUTS.
 [00:04:15] AS A RESULT, INDIVIDUAL GROUPS OF INDIANS BEGAN TO FORM
 [00:04:20] ACCORDING TO THE SPECIFIC REGIONS THEY SETTLED IN.
 [00:04:25] CULTURALLY, THEY DEVELOPED BASKET WEAVING
 [00:04:29] AND INVENTED MORTAR STONES FOR GRINDING SEEDS AND ROOTS.

American Indian Tribes of California

[00:04:35] AS THE ARCHAIC PERIOD ENDED,
 [00:04:37] CALIFORNIA INDIANS ENTERED WHAT IS CALLED
 [00:04:40] THE FORMATIVE PERIOD.
 [00:04:44] POPULATIONS SWELLED, AND COMPLEX CIVILIZATIONS AROSE
 [00:04:48] WITH ADVANCED SHAMANISTIC RELIGIOUS PRACTICES.
 [00:04:54] THEN, PERHAPS AS EARLY AS 500 A.D.,
 [00:04:58] BOW AND ARROW TECHNOLOGY SPREAD INTO CALIFORNIA
 [00:05:02] TRANSFORMING THE INDIANS' ABILITY TO HUNT SMALL GAME
 [00:05:05] AND WAGE REGIONAL WARFARE.
 [00:05:09] INTERESTINGLY, AT ABOUT THIS TIME,
 [00:05:12] A CHINESE EXPLORER, HWUI SHAN,
 [00:05:15] SAILED ALONG THE PACIFIC COAST AND REACHED CALIFORNIA.
 [00:05:20] HWUI SHAN NOTED TALL TREES WITH RED WOOD.
 [00:05:26] SOMETIME AROUND THIS CONTACT,
 [00:05:29] WHAT MUST HAVE HAPPENED
 [00:05:31] IS THAT MANY AMERICAN INDIAN GROUPS MIGRATED TO CALIFORNIA
 [00:05:35] FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE CONTINENT.
 [00:05:39] BY THE TIME OF EUROPEAN CONTACT,
 [00:05:42] CALIFORNIA CONSISTED
 [00:05:44] OF SIX DISTINCT INDIAN LANGUAGE STOCKS--
 [00:05:47] SOME FROM AS FAR AWAY AS THE GREAT LAKES--
 [00:05:50] WITH OVER 90 DISTINCT INDIAN LANGUAGES.
 [00:05:56] CALIFORNIA INDIANS WERE DIVIDED INTO CULTURES
 [00:05:59] LIVING WEST OF THE SIERRA NEVADAS
 [00:06:01] AND THOSE LIVING EAST.
 [00:06:06] THE TRIBAL AREA EAST OF THE SIERRAS
 [00:06:08] BELONGED TO THE PAIUTE AND SHOSHONE
 [00:06:11] AND WAS PART OF THE GREAT BASIN INDIAN CULTURE--
 [00:06:16] A CULTURE THAT LIVED IN A DESERT ENVIRONMENT,
 [00:06:21] GROWING NO CROPS,
 [00:06:23] AND SURVIVING BY HUNTING SMALL GAME.
 [00:06:27] THE PAIUTE AND SHOSHONE WOULD BECOME PART
 [00:06:30] OF THE LARGER GREAT PLAINS INDIANS WARS,
 [00:06:33] WHERE NOMADIC HORSE WARRIORS FOUGHT THE INTRUSION OF SETTLERS
 [00:06:37] FROM SPAIN AND, LATER, THE UNITED STATES.
 [00:06:42] WEST OF THE SIERRAS,
 [00:06:44] THE STORY WAS VERY DIFFERENT FOR CALIFORNIA INDIANS.
 [00:06:49] HERE, THE LAND PROVIDES BOUNTIFUL WILD PLANT FOODS,
 [00:06:53] PARTICULARLY ACORNS,
 [00:06:57] ALONG WITH VARIOUS WILD GAME.
 [00:07:01] THIS IS A MAP OF THE CALIFORNIA INDIANS
 [00:07:04] LIVING WEST OF THE SIERRAS.
 [00:07:09] CALIFORNIA INDIANS HERE PROSPERED,
 [00:07:11] AND POPULATIONS GREW TO OVER 300,000 INHABITANTS
 [00:07:14] BY THE TIME OF EUROPEAN CONTACT.
 [00:07:19] THE MISSION INDIANS SHOWN ON THE MAP
 [00:07:22] ARE CALLED THAT BECAUSE THEIR CULTURE WAS DESTROYED
 [00:07:25] BY THE SPANISH MISSION SYSTEM THAT STARTED IN 1769.
 [00:07:31] THESE MISSIONS WERE ESTABLISHED ALONG THE COAST
 [00:07:34] FROM SAN DIEGO TO SAN FRANCISCO.
 [00:07:40] EVEN THOUGH THE MISSIONS WERE ABOLISHED
 [00:07:42] BY THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT IN 1834,
 [00:07:45] THE TRIBES THAT HAD OCCUPIED THIS AREA
 [00:07:48] HAD LOST THEIR TRIBAL IDENTITY
 [00:07:50] AND WERE KNOWN SIMPLY BY THEIR MISSION ASSOCIATION.

Early Spanish Exploration

[00:08:07] CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS MADE LANDFALL IN THE NEW WORLD
[00:08:10] IN 1492.
[00:08:14] AT THIS TIME, SPAIN AND PORTUGAL WERE LOCKED IN A STRUGGLE
[00:08:18] TO ACQUIRE LANDS IN THE NEW WORLD.
[00:08:22] SO IN 1494, TO KEEP THEM FROM GOING TO WAR,
[00:08:26] POPE ALEXANDER VI DIVIDED THE NEW WORLD BETWEEN THEM.
[00:08:32] AS A RESULT, SPAIN RECEIVED THE CARIBBEAN,
[00:08:37] ALL OF MEXICO, AND CENTRAL AMERICA,
[00:08:41] MOST OF SOUTH AMERICA,
[00:08:43] AND THE SOUTHERN REACHES OF NORTH AMERICA,
[00:08:46] INCLUDING CALIFORNIA.
[00:08:50] THE NEW WORLD WAS BIG,
[00:08:53] BIGGER THAN ANYONE IN SPAIN AT THE TIME THOUGHT.
[00:08:58] SO IT WASN'T UNTIL 50 YEARS LATER
[00:09:01] THAT JUAN RODRIGUEZ CABRILLO,
[00:09:03] A PORTUGUESE EXPLORER SAILING FOR SPAIN,
[00:09:06] REACHED CALIFORNIA.
[00:09:10] ON SEPTEMBER 28, 1542,
[00:09:14] CABRILLO STEPPED ASHORE IN SAN DIEGO BAY
[00:09:17] AND BECAME THE FIRST EUROPEAN TO SET FOOT
[00:09:20] ON THE COAST OF CALIFORNIA.
[00:09:23] HE IMMEDIATELY CLAIMED THE REGION FOR SPAIN.
[00:09:28] WITH HIS DISCOVERY,
[00:09:30] CALIFORNIA EMBARKED ON A 300-YEAR JOURNEY
[00:09:33] OF SPANISH CONTROL.

Spanish Mission System in California

[00:09:49] SPAIN CALLED THE NEW PROVINCE ALTA CALIFORNIA,
[00:09:53] OR UPPER CALIFORNIA,
[00:09:55] TO SEPARATE IT FROM BAJA CALIFORNIA.
[00:10:00] FOR MORE THAN TWO CENTURIES
[00:10:02] FOLLOWING CABRILLO'S EXPLORATIONS,
[00:10:04] FEW SPANISH SHOWED ANY INTEREST IN ALTA CALIFORNIA.
[00:10:11] THEN, IN THE 18TH CENTURY,
[00:10:14] SPAIN SENT FRANCISCAN FRIARS INTO THE PROVINCE
[00:10:16] TO SET UP MISSIONS FROM PRESENT-DAY SAN DIEGO
[00:10:20] NORTH TO SAN FRANCISCO.
[00:10:24] THE PLAN WAS NOT ONLY TO CONVERT INDIANS TO CHRISTIANITY
[00:10:28] AND TEACH THEM TO READ AND WRITE
[00:10:30] BUT TO LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR SPANISH SETTLEMENT.
[00:10:36] SETTING UP A MISSION WAS NO EASY TASK,
[00:10:40] AND MANY SHIED AWAY FROM THE HARD WORK.
[00:10:44] BUT ONE MAN SINGLE-HANDEDLY MADE THIS IDEA A SUCCESS.
[00:10:49] HE WAS FATHER JUNIPERO SERRA.
[00:10:55] IN 1769, SERRA FOUNDED THE FIRST MISSION IN SAN DIEGO--
[00:11:00] THE SAME PLACE WHERE JUAN RODRIGUEZ CABRILLO
[00:11:03] HAD STEPPED ASHORE 227 YEARS EARLIER.
[00:11:09] HE CALLED IT THE SAN DIEGO ALCALA MISSION.
[00:11:14] SAN DIEGO WAS NOT THE LARGEST MISSION,
[00:11:17] BUT IT SET THE PATTERN
[00:11:18] FOR ALTA CALIFORNIA'S MISSION SYSTEM.
[00:11:23] LIKE SAN DIEGO'S ALCALA MISSION,
[00:11:26] THE OTHERS WERE MADE FROM STONE
[00:11:28] AND WHITEWASHED ADOBE.
[00:11:32] THEY HAD BEAUTIFUL STONE, AND WOODEN CARVINGS,
[00:11:36] AND INTRICATE IRONWORK.
[00:11:39] THE LIVING QUARTERS,
[00:11:44] A CHURCH,
[00:11:47] BARNs,
[00:11:50] AND GRANARIES FOR FOOD SURROUNDED A COURTYARD.
[00:11:55] SOMETIMES TALL WALLS WENT AROUND EVERYTHING.
[00:12:02] BEYOND THE WALLS,
[00:12:04] EACH MISSION HAD LARGE FIELDS FOR PLANTING GRAINS,
[00:12:07] VEGETABLES, AND ORCHARDS.
[00:12:12] DURING THE DAY, THE MONKS AND THEIR INDIAN CONVERTS
[00:12:16] WORKED IN THE FIELDS AND TENDED THE CATTLE AND SHEEP.
[00:12:21] AT NIGHT AND EARLY IN THE MORNING,
[00:12:23] THE MONKS ATTENDED SERVICES AND PRAYED TO GOD.
[00:12:29] IN SPITE OF THE HARD WORK,
[00:12:31] ALTA CALIFORNIA'S MILD CLIMATE MADE LIVING THERE
[00:12:34] A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE.
[00:12:38] APART FROM CONVERTING AND EDUCATING INDIANS,
[00:12:42] THE MISSIONS CHANGED THE FACE OF CALIFORNIA
[00:12:44] BY BRINGING IN LIVESTOCK, FRUITS, FLOWERS, AND GRAINS.
[00:12:52] INDEED, THEY BROUGHT IN THE BEGINNING OF THE LIFESTYLE
[00:12:56] AND ECONOMY CALIFORNIA HAS TODAY.
[00:13:01] AFTER FOUNDING THE SAN DIEGO MISSION,
[00:13:04] FATHER JUNIPERO SERRA, THOUGH IN POOR HEALTH,
[00:13:07] WORKED TIRELESSLY FOR THE NEXT 15 YEARS
[00:13:10] ESTABLISHING NINE MORE MISSIONS.
[00:13:15] THESE WERE LOCATED ALONG THE EL CAMINO REAL--
[00:13:19] OR THE ROYAL ROAD-- NOW U.S. HIGHWAY 101.
[00:13:26] IT WAS A 650-MILE ROAD
[00:13:29] THAT WOUND NORTHWARD FROM SAN DIEGO TO SONOMA,
[00:13:32] NORTH OF SAN FRANCISCO BAY.

[00:13:37] IN FACT, AFTER HIS DEATH,
[00:13:38] 12 MORE MISSIONS WERE FOUNDED.
[00:13:41] THE LAST ONE, IN 1823,
[00:13:44] WAS THE MISSION SAN FRANCISCO DE SOLANO IN SONOMA.
[00:13:50] THE MISSION SYSTEM BECAME THE CENTER
[00:13:53] FOR SPANISH SETTLEMENT IN ALTA CALIFORNIA.
[00:13:58] NEXT CAME THE PRESIDIOS,
[00:14:01] MILITARY FORTS TO PROTECT THE MISSIONS.

Spanish Settlement in California

[00:14:06] SPAIN THEN ENCOURAGED SETTLEMENT BEYOND THE MISSIONS
[00:14:10] THROUGH LAND GRANTS,
[00:14:12] LAND GRANTS TO FAMILIES
[00:14:14] AND, IN SOME CASES, ENTIRE COMMUNITIES
[00:14:17] WHO PROMISED TO IMPROVE THE LAND
[00:14:19] AND GUARD IT AGAINST SPAIN'S ENEMIES.
[00:14:24] THESE LAND GRANTS, KNOWN AS HACIENDAS,
[00:14:27] WERE HUGE RANCHES,
[00:14:29] SOME AS BIG AS RHODE ISLAND,
[00:14:31] WHERE CATTLE AND SOMETIMES SHEEP WERE RAISED.
[00:14:37] CALIFORNIA'S HACIENDAS BECAME THE CENTRAL HUB
[00:14:40] OF HISPANIC SETTLEMENT.
[00:14:44] HERE, MOST SPANISH LIVED IN AN EASYGOING,
[00:14:47] COMFORTABLE STYLE SIMILAR TO SPANISH GENTRY IN SPAIN.
[00:14:52] >> DURING THE MEXICAN PERIOD,
[00:14:54] MOST OF THE MEXICANS WHO LIVED IN CALIFORNIA,
[00:14:58] THEY ARE ACTUALLY VERY PROUD OF BEING CALIFORNIANS
[00:15:01] AND CALL THEMSELVES CALIFORNIOS, NOT MEXICANS.
[00:15:03] I SHOULD MAKE THAT POINT CLEAR.
[00:15:05] THERE ARE STILL MANY CALIFORNIOS LIVING IN CALIFORNIA,
[00:15:09] AND THEY WOULD LIKE THAT CLARIFIED.
[00:15:11] narrator: ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS OF THESE CALIFORNIOS
[00:15:14] WAS JUANA BRIONES.
[00:15:18] IN 1836, BRIONES MOVED TO YERBA BUENA,
[00:15:22] A SMALL SETTLEMENT ON SAN FRANCISCO BAY.
[00:15:27] FROM 1836 TO 1848,
[00:15:30] SHE TRANSFORMED YERBA BUENA FROM AN ISOLATED VILLAGE
[00:15:34] INTO A THRIVING TOWN,
[00:15:38] A TOWN THAT WOULD LATER BECOME SAN FRANCISCO.

The Arrival of the Americans

[00:15:55] IN 1821, MEXICO--INCLUDING HER NORTHERN PROVINCES:
 [00:15:59] ALTA CALIFORNIA, NEW MEXICO, AND TEXAS--
 [00:16:03] WON HER INDEPENDENCE FROM SPAIN.
 [00:16:07] THE SPANISH EMPIRE IN NORTH AMERICA WAS GONE.
 [00:16:13] MEXICO'S NEWFOUND INDEPENDENCE WOULD CHANGE THE COURSE
 [00:16:17] OF HISTORY IN NORTH AMERICA,
 [00:16:21] ESPECIALLY IN CALIFORNIA.
 [00:16:25] WITH INDEPENDENCE CAME TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES,
 [00:16:29] WHICH OPENED UP CALIFORNIA TO AMERICAN SETTLERS.
 [00:16:36] IT ALL BEGAN IN 1822,
 [00:16:38] WHEN FRONTIERSMAN WILLIAM BECKNELL
 [00:16:40] PIONEERED THE SANTA FE TRAIL TO NEW MEXICO.
 [00:16:47] VERY QUICKLY, MOUNTAIN MEN, LED BY JEDEDIAH SMITH,
 [00:16:51] MADE THEIR WAY OVERLAND TO CALIFORNIA.
 [00:16:56] THEY RETURNED TO THE EASTERN U.S.
 [00:16:58] WITH TALES OF A SETTLER'S PARADISE:
 [00:17:02] MILD CLIMATE,
 [00:17:04] GOOD GRAZING LAND,
 [00:17:07] AND HUGE STANDS OF TIMBER.
 [00:17:13] AMERICANS SLOWLY BEGAN TO FILTER INTO CALIFORNIA.
 [00:17:19] IN THE 1820s,
 [00:17:21] THEY TOOK THE SOUTHERN ROUTE FROM SANTA FE
 [00:17:23] TO SAN DIEGO AND LOS ANGELES.
 [00:17:29] IN THE 1830s,
 [00:17:32] MOST CALIFORNIA-BOUND IMMIGRANTS USED THE OREGON TRAIL.
 [00:17:38] THEY STARTED AT INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI,
 [00:17:42] CROSSED NEBRASKA AND WYOMING,
 [00:17:46] AND WHEN THEY REACHED THE SNAKE RIVER IN IDAHO,
 [00:17:48] THEY VEERED SOUTHWEST ONTO THE CALIFORNIA TRAIL,
 [00:17:52] WHICH DEPOSITED THEM
 [00:17:54] IN THE FERTILE SACRAMENTO RIVER VALLEY.
 [00:17:59] THE TRAIL TO CALIFORNIA
 [00:18:01] WAS NOT WITHOUT ITS HARDSHIPS AND DANGERS,
 [00:18:05] AS SHOWN BY THE DONNER TRAGEDY OF 1846,
 [00:18:10] ONE OF THE MOST INFAMOUS EVENTS IN CALIFORNIA HISTORY.
 [00:18:16] STRUGGLING UP A PASS
 [00:18:17] IN THE SIERRA NEVADAS,
 [00:18:19] THE DONNER PARTY OF IMMIGRANTS WAS STRUCK
 [00:18:21] BY A FIERCE WINTER STORM.
 [00:18:25] STRANDED, JUST THREE MILES FROM THE TOP OF THE PASS,
 [00:18:29] THEY WERE FORCED TO WINTER AT TRUCKEE LAKE.
 [00:18:34] FOOD RAN OUT IMMEDIATELY.
 [00:18:38] A PARTY OF MEN AND WOMEN WERE SENT
 [00:18:41] TO GET HELP FROM SACRAMENTO.
 [00:18:45] WHEN THEY RETURNED WITH A RELIEF PARTY,
 [00:18:47] THEY FOUND A HORRIFIC SCENE:
 [00:18:50] MORE THAN HALF OF THE IMMIGRANTS HAD DIED
 [00:18:54] FROM STARVATION AND MURDER,
 [00:18:57] AND A FEW HAD GIVEN IN TO CANNIBALISM.
 [00:19:03] AT THAT TIME,
 [00:19:05] ONLY A TRICKLE OF PEOPLE HAD MADE THE TREK OVERLAND,
 [00:19:08] AND ALTA CALIFORNIA WAS HOME
 [00:19:10] TO LESS THAN 1,000 AMERICAN IMMIGRANTS.
 [00:19:15] SPURRED BY THE PHILOSOPHY OF MANIFEST DESTINY,
 [00:19:18] AN IDEA THAT THE U.S. WAS DESTINED TO RULE AMERICA
 [00:19:22] FROM THE ATLANTIC TO THE PACIFIC,
 [00:19:24] THESE YANKEE IMMIGRANTS WISHED THE UNITED STATES
 [00:19:27] TO GOVERN MEXICAN CALIFORNIA.

[00:19:32] THEIR WISH WOULD SOON COME TRUE.

The Mexican American War and the California Bear Flag Revolution

[00:19:50] IN 1846, FOLLOWING CONFLICTS ALONG THE TEXAS BORDER,
[00:19:55] PRESIDENT JAMES K. POLK,
[00:19:56] A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF MANIFEST DESTINY,
[00:19:59] DECLARED WAR ON AMERICA'S SOUTHERN NEIGHBOR, MEXICO.
[00:20:06] VICTORY IN THE MEXICAN-AMERICAN WAR OF 1846 WAS SWIFT,
[00:20:12] PARTICULARLY IN THE BEAR FLAG REVOLUTION OF ALTA CALIFORNIA.
[00:20:19] WHEN WORD OF HOSTILITIES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND MEXICO
[00:20:23] REACHED CALIFORNIA IN JUNE 1846,
[00:20:27] AMERICAN SETTLERS SEIZED THE MEXICAN GARRISON IN SONOMA
[00:20:30] AND RAISED THE BEAR FLAG
[00:20:32] OF THE INDEPENDENT CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC.
[00:20:37] WITHIN A MONTH, THE SETTLERS,
[00:20:40] NOW LED BY U.S. ARMY CAPTAIN JOHN C. FREMONT,
[00:20:43] JOINED WITH U.S. NAVY FORCES AND CAPTURED MONTEREY.
[00:20:49] NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WAS SECURE.
[00:20:54] FREMONT'S SMALL ARMY THEN MARCHED SOUTH.
[00:20:59] HERE, CALIFORNIOS, LED BY JOSE MARIA FLORES,
[00:21:03] RESISTED.
[00:21:07] THE AMERICANS WERE ON THE BRINK OF DEFEAT
[00:21:10] WHEN U.S. ARMY COLONEL STEPHEN W. KEARNY
[00:21:13] AND HIS HORSE-MOUNTED DRAGOONS
[00:21:15] ARRIVED JUST IN TIME TO TURN THE TIDE.
[00:21:21] ON JANUARY 12, 1847,
[00:21:24] ALL OF CALIFORNIA WAS IN AMERICAN HANDS.
[00:21:29] A YEAR LATER, THE UNITED STATES WON THE WAR WITH MEXICO
[00:21:34] AND ANNEXED CALIFORNIA.
[00:21:38] BUT TODAY, CALIFORNIA'S STATE FLAG COMMEMORATES THE REVOLT
[00:21:42] WITH A GOLDEN BEAR AND WORDS PROUDLY PROCLAIMING:
[00:21:46] CALIFORNIA REPUBLIC.

The Gold Rush

[00:22:02] IN 1848,
[00:22:03] THE VERY YEAR THAT CALIFORNIA BECAME A U.S. TERRITORY,
[00:22:07] A STARTLING DISCOVERY WAS MADE IN THE SIERRA NEVADA MOUNTAINS,
[00:22:13] A DISCOVERY THAT WOULD LEAD DIRECTLY TO AMERICA
[00:22:16] BECOMING A WORLD POWER:
[00:22:20] GOLD.
[00:22:23] JAMES MARSHALL, A SAWMILL OPERATOR,
[00:22:26] WAS WALKING ALONG THE AMERICAN RIVER
[00:22:28] WHEN HE LOOKED DOWN AT SOMETHING GLITTERING IN THE TRACE.
[00:22:33] HE PICKED IT OUT OF THE WATER AND WAS HOLDING A GOLDEN NUGGET.
[00:22:40] THE NEWS ELECTRIFIED CALIFORNIANS.
[00:22:45] IN SAN FRANCISCO, PEOPLE RUSHED OUT OF THEIR HOMES
[00:22:48] PRACTICALLY TURNING THE SMALL PORT INTO A GHOST TOWN.
[00:22:55] WHEN WORD OF MARSHALL'S DISCOVERY REACHED
[00:22:57] THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COUNTRY, THE GOLD RUSH WAS ON.
[00:23:02] LITERALLY OVERNIGHT, THOUSANDS HEADED FOR CALIFORNIA,
[00:23:06] HOPING TO STRIKE IT RICH,
[00:23:09] TO FIND THE MOTHER LODE.
[00:23:13] THEY FLOODED CALIFORNIA'S HIGH SIERRAS
[00:23:16] FOUNDING HUNDREDS OF BOOMTOWNS.
[00:23:22] THE GHOST TOWN OF BODIE, CALIFORNIA,
[00:23:24] WAS ONE SUCH BOOMTOWN.
[00:23:28] IN 1878, AFTER A BIG STRIKE,
[00:23:32] MINERS SWEEPED INTO THE AREA.
[00:23:36] WITHIN A FEW MONTHS, THE TOWN HAD 10,000 CITIZENS
[00:23:41] AND WAS THE SECOND LARGEST CITY IN CALIFORNIA.
[00:23:46] IT BOASTED 2,000 BUILDINGS,
[00:23:48] 2 BANKS, AND A RAILROAD.
[00:23:53] 65 OF THE BUILDINGS WERE SALOONS.
[00:23:59] IT WAS ALSO FILLED WITH WICKEDNESS:
[00:24:04] BARROOM BRAWLS,
[00:24:07] MURDERS.
[00:24:09] STAGECOACH HOLDUPS HAPPENED ALMOST EVERY DAY.
[00:24:16] LEGEND STATES THAT A LITTLE GIRL
[00:24:18] ON HEARING HER FAMILY WAS MOVING TO BODIE PRAYED,
[00:24:21] >> "GOOD-BYE, GOD. WE ARE GOING TO BODIE."
[00:24:29] narrator: BODIE ALSO HAD A CHINATOWN.
[00:24:34] IN FACT, ONE OF THE REASONS GOLD MINING
[00:24:36] WAS SO PROFITABLE IN CALIFORNIA
[00:24:39] WAS THE ARRIVAL OF THE CHINESE IN 1850.
[00:24:44] THEY BROUGHT WITH THEM A NEW TECHNIQUE
[00:24:46] FOR FINDING GOLD:
[00:24:49] A UNIQUE DEVICE CALLED A ROCKER.
[00:24:53] WITH IT, THEY COULD FIND GOLD IN CLAIMS
[00:24:57] THAT WERE CONSIDERED PLAYED OUT.
[00:25:01] BUT WHITE MINERS, SUSPICIOUS OF THE CHINESE,
[00:25:04] EVENTUALLY HAD LAWS PASSED
[00:25:06] BANNING THEM FROM THE GOLD FIELDS.
[00:25:10] SO THE CHINESE WENT INTO OTHER BUSINESSES.
[00:25:16] THEY OPENED HOTELS, RESTAURANTS,
[00:25:20] AND LAUNDRY SHOPS,
[00:25:24] AND PRACTICED TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE.
[00:25:29] THE CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH ALSO GAVE TO THE STATE
[00:25:33] ONE OF ITS LEGENDARY HISPANIC FOLK HEROES:
[00:25:36] JOAQUIN MURIETA.
[00:25:40] THE DISCOVERY OF GOLD IN CALIFORNIA MEANT TROUBLE
[00:25:44] FOR THE OVER 7,000 HISPANIC RANCHERS, TRADERS, AND WORKERS
[00:25:48] ALREADY LIVING IN THE REGION.

[00:25:52] LEGEND STATES THAT IN 1851, LIKE MANY OTHER HISPANICS,
[00:25:57] MURIETA AND HIS FAMILY WERE KICKED OFF THEIR MINING CLAIM
[00:26:00] BY WHITE MINERS.
[00:26:04] TO EVEN THE SCORE,
[00:26:06] MURIETA TURNED TO A LIFE OF CRIME.
[00:26:10] UNTIL HIS DEATH TWO YEARS LATER,
[00:26:13] HE AND HIS GANG STOLE FROM THE WHITE MINERS
[00:26:15] AND GAVE TO THE MISTREATED HISPANICS.
[00:26:20] SOON, THIS CALIFORNIA ROBIN HOOD
[00:26:22] WOULD BECOME THE INSPIRATION FOR THE FICTIONAL HEROES
[00:26:25] THE CISCO KID
[00:26:28] AND ZORRO.
[00:26:32] WHEN THE GOLD RUSH WAS OVER, CALIFORNIA'S GOLD AND SILVER--
[00:26:36] \$550 MILLION WORTH
[00:26:38] TAKEN FROM THE SIERRA NEVADA MOUNTAINS ALONE--
[00:26:41] FUELED AMERICAN INDUSTRIALIZATION
[00:26:43] INTO THE 20TH CENTURY.
[00:26:47] AND THE DISCOVERY OF GOLD ULTIMATELY LED
[00:26:51] TO CALIFORNIA BECOMING A STATE.
[00:26:55] BUT THE GOLD RUSH HIGHLIGHTED THE DIVISION IN AMERICA
[00:26:58] BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE 200-YEAR-OLD SLAVERY ISSUE:
[00:27:03] WOULD CALIFORNIA BE A FREE OR A SLAVE STATE
[00:27:06] WHEN ADMITTED TO THE UNION?
[00:27:10] THE ANSWER WAS NOT AN EASY ONE.

Chinese Immigration

The Hispanic Folk Hero Joaquin Murieta

Statehood

[00:27:26] IN 1849, THE CALIFORNIA TERRITORY'S POPULATION
[00:27:29] SWELLED TO OVER 100,000.
[00:27:34] AS A RESULT, DELEGATES MET IN MONTEREY
[00:27:37] FOR A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.
[00:27:42] THEY QUICKLY DREW UP A DOCUMENT
[00:27:44] WHICH, LIKE THE U.S. CONSTITUTION,
[00:27:47] CREATED THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT
[00:27:49] WITH A SYSTEM OF CHECKS AND BALANCES:
[00:27:52] AN EXECUTIVE, A TWO-HOUSE LEGISLATURE,
[00:27:55] AND A JUDICIAL SYSTEM WITH A SUPREME COURT.
[00:28:01] THE STATE CAPITAL WAS FIRST LOCATED IN MONTEREY,
[00:28:05] THEN IT SHIFTED FROM THERE TO SAN JOSE,
[00:28:08] TO VALLEJO,
[00:28:11] TO BENICIA,
[00:28:13] UNTIL IT FINALLY SETTLED IN SACRAMENTO IN 1854.
[00:28:19] THE NEXT STEP WAS FOR THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS
[00:28:22] TO ADMIT CALIFORNIA AS A STATE.
[00:28:27] WOULD CALIFORNIA BE A FREE STATE OR A SLAVE-HOLDING STATE?
[00:28:34] WHEN CALIFORNIA'S CONSTITUTIONAL DELEGATES MET IN 1850,
[00:28:39] THEY UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO OUTLAW SLAVERY IN THE STATE.
[00:28:45] THIS MEANT CALIFORNIA WOULD BE ADMITTED TO THE UNION
[00:28:48] AS A FREE STATE.
[00:28:52] ON SEPTEMBER 9, 1850,
[00:28:54] CALIFORNIA WAS ADMITTED TO THE UNION AS THE 31ST STATE.

California and the Civil War

[00:29:13] 11 YEARS AFTER CALIFORNIA WAS ADMITTED TO THE UNION,
[00:29:17] CIVIL WAR BETWEEN NORTHERN ABOLITIONISTS
[00:29:19] AND SOUTHERN SLAVE OWNERS ROCKED THE NATION.
[00:29:26] CURIOUSLY, CALIFORNIANS FOUND OUT ABOUT THE CONFLICT
[00:29:30] THROUGH A UNIQUE, THOUGH SHORT-LIVED ENTERPRISE:
[00:29:33] THE PONY EXPRESS.
[00:29:37] IN 1860, THREE BUSINESSMEN PUT TOGETHER
[00:29:41] A NETWORK OF STATIONS AND RIDERS
[00:29:43] THAT CARRIED THE MAIL HORSEBACK ON A 2,000-MILE JOURNEY
[00:29:47] FROM ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI,
[00:29:49] TO CALIFORNIA'S CAPITAL, SACRAMENTO.
[00:29:54] WHAT HAD TAKEN MONTHS BY WAGON TRAIN, OR SHIP,
[00:29:57] NOW TOOK ONLY A MATTER OF DAYS.
[00:30:02] ITS IMPORTANCE WAS FELT ALMOST IMMEDIATELY.
[00:30:08] WHEN LINCOLN WAS ELECTED TO THE PRESIDENCY IN 1860,
[00:30:12] A SOUTHERN CONSPIRACY AROSE IN CALIFORNIA
[00:30:15] TO OVERTHROW THE FREE-STATE GOVERNMENT
[00:30:17] AND REPLACE IT WITH A PRO-SLAVERY ONE.
[00:30:22] BECAUSE OF THE PONY EXPRESS,
[00:30:24] WASHINGTON HEARD OF THE PLOT IMMEDIATELY
[00:30:27] AND WAS ABLE TO SEND INSTRUCTIONS
[00:30:29] TO UNION ARMY OFFICERS TO CRUSH THE REVOLT
[00:30:32] OF THE PRO-CONFEDERATE LOS ANGELES MILITIA.
[00:30:37] IN 1861, THE PONY EXPRESS RODE OUT OF HISTORY
[00:30:42] AFTER THE OVERLAND TELEGRAPH COMPANY LINKED CALIFORNIA
[00:30:44] WITH WASHINGTON, D.C.
[00:30:49] THOUGH CLEAR ACROSS THE CONTINENT
[00:30:51] FROM THE BATTLES OF THE WAR,
[00:30:53] CALIFORNIA PLAYED A BIG ROLE IN THE UNION'S VICTORY.
[00:30:58] GOLD AND SILVER FROM CALIFORNIA'S MINES
[00:31:02] BANKROLLED THE UNION'S WAR EFFORT,
[00:31:04] PAYING FOR THE ARMY AND ITS SUPPLIES.
[00:31:09] IN FACT, IF CALIFORNIA HAD NOT BEEN A PART OF THE NORTH,
[00:31:13] THE SOUTH COULD HAVE WON THE WAR.
[00:31:18] WITH THE CIVIL WAR OVER,
[00:31:21] CALIFORNIA WAS POISED TO MOVE INTO THE MODERN INDUSTRIAL ERA.