

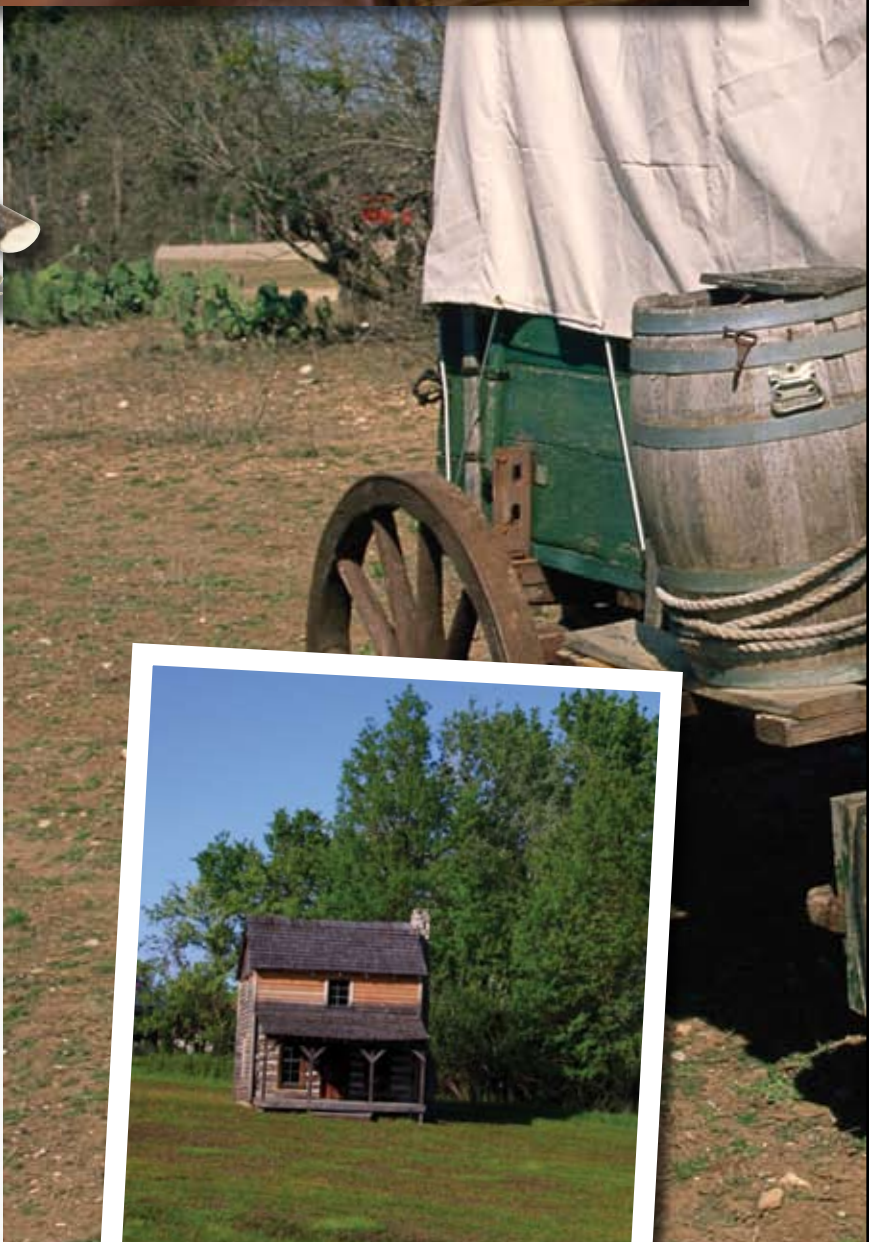
Chapter 7

The New State of Missouri



When Missouri became part of the United States, the president and Congress appointed the territorial governor. While the people of the territory elected representatives to the territorial legislature, many of the laws and regulations were made *for* the people and not *by* the people.

This was all right while there were few people in the Missouri Territory. Missouri needed the United States to provide protection and other services. But more and more people were moving into Missouri. By 1820, the population had grown to 66,000 people (including 10,000 slaves). The people believed that they could govern themselves by becoming a state.





Opposite Page: This log cabin is typical of those put up by early settlers. **This Page, Top:** Missouri state flag. **Middle:** Our State Capitol. **Bottom:** Early Missouri settlers.



Missouri Close Up

Missouri's Six Largest Counties in Population in 1821 (2000 census in parentheses)

Howard	13,426 (10,212)
St. Louis*	10,049 (1,364,504)
Cooper	6,959 (16,670)
Cape Girardeau	5,968 (68,693)
Ste. Genevieve	4,962 (17,842)
St. Charles	3,970 (283,883)

* St. Louis city and county

Missouri's Six Largest Counties in Population in 2000 (1820 census in parentheses)

St. Louis*	1,364,504 (10,049)
Jackson	654,880 (did not exist)
St. Charles	283,883 (3,970)
Greene	240,391 (did not exist)
Jefferson	198,099 (1,835)
Clay	184,006 (did not exist)

* St. Louis city and county



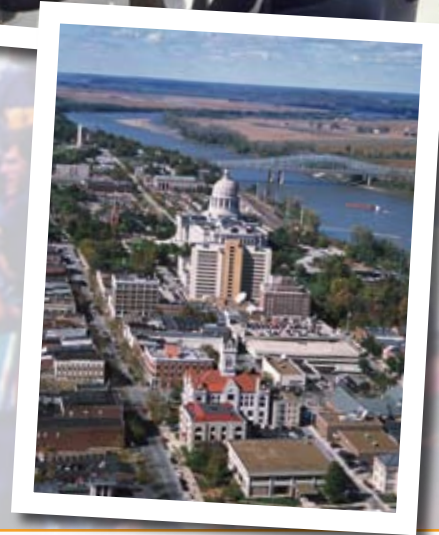
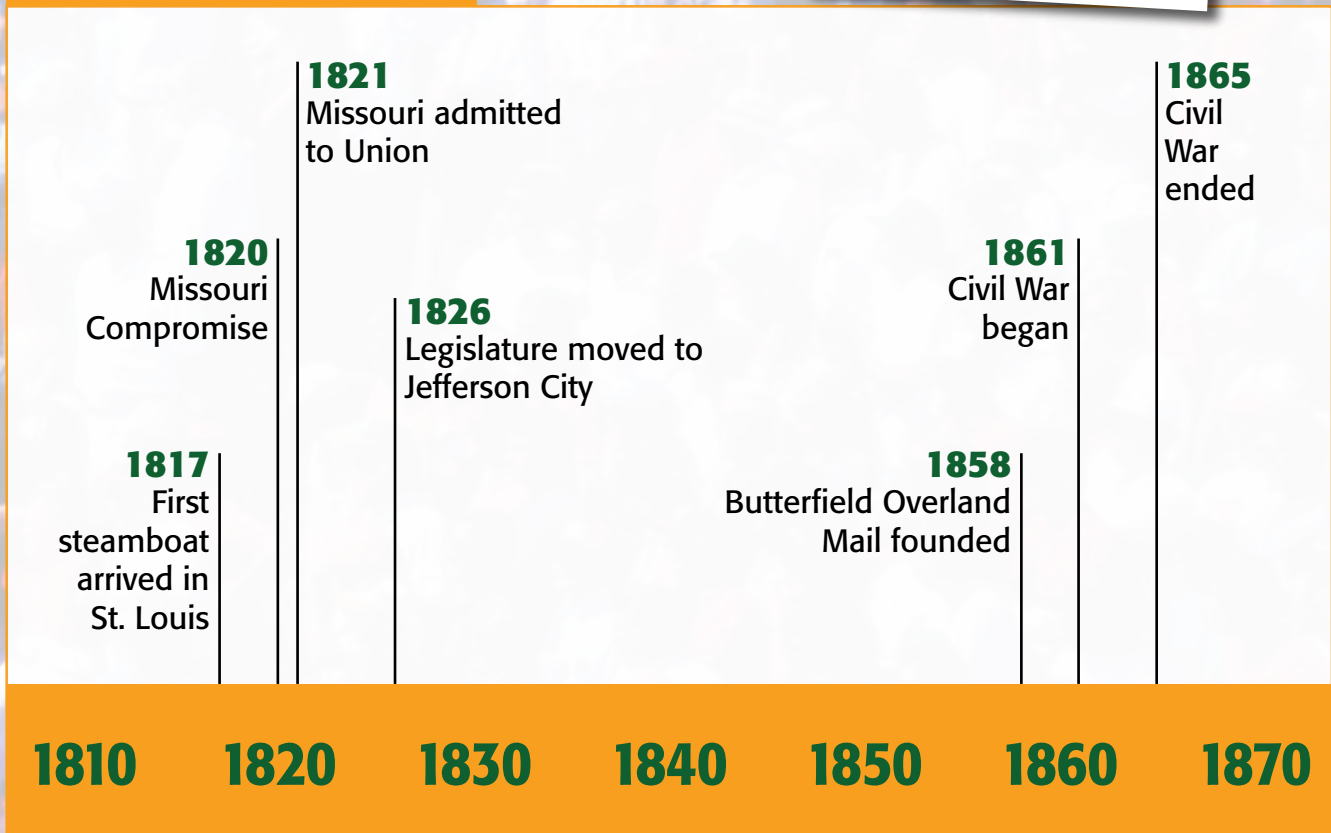


Figure 14
Timeline: 1810-1870



Section 1

Statehood

Below: Slave housing at the turn of the century.
Opposite Page, Bottom: Location of original capital in St. Charles.

As you read, look for the following:

- Missouri's admission to the Union
- how the slavery issue divided the country
- how the site for Missouri's capital was chosen
- vocabulary terms **slave state**, **free state**, **Missouri Compromise**, **states' rights**

In 1818, the territorial legislature asked Congress to consider statehood for Missouri. This caused a bitter debate in Congress. Because there were already slaves in Missouri, Missouri would enter the Union as a slave state. A **slave state** was one that permitted slavery. A **free state** was one that did not permit slavery.

The Missouri Compromise

The 11 northern states were all free states. They did not want to admit any more slave states into the Union or allow any more slaves into Missouri. The 11 southern states were all slave states. They were afraid that if more free states were admitted to the Union, Congress would one day outlaw slavery everywhere.

The northern states said they would not admit Missouri as a slave state. The southern states said they would not admit Maine, a nonslave territory, as a state if Missouri could not enter as a slave state. The **Missouri Compromise**



of 1820 settled the argument. It allowed Missouri to enter the Union as a slave state and Maine as a free state. But no more slave states would be allowed north of a line even with Missouri's southern border. Missouri was admitted to the Union on August 10, 1821.

The Missouri Compromise settled the question of Missouri's statehood. But it further divided the northern states from the southern states over slavery and **states' rights**. States' rights is the

belief that the right of a state to govern itself is more important than the right of the federal government to pass laws that govern all the states. Many people see this division as one of the first steps toward the Civil War.

Choosing a Capital

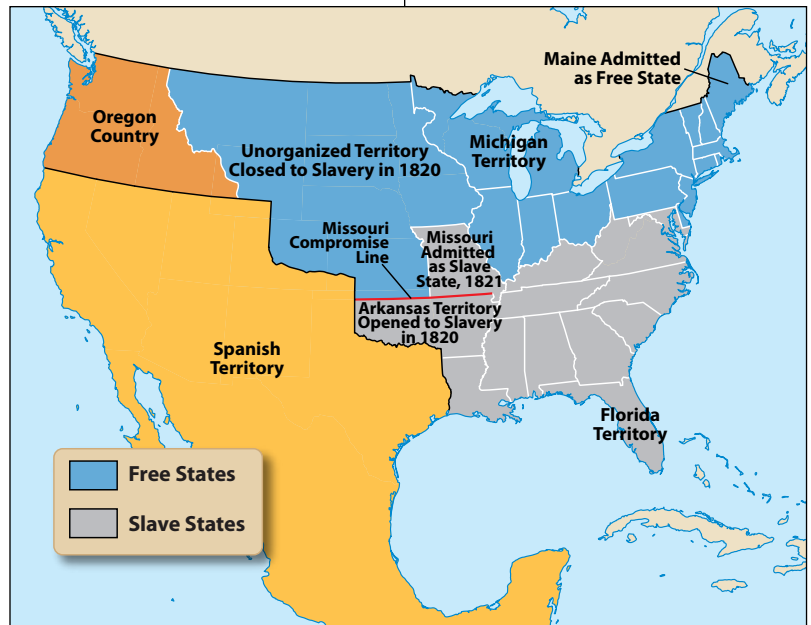
One of the first decisions the new legislature had to make was where the state capital would be located. The new constitution required that the capital be built within a day's ride by horse from the mouth of the Osage River. That was to make sure the capital was located in the center of the state.

A group appointed by the legislature chose a high spot on the south side of the Missouri River in Cole County. The capital was named Jefferson City after President Thomas Jefferson. The state government moved there in 1826 from the temporary capital of St. Charles.



Do You Remember?

1. Did Missouri enter the Union as a free state or a slave state?
2. Why was the new capital located at Jefferson City?



Map 22

The Missouri Compromise

Map Skill: Was Illinois a slave state or a free state?

Did you know?

The state seal contains the date "1820" although Missouri did not actually become a state until 1821. The year 1820 was when Missouri wrote its constitution and elected state officials.

Section 2

Life in the New State

As you read, look for the following:

- how early Missouri farmers lived
- the types of businesses in the early days of statehood
- how people and goods were transported
- vocabulary terms **frontier, Santa Fe Trail, Oregon Trail, stagecoach, flatboat, keelboat, steamboat, railroad**



You learned earlier that the economy is the whole system of growing, making, selling, buying, and using goods and services. To be successful, a state must have a strong economy. When Missouri became a state, fur trading was still an important industry. But most of the new Missourians were farmers, and the state had a growing agricultural economy.

Agriculture

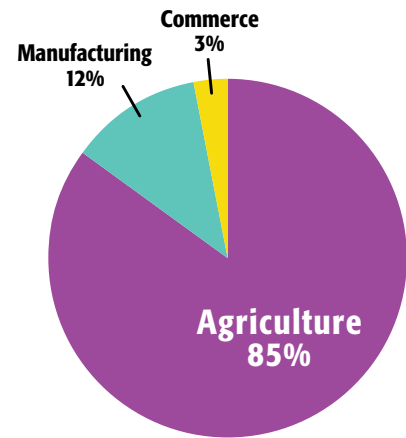
When Missouri became a state in 1821, most of the 66,000 people in the state (including slaves) lived on farms. Agriculture was the biggest and most important part of Missouri's economy. Most of the farms were small because the farmers did most of the work by hand or with the help of a mule or an ox. Some of the larger farms might have had slaves to help do the work. The farmer often had to cut down the trees on his land and pull out the stumps and rocks to make room for his fields.



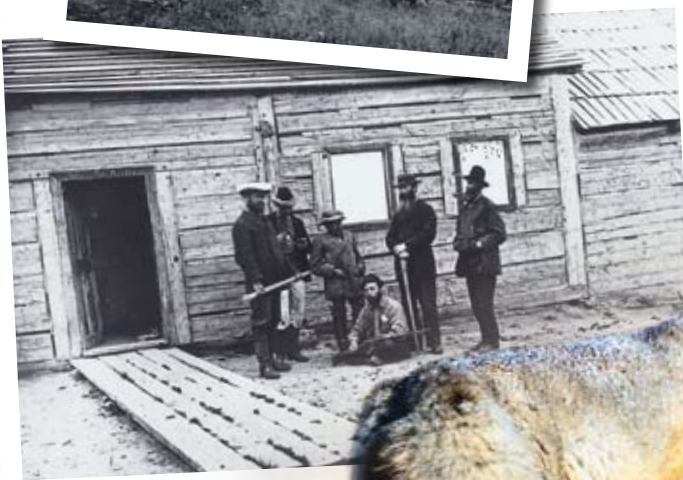
The typical farmer's family lived in a small log cabin. Everyone helped with the many chores. There were animals to feed, eggs to gather, and a vegetable garden to tend. Vegetables from the garden were either stored in a cool cellar dug into the earth below the cabin or dried and kept in jars. Usually, the farm had a cow, which was milked twice a day. Thick cream rose to the top of the milk. The farmer's wife or children used a churn to turn the cream into butter. They kept the milk cool by putting it in earthenware jugs and lowering the jugs into a well filled with cold water. Sometimes it was kept in caves.

The farmers in Missouri grew corn, wheat, or oats and raised cows, oxen, horses, mules, and pigs. Cows were allowed to graze in the clearings in the woods or on hillsides. To keep them from eating the growing crops, the farmer built fences made from logs split into long, skinny pieces called rails. Pigs were either kept in pens or allowed to roam the woods to eat acorns and other nuts. The farmer and his sons also hunted for meat and furs.

Figure 15
Missouri's 1820 Economy



Opposite Page, Top: Farming was hard work and included the whole family. **Bottom:** Oxen were an important part of the work force. **This Page, Top Left:** Cows provided milk and cream for butter. **Middle:** Farmers also hunted wild animals for meat and fur.



Did you know?

The John Polk Campbell Homestead was started in 1856 and the house, a log kitchen, log granary, and barn are still standing and open to visitors in Springfield, the town founded by Mr. Campbell.



Early Businesses

Of course, not all Missourians were farmers. There were still many fur trappers. In the villages, there were trading posts and other shops that sold goods needed by people on the frontier. (The **frontier** was the area just on the edge of a settled area.) In a village, there was usually a general store that sold a little bit of everything. It would have all sorts of goods, cloth to make clothes, books, glass for windows, kitchen utensils, and other things that a frontier family needed but could not make for itself.

As you learned in Chapter 4, most villages had a blacksmith and other craftsmen who made many of the tools the early settlers needed. The items settlers could not make had to be bought from manufacturers in the eastern states. It was not until after the Civil War that Missouri saw a growth in manufacturing.



Getting Around

In the early days of statehood, goods brought from the eastern states and new settlers coming to Missouri arrived in one of two ways—coming overland on horseback and wagon or by boat on the state's rivers.

Early Trails

Before the settlers came to Missouri, the Native Americans, explorers, and fur traders followed foot trails through the woods or paddled canoes up and down the rivers. With the arrival of the settlers and their animals and wagons, the trails soon became roads. The roads were mostly dirt, which turned into mud when it rained and snowed. Sometimes they were paved with boards called planks or with stones or bricks. A ride on these early paved roads was very bumpy!



Top: Deals were made at local trading posts.
Middle: Early villages were sometimes crowded with people buying and selling items needed by frontier families.
Bottom: Settlers traveled on roads that were mostly dirt.
Opposite Page, Top: Wagon trains carried people and supplies to the West.



Wagons pulled by horses, oxen, or mules carried goods and people along the trails. Many eager traders and travelers started their journeys to the West from Missouri, following famous routes like the Santa Fe and Oregon trails.

The **Santa Fe Trail** led traders to the southwestern part of the United States and to Mexico. It originally started in Franklin, along the Missouri River in Howard County. As the frontier moved westward, the starting place first moved upstream to Arrow Rock and then to Independence. In some places along the old trail route, you can still see ruts left by the wagon wheels.

The **Oregon Trail** also started in Independence. Settlers with all their goods often traveled up the Missouri on steamboats as far as Independence or St. Joseph. There, they bought covered wagons and supplies and joined a group of other settlers in a wagon trail headed to California or Oregon.



Map 23

The Santa Fe and Oregon Trails

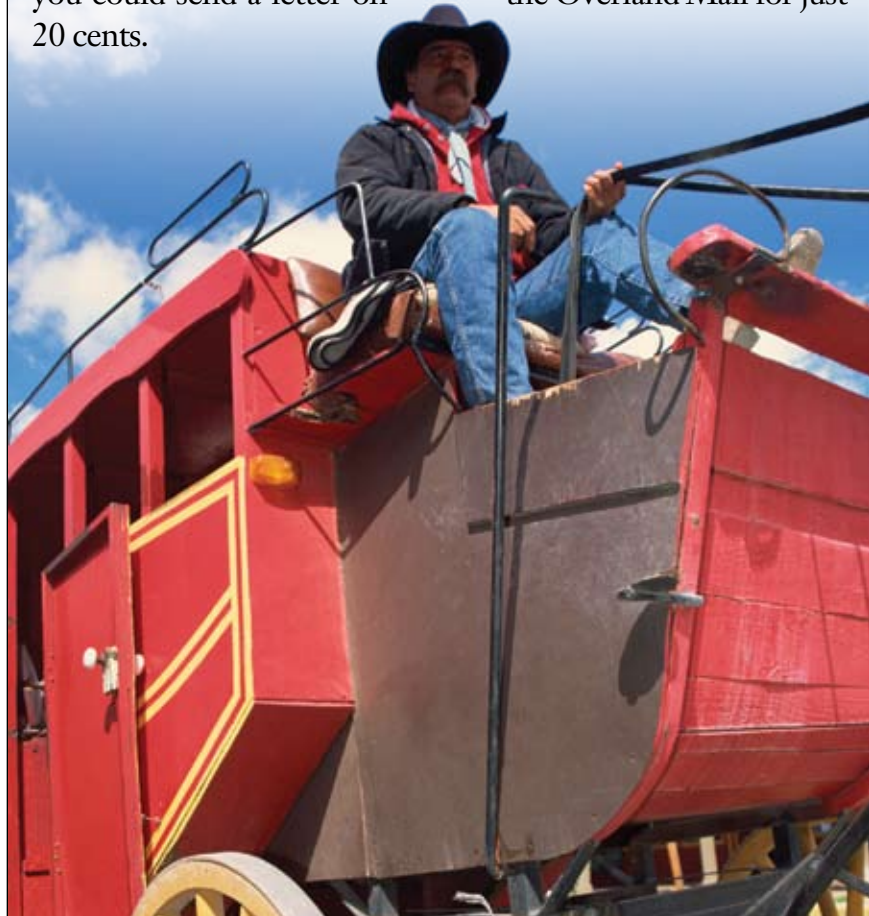
Map Skill: Through what present-day states did the Santa Fe Trail run?



Another way to travel was by **stagecoach**, a large wagon that had a roof and seats and was pulled by a team of six to eight horses. The stagecoaches were an early version of buses. They ran set routes between towns carrying people and the mail. A trip on a stagecoach could be bumpy and dusty. In his book *Roughing It*, Mark Twain wrote about a stagecoach trip he took.

We began to get into country, now threaded here and there with little streams. These had high, steep banks on each side, and every time we flew down one bank and scrambled up the other, our party inside got mixed somewhat. First we would all be down in a pile in the forward end of the stage, nearly in a sitting posture, and in a second we would shoot to the other end, and stand on our heads.

The first stagecoach in Missouri traveled between St. Louis and Franklin in 1819. In 1858, John Butterfield and William Fargo started a stagecoach company. It took passengers and mail from Tipton, through Springfield, into Arkansas, and from there to San Francisco, California. Called the Overland Mail, the trip to California took 24 days and cost \$200 in gold. But you could send a letter on the Overland Mail for just 20 cents.



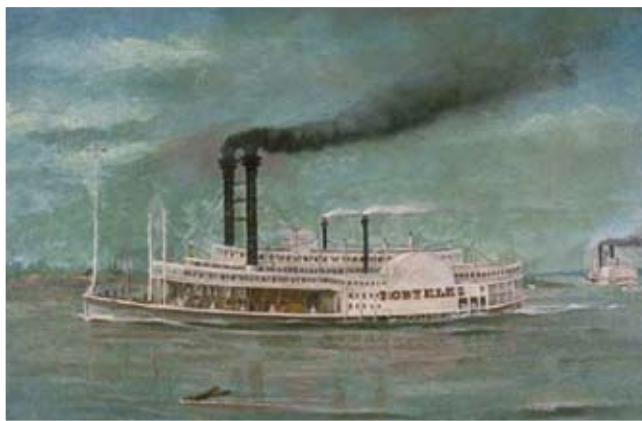
Right: Stagecoaches were early versions of buses.

River Travel

The best way to move large amounts of goods and people was by river with larger boats replacing canoes. Wooden flatboats and keelboats moved along with the river current. A **flatboat** was a raft with sides. A **keelboat** had a bow and a keel, which was a strong piece of wood or metal that ran along the bottom of the boat and made it sturdier. Both types of riverboats moved downstream with the help of men pushing poles against the river bottom. Sometimes when the boat reached its destination downstream, the riverboat men unloaded the cargo and took the boat apart. They then sold the wood and found a different way home.

The riverboat men also used poles to push the boats upstream, but that was much harder to do. Sometimes passengers walked along the riverbanks and pulled the boats with ropes. Some of the boats had sails to use when the wind was blowing just right. Going against the current was slow; a boat might cover only 10 miles a day. It could take three months or more to go upriver from New Orleans to St. Louis.

By the time Missouri became a state, boats driven by steam were seen along the Mississippi, Missouri, Gasconade, and Osage rivers. The first **steamboat** on the Mississippi, the *Zebulon M. Pike*, arrived in St. Louis in 1817. The first steamboat on the Missouri River, the *Independence*, reached Franklin in 1819. Before long, steamboats crowded the riverfronts of towns up and down the rivers. Many of these towns, like Glasgow, Lexington, and Weston, grew into important ports. A steamboat arriving in a small town was a big event. The townspeople would rush to the riverfront when they heard the call “Ste-e-e-eamboat a comin’!”



Top: Flatboats and keelboats were used to transport goods down the river. Bottom: Steamboats along the river in larger towns were common sights.

Did you know?

During the mid-1800s, St. Louis was the second-busiest port for steamboats. Only New Orleans had more traffic.



Above: The railroad and locomotives brought many people and goods to Missouri.

The boats carried everything, including livestock and people. Boats going up the Missouri and Osage rivers often carried settlers and their wagons. Boats on the Mississippi were often larger and fancier than those on the Missouri.

Travel on a riverboat could be dangerous. The boat might hit a *snag* (a large sunken tree that could poke a hole in the boat's side), run aground on a sandbar, or have a steam boiler explode.

The Coming of the Railroad

Steam power was used not only on the rivers but also in a new invention called a *locomotive*. The locomotive ran on iron or steel rails and pulled cars carrying goods and people linked together into a train. Unlike the steamboats, the **railroads** did not have to depend on rivers and could go more places in shorter times.

The Pacific Railroad was the first iron-railed railroad in Missouri, starting in St. Louis in 1852. Three years later, workers had laid rails all the way to Jefferson City, but it took another ten years to reach Kansas City. Meanwhile, the Hannibal and St. Joseph Railroad became the first to cross the state when it was completed in 1859. The building of railroads to the rest of the state was delayed until after the Civil War.

Did you know?
The first railroad in Missouri was built entirely of wood by J. R. Allen in 1849. The rails were made of oak and nailed to ties made of oak. It ran for a distance of five miles, from Richmond to the bank of the Missouri River opposite Lexington.



Map 24
Early Railroads in Missouri
Map Skill: What other city was served by the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad?

New and Growing Towns

The railroads brought many people to the state. Some of the people stopped along the rail lines to start towns like Moberly, Rolla, and Marceline. The railroad companies owned much of the land along their routes. They encouraged farmers from other states and other countries to come to Missouri and settle. The farmers then shipped their grain and livestock to markets on the railroads.

Some important riverboat towns, like St. Louis and Hannibal, became important railroad towns. Many riverboat towns, however, faded away as railroads replaced steamboats. The town that benefited the most from the arrival of the railroads was Kansas City. When the first railroad reached Kansas City in 1865, it had fewer than 5,000 people. Within ten years of the arrival of the railroad, it had become an important rail center with more than 32,000 people. Today, it remains a major rail center, second only to Chicago in the number of trains that pass through it.

Below: Locomotives also became a major source of transportation.
Bottom: Many towns like Ste. Genevieve were developed because of the success of railroads.



Do You Remember?

1. How did early farmers stop cows from eating crops?
2. Name the three types of early river travel.



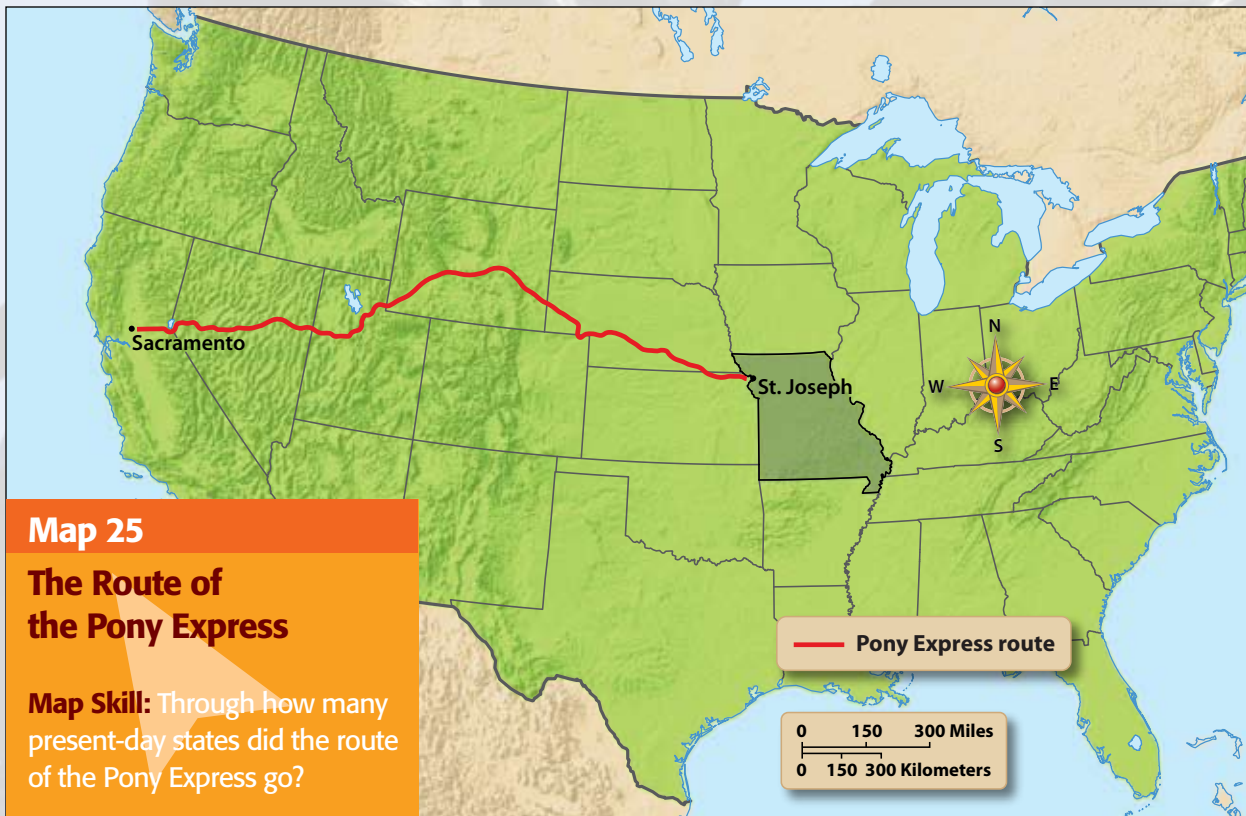
Spotlight

The Pony Express

In 1859, posters appeared around St. Joseph advertising jobs for “small, wiry fellows,” preferably orphans. The posters were for jobs as riders on the Pony Express. Small, fast ponies were to be used to carry the mail from St. Joseph to Sacramento, California. That meant the riders also had to be small. The route across the Great Plains, over the Rocky Mountains, and through the Sierra Nevada Mountains was filled with danger from the weather,

rattlesnakes, wolves, bears, robbers, and Native Americans. Orphans were preferred because it was thought they would be more willing to face the daily dangers. Legend has it that the youngest rider, Bronco Charlie Miller, was only 11 years old!

The first riders left St. Joseph and Sacramento on April 3, 1860. Carrying the mail in leather pouches, the riders went from one “station” to the next, a distance of about 15 miles. At the



station, the rider grabbed the mail pouches, jumped off one pony and quickly jumped onto another. When the rider tired, a new one took his place, usually after about 75 to 100 miles of riding. The progress of the mail never stopped along the route.

Before the Pony Express, mail to and from California was carried by stagecoach. It took at least three weeks, and usually longer, for a letter to travel from St. Louis to San Francisco. The Pony Express carried the letter to California in seven to ten days. To help speed the mail between St. Joseph and cities in the East, the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad created a railroad car with a post office in it. The postal clerk would sort the mail as the train moved down the track. Soon, these railway post offices



were being used on railroads all around the country.

As exciting as it was, the Pony Express was a financial disaster for its investors (the people who provided the money to start the business). They did not have to suffer long, however. Just six

months after the first riders completed their route, the first telegraph line across the United States was completed on October 24, 1861. Messages could now be sent almost at once. By the end of the month, the Pony Express was out of business.

Top: Pony Express rider, Frank E. Webber, on his route in 1861. Below: The Pony Express stables in St. Joseph.



Missouri Places

Trail of Tears State Park

In the mid-1830s, the federal government forced the Cherokee Nation to move from its tribal lands in Georgia and North Carolina to reservations west of the Mississippi River. So many Cherokee died from starvation, disease, and cold weather along the route that it became known as the Trail of Tears. One path the Cherokee took in the winter of 1838-1839 crossed the Mississippi River north of Cape

Girardeau. Ice on the river slowed the crossing, and many of the Indians waiting on the Missouri side of the river died from the cold. One of them was Nancy Bushyhead Hildebrand, daughter of Chief Jesse Bushyhead. Her Cherokee name was Otahki. Today, you can visit a memorial to Princess Otahki and all the Cherokee who died on the trail at Trail of Tears State Park.



Left: A museum guide describes details of a display at the Trail of Tears Museum. Below: The Trail of Tears State Park contains many scenic overlooks, like this one along the Mississippi River.



Section 3

The Civil War

As you read, look for the following:

- how slaves were treated
- how some people opposed slavery
- the events leading to the Civil War
- vocabulary terms **Underground Railroad, abolitionist, secede, Confederate States of America, border state, bushwhacker**

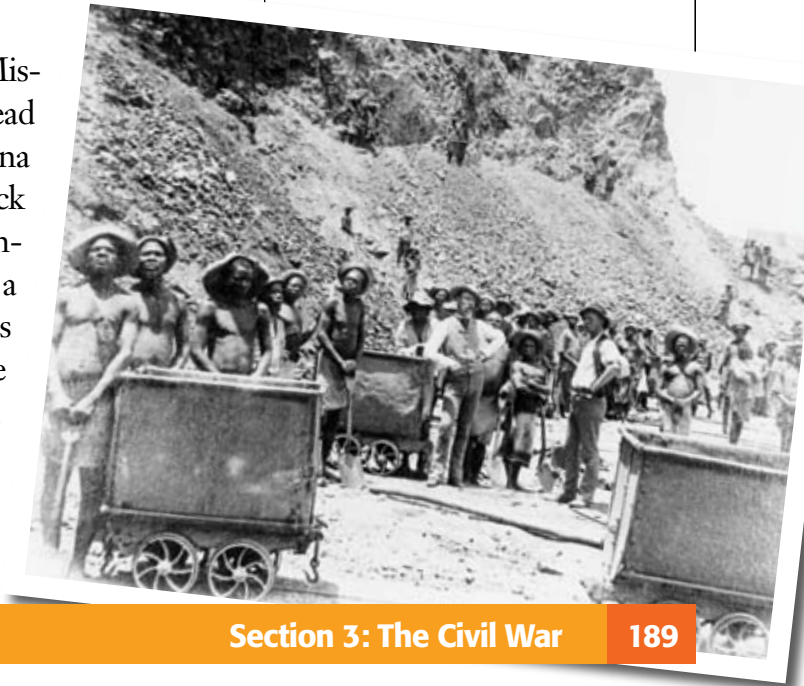
Just as the issues of slavery and states' rights were dividing the nation, they were also dividing Missouri.

Slavery

Missouri had known slavery from its earliest history. Native American tribes in Missouri often made slaves of prisoners captured in battles with other tribes. But Native Americans did not buy or sell people as slaves until they started trading with Europeans.

The first African slaves were brought to Missouri by the French in 1720 to work in the lead and iron mines. By the time of the Louisiana Purchase in 1804, there were about 1,400 black slaves out of a population of 10,300 non-Indians in Missouri. When Missouri became a state in 1821, there were 10,000 black slaves out of a total population of 66,000. A large number of settlers from other slave states had settled in counties along the Missouri River. These owners held the majority of the slaves in Missouri.

Below: Many of the first slaves were brought to Missouri to work in the lead and iron mines.



Did you know?

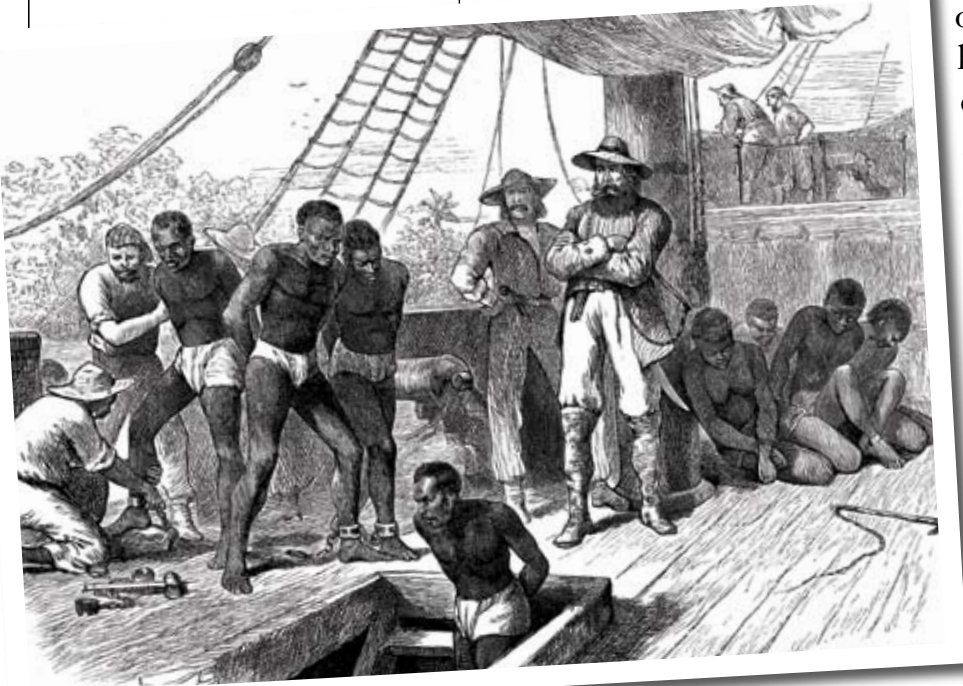
Even the free states of the North profited from the slave trade. Northern ship owners shipped rum made in northern states to Europe. On the return voyage, the ships stopped in African ports to load slaves to be brought to the Americas.

Life as a Slave

In the South, most slaves lived and worked on *plantations* (large farms). In Missouri, however, most slaves worked on small farms. They guided the plows, planted the seeds, harvested the crops, and took care of the livestock. Other slaves worked in the towns as servants or laborers. As soon as he or she was able to do chores, a child born into slavery was put to work. Slaves worked from sunup to sundown every day except Sundays, no matter the weather. A few slaves earned wages, but most received only food and shelter.

Many white people who owned slaves or supported slavery believed that God meant for them to hold black people as slaves. They based this belief on comparisons they made between their culture and that of Africa, where most slaves were either born or had their family roots. Whites thought African culture was primitive. In reality, it was rich in tradition, language, art, crafts, and commerce. Many of the slaves came from African villages that were older than any town or city in Europe. Many whites thought that the slaves were happy with their lives in bondage compared to life in Africa. This was far from true.

Brought across the ocean in chains in the holds of crowded ships on which diseases spread rapidly, many Africans died before they reached America. The captives were sold and traded, sometimes at public auctions, just as a farmer might buy a cow or a mule. A black boy might be worth \$500. A black man and woman together might sell for \$1,400. Sometimes a family was split apart when its members



were sold to different buyers. Husbands were separated from wives and children from parents.

They were taken back to farms where they lived in shacks that usually had dirt floors and no fireplaces. Sometimes a dozen people were crowded into a space half the size of your classroom. They were poorly clothed and fed and rarely allowed to see a doctor. They were not allowed to marry or to learn to read and write. To make their slaves work harder or to punish them, masters would beat and whip their slaves, leaving ugly scars on their skin.



Free Blacks

There were free black people living in Missouri during this time. But their lives were not much better than the lives of people in slavery. Free blacks worked long and hard for little pay, often being paid less for the same amount of work done by a white person. Unable to afford or denied the opportunity to buy or rent decent housing, free blacks often lived in terrible conditions. Missouri had laws making it a crime for anyone to teach a black person to read or write. This did not always stop people from teaching or learning.

John Berry Meachum was a slave who had managed to save enough money from his wages to buy his freedom. A minister, Meachum taught reading and writing during his Sunday school classes until the local sheriff threatened to arrest him if he did not stop. Instead, Meachum bought a small steamboat and anchored it in the middle of the Mississippi River, where the sheriff could not arrest him. Students rowed boats out to the steamboat to go to school.

Free blacks and whites opposed to slavery also risked arrest by helping slaves who had escaped from their masters. The escaped slaves would try to reach a free state. Their masters would chase them and offer rewards for their capture. Following a route sometimes called the **Underground Railroad**, the escaped slaves would go from hiding place to hiding place, sometimes hiding in basements, attics, barns, or secret tunnels. One route of the Underground Railroad went through St. Louis, where the slaves were helped across the Mississippi River to the free state of Illinois.



Top: Slave living quarters on a plantation. Above: John Berry Meachum bought his freedom. Opposite Page, Bottom: Slaves were brought across the ocean in chains.

Figure 16
Missouri's 1860 Population

White	1,063,489
Free Blacks	3,572
Slaves	114,931
Total	1,182,012

Spotlight

The *Dred Scott* Decision

Even as fighting was going on along the Missouri-Kansas border, another step toward the Civil War was being taken by the U.S. Supreme Court in a case that began in Missouri. It involved a man named Dred Scott and his wife, Harriet. Dred Scott had been born a slave in Virginia and was later purchased by an Army doctor living in St. Louis. The Army doctor was sent to Illinois and later Wisconsin, and Dred Scott went along. During this time, the doctor purchased Harriet, and she and Dred were married. They returned with the doctor to St. Louis in 1842.

When the doctor died in 1843, his wife refused to let the Scotts purchase their freedom. They went to court and sued for it. The Scotts' lawyers argued that, because the doctor had taken them into a free state and a territory where slavery had been prohibited, they should have been set free and not brought back to the slave state of Missouri.

The case eventually reached the federal dis-



trict court in St. Louis. That court ruled that the Scotts, because they were slaves, were not citizens and did not have the right to sue. You can still visit the courthouse and the courtroom where this decision was made. It is part of the national park that includes the Gateway Arch in St. Louis.

The Scotts then took their case to the U.S. Supreme Court, which ruled in 1857 that the Scotts were not citizens and could not use the federal courts. The court also ruled that Congress did not have the right to pass laws that regulated, or controlled, slavery. The *Dred Scott* decision further divided the antislavery and proslavery sides and, to many people, made a civil war impossible to avoid.

Soon after the court decision, ownership of the Scotts was given to a family that had helped in the court fight and wanted to free them. In May 1857, the Scotts were declared free. Dred Scott lived as a free man for only a short time. He died in September 1858 from a lung disease. Harriet Scott died in 1876.

The Antislavery Movement

Slavery was important to the state's agricultural economy. But the growing numbers of immigrants from Europe, especially those from Germany, brought with them a belief that slavery was wrong and should be abolished. Joined by others who openly worked to end slavery, these people were called **abolitionists**.

The abolitionists disagreed with many of the settlers already in Missouri, especially those who had come from slave states such as Virginia, North and South Carolina, and Tennessee. Most Missourians did not own slaves, but they supported the rights of others to own slaves and the right of the states to decide for themselves whether to allow slavery.

These differences led to conflict between Missouri and Kansas. In 1854, Congress passed a law that *repealed*, or canceled, the Missouri Compromise. The new law allowed states formed from the Nebraska and Kansas territories to decide for themselves whether they would be free or slave states. People argued over whether Kansas would become a slave or a free state.

In 1855, Kansas held an election to choose a territorial legislature. Missourians who favored slavery crossed the border and voted for candidates who were also for slavery. Even though there were only 3,000 eligible voters in Kansas, 6,300 ballots were cast in the election! When a Missouri newspaper complained, a proslavery mob threw the newspaper's press into the Missouri River.

Fighting broke out between the abolitionist and proslavery sides in Kansas. Missourians crossed the border to help the proslavery side. Farms and towns were raided and burned to scare away the abolitionist settlers. State militias and federal troops had to be called in to stop the fighting. Kansas eventually entered the Union as a free state.

Did you know?

The raids between Missouri and Kansas killed or wounded so many people that many people talked or wrote about "bleeding Kansas."

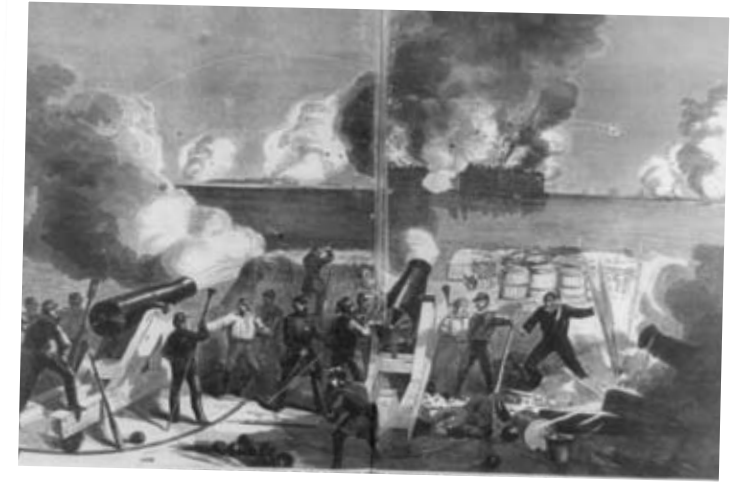


Above: Blacks and whites opposed to slavery formed the Underground Railroad to help slaves escape.



Secession

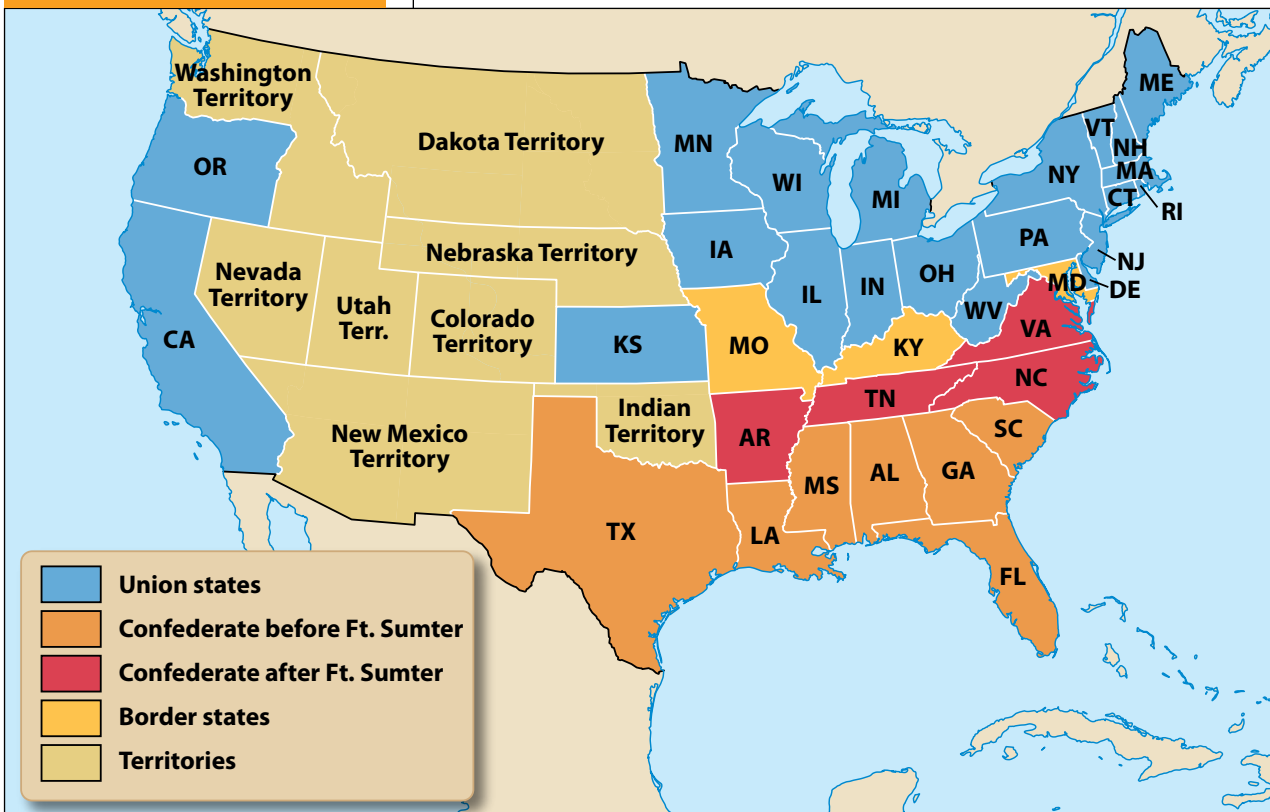
In 1860, the Republican Party, a political party made up of people opposed to slavery, nominated Abraham Lincoln of Illinois for president of the United States. Lincoln campaigned against allowing any new slave states into the Union. The southern states had threatened to **secede**, or leave the Union, if Lincoln was elected. When Lincoln was elected, a number of the southern states seceded and formed the **Confederate States of America**. On April 12, 1861, Confederate soldiers in South Carolina captured Fort Sumter from Union troops. It was the first battle in the Civil War.



Map 26

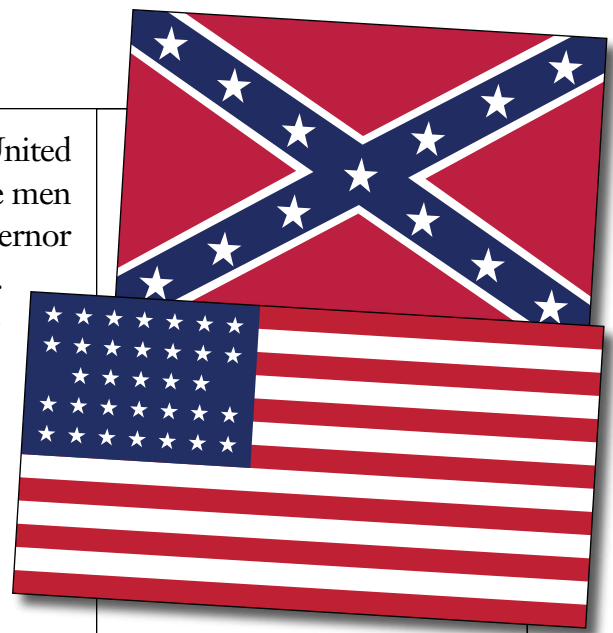
Confederate, Union and Border States

Map Skill: List three Union states and three Confederate states.



Few Missourians wanted their state to secede from the United States. But Governor Claiborne Jackson and most of the men in the state government supported the Confederacy. Governor Jackson called out the state militia to fight for the South. However, Union troops from St. Louis rushed to Jefferson City and captured the capital. Governor Jackson and the rest of the government fled to Neosho in southern Missouri. There, on October 28, 1861, they voted to join the Confederacy.

But federal troops controlled key parts of Missouri, including the capital and its largest city, St. Louis. A government loyal to the Union was set up. Missouri then became a **border state**, a slave state that stayed in the Union.



Fighting in Missouri

The Civil War divided the state, divided towns, and even divided families. Brothers sometimes found themselves shooting at each other from opposite sides during a battle.

One in every ten battles fought in the Civil War took place in Missouri. The biggest battle was also one of the first, taking place in August 1861. In the very bloody Battle of Wilson's Creek near Springfield, the Missouri Confederates defeated a Union army and chased it back north. A month later, Confederate forces again defeated Union forces, this time at Lexington.



Top Right: The Confederate and United States flags looked like this at the start of the Civil War in 1861. **Opposite Page, Top:** The 16th President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. **Right:** This painting depicts the Battle at Fort Sumter, the first battle of the Civil War.

Map 27

The Civil War in Missouri

Map Skill: Which Civil War battle was closest to where you live?

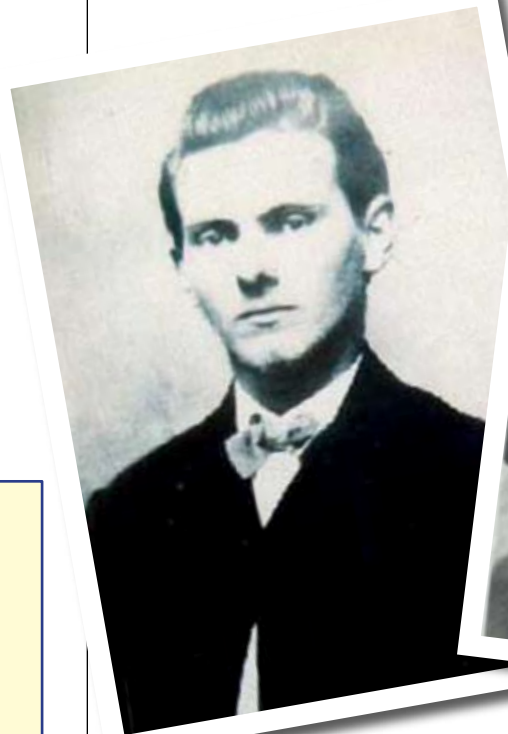
Did you know?

In Oregon County, bushwhackers struck so many times that the settlers, many of them from Ireland, fled and never returned. Their farms became a part of the Mark Twain National Forest called the Irish Wilderness.

The Union army recovered and forced the Confederate armies out of Missouri later that winter. The Missouri Confederates became a part of the Confederate army and fought in many battles all across the South. Back in Missouri, the fighting was largely between small groups of Union soldiers and small groups of rebels, many of whom belonged to no real army. These rebels were sometimes called **bushwhackers**. The bushwhackers raided small towns and farms for supplies—stealing what they could carry and often burning the rest. The bushwhackers were trying to scare people either into leaving or into supporting the South.

Permelia Hardeman wrote down her memories of a bushwhacker raid on her family's farm in southwest Missouri in 1862.

Wewerevisitedlastnightabouttwo'clockbythebushwhackers.Iwasupwiththebabywhentheycame...Theygotbothofthegunsandthenwentupstairs,tookmybedblankets...thensearchedthebureau drawers.Theyeventookassmallthingas a comb and brush.



This Page: Jesse James (left) and "Bloody Bill" Anderson were two infamous pro-Confederate bushwhackers during the Civil War.

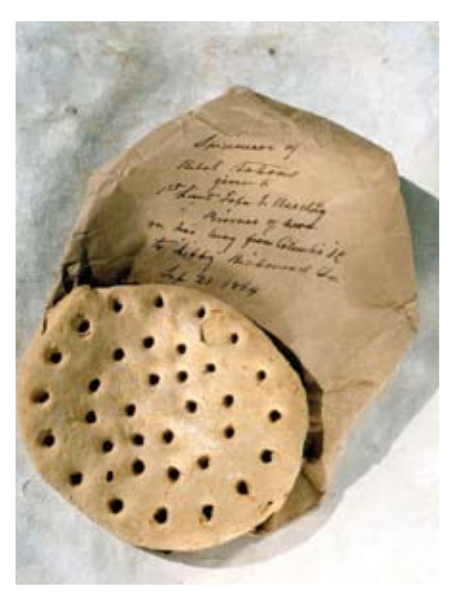
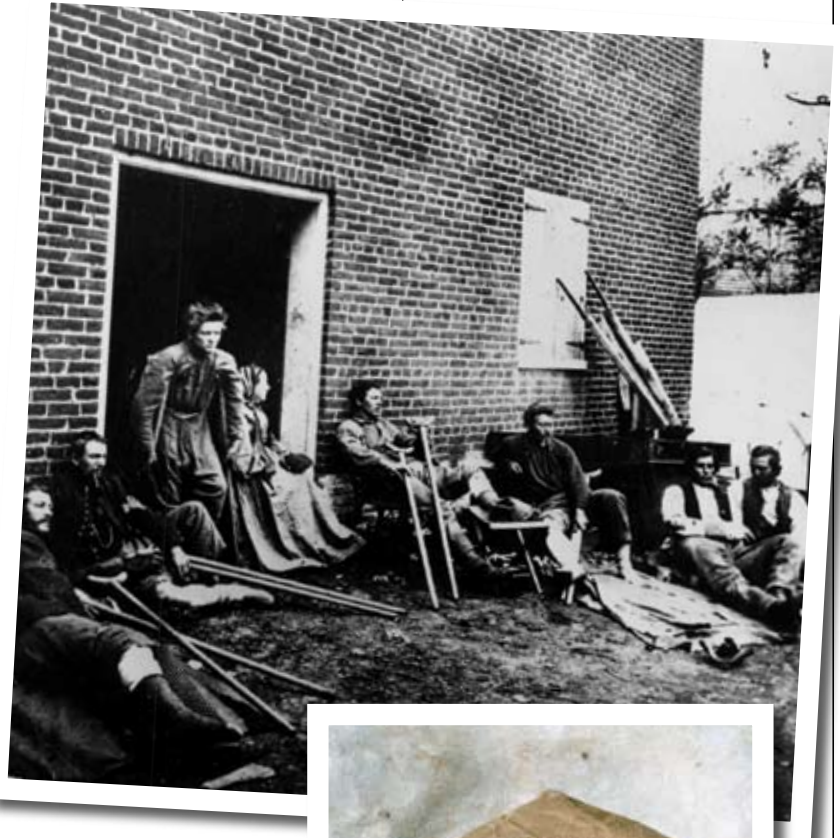
Life in the Army

Life was hard for the soldiers, who had to walk everywhere they went. Often, the wagons carrying their food were delayed or lost. The soldiers were then left with nothing to eat. Sometimes they would steal a cow or pig from a farmer. Many times they had nothing to eat but *hardtack*. Hardtack was a very hard cracker that had to be soaked in water or coffee to make it soft enough to eat. Often, the hardtack was full of insects.

Corporal Philander Nesbit, a Union cavalry soldier fighting in Missouri, wrote home in 1861 to tell his sister about the hard conditions.

Last night we were out three days without anything to eat, only such as we could pick up...We rode all day and about an hour by sun, stopped at a house and got a piece of cornbread and raw meat which of course tasted like it had been sweetened [to hide the taste of rotted meat]. We started and rode until ten o'clock and slept in a stable, got up and fed our horses and got no breakfast, rode hard until about ten o'clock and caught up with some infantry. They freely emptied their haversack and gave it to us which consisted of hard crackers.

Confederate soldiers usually had a rougher life than Union soldiers because the South was short on supplies. A lot of the "Johnny Rebs," as Union soldiers called them, went barefoot, even in winter. There were few doctors in the armies. In those days, there was very little a doctor could do for a person if he or she became sick or was wounded. Many of the people who died in the Civil War died from illness, not from wounds. Corporal Nesbit became sick a few weeks after writing his sister and died four months later.



Top: Wounded Civil War soldiers. Above: Hardtack. Opposite Page: More than 1,100 battles were fought in Missouri. Civil War re-enactments like this are popular events.

Top: Portrait of Confederate General Sterling Price. Bottom: A Civil War cannon.

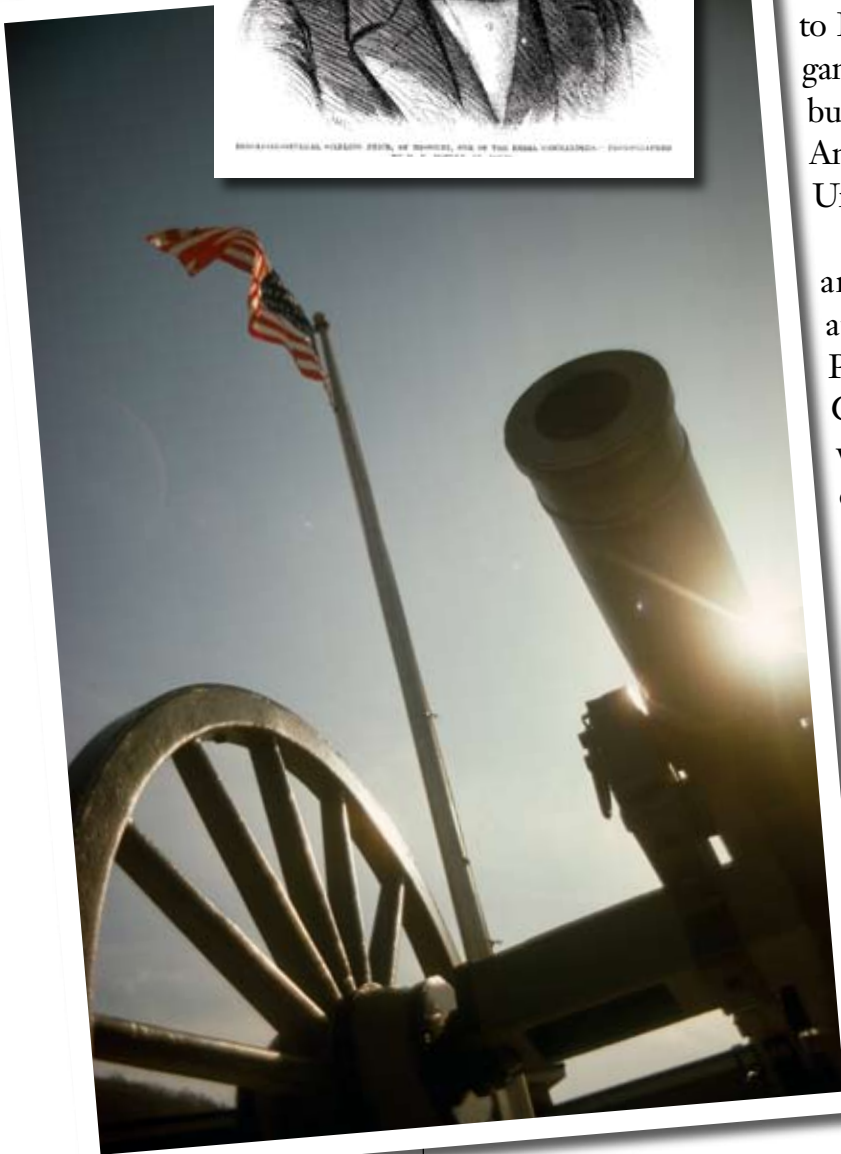
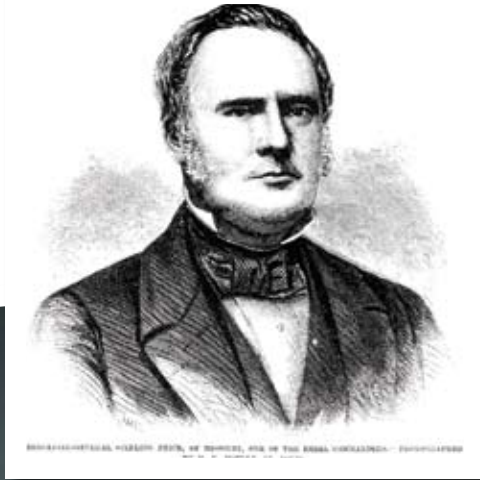
Last Chance

The Confederate army made one last attempt to capture Missouri in 1864. General Sterling Price, a former governor of Missouri, and his rebel army invaded from Arkansas. At the same time, small groups of Confederates began attacking towns around the state. One of these groups was led by “Bloody Bill” Anderson. Frank and Jesse James, who became outlaws after the war, were a part of Anderson’s gang. They attacked the town of Centralia on September 27, 1864, killing 24 unarmed Union soldiers who were on a train heading home to Iowa. Union troops chased the gang out of town. They were ambushed (attacked by surprise) by Anderson’s gang, and 124 more Union soldiers died.

On that same day, General Price’s army attacked Fort Davidson at Pilot Knob. In the Battle of Pilot Knob, wave after wave of Confederate troops rushed toward the fort. They were killed or driven back before they could reach the rock and dirt walls defended by the outnumbered Union troops.

Because he lost so many men, General Price changed his plans to attack St. Louis or Jefferson City. Instead, he marched toward Westport, near Kansas City. On October 23-25, the Confederate and Union armies met in battle. The Confederates were defeated. Among the dead was Bloody Bill Anderson. The Battle of Westport marked the end of

major fighting in Missouri.



The North had more men, more supplies, more factories, and more money than the South. The Confederate army often won battles, but it could not replace all of the men who died or were wounded nor the supplies it used or lost. On April 9, 1865, Robert E. Lee, general of the main Confederate army, surrendered to the Union general, Ulysses S. Grant, in Appomattox Court House, Virginia. Other Confederate generals soon followed Lee's example. The war was over.

In all, more than 1,100 battles or *skirmishes* (small clashes) were fought in Missouri. Only in Virginia and Tennessee was there more fighting. More than 20,000 Missourians died—14,000 of them for the North. The armies had raided much of the state. Towns and farms were looted or destroyed. It would be many years before these wounds caused by the war healed.

Do You Remember?

1. How did Africans come to Missouri?
2. What event led the southern states to secede from the Union?



Did you Know?

General Grant and his wife, Julia Dent Grant, and their family lived for a time in St. Louis. You can still visit Grant's Farm in south St. Louis County.

Left: Painting of Confederate General Robert E. Lee (right) surrendering to the Union General Ulysses S. Grant.

Chapter Review

Summary



This chapter told how Missouri became a state and how the fight over Missouri's statehood was part of the growing fight over slavery that led to the Civil War.

You read that most Missourians at the time of statehood were farmers and their lives were filled with hard work. You also read that some Missourians were shopkeepers selling goods to the pioneer families.

You learned about the different ways to travel in Missouri's early days and how those different ways affected the growth of the state and many of its towns.

This chapter told you about slavery and the lives of those held in bondage. The lives of black people who were free were equally hard.

You learned that Missourians were very passionate about the issue of slavery and willing to fight for their beliefs. You read that the state was the site of many Civil War battles. Most were small fights between groups called bushwhackers and Union troops. You read that, because the state was so split by the war and its causes, it would be years before it recovered.

Remember



On a separate sheet of paper, write the word or words that best complete each sentence below.

1. An example of a border state was (a) Illinois, (b) Missouri, (c) Texas.
2. The Underground Railroad (a) was the first railroad with a tunnel through a mountain, (b) was the first railroad in Missouri, (c) helped slaves escape to the North.
3. An abolitionist wanted to do away with (a) slavery, (b) alcohol, (c) women's rights.
4. The Confederate States of America was founded after (a) Missouri seceded from the Union, (b) the election of Abraham Lincoln, (c) the fall of Fort Sumter.
5. The Pony Express was replaced by the (a) Overland Mail, (b) stagecoach, (c) telegraph.
6. The Missouri Compromise (a) made Missouri a free state, (b) allowed Missouri into the Union, (c) allowed the states to make their own laws.

Understand



Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. Why was it all right for the United States government to write laws and regulations for the people when Missouri was a territory?
2. What is the difference between a slave state and a free state?
3. In what year did Missouri become a state?
4. What was one of the first decisions Missouri's new legislature had to make?
5. In the early days of statehood, goods from eastern states arrived in Missouri in two ways. What were they?
6. Why were railroads important in early Missouri?
7. How was slavery important to Missouri's agricultural economy?
8. What were the 11 states that seceded from the Union called?
9. How did the Civil War divide Missouri?

Think About It



1. Do you think the Missouri Compromise was a good deal? Why or why not?
2. Why was the *Dred Scott* decision important in American history?

Write About It



1. In a short paragraph, explain how a typical farm family lived in the early history of Missouri.
2. Write a sentence or two explaining the importance of river travel in Missouri.

Use The Internet



Learn more about one of the most famous African Americans—Harriet Tubman—by visiting www.nyhistory.com/harriet_tubman/life.htm.

Work Together



1. With a partner, map the routes of the Santa Fe and Oregon trails. In a short paragraph, explain why these trails were important.
2. With a partner, create a timeline of major battles and events that took place in Missouri during the Civil War.