

Name: _____

Date: _____

INTERNET ACTIVITY

Chapter 10: Western Virginia in the New Nation – 1787-1850

New Country Roads

Directions: As settlers moved west, they worked to build better transportation routes across Virginia and into the frontier. In this lesson, you will examine Virginia maps from the 1800s to learn how the would-be state grew and transportation changed. For comparison, you will take a look at some of the highways that exist in West Virginia today.

Part I: How were roads built in the 19th century? Read the information at the link below to learn how roads were built in the 1800s. Then, use the information you find to provide the requested information.

[How to Build a Road: A 19th Century Primer](#)

1. As part of the “first task,” what had to be cleared from the path of the road?

2. What tools were used to make these measurements on new roads?

Distance: _____

Direction: _____

Elevation: _____ - _____

3. What were two possible uses for the money collected on turnpikes (toll roads)?

Part II: Use the links below to view historical maps of Virginia. These resources are **primary sources** because they are artifacts from the time that you are studying. Be sure to use the navigation features on the websites to zoom in, zoom out, and move around the maps to study them more fully.

[Virginia - 1812](#)

[Virginia - 1822](#)

[Virginia - 1836](#)



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1. What are three changes in Virginia that can be found by studying these maps?

Part III: There were other ways to travel in the 1800s in Virginia. Use information from the bottom of the Virginia 1836 map to complete part 3.

1. What information is found on this map that was not on the previous maps? _____
2. A portion of the steamboat route information is shown to the right. To read the table, note that the first stop after leaving Richmond is Warwick which is 7 miles away. The trip to Osborn is 10 more miles, for a total of 17 miles. How far was the journey from Harrison Point to Jamestown Island?

| STEAMBOAT ROUTES | | |
|----------------------|----|----|
| Richmond to Norfolk | | |
| <i>Warwick</i> | | 7 |
| <i>Osborn</i> | 10 | 17 |
| <i>Turkey Creek</i> | 16 | 33 |
| <i>Shurley Ferry</i> | 4 | 37 |
| <i>Eppes Island</i> | 2 | 39 |

3. What was the total distance by steamboat from Richmond to Norfolk? _____

Part IV: Use this [County Map of Virginia](#) from 1840 to find your county.

1. Draw a sketch of the area where your county is located and show the main transportation routes in 1840.

_____ County, 1840

