

Teacher Resource Information:
Westward Expansion and Pioneer Dates

Date	Event
1843	Organized wagon trains travel on the Oregon Trail
1844	James Polk's campaign slogan: "All of Oregon or War!" Samuel Morse invents the telegraph
1845	Manifest Destiny Irish potato famine and the great migration Texas annexed
1846	Donner Party Elias Howe patents the sewing machine Development of Anesthesia Mexican War 1846-1848 Oregon boundary dispute settled
1847	Utah settled by Mormons
1848	Utah Territory granted to the United States –Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo Mormon exodus to Utah Oregon made US Territory Gold discovered in California Seneca Falls convention on women's rights
1849	California gold Rush Gold strike at Sutter's Mill Cholera spreads west along the trail
1850	John Parry from Wales planted first known alfalfa crop in Salt Lake
1856	Mormon Handcart Brigade Wellsville – first community in Cache Valley founded Pasteurization of milk – Louis Pasteur
1858	Gold discovered in Colorado – Pikes Peak or Bust!
1859	Refrigeration of food-industrial, household use not widely used until 1930's Start of the petroleum industry
1860	Pony Express from St. Joseph, Missouri to Sacramento, California Lincoln elected President Hyrum settled – Original Niels Christensen Cabin built Original Nibley dugout built in Wellsville
1861	American Civil War
1862	Homestead Act
1863	Bear River Massacre
1865	13 th Amendment abolished slavery The birth of genetics Abraham Lincoln assassinated
1866	Invention of dynamite
1867	United States purchases Alaska
1869	Completion of Transcontinental Railroad – Promontory Point, Utah

Source: American West Heritage Center Volunteer Manual, Research Files

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Educational Outreach Program

Pioneer Life
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