

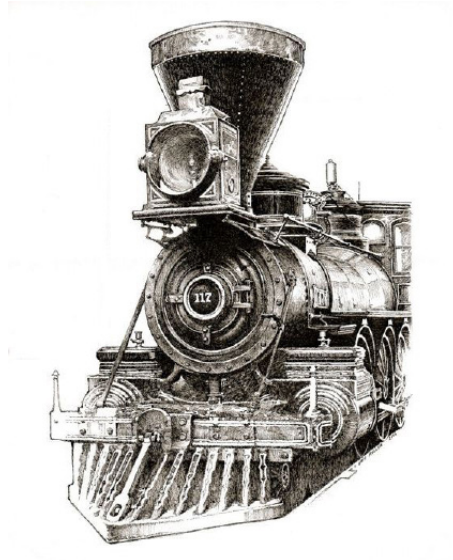
Unit 8: *Mining & Settlement*

Name: _____

Lecture 8.1 • *Extending the Frontier*

Mining & Early Towns

- After the 1849 California gold rush, prospectors discovered gold all across the West. The first discoveries would come in Nevada, and “Pikes Peak Country” (aka, Colorado).
- Frontier towns grew as the miners were followed by merchants who opened businesses like stores, restaurants, boarding houses, and laundries.
- Mining had a huge impact on the West. It ...
 - created jobs
 - encouraged railroad expansion
 - attracted financial investment from the East
 - stimulated the growth of towns



The Central Pacific's locomotive at the TCRR completion was named after what Roman god of thunder?

The Transcontinental Railroad

- Prior to 1860, America's railroads ended at the Mississippi River. In 1863, the race to build a transcontinental railroad began. The Union Pacific built westward from Nebraska, and the Central Pacific built eastward from California.
- Labor was scarce because of the Civil War, so both railroads turned to immigrants (esp. Chinese, Irish and Mexicans) as workers.
- The work crews faced scorching desert heat, mountainous terrain, and the threat of avalanches. Sometimes the crews would only average a few inches of track a day! Many workers died from the harsh conditions and back-breaking labor.
- Finally, in 1869 — four years after the end of the Civil War — the two railroads met at Promontory Point, just north of the Great Salt Lake in Utah.

Personal Reflection:

Lecture 8.4 • *The Road to Statehood*

An Uncertain Future

- Immediately after becoming a territory, many Coloradans began thinking of becoming a full-fledged state, but they knew that they would need a larger population to gain statehood.
- Despite the mining boom of the early 1860s, the uncertainty of gold mining, combined with the constant threat of Indian attack kept most people away from Colorado.
- During the mid-1860s though, silver discoveries stabilized the economy, the Indians were pacified, and more and more people now wanted to come to Colorado.



The Colorado state flag is connected to the flag of the United States. How so?

The Iron Road to Denver

- From 1867 to 1870, the city of Denver built the Denver-Pacific Railroad to link with the Transcontinental Railroad in Wyoming. From Denver, many smaller railroads branched out across the territory.
- With railroad access, the population of both Colorado and Denver grew rapidly:

	1860	1875
Denver	2,500	25,000
Colorado	34,000	125,000

Colorado's Golden Age

- With railroads and an exploding population, the 1870s become Colorado's "golden age"
 - 1870: **Colorado State University** opened in Fort Collins
 - 1872: the first **Colorado State Fair** was held in Pueblo
 - 1874: the **Colorado School of Mines** opens in Golden
 - 1875: Ulysses Grant becomes the first president to visit Colo.
- Finally, Colorado became a state on ... **July 4th, 1876.**
- Given that the vote for Colorado statehood coincided with America's 100th birthday, it's not surprising that Colorado was nicknamed the "**Centennial State.**"

Personal Reflection:
