American West

Timeline

Before 1830

Plains Indians lived freely on the Great Plains

6th April 1830

Joseph Smith founded the Mormon religion

28th May 1830

Indian Removal Act

Permanent frontier established

May 1839

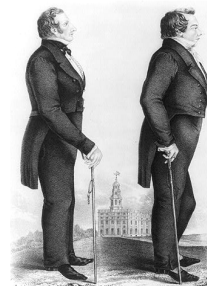Mormon town Commerce renamed Nauvoo

Spring 1843

Jim Bridger built Fort Bridger on the Oregon Trail

20th May 1843

Great Migration 1000 people migrated to Oregon
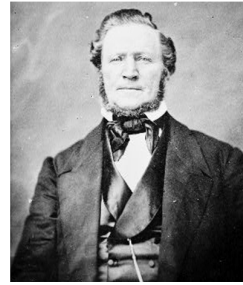
27th June 1844
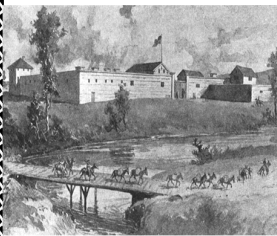
Joseph and Hyrum Smith Shot dead

July 1845

Manifest Destiny first used by John O'Sullivan

24th July 1847

Brigham Young and 148 Mormons reached Salt Lake

24th January 1848

Gold discovered at Sutter's Fort California

Late 1849

80,000 '49ers tripled the population of California

17th September 1851

Fort Laramie Treaty

Indian lands redefined

During 1854

Daniel Halliday invented a water pumping windmill

3rd April 1860

Pony Express founded

22nd October 1861

First telegraph message sent across America

20th May 1862

160 acres free land given to homesteaders

17th August 1862

Little Crow's War began

29th November 1864

Sand Creek Massacre

13th February 1866

Jesse James committed his first bank robbery

Spring 1866
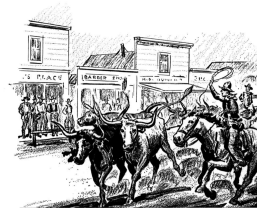
First cattle drive by Goodnight and Loving

6th October 1866

First train robbery by the Reno brothers

Summer 1867

Red Cloud's War

Autumn 1867

Joseph McCoy founded Abilene

17th March 1868

Fort Laramie Treaty

Sioux given Black Hills and Bighorn mountains

10th May 1869

Golden Spike ceremony marked completion of railway

During 1871

James Butler (Wild Bill Hickok) Marshall of Abilene

March 1873

Timber Culture Act

160 acres given free if 40 acres of trees planted

During 1874

Joseph Glidden invented barbed wire

June 1874

Gold discovered in the Black Hills

24th June 1876

Battle of the Little Bighorn

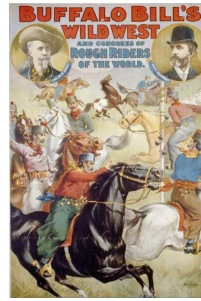## 3rd March 1877

Desert Land Act

640 acres of dry land sold cheaply

14th July 1881

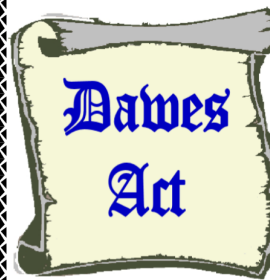Billy the Kid killed by Pat Garrett

19th May 1883

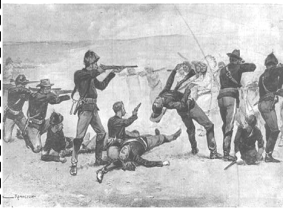Buffalo Bill's Wild West show opened

Winter 1886-7

The loss of cattle ended the open range

8th February 1887
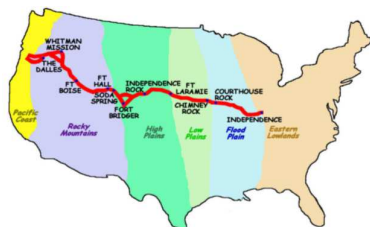
Divided Indian lands into individual allotments

Dawes Act

29th December 1890

Wounded Knee massacre

April 1892

Johnson County War

American West

Timeline