



<b>Start_City</b>	String(50)	Name of the City where the trail begins
<b>End_City</b>	String(50)	Name of the City where the trail ends

**Spatial Extent:** Continental United States

**Projection:**

**Horizontal coordinate system**

*Geographic coordinate system name:* GCS\_North\_American\_1983\_HARN

**Geographic Coordinate System**

*Latitude Resolution:* 0.000000

*Longitude Resolution:* 0.000000

*Geographic Coordinate Units:* Decimal degrees

**Geodetic Model**

*Horizontal Datum Name:* D\_North\_American\_1983\_HARN

*Ellipsoid Name:* Geodetic Reference System 80

*Semi-major Axis:* 6378137.000000

*Denominator of Flattening Ratio:* 298.257222

**Bounding coordinates**

**Horizontal In decimal degrees**

*West:* -122.719038

*East:* -90.690249

*North:* 45.744010

*South:* 30.473679

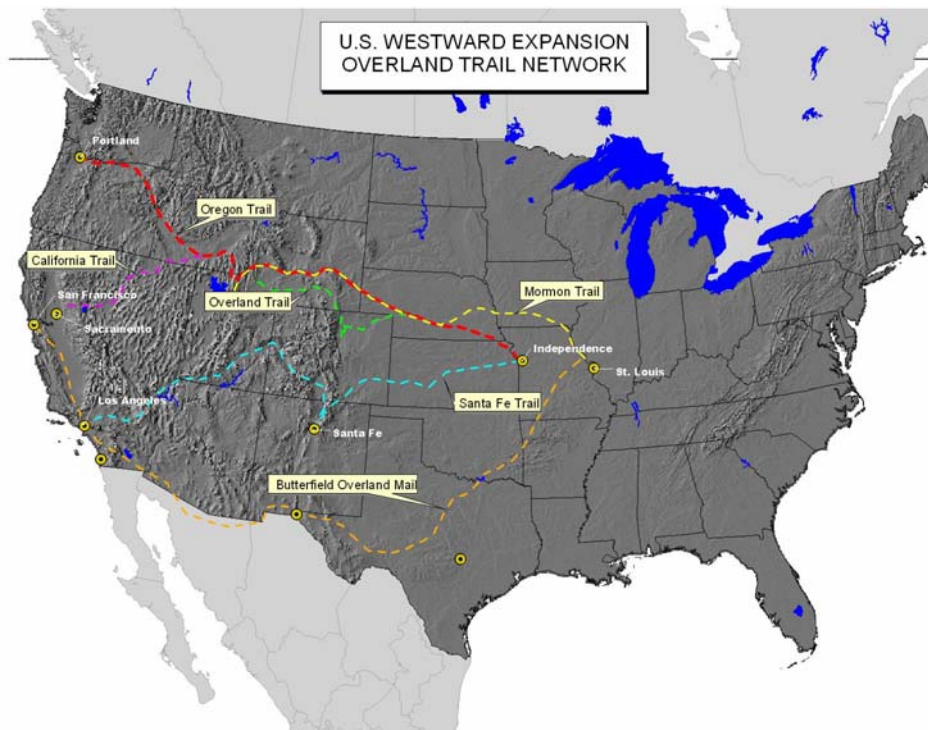
**In projected or local coordinates**

*Left:* -122.719038

*Right:* -90.690249

*Top:* 45.744010

*Bottom:* 30.473679



### **ArcView GIS Project:**

The Westward Expansion: Overland Trails dataset also includes a pre-built ArcView 3.3 GIS project based on the Canals, Roads and Trails ArcView Lesson downloaded from the ESRI education website (<http://gis.esri.com/industries/education/arclessons/arclessons.cfm>). The project includes the following layers:

- U.S. Continental Divide (line)
- Major Cities along the Oregon Trail (point)
- Oregon Trail (line)
- Trail Cities – 1860 (point)
- Western Trails – 1860 (line)
  - Oregon Trail
  - Overland Trail
  - Mormon Trail
  - California Trail
  - Old Spanish Trail
  - Sante Fe Trail
  - Cimmaron Cutoff
  - Butterfield Overland Mail
- Fourteener Peaks (point)
- Roads – 1850 (line)
- Modern Highways (line)
- Railroads – 1850 (line)
- Railroads – 1870 (line)
- Railroads – 1870-1890 (line)
- Modern Railroads (line)
- Railroad Cities – 1870-1890 (point)
- Cattle Trail Cities (point)
- Cattle Trails – 1870-1890 (line)
- Canal Cities (point)
- Canals (line)
- Modern U.S. Cities (point)
- Major Rivers – current (line)
- Lakes – current (polygon)
- State Boundaries – 1850 (polygon)
- United States Boundary – current (polygon)
- Canada Boundary – current (polygon)
- Mexico Boundary – current (polygon)
- Latitude/Longitude (line)
- USA Shaded Relief (raster)

Download using the TAHDPDX website <Quick Navigation/Map & Data Resources> link on the side menu bar or the <Historical GIS Data> webpage.

## SOME IDEAS FOR USING THE GIS PROJECT:

Expansion of the U.S. territory can be vividly illustrated using maps of transportation networks including canals, railroads, overland trails, and highways. In the early years, canals and river systems were important for transportation and trade, especially on the east coast. The expansion of the railroad network westward played a vital role in the connectivity of key population centers in the west and midwest. Cattle trails and overland migration routes all contributed to the steady move of people westward. Use this GIS project to help your students understand the role of transportation networks in the expansion of the United States. Here are some questions to consider when using this project:

1. **The Rise of Cities:** Why are cities located where they are? What relationship might their location have with transportation networks. Identify key cities in U.S. History (e.g. Independence, Missouri) and think about why these cities were important. Are they still important today? Why or why not?
2. **Overland Trails:** What obstacles did overland travelers encounter on their trek westward (e.g. rivers, mountains)? Why were there so many trails? Why might a traveler have chosen a particular overland trail – what destination might they have in mind (hint: identify the destination city)? Use the Distance Tool (or look in the Attribute Table) to calculate and find out the distance for each trail.
3. **Transportation:** At what stage in U.S. history did canals play an important role? How about railroads, trails, and highways? Do modern highways follow historic overland trails? Why or why not? Look at the early railroads and think about how they connected different places. Did the early road network do the same thing?