

TEACHING AMERICAN HISTORY PROJECT

A partnership between Portland State University, Portland Public Schools and the Beaverton School District, funded by the U.S. Department of Education

WESTWARD EXPANSION GIS DATA & PROJECT: TERRITORIAL ACQUISITIONS METADATA

This dataset prepared as part of the Teaching American History Project (2002-05 and 2005-08), a partnership between Portland State University and Portland Public Schools, funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

LOCATE DATA & PROJECTS: Google "TAHPDX" to locate the project's home page. There you will find links to the GIS data and pre-built projects either through the <Quick Navigation: Maps & Data Alpha List> on the side menu bar or the <Historical GIS Data: Westward Expansion> webpage accessed through the top menu bar.

Permission to use this dataset is given for educational and research purposes only. When using the data, please reference the Community Geography Project, Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies, Portland State University (www.pdx.edu/ims/).

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Description: The Territorial Acquisitions shapefile shows the original 13 colonies, the major continental land acquisitions during the period 1783 through 1853, and the territories of Alaska (1867) and Hawaii (1898).

Filename: territorial_acquisitions.shp

GIS Project Name: Territorial_Expansion_ArcView.zip

Format: ESRI Shapefile (polygon)

Source:

Paullin, Charles O. (editor). 1932. *Atlas of the Historical Geography of the United States*. Published jointly by the Carnegie Institution of Washington and the American Geographical Society of New York.

Data Manipulation:

The polygon shapefile was created by georectifying a scanned image of the U.S. atlas maps and digitizing the polygons boundaries where indicated on the base map. The attribute table was

populated with the notations listed on the atlas map with additional numerical fields (area and perimeter) calculated using X-Tools.

Attributes (territorial_acquisitions):

Name	Format	Description
Desc	String(16)	Common name of the acquisition
Area_Miles	Number(3)	Area in square miles of the acquisition
Perimeter_Miles	Number(3)	Perimeter in miles of the acquisition
Acres	Number(3)	Number of acres of the acquisition
Year	String(16)	The year of the acquisition

Spatial Extent: United States (including Hawaii and Alaska)

Projection:

Projected Coordinate System: USA_Contiguous_Lambert_Conformal_Conic

Projection: Lambert_Conformal_Conic

False_Easting: 0.00000000

False_Northing: 0.00000000

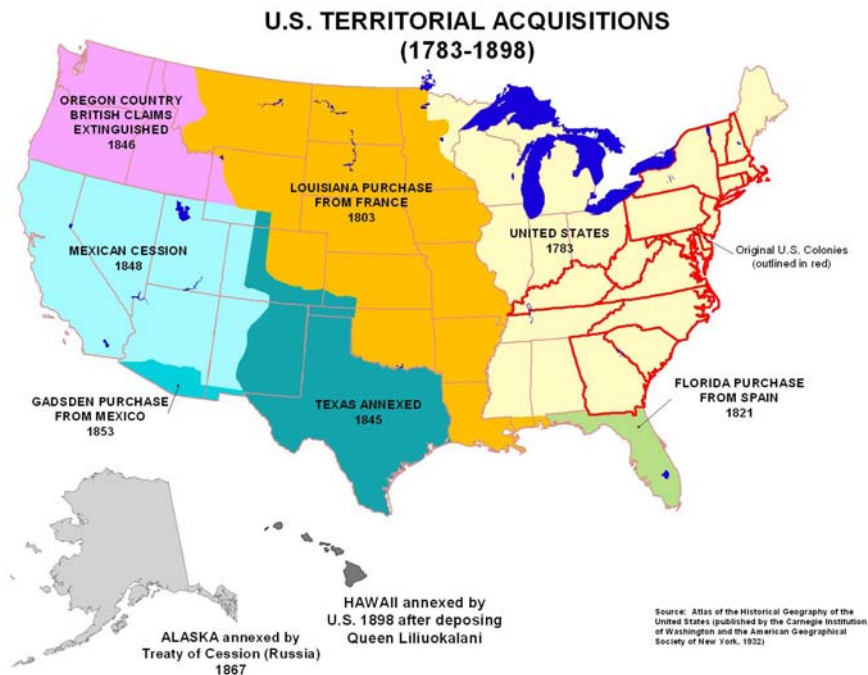
Central_Meridian: -96.00000000

Standard_Parallel_1: 33.00000000

Standard_Parallel_2: 45.00000000

Latitude_Of_Origin: 39.00000000

Linear Unit: Meter



ArcView GIS Project:

The Westward Expansion: Territorial Acquisitions dataset also includes a pre-built ArcView 3.3 GIS project that includes the following layers:

- Rivers (current)
- Lakes (current)
- Boundaries of the Original 13 Colonies
- Current State Boundaries (includes state rank and statehood date)
- Territorial Acquisitions

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

IDEAS FOR USING THE GIS PROJECT IN YOUR CLASSROOM:

1. Have students choose a territorial acquisition and make observations about it looking at the map and the attribute data (how big is it, what year was it acquired?). They can also do further library research (such as determining which president presided over the acquisition, what events were going on that resulted in the acquisition, which acquisitions were obtained through diplomacy as opposed to war).
2. Have students identify the territorial acquisitions on the map then identify the states that eventually made up these acquisitions.