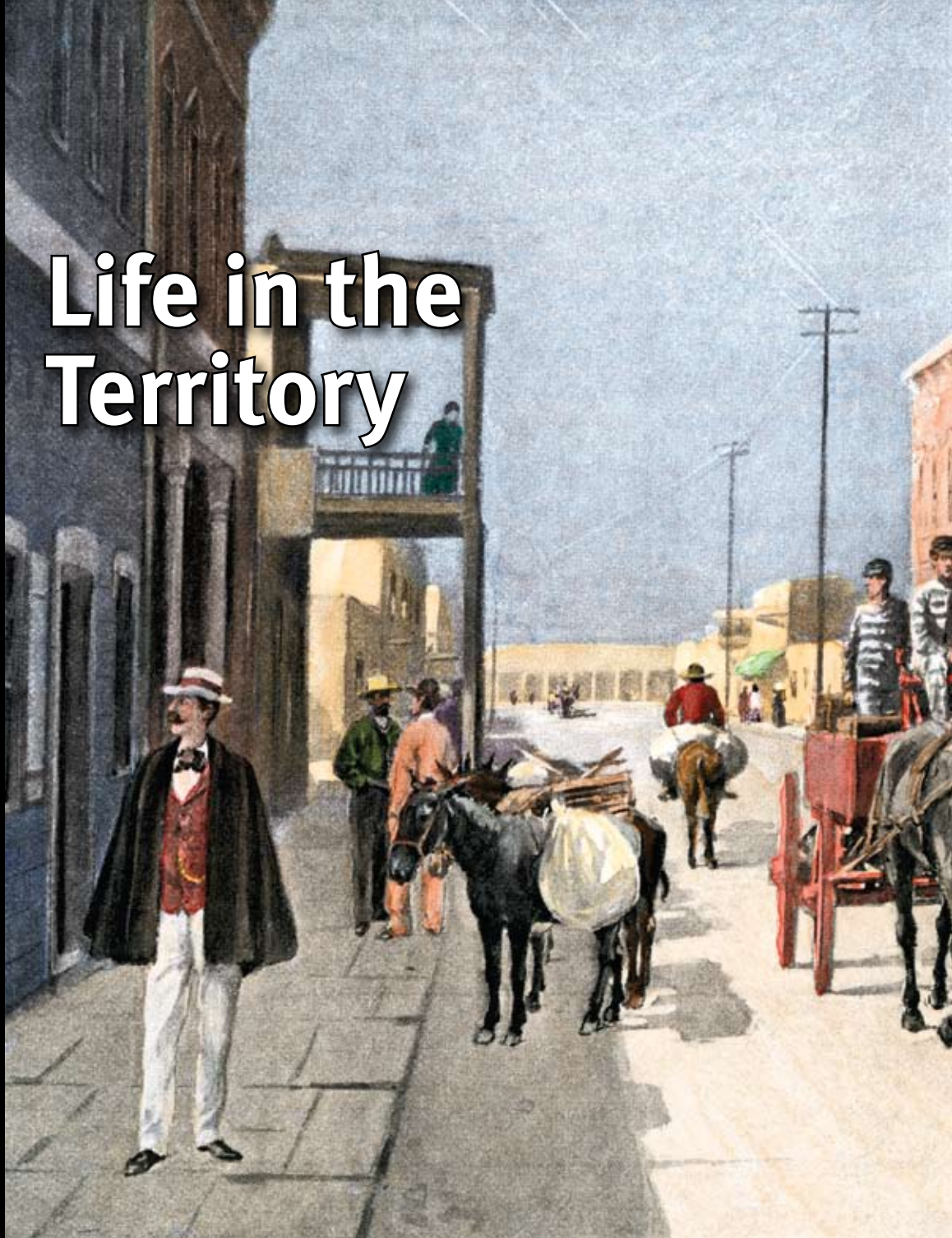


## Essential Question?

How did New Mexico grow and change in the late 1800s, and what challenges did it face on its path to statehood?

*A street near the plaza in Santa Fe is busy with shoppers, store owners, and others who go about their daily business. How does this street scene compare to what you might find in Santa Fe today?*

# Life in the Territory



**1850**  
New Mexico given territorial status by Compromise of 1850.

**1858**  
Butterfield Overland Trail opens.

**1870**  
Lucien Maxwell sells the Maxwell Land Grant.

### Timeline of Events

1850

1860

1870

**1851**  
Jean Baptiste Lamy becomes the first Catholic bishop of New Mexico.

**1862**  
Congress passes the Homestead Act.

**1875**  
The Colfax County War begins.



# Chapter 5

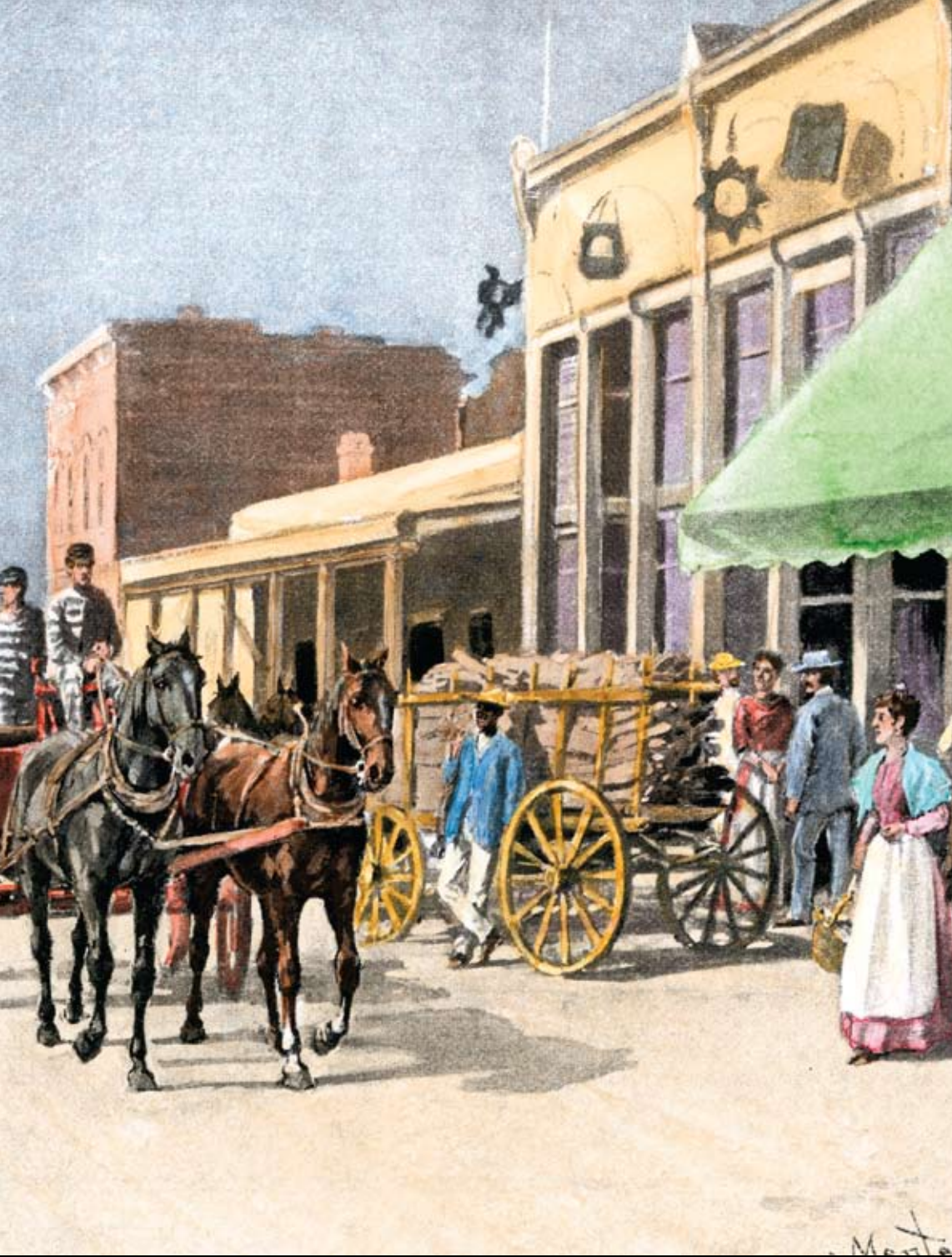


## Comprehension Strategy

### Visualize the Text

Good readers “see” a story in their heads as they read. Turning the words you read into pictures in your mind helps you understand what you are reading. This is how you visualize the text.

This chapter is filled with vivid stories about life in New Mexico Territory. Visualize the text as you read about settlers, cowboys, the Wild West, and the path to statehood for New Mexico.



**1881**  
Billy the Kid is killed.

**1885**  
New Mexico's territorial prison opens.

**1906**  
Joint statehood with Arizona proposed and rejected.

**1910**

- Congress passes the Enabling Act.
- State Constitutional Convention is held.

**1878**  
The Lincoln County War begins.

**1889-1891**  
Las Gorras Blancas raid near Las Vegas

**1898**  
New Mexico's Rough Riders fight in Spanish American War

**1912**  
New Mexico becomes the 47th state.

# Growth and Change

## Key Ideas

- New trails brought more people and businesses to New Mexico in the late 1800s.
- The Catholic Church faced challenges from new Christian missionaries as well as from their new bishop.
- Federal land policies encouraged more settlement, but life was difficult for homesteaders.
- The railroad fueled economic growth in New Mexico.

## Key Terms

boomtown  
*conversos*  
 homesteader  
 penitent  
 persecution  
*santos*



### Comprehension Strategy

Take Mental Snapshots

New Mexico experienced great change when it became a U.S. territory in 1850. People from many parts of the United States and the world began settling in New Mexico. Their arrival changed the cultural, economic, and geographic face of New Mexico forever.

## Mapping New Trails

Other than mountain men, traders, and U.S. soldiers, few outsiders had ever set foot in New Mexico before 1850. Those who had come to New Mexico did so by way of the Santa Fe Trail. Now that New Mexico was part of the United States, interest in the region began to grow. In particular, the U.S. government and gold seekers were interested in finding new routes to the rich gold fields of California. During the 1820s and 1830s, the main route from New Mexico to California had been over the Old Spanish Trail. But the Spanish Trail was often difficult to follow. Travelers wanted more options.

### Cooke's Wagon Road

One option was Cooke's Wagon Road, the route opened by the Mormon Battalion on their long march to California in 1847. The route was named for Lieutenant Col. Philip St. George Cooke, the battalion's leader. Cooke's Wagon Road was one of the first wagon routes linking New Mexico to California.



## Linking the Past to the Present

Historical reenactors followed Cooke's Wagon Road to California in 2008. More than 500 reenactors walked all or part of the route, ending in San Diego, where a large statue of a Mormon soldier now stands.



## Butterfield Overland Trail

The United States had bought the Gadsden Purchase from Mexico to build a railroad to California. But long before the Southern Pacific Railroad built its tracks through this region in the 1870s and 1880s, stagecoaches traveled through the southern part of New Mexico and Arizona on the Butterfield Overland Trail.

The trail opened in 1858. The 2,800-mile journey from the trail's starting point in Missouri to its ending point in San Francisco could be traveled in 25 days. Stagecoaches were the main form of transportation. Stagecoaches carried passengers and goods. But their most important item was the U.S. Mail. The mail brought important news from the outside world as well as valuable letters, both business and personal.

## Riding the Stage

Traveling in a stagecoach was uncomfortable and dangerous. Sometimes a team of horses or mules panicked. One stagecoach company advised: "If the team runs away sit still and take your chances. If you jump, nine out of ten times you will get hurt!" Adding to the danger was possible attack by outlaws and Indians. Doubtful Canyon in southwestern New Mexico got its name because it was doubtful that travelers could pass through the canyon without being attacked!

## Territorial Growth

New Mexico's population more than tripled between 1850 and 1900. People from many eastern states came to the new territory along the new trails as well as by the railroad. New Mexicans called the white American settlers *Anglos*, a term that is still used today. According to historian Howard Roberts Lamar: "The thin line of Spanish settlements along the Rio Grant . . . was now [surrounded] by [Anglos] Americans to the east and the west."

In addition to easterners, Texans continued to move into New Mexico as well as former slaves from several Southern states. Mormon pioneers from Utah also settled in the territory. Other newcomers came from countries in Europe, including Germany, Ireland, France, and Italy. The arrival of all these new people made New Mexico more multicultural than ever.

No matter where they came from, all settlers hoped for new opportunities and a fresh start. Some hoped to find gold and similarly valued minerals in New Mexico. Others came for cheap land on which to farm and ranch.

*A team of horses pulls a load along the Overland Trail. Travel on the bumpy roads of the trail could be very rough. Food and lodging at way stations, or rest stops, were usually poor.*



# Jewish Settlers

The first known Jewish settlers in New Mexico came in the 1840s. Jewish immigrants came to the United States from Europe mostly to escape religious persecution. **Persecution** means bullying people because of their race, religion, or political views. While many Jewish people settled in eastern cities, others moved west. Many Jewish people opened successful businesses, including general stores and banks in towns like Las Vegas and Santa Fe.

## Hidden Jews

Jewish settlers of the 1840s were probably not the first Jewish people to live in New Mexico, however. One of the mysteries of New Mexico's history is whether secret or "hidden Jews" lived here during Spanish colonial times. Historians use the term "crypto-Jew" to describe Jewish people who practiced their faith in secrecy.

In 1492, the government in Spain ordered all Jewish people to either become Catholic or leave the country. Those who did convert were called **conversos**. Many conversos embraced their new religion. Others only converted to stay out of trouble and avoid persecution. They participated in mass and other church activities but continued to practice their Jewish faith in secret. Some came with Don Juan de Oñate, hoping they would be less likely to be found out and persecuted in remote New Mexico.

Some New Mexicans today believe they are related to crypto-Jews who helped settle New Mexico in 1598 and after. With the help of DNA testing, some Hispanic families are discovering their Jewish roots. Most continue to practice their Catholic religion, although others have become interested in their original Jewish faith.

## Linking the Past to the Present

Yetta Kohn was a Jewish immigrant from Germany who came to the United States in 1853 when she was only 10. By the time she was 25, she was a widow with four children. A strong woman, she moved her family to eastern New Mexico, where they eventually owned a store, a bank, and a ranch in Quay County. The ranch grew in size despite droughts, disease, prairie fires, and economic crises. Today, the T4 Cattle Company is one of the largest in New Mexico. At least 2,500 cattle graze on 180,000 acres of land. Although she died in 1917, Kohn's family still owns the T4 Cattle Company. They are proud of their pioneering ancestor who made it all possible through dedication and hard work.





# The Catholic Church

New Mexico experienced many religious changes after becoming a U.S. territory. For the first time, other Christian missionaries came to New Mexico, including Baptists, Methodists, and Mormons. The greatest change, however, was within the Catholic Church.

While part of the Spanish Empire and the Mexican nation, New Mexico had never had its own bishop (a local leader of the Catholic Church). New Mexico's first bishop was a French priest named Jean Baptiste Lamy. He arrived in 1851 with many new ideas and goals for the church and its followers.

## Building New Churches

When Bishop Lamy first arrived in New Mexico, he saw much that he considered primitive or old fashioned. He saw churches made of mud bricks and decorated with homemade images of saints called **santos**. Even the main church in Santa Fe was nothing more than a “mud palace” to him. He was especially displeased to see La Conquistadora placed in what he considered an unworthy church. To deal with this problem, Bishop Lamy had 45 modern-looking churches built in New Mexico. His biggest project was the building of St. Francis Cathedral in Santa Fe.

### St. Francis Cathedral

Bishop Lamy built St. Francis Cathedral right over where the old church once stood near the plaza in Santa Fe. Work on the cathedral began in 1869. Bishop Lamy brought an architect and many workers all the way from his native France rather than use native workers and traditional building styles and materials. The new cathedral cost thousands of dollars to build. In fact, work had to be delayed several times until Bishop Lamy could raise more money for the project. Some of the building funds came from local Jewish merchants who had befriended the bishop.

The cathedral was finally completed in 1895. Unfortunately, Bishop Lamy died in 1888 and never saw the finished cathedral. He was buried under the church's main altar, and a bronze statue of him stands in front of the cathedral he worked so hard to create. Hundreds of tourists visit the structure each day.

## Linking the Past to the Present

La Conquistadora, known today as Our Lady of Peace, is a statue of Christ's mother, Mary. Historians believe the statue was brought to Santa Fe from Spain in 1625. It is the oldest and most respected religious statue in New Mexico. It has many costumes and even jewelry donated by admirers. The statue has a special place in St. Francis Cathedral. It is honored in a parade at the Santa Fe Fiesta each year. It has also visited many churches throughout New Mexico.



## New Priests and Nuns

Bishop Lamy was also concerned about the lack of priests and nuns in New Mexico. Without enough priests, many Catholics were not served well, especially if they lived in small, isolated villages. Without priests and nuns, the church could not hope to open new schools, orphanages, and hospitals.

To help solve this problem, Lamy often returned to his native France to recruit priests and nuns to serve in New Mexico. Over many years, he brought more than 100 priests from France. He also brought the first nuns to ever serve in New Mexico. These priests and nuns opened several new schools, orphanages, and hospitals, including St. Vincent's Hospital and St. Michael's High School in Santa Fe. Most of these priests and nuns lived the rest of their lives in New Mexico, faithfully serving the Church and its members for as many as 53 years, in the case of a devoted French priest in Tomé.

## The Conflict Within

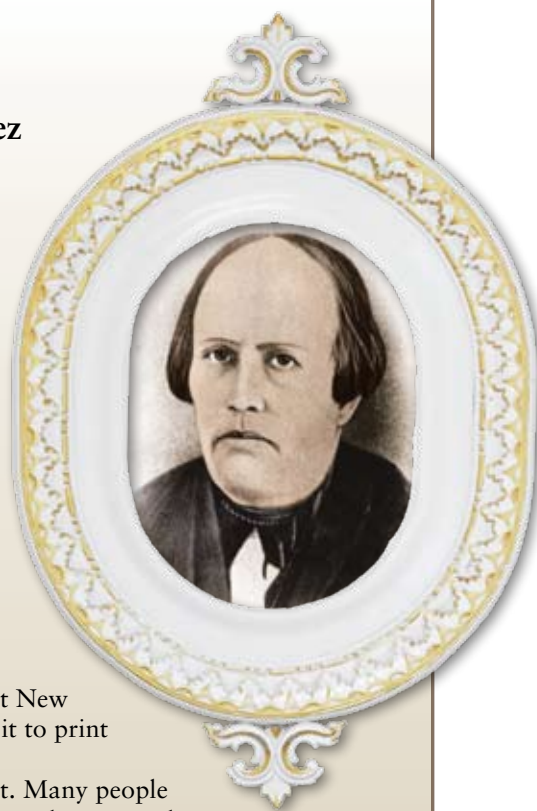
Bishop Lamy did much good for the Catholic Church and its followers in New Mexico. As a result, he was promoted, becoming New Mexico's first archbishop in 1875. But some people opposed his work and ideas. Padre Antonio José Martínez was the most powerful priest in New Mexico when the bishop arrived. He and others saw Lamy as an outsider who knew little about the people and cultures of New Mexico.

Padre Martínez was especially concerned about the poverty of many parishioners. Many people could not afford to help pay for all the bishop's new projects, especially the new cathedral in Santa Fe. Padre Martínez and others did not see the need for expensive new churches. They argued that there was cultural beauty in the santos and old adobe churches.

# NEW MEXICO

## P O R T R A I T

**Antonio José Martínez**  
(1793–1867)



Antonio José Martínez was born in Abiquiu, New Mexico, in 1793. In 1804, his family moved to Taos. In Taos, he met and married a young woman named María de la Luz. Sadly, his wife died just a few years after their wedding.

Martínez was overwhelmed with grief. He wondered what he should do with his life. Deciding to become a priest, he moved to Durango, Mexico, to study at a seminary (school for new priests). When he returned to New Mexico in 1822, he served as a priest in Tomé, in Abiquiu, and, finally, in Taos. He served the people of Taos for the rest of his life.

Padre Martínez helped the people of Taos in many ways. One of the best ways he helped was by opening a school for boys and girls. Several of the boys from that school followed in the padre's footsteps by becoming priests.

Padre Martínez also used the first printing press in New Mexico to print New Mexico's first book, a spelling book, *Cuaderno de Ortografía*. He also used it to print one of New Mexico's first newspapers, *El Crepúsculo de la Libertad*.

Padre Martínez became New Mexico's most famous and powerful priest. Many people admired his defense of traditional Hispanic culture and values, especially when they seemed threatened by new American and French ideas. Padre Martínez died in 1867. A statue of him now stands in the plaza in Taos.



# Los Hermanos Penitentes



*Bishop Jean Baptiste Lamy*

Franciscan priests had worked hard to convert the Pueblo Indians during the Spanish colonial period. But there were fewer and fewer Franciscans in New Mexico by the 1800s. Padre Martínez tried to prepare young men for the priesthood, but the need was far bigger than the supply.

There simply were not enough priests to meet the needs of all the people. This was especially true in isolated villages where priests seldom visited more than once or twice a year. These communities suffered a serious religious void, or need for religious services.

A religious organization called The Brotherhood of Our Father Jesus the Nazarene, or simply *Los Hermanos Penitentes*, helped fill this void. The group's name reflects their members' strong faith. A **penitent** is a person who feels deep sorrow for his sins. To show this sorrow, the Penitentes punished themselves, often violently, especially on Good Friday. They also worshipped together and held special ceremonies in their private chapels, called *moradas*.

Highly respected leaders, the Penitentes served their communities, much like priests would if they were present. They helped bury the dead and care for widows and orphans. They advised community members, especially if they were in trouble or causing trouble. But the Penitentes never tried to take the priests' place in the Catholic Church. They never tried to say mass or administer sacraments. They were not officially part of the Catholic Church.

Bishop Lamy's arrival in New Mexico led to changes for the Penitentes. Like many things in New Mexico, the bishop did not approve of the brotherhood, especially their practice of self-punishment. In response, the brotherhood became more private and secretive. Today, they are recognized by the Church, but they are small in number, and many of their activities are still done in secret.



*Bishop Lamy (second from the left) did not approve of the Penitentes. What did he dislike about them?*



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## Government Land Policies

At one time, the federal government owned all the land in the West. To encourage settlement of this vast territory, the government created generous land policies. These policies offered free or very cheap land to settlers willing to meet certain conditions. The 1862 Homestead Act gave 160 acres of free land to any person who agreed to live on the land for five years and improve it.

The Homestead Act worked well in places where there was regular rainfall and good fertile soil. But many **homesteaders** found it difficult to farm in eastern New Mexico. There was little rain, and families often had to haul water from miles away. The soil was so poor that few could survive on the sparse harvests 160 acres produced. Many failed and were forced to leave the land and all they had done behind.

---

## Making a Living

New businesses began to grow and prosper in the years after the Civil War. Sheep and cattle ranching were among the biggest businesses in the territory. Gold, silver, copper, turquoise, and coal mining also grew in importance.

More stores opened in towns and cities. All of these businesses were helped by the arrival of the railroad in the 1880s.

### Sheep Ranching

From Spanish colonial days, many New Mexicans made a living raising sheep. In fact, sheep was the number one form of livestock raised in New Mexico until the late 1800s. Most ranchers raised sheep for wool, but the gold rush in California also created a great demand for sheep meat, called mutton. Huge sheep drives brought thousands of sheep from New Mexico to California, making many New Mexicans wealthy and powerful.

### Cattle Ranching

Cattle ranching became increasingly important in New Mexico after the Civil War. There was great demand for beef throughout the territory and the nation. The U.S. Army purchased beef from ranchers to feed soldiers stationed at forts in New Mexico and Indians confined at Bosque Redondo and other reservations. Mining and railroad companies also purchased beef to feed their workers.





## Cattle Drives and Cowboys

The railroad did not reach New Mexico until the 1880s. Until then, ranchers had to find a way to get their cattle to market at forts, reservations, and towns. Cattle drives provided the solution. Cowboys drove thousands of cattle over long distances.

The main cattle trail in New Mexico was the Goodnight-Loving Trail. It was named after two ranchers from Texas, Charles Goodnight and Oliver Loving. Most cattle trails ran north from Texas to railroad stations in Kansas. From there, the cattle were shipped east to large city markets. Goodnight and Loving decided instead to drive cattle through eastern New Mexico to rail stations in Colorado and Wyoming, selling many of their cattle along the way at forts and reservations.

As many as 300,000 cattle had traveled along the Goodnight-Loving Trail by the time the railroad reached New Mexico. A typical cattle drive took about four months to complete. Twelve to 15 cowboys herded up to 2,000 cattle at a time. The average cowboy was 24 years old. Hispanics, Native Americans, former slaves, ex-Civil War soldiers, and many immigrants worked as cowboys on cattle drives and ranches.

Being a cowboy was a dangerous, round-the-clock job with little pay. Cowboys lived in fear of stampedes, lightning, and prairie fires. Most cowboys only got a few hours of sleep each night. They took turns guarding the herd to protect it from wild animals and cattle rustlers (outlaws who stole cattle).

After delivering the last of their cattle to the railroad, cowboys often headed to town to spend their wages and relax. Although many businesses welcomed the cowboys' spending, people in town did not always welcome their sometimes reckless behavior. Most cowboys obeyed the law, and some later settled in towns like Roswell, becoming family men and good citizens.

## The End of the Cattle Drive

Cattle drives came to an end with the arrival of the railroad in many towns in New Mexico. The railroad made it unnecessary to drive cattle to stations thousands of miles away. Ranchers developed large ranches, often near railroad towns.

*Cowboys drove thousands of cattle over long distances from ranches in Texas and New Mexico to rail stations in Kansas, Colorado, and Wyoming. How many cowboys do you see in this painting?*





## The Impact of the Railroad

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, better known as the Santa Fe Railroad, was the first railroad company to build tracks into New Mexico. It entered the territory more or less following the Mountain Branch of the old Santa Fe Trail. It eventually stretched from as far north in New Mexico as Raton to as far south as Deming, where it connected to the Southern Pacific Railroad. More than 3,000 miles of railroad track were built across New Mexico from 1880 to 1915.

The railroad connected many parts of New Mexico to the rest of the West and the nation. As a result, more people and new jobs came to the territory. The railroad employed many of the new arrivals, especially immigrants from Europe and Asia. Workers were needed to lay track, operate and repair trains, collect tickets, and handle baggage.

Trains brought heavy machinery into New Mexico so valuable minerals could be mined and removed by rail. New Mexico's mining business grew like never before. Trains also brought equipment to be used on New Mexico's farms and ranches. With these machines, farmers and ranchers could

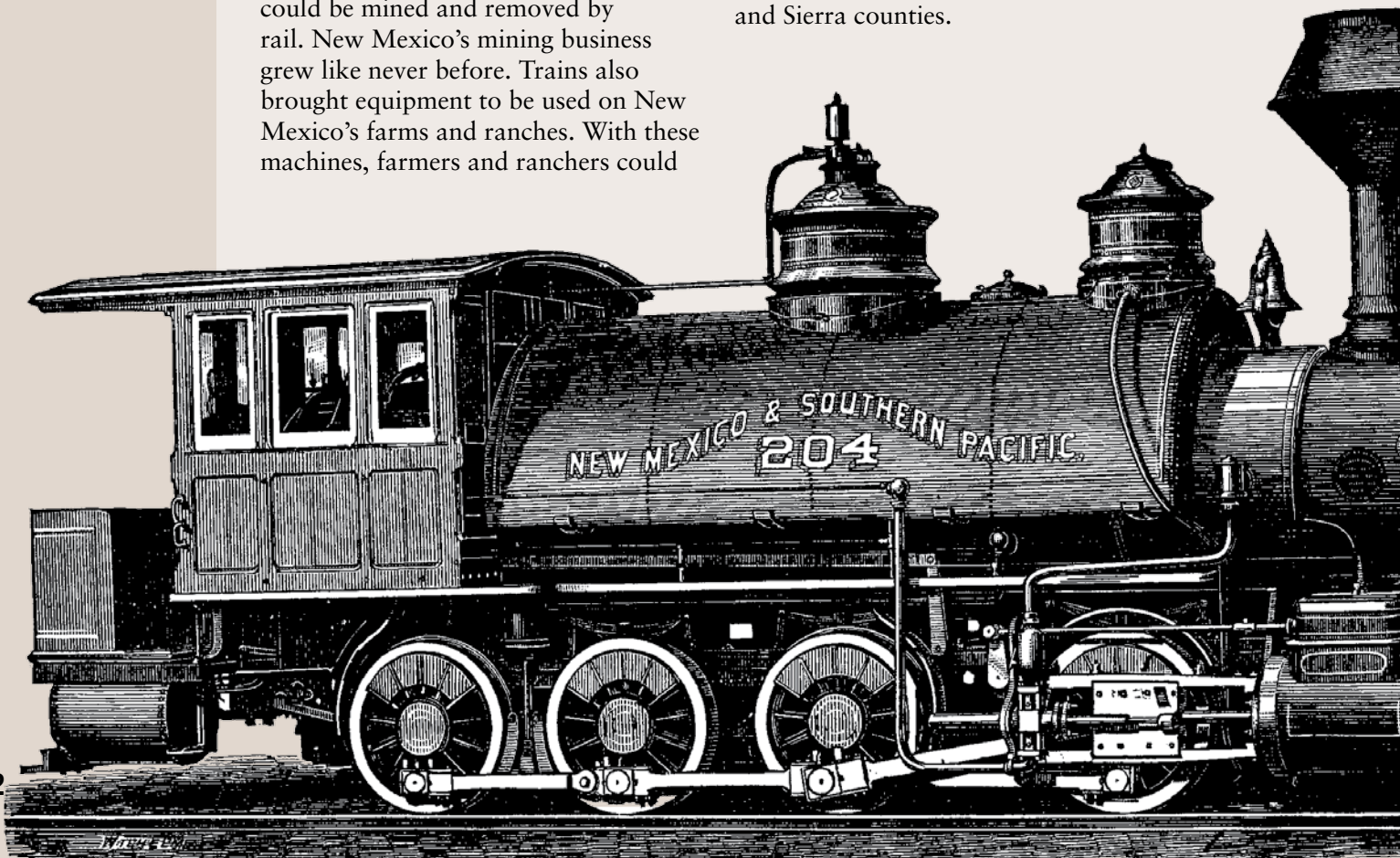
produce more crops and raise more livestock. The trains could ship these crops and livestock to all parts of the United States.

In exchange for these valuable raw materials, New Mexicans purchased manufactured goods that the trains brought into the Southwest from the East and, sometimes, even Europe. New stores opened to sell these goods, from clothing material to household items.

## The Mining Industry

Explorers had searched for gold and silver in New Mexico since the 1540s, when Francisco Coronado first traveled through the Southwest. Despite their great efforts, most explorers found little gold or silver over the years. The first gold strike in New Mexico did not occur until the 1830s, in the Ortiz Mountains south of Santa Fe.

Gold mining increased with the arrival of more and more miners, some of whom had first tried their luck in California and failed. Silver mining also increased. In the 1860s and 1870s, silver was discovered in Socorro, Grant, and Sierra counties.





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## Boomtowns

Gold and silver discoveries turned small towns like Silver City, White Oaks, and Lake Valley into “boomtowns” overnight. A **boomtown** is a town that springs up quickly around a single industry, often mining. Most of these towns, such as Lake Valley and White Oaks, became ghost towns when most of their gold or silver was mined. Other boomtowns, such as Silver City, continued to grow and prosper if residents developed other businesses as well.

## Turquoise, Copper, and Coal

Other mining activities in New Mexico included turquoise, copper, and coal. Turquoise was first mined by the Ancestral Pueblo people. The oldest turquoise mine in the country is south of Santa Fe near Los Cerillos. The beautiful blue green stone continues to be used to make jewelry today.

Indians, Spaniards, and Mexicans had long used copper to make items like dyes and coins. New inventions in the 1800s vastly increased the demand for copper. Manufacturers of telephones, electric lightbulbs, and countless other electrical items needed large amounts of copper to make copper wire, through which electricity easily flows. Copper is found in many

places in New Mexico, but mostly in Grant County. The largest working copper mine in New Mexico today is near Silver City.

Coal had been used as a source of fuel before the Civil War, but its importance increased dramatically with the railroad. Coal was the main source of fuel for the railroads and many other industries. The first coal mines in New Mexico were located in Colfax County. Large deposits were later found near Gallup in McKinley County and in Madrid in Southern Santa Fe County.

Coal miners from across the country and as far away as Italy and other parts of Europe came to work in New Mexico. Mining is very hard, dangerous work. Miners often grew ill from breathing the coal dust in the mines. Coal dust and gases could catch fire, causing major explosions. New Mexico's largest coal company lost 265 miners in one such disaster and another 120 men ten years later.

*Miners at one of the area mines posed for a picture at the gold mine in Orogrande. The town got its name when a large gold nugget was discovered there in 1905. Are there any women in the photo? What do you think their job was at the mine?*

## Newspapers

Newspapers became an important means of communication in New Mexico by the mid-1800s. Merchants brought new printing presses, paper, and ink on wagons down the Santa Fe Trail. Twenty-five new newspapers were published in New Mexico from 1847 to 1859. Some were in English, and some were in Spanish. The *Santa Fe New Mexican* was first published in 1849. It remains one of New Mexico's most important newspapers today.







*A nurse cares for a TB patient recovering in New Mexico. What does this picture tell you about the care patients received?*

## Tourism

Tourism was one of New Mexico's largest new businesses. The railroad brought visitors in large numbers. Tourists from around the world spent money in New Mexico on train tickets, food, lodging, and souvenirs, such as Indian pottery and rugs. Many tourists liked to learn about Southwestern culture, especially the Indian pueblos and the ancient pueblo ruins. They enjoyed the beauty of the land and the warmth of the climate.

Other tourists were not as appreciative. They thought New Mexico's art and adobe architecture was primitive and ugly. Some also thought the native people were not well educated and modern compared to people in other parts of the country. Tourists often took home things they found in New Mexico, including pieces of ancient Indian pottery. Most of these valuable cultural artifacts were never returned to New Mexico.

## Health Seekers

New Mexico has always been considered a healthy place to live because of its mild, dry climate. During the late 1800s, sick people from miles away were sent here by their doctors

to be cured. With the coming of the railroad, more health seekers arrived in search of help. New Mexico welcomed these people and the business they brought to the territory.

Most of the sick people who came to New Mexico had a deadly disease called tuberculosis (TB). People who suffered from TB usually had a terrible cough, high fever, and difficulty breathing. TB killed thousands of people each year. It was one of the worst diseases in the world. Many doctors sent their patients to New Mexico because they believed the territory's fresh air, open space, and lack of humidity would help people recover.

Many health seekers recovered from TB in New Mexico and then returned to wherever they had lived before. Others recovered and remained in the Southwest the rest of their lives. Many of those who stayed became famous writers, architects, political leaders, and doctors.

Many of today's hospitals and much of New Mexico's important health care industry began with the treatment of TB patients. St. Joseph's (now Lovelace) Hospital and Presbyterian Hospital both started as hospitals that specialized in TB treatment.

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*People with tuberculosis who came to New Mexico to recover were called "lungers."*

## Harvey Houses

Tourists traveling through New Mexico often ate at restaurants and slept in hotels along the Santa Fe Railroad line. The most famous of these restaurants and hotels were called Harvey Houses. They were named after Fred Harvey, a businessman from England. One of the chief complaints about train travel was the food. Little was available, and what was available was not very good. Harvey was able to provide good food at fair prices at railroad stops throughout the Southwest. Pleased with the Harvey Houses, tourists returned to travel on the Santa Fe Railroad and suggested others do the same. The Harvey House became a key part of the Santa Fe Railroad's success.

## Harvey Girls

Fred Harvey and his Harvey Houses had one major problem. Men who worked as waiters at the Harvey Houses were often unreliable, not clean, and even rude to their customers. Knowing how bad this was for business, Fred Harvey vowed to hire only women to work in his restaurants.

Thousands of young women responded to newspaper ads such as this one:

Young women 18 to 30 years of age, of good moral character, attractive and intelligent, to waitress in Harvey Eating Houses on the Santa Fe in the West. Wages \$17.50 per month with room and board. Liberal tips customary. Experience not necessary. Write Fred Harvey, Union Depot, Kansas City, Missouri

Many young women applied because there were few job opportunities for women. Most working women got jobs as factory workers, maids, or cooks. Some, with better educations, were lucky enough to be hired as teachers. Other women applied to work for Fred Harvey because they wanted adventure or to see more of the world. Some hoped to meet new people, including young men who might become their husbands.

Women who were hired to work at Harvey Houses were called Harvey Girls. Harvey Girls were proud of their work and followed strict rules. They wore black-and-white uniforms that had to be kept ironed and spotless. They were not allowed to wear makeup, chew gum, or talk to one another while on duty. Silverware had to be polished and china had to be perfectly clean in case Mr. Harvey suddenly appeared for a surprise inspection. Harvey Girls lived upstairs in the Harvey Houses where they worked. A watchful housemother made sure they were in their rooms with lights out by 10 p.m. each weeknight. The Harvey Girls were admired and appreciated throughout the West.



*A group of Harvey Girls prepare before the next trainload of passengers arrive at their Harvey House for a meal. Why do you think they are not all wearing the same uniform?*



# Check Your Understanding

## Know

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1. Where did the first railroad tracks enter the territory of New Mexico?
2. Name three valuable resources discovered in New Mexico Territory.
3. Who was New Mexico's first Catholic bishop?
4. Why did most Jewish immigrants (including those who came to New Mexico Territory) come to the United States?
5. Name three places New Mexico settlers came from between 1850 and 1900.
6. What is a boomtown?

## Apply

---

7. Explain how railroads affected population, settlement, and development of New Mexico Territory.
8. How did the discovery of natural resources affect the development of New Mexico Territory?
9. Describe the conflict between Bishop Lamy and Padre Martínez and the affect Padre Martínez had on the evolution of traditional Hispanic culture in territorial New Mexico.
10. Compare and contrast Catholic priests with the Penitentes in territorial New Mexico. How are they alike and different?
11. Determine why the population of New Mexico Territory tripled between 1850 and 1900.
12. Discuss the health benefits of New Mexico Territory's climate and the establishment of hospitals specializing in the treatment of people with tuberculosis. How has this affected New Mexico today?

## Analyze

---

13. Summarize the ways New Mexico Territory's railroads contributed to the growth of the American West.
14. Defend the following statement: The discovery of natural, manmade, and human resources in New Mexico Territory contributed to the development of the American West.
15. Predict the effect of Bishop Lamy's desire for modern churches on New Mexico Territory's traditional Hispanic culture if Padre Martínez had not worked to protect it.
16. Identify the ways New Mexico's Hispanic Catholic culture contributes to our country's national identity.
17. Compare and contrast the settlement patterns of the American Southwest with other regions of the United States.
18. Examine how the discovery of gold, silver, turquoise, copper, and coal in New Mexico Territory influenced the lives of people at that time and how it continues to influence New Mexican lives today.

# Part of the Wild West

## Key Ideas

- The growth of lawlessness in the territory made New Mexico part of the Wild West.
- The Lincoln County War was sparked by a conflict over political and economic power in New Mexico Territory.
- Disputes over land grants and water rights led to more violence in New Mexico Territory.

## Key Terms

corrupt  
posse  
squatter



## Comprehension Strategy

*Visualize to Retell*

Much of New Mexico was considered part of the “Wild West.” The Wild West was full of outlaws, guns, crime, and violence. While the majority of New Mexicans were good, law-abiding citizens, life was often dangerous in the territory.

Dishonest men came to New Mexico to steal cattle from ranchers, gold and silver from miners, and valuable possessions from travelers on stagecoaches and trains. Violent men resorted to using weapons to solve their disputes. Some men also came to escape the law in other states. Crime was a serious problem.

Violence was committed by individual outlaws and by whole gangs, such as the famous “Black Jack” Ketchum Gang of train robbers. Violence even spread to include whole counties, as in the Lincoln County War.

## How Lawlessness Grew

New Mexico became increasingly lawless for several reasons. First, there were few lawmen in many parts of New Mexico. Some towns and counties lacked sheriffs and deputies for long periods of time. Many men refused to serve on a posse because chasing outlaws was dangerous work. A **posse** is a group of men asked by a sheriff to help with law enforcement. Judges arrived in small towns to hear cases only a few times each year.

Lawlessness also grew because New Mexico was so large and so full of places for outlaws to hide. Some counties were larger than entire states. Criminals could hide in mountains, valleys, deserts, and caves. If captured, outlaws often broke out of jail and never went on trial. If they went on trial, they could often bribe or threaten judges and juries.



This poster advertised the 1903 movie “The Great Train Robbery,” a 10-minute film that told the story of the “sensational and startling ‘hold up’ of the ‘Gold Express’ by famous western outlaws.”

Why do you think stories about outlaws were popular?





*The gunfight between Billy the Kid and Pat Garrett is illustrated in this painting. Which outlaw do you think is Billy the Kid?*

Violence spread because most men carried guns, first to hunt and then to protect themselves against wild animals and warring Indians. But when people carry guns, they sometimes resort to using them to commit crimes or, when angry, to wound and even kill others. Because nearly everyone had a gun, simple disagreements could turn into deadly gunfights.

Finally, crime increased because New Mexico had new sources of wealth after the Civil War. Mines operated, cattle ranches expanded, banks opened, and railroads carried valuable goods. While many people grew rich by working in these businesses, others were greedy and simply stole to get rich quick.

## Lincoln County War

The most famous conflict in New Mexico took place in Lincoln County in southeastern New Mexico. Lincoln County occupied a fifth of all New Mexico Territory. It was the largest county in the entire United States.

By the 1870s, Lincoln County was dominated by an Irish immigrant and businessman named Lawrence G. Murphy. Murphy owned a general store in the town of Lincoln called The

House. He controlled much of the local economy and all local politics. It was said that no one could get a job or run for political office without his approval. Murphy even controlled who was sheriff and how he enforced the law. In 1876, Murphy had fellow Irishman William Brady elected sheriff.

## The Santa Fe Ring

Murphy's power extended beyond Lincoln County. He was a suspected member of a powerful group called the Santa Fe Ring. Members of the ring were businessmen and politicians who, like Murphy, controlled large parts of the territory. Ring leaders were **corrupt** (dishonest) and often resorted to violence. Even some territorial governors were suspected of being members or friends of the Santa Fe Ring.

Few challenged the power of the Santa Fe Ring. But, in 1876, an Englishman named John Henry Tunstall moved to Lincoln, bought a ranch, and opened a store in the town of Lincoln. Tunstall hired many cowboys to work on his ranch, including a young cowhand named William H. Bonney, better known as Billy the Kid. Murphy soon recognized Tunstall as competition and a threat to his economic and political power.



## The First Shots

The Lincoln War began with a series of murders. In 1878, Sheriff Brady and his posse shot and killed Tunstall. Two months later, Billy the Kid and other cowboys who had worked for Tunstall took revenge for his death. They ambushed Sheriff Brady on the street in front of Tunstall's store in Lincoln. The senseless violence continued for three years. A hundred men fought in the Battle of Lincoln, with six of them killed in mid-1878. During one five-month period, 30 graves were dug in Lincoln. Only one was for a person who had died of natural causes!

The violence became so great that President Rutherford B. Hayes appointed a new governor to try to end the Lincoln County War. The new governor, Lew Wallace, went so far as to travel to Lincoln County. He met with both sides of the conflict, including Billy the Kid, but little changed.

## Capturing Billy the Kid

Billy the Kid was finally captured and tried for Sheriff Brady's murder. He was found guilty and was sentenced to be hung in Lincoln. But before he could be executed, Billy the Kid escaped from the Lincoln County jail in the most



*Patrick "Pat" Floyd Garrett.*

famous escape in New Mexico history. Many Hispanic and Anglo farmers and ranchers helped Billy the Kid hide. They admired him for fighting Murphy and knew he was a popular, likeable young man.

A new Lincoln County sheriff, Pat Garrett, finally found Billy the Kid in Ft. Sumner on July 14, 1881. Confronting him in a darkened bedroom, Garrett shot and killed Billy the Kid. Although many in Lincoln County mourned Billy the Kid's death, most people in New Mexico praised Sheriff Garrett. Despite his popularity, people knew Billy the Kid stood accused of killing at least four men. His death can be considered the end of the tragic Lincoln County War.

## Linking the Past to the Present



Billy the Kid is remembered as one of the most famous outlaws in American history. Many books have been written, songs have been sung, and movies have been made about his short life. Some books, songs, and movies depict him as a terrible outlaw, while others suggest that he was a loyal friend caught up in violent times.

Billy the Kid remains so popular that his grave in Ft. Sumner is visited by thousands of tourists each year. It is, in fact, one of the biggest tourist attractions in all of New Mexico.



# Land Grants Challenged

Land grants created additional problems and violence in New Mexico. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo had promised that the United States would honor all land grants awarded to New Mexicans during the Spanish and Mexican eras. By 1850, there were about 270 land grants in New Mexico, covering approximately 15 million square miles. Despite the treaty's promise, many land grants were challenged and lost by the late 1800s.

Part of the problem was that many of the Spanish and Mexican land grants had been granted to whole communities. Individuals in these communities were each given a piece of land to farm and use for their own purposes. The whole community then shared any remaining land. Community land was used for grazing livestock, gathering firewood, and hunting game. The right to use the water on the land grant was also shared by all, including the right to use the acequia

system. These concepts of shared land ownership and shared resources use were uncommon in American law and hard to defend in American courts.

## Boundary Disputes

Land grant boundaries caused other problems. Boundaries made during the Spanish or Mexican periods were often unclear. A land grant could be bordered by a mountain, a river, or some other natural feature. Did this mean that the land grant included the entire mountain, or just to its peak? What about rivers? Over time, rivers changed course. Did this mean that a land grant gained or lost land because the river flowed in a new course after many years?

Land grants were also difficult to defend in U.S. courts because land grant documents were often lost or destroyed over several centuries. In one case, a new U.S. territorial governor accidentally destroyed many land grant documents when he ordered that a room in the capitol be cleaned out. Some of the documents were recovered, but many were lost forever.

## Combating Lawlessness

Lawlessness declined with some important changes in New Mexico. The territory's first prison was built in Santa Fe in 1885. Counties were divided into smaller areas. Lincoln County, for example, was eventually divided into six smaller counties. New lawmen enforced the law far better.

Sheriff Elfego Baca of Socorro became especially well known for capturing outlaws. In one case, a criminal turned himself in after Baca sent him a telegram threatening to come get him. A whole new police force, the New Mexico Territorial Mounted Police, was founded in 1905.



*Elfego Baca (left) became the sheriff of Socorro County when he was a young man of 19. He was an expert gunman as well as a lawyer and politician.*

## The Role of Lawyers

Finally, much land was lost when land grant owners hired Anglo lawyers to defend their land in American courts. Many land grant owners were so poor that they did not have money to pay the lawyers' high costs. Lacking cash, the landowners often paid with the only valuable item they had—parts or all of their land. Lawyers acquired thousands of acres of land. Thomas B. Catron, a land grant lawyer and the suspected leader of the Santa Fe Ring, became the largest landowner in the entire United States.

With all these problems, Hispanic land grant owners lost much of their land and resources. It is estimated that two-thirds of all land that had been granted in the Spanish and Mexican eras had been lost in one way or another by 1900.



*Thomas B. Catron was the suspected leader of the Santa Fe Ring.*

## Trouble in Las Vegas

Many of these land grant problems affected the town of Las Vegas by the late 1800s. Once the railroad reached Las Vegas, newcomers began arriving in large numbers. Many of the new settlers purchased land that had been part of the Las Vegas community grant. The new owners put up fences to mark the boundaries of their land and prevent trespassing. Hispanic settlers were cut off from the community land and resources they had used for generations.

## Las Gorras Blancas

Many Hispanic farmers organized to resist the invasion of their lands by “land grabbing” newcomers and the Santa Fe Railroad. Called Las Gorras Blancas, or White Caps, as many as 300 members rode at night, often cutting barbed-wire fences, burning barns, and destroying railroad tracks and bridges. The riders wore white caps to hide their identity and avoid arrest for the damage they caused from 1889 to 1891.

In 1890, Las Gorras Blancas published a statement in the *Las Vegas Daily Optic* that read in part:

“Our purpose is to protect the rights and interests of the people in general; especially those of the helpless classes. We want the Las Vegas Grant settled to the benefit of all concerned, and this we hold is the entire community within the grant. We want no ‘land grabbers’ or obstructionists of any sort to interfere. We will watch them. . . . Be fair and just as we are with you, do otherwise and take the consequences.”

—The White Caps,  
1,500 Strong and Growing Daily

## What Do You Think?

Although *Las Gorras Blancas* gained many followers, their movement quickly died. Why do you think the organization did not last longer?





*Cowboys raid the nighttime camp of sheepherders during the range wars of the late 1800s. Range wars were usually fought over water or grazing rights as well as for political and economic power. How do you think these conflicts were eventually resolved?*

## The Maxwell Land Grant

The most disputed land grant in New Mexico involved the Maxwell Land Grant in northern New Mexico and southern Colorado. The grant was originally made during the Mexican period to two wealthy citizens of Taos, Carlos Beaubien and Guadalupe Miranda. Through marriage, the 97,000-acre grant became the property of Lucien Bonaparte Maxwell. Over many years, Maxwell purchased more land. By 1870, his grant had increased in size to include nearly 1.8 million acres, making Maxwell the largest landowner in the United States at that time.

Maxwell worked hard to develop and settle the land. Much of the land was fertile, the climate was excellent, and there was water available in much of the area. The land became even more inviting when gold was discovered there in 1866.

Thousands of people flocked to the area. Maxwell made a lot of money renting or selling land to miners, farmers, ranchers, and other settlers. Whole towns, such as Elizabethtown and Cimarron, grew almost overnight. In 1870, Maxwell decided to sell the majority of his grant to a group of investors. The new owners created the Maxwell Land Grant Company. This is when the problems began.

Although Maxwell rented or sold land to settlers, other people lived on the land as squatters. A **squatter** is a person who settles on unoccupied land without legally purchasing or renting it. The new owners hoped to develop, rent, or sell the land. As a result, they began to pressure many settlers and all squatters to move. The situation quickly turned ugly, resulting in what became known as the Colfax County War.

## Colfax County War

The Colfax County War was somewhat similar to the Lincoln County War. Although the struggle was between the Maxwell Land Grant Company and the local settlers, members of the Santa Fe Ring played an important role as allies of the company. The violence began in 1875 with the murder of Franklin J. Tolby, a Methodist minister who had spoken out against the company. The violence spread, especially with the involvement of gunslingers like Clay Allison.

The war only ended when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Maxwell Land Grant Company in 1887. By 1900, most of the settlers who had opposed the company had been forced to leave the land and seek their fortunes elsewhere. As in Lincoln County and Las Vegas, violence had caused only injury and suffering rather than positive results.

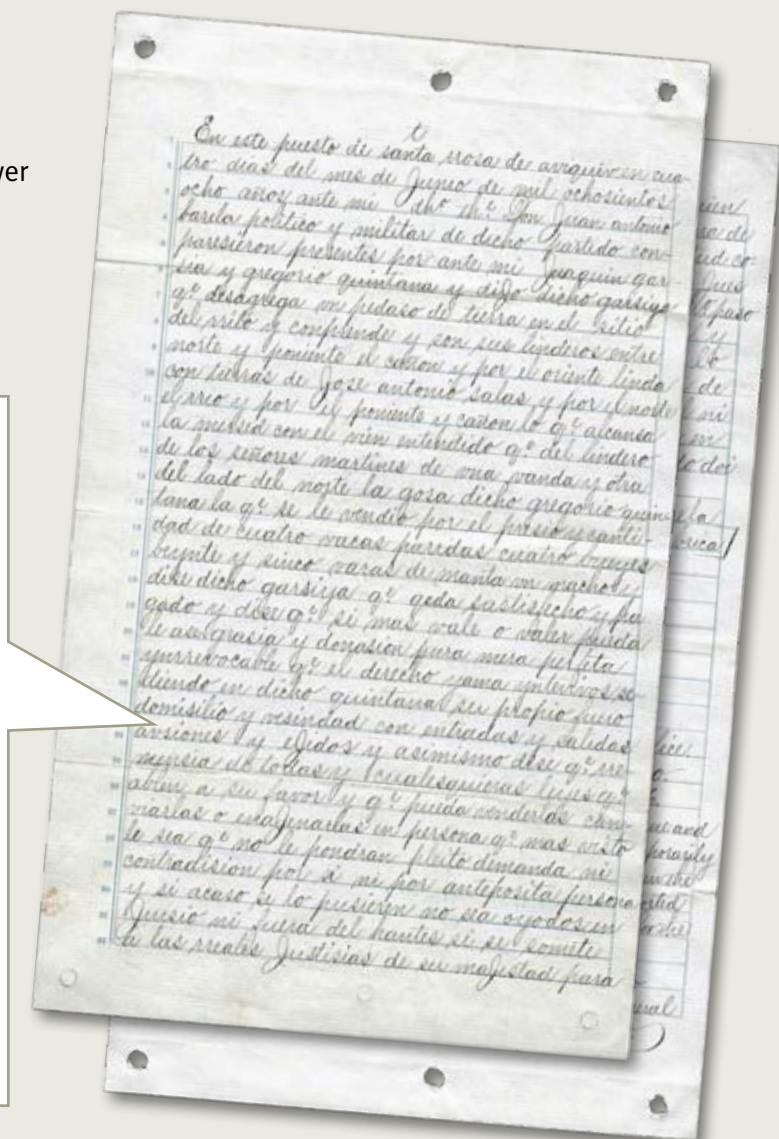
# Go to the Source!



## Study a Land Grant

This document is a transcript of a land grant transferred from Joaquin Garcia to Gregorio Quintana in 1808. Read the translation and answer the questions.

In this position in Santa Rosa de Aviquiv, the fourth day of the month of June of the year One thousand eight hundred and eight, before me Juan Antonio Barela a politician and member of the Military forces appeared Joaquin Garcia and Gregorio Quintana. Mr. Garcia will segregate a piece of land located near the river, bordering north and west with the Canyon and to the east with land owned by Jose Antonio Salas, and to the north of the river land owned by the Martinez, said land was purchased by Gregorio Quintana for the price of four cows having recently brought forth offspring, four ox, twenty five (2.8 ft) of cloth and a mule. Mr. Garcia is satisfied with the payment and if the land is worth more than he was paid, he will relinquish all rights in his favor. Mr. Quintana is free to sell exchange, alienate the property as he sees fit.



### OBSERVE

- Describe the piece of land being transferred.
- What payment did Mr. Garcia receive for the land?

### EVALUATE

- Why might the location of the land be difficult to pinpoint on a map?

### CONCLUDE

- What can you conclude about why land grants were often challenged?



# Check Your Understanding

## Know

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1. What is the name of the Irish immigrant who controlled local politics in Lincoln County?
2. Approximately how much of the land granted to Hispanic land owners during the Spanish and Mexican eras was lost by 1900?
3. Name three ways communities used shared land that had been granted during the Spanish and Mexican eras.
4. How many smaller counties was Lincoln County divided into?
5. Which two modern towns were established on the Maxwell Land Grant?
6. What happened once the railroad reached Las Vegas?

## Apply

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7. Explain the effect of corrupt local government on the community of Lincoln County.
8. Discuss land grant boundary disputes and how they led to trouble in Las Vegas.
9. Compare and contrast the way Hispanic and Indian communities managed the land with the way Americans managed the land.
10. Explain why thousands of people flocked to the Maxwell Land Grant in the late 1800s.
11. Compare and contrast the Lincoln County War with the Colfax County War.
12. Discuss the conflict between new settlers on the Las Vegas community grant and the Hispanic settlers who had been there for generations.

## Analyze

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13. Was Billy the Kid a hero or an outlaw? Research and defend your position.
14. Examine the problems and challenges of land grants in territorial New Mexico during the late 1800s. How do you think these problems and challenges could be handled by our government today?
15. Analyze the benefits and challenges of shared community land.
16. Consider the political, demographic, and economic regions formed in New Mexico Territory during the late 1800s and connect them to the various human activities occurring at that time.
17. Land grant disputes continue in New Mexico even today. Imagine you are the state governor. How would you resolve the disputes?
18. Due largely to the railroads, the late 1800s was a period of tremendous population growth in territorial New Mexico. Analyze the effects of this growth both on the native peoples and on the development of the territory.

# The Struggle for Statehood

## Key Ideas

- It took New Mexico 62 years to become the 47th state.
- Religious prejudice along with concerns about loyalty, lawlessness, and corruption slowed New Mexico's drive to statehood.
- Participation in the Spanish American War helped New Mexicans prove their loyalty to the United States.

## Key Terms

delegate  
ratify  
suffragist  
territory



## Comprehension Strategy

Use Your Senses

New Mexico became a territory of the United States following the Mexican American War. It remained a territory for 62 years. New Mexicans applied for statehood at least 50 times between 1850 and 1912. During that time period, many other territories, including Colorado, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Oklahoma, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming, all became states. New Mexico had a far greater population than several of these new states. Yet New Mexico's petitions for statehood continued to be rejected. Why did it take New Mexicans so long to achieve their statehood goal?

## What is a Territory?

In the United States, a **territory** is a region that is governed by the federal government. Territorial citizens enjoy all the freedoms of Americans, but they cannot vote for the president of the United States, and they cannot elect representatives to Congress. Instead, they elect congressional delegates. A **delegate** is an elected or appointed representative of a U.S. territory in the House of Representatives. He or she can do everything a congressman can do except vote.

## Territorial Government

When New Mexico became a territory in 1850, New Mexicans enjoyed new democratic rights. They elected representatives to their territorial legislature as well as a delegate to Congress in Washington, D.C. However, they did not elect their own governor, a key leader chosen by the president.



Three men representing the territories of New Mexico, Arizona, and Oklahoma wait to be granted statehood. What symbols in the image support the message?



The governor and the territorial legislature made laws for the territory, but all laws had to be approved by Congress. In short, New Mexicans enjoyed more democracy but not as much as if they had lived in a state. In 1850, President Millard Fillmore appointed James S. Calhoun to be the first territorial governor of New Mexico.



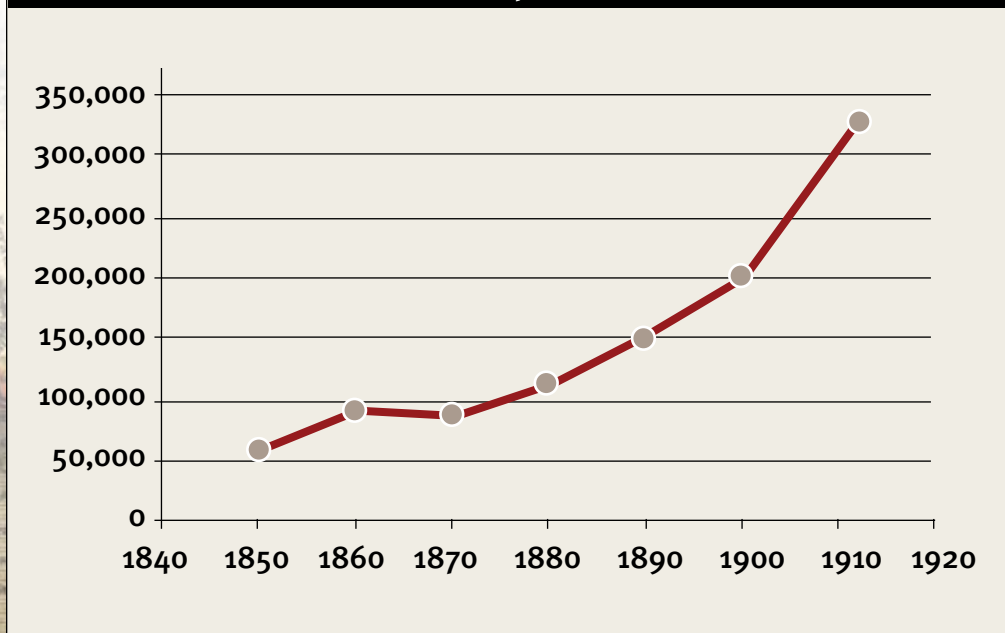
*James S. Calhoun was New Mexico's first territorial governor.*

## The Path to Statehood

To become a state, a territory must meet certain conditions. First, the population of a territory must be at least 60,000. Then the territorial legislature must petition Congress, asking for permission to become a state. If Congress approves, it issues an enabling act. An enabling act is a law that requires the territory to draft a constitution. The proposed constitution must uphold the principles of the U.S. Constitution. Further, it must guarantee certain basic civil rights for its citizens, including free speech and the freedom of religion.

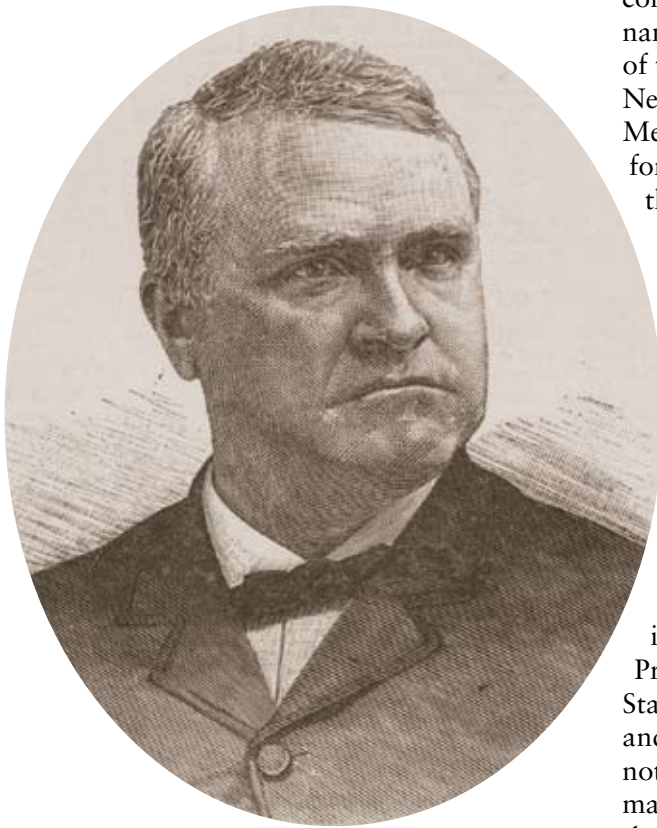
The citizens of a territory must **ratify**, or give formal approval of, the proposed constitution. Once ratified, it is submitted to Congress for final approval. If Congress approves, then it issues a proclamation that must be signed by the president. When the president signs the proclamation, a territory becomes a state at last.

**New Mexico's Population Growth**



## Roadblocks

From the start, New Mexico met the population requirement necessary for statehood. According to the 1850 U.S. Census, New Mexico's population equaled 61,547. By 1910, its population exceeded 300,000. Although Congress did not pass an enabling act, New Mexicans wasted no time in organizing a constitutional convention and drafting a proposed state constitution in 1850. The constitution failed when it became a part of the national debate over slavery. It was the first of several constitutions submitted by New Mexico but rejected by Congress.



*Stephen B. Elkins*

## The Elkins Handshake

Another attempt to win statehood was spoiled by a poorly timed handshake. In 1876, Stephen B. Elkins was New Mexico's delegate to Congress. He had made progress in lining up congressional votes in support of New Mexico statehood, and it seemed that statehood would be achieved at last. But then Elkins

arrived in Congress at the end of an emotional speech given by a Northern congressman who opposed the South. Although Elkins did not hear the speech, he congratulated the Northerner with a handshake. Southern congressmen saw this as a signal that New Mexico would support the North against the South in all regional disputes if it became a state. As a result, Southerners withdrew their support for New Mexico statehood and the territory was rejected again.

## Improving the Odds

To improve their chances at statehood, New Mexicans even considered changing the territory's name. Many people in other parts of the United States often confused New Mexico with the country of Mexico. When New Mexico applied for statehood, these confused citizens thought that Mexico, not New Mexico, was applying for statehood. Names like Acoma and Sierra were considered, but none were officially adopted.

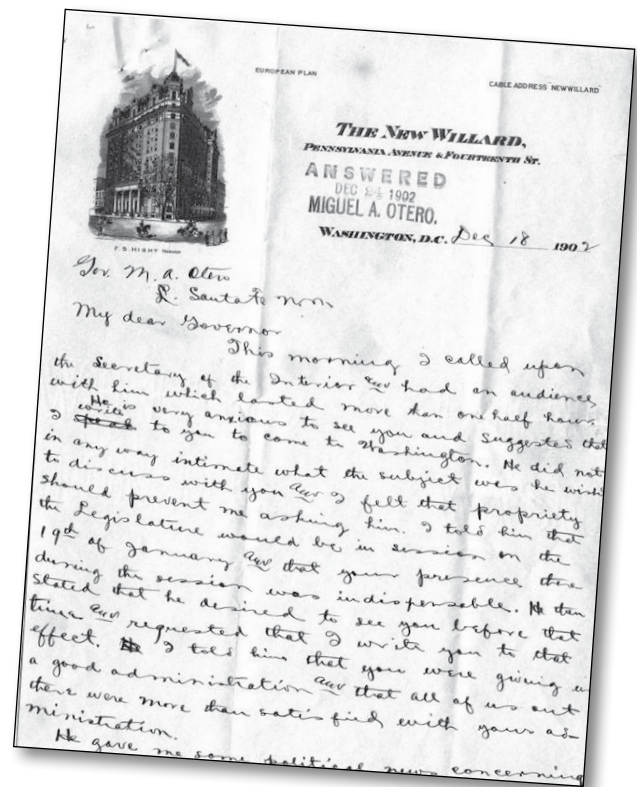
Three other main problems prevented New Mexico's statehood. First, many people outside New Mexico only remembered violence when they thought of New Mexico. News of the warring Indians and events like the Lincoln County War stuck in people's minds. Second, many Protestants in the rest of the United States were prejudiced against Catholics and the Catholic Church. They could not imagine a state where the vast majority of citizens were Catholics led, they believed, by the Pope rather than the U.S. president. Finally, the Santa Fe Ring hurt New Mexico's chances of becoming a state. Many from outside the territory criticized the ring and could not believe that a new state could exist with so much corruption.



## Joint Statehood Considered

In 1906, several powerful members of Congress favored the idea creating one big state from the territories of New Mexico and Arizona. The idea quickly gained favor with many leaders in Washington, including President Theodore Roosevelt. The question of joint statehood was put to a vote in both New Mexico and Arizona. New Mexicans overwhelmingly supported the idea. But voters in Arizona rejected it. They feared that they would be overshadowed by New Mexico, with its much larger population. As a result, the idea was dropped and both territories continued to strive for statehood separately.

*This 1902 letter to Governor Otero tells him that statehood for New Mexico looks “doubtful” unless New Mexico joins with Arizona to become one state. Governor Otero fought against the joint statehood plan.*



## NEW MEXICO P O R T R A I T

**Miguel A. Otero, Jr.**  
(1859–1944)

Republican Miguel Antonio Otero, Jr., was New Mexico’s only Hispanic governor in the U.S. territorial period. He was also the youngest person to be territorial governor. President William McKinley appointed him governor in 1897 when he was 38 years old. He served until 1906, making him the longest-serving governor in the U.S. territorial period.

Miguel Otero’s father was a leading political and business leader in New Mexico. He was, in fact, New Mexico’s congressional delegate in 1859, the year Miguel was born. As Miguel grew up, he became more and more involved in his father’s diverse businesses, including sheep ranching, banking, mining, and an early telephone company.

As governor, Otero supported business growth and fought to weaken the Santa Fe Ring. He worked hard to help New Mexico achieve statehood on its own rather than combined with Arizona. Governor Otero also helped to organize the Rough Riders from New Mexico during the Spanish American War in 1898.

After leaving political office, Otero focused much of his time on writing. He wrote a three-volume autobiography about his childhood on the frontier, his experiences in business, and his years as New Mexico’s territorial governor.



# The Spanish American War

Some Americans opposed New Mexico statehood because they questioned the loyalty of many New Mexico citizens. They saw New Mexicans as “foreigners” who spoke a different language. They also feared that New Mexicans might side with Spain, their former mother country, in the Spanish American War.

New Mexico’s contribution to the Spanish American War changed many minds. In 1898, the United States declared war on Spain. The main cause of the war was to help the Cuban people win their independence from Spain. Many Americans saw similarities between the Cuban struggle for independence and their own struggle for independence from England during the American Revolution.

In January 1898, President William McKinley sent a battleship, the *U.S.S. Maine*, to Cuba. On February 15, the battleship exploded in Havana Harbor. More than 250 American sailors were killed. Although the cause of the explosion was unknown, most Americans blamed Spain and demanded war. The United States declared war on Spain for this and other reasons in April 1898.

## The Rough Riders

President McKinley called for thousands of volunteers to join the U.S. Army and prepare to fight. In particular, the army created a special unit of “frontiersmen possessing exclusive qualifications as horsemen and marksmen.” Called the Rough Riders, they were the most famous army unit of the Spanish American War. Before he became president, Theodore Roosevelt led the Rough Riders. More than 350 New Mexicans volunteered to fight in this unit. New Mexicans represented about a third of the riders—the largest group of riders from any single state or territory.

New Mexicans eagerly joined the fight to prove that New Mexico was loyal to the United States rather than to Spain. The brave fighting of Rough Riders like Maximiliano Luna of Los Lunas helped the United States win the war and helped New Mexico prove its loyalty. Impressed, many observers who had doubted New Mexico now supported the territory’s drive for statehood.

*Many of the Rough Riders were New Mexicans. How did serving in the war help New Mexicans gain support for statehood?*







*President William Howard Taft signs the proclamation admitting New Mexico as the 47th state. Why do you think it took so long for New Mexico to become a state?*

## Writing the State Constitution

In 1910, Congress finally passed New Mexico's long-awaited Enabling Act. The Enabling Act required New Mexicans to write an acceptable state constitution. One hundred delegates from throughout the territory met

in Santa Fe to write the important document.

Solomon Luna, a powerful sheep rancher from Los Lunas, led the convention. The new constitution protected the rights of all New Mexicans. In particular, it protected Hispanic rights. The freedom to speak Spanish, Hispanic voting rights, and Hispanic education were all guaranteed.

### The Road to Statehood

New Mexicans waited a long time to become a part of the United States. How did their path to statehood compare to that of the original 13 American colonies? Here's a side-by-side comparison.

New Mexico	American Colonies
Taken by force during Mexican American War	Voluntarily fought for independence
Some New Mexicans supported the Americans	Some colonists wanted to remain part of Britain
Was a territory for 62 years before statehood	No territorial period
Little experience in self-government	Extensive experience in self-government
Enjoyed freedoms guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution	Created the Bill of Rights to protect basic freedoms
Mostly Spanish-speaking and Catholic	Mostly English-speaking and Protestant

## The 47th State

New Mexicans ratified their new constitution in a special election held on January 21, 1911. The constitution was then approved by Congress and sent to President William Howard Taft for his signature. On January 6, 1912, President Taft signed a proclamation making New Mexico the 47th state. Signing the proclamation, Taft declared, "Well it is all over. I am glad to give you life. I hope you will be healthy." Nine days later, William C. McDonald became New Mexico's first elected state governor.

## A Big Celebration

New Mexicans were overjoyed when President Taft signed the papers making New Mexico a state of the United States. They had waited 62 years for this moment. There were celebrations all over the new state. People honked car horns, rang church bells, shot guns in the air, and danced in the streets.

The celebration in Santa Fe was especially large. Residents watched with pride when the U.S. flag with 47 stars was raised over New Mexico's capitol building. Everyone cheered. Many cried with joy.

## Expanding Voting Rights

According to the state constitution, voting rights were originally limited to Anglo and Hispanic male citizens. Women and Indians did not have equal voting rights. In the case of Indians, only male Indians who paid state taxes could vote. Because most Indians lived on reservations and did not pay taxes, this meant that most Native Americans were denied the right to vote. Women were barred from voting in all elections except school board elections, but there was even a catch for this. Women could be prevented from voting in a school board election if a majority of the men in a school district filed a petition at least 30 days before the election.

Women and Native Americans fought for changes in the constitution that would grant them equal voting rights. Nina Otero-Warren was one of New Mexico's most active suffragists. A **suffragist** was a person who supported voting rights for women. Otero-Warren was related to both territorial governor Miguel Otero and the main leader at the constitutional convention, Solomon Luna. She worked with local and national suffrage leaders to win voting rights for New Mexican women. With Otero's help, the 19th Amendment, which guarantees women's suffrage, was finally passed in New Mexico and the country as a whole in 1920.

Unfortunately, the 19th Amendment did not grant voting rights to Native Americans. Native American men and women had to wait until 1948. That is when a Pueblo Indian named Miguel Trujillo challenged Indian voting restrictions in a special court. The court found in favor of Trujillo, a college-educated teacher and marine corps veteran from World War II. After waiting more than 35 years, Native American citizens could finally vote in all elections in New Mexico.





# Check Your Understanding

## Know

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1. Who was New Mexico's first territorial governor?
2. The Rough Riders were the most famous army unit of which war?
3. What is a territorial government?
4. What happened on January 6, 1912?
5. Who was the youngest and only Hispanic governor of New Mexico during the territorial period?
6. Which rights were protected by the 1910 New Mexico Constitution?
7. Why did New Mexicans consider changing the territory's name?
8. How long did New Mexico remain a territory before it became a state?

## Apply

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9. In your own words, tell how a handshake delayed statehood for New Mexico.
10. Describe the Rough Riders and their impact on statehood for New Mexico.
11. Explain the difference between a territorial government and a state government.
12. Discuss the significance of a U.S. flag with 47 stars and why it brought so much joy to New Mexicans.
13. Summarize the contributions of Governor Miguel A. Otero.
14. How was the writing of the 1910 New Mexico Constitution reflective of representative government?
15. Describe how cultural characteristics of New Mexicans affected perceptions of New Mexico Territory.
16. Compare New Mexico's entry into the United States with that of the 13 original colonies.

## Analyze

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17. Imagine that Congress had told New Mexicans the only way they could achieve statehood was to join with Arizona to create one big state. How would you convince Arizonans to join with New Mexico? What would you do if they continued to refuse?
18. Explain how life in territorial New Mexico prepared men to answer the U.S. Army's call for "frontiersmen possessing exclusive qualifications as horsemen and marksmen."
19. Generate a response to the 1902 letter received by Governor Otero that said statehood looked doubtful unless New Mexico joined with Arizona. In your response, explain why the basic structure and functions of local governments would not be supported by such a move.
20. Explain how New Mexico combines with other states to form a nation.
21. Compose a list of qualities of successful democratic leaders and identify how Miguel A. Otero was an example of each.
22. How does the protection of minority rights in the 1910 New Mexico Constitution compare to the actions of previous governments in New Mexico?
23. Discrimination and stereotyping based on individual and cultural characteristics has been a problem in New Mexico for centuries. Does the problem continue to exist today? How can people learn to be more accepting and tolerant of one another?
24. In what way do you think New Mexico's path to statehood was least like that of the original 13 colonies?

# NEW MEXICO Social Studies Skills

## Draw Conclusions

Your history book uses facts to tell a story. Of course, your book does not include all the facts. If it did, you would need a bigger backpack! As a result, you are given enough facts about the topics covered so that you can draw your own inclusions. For example, in this chapter you read about the Homestead Act. You learned about what motivated homesteaders to come to New Mexico. You also learned about struggles homesteaders faced farming the land. But you did not read about why the Homestead Act was discontinued. This is one area in which you can draw conclusions, using what you already know. For example, you might draw the conclusion that homesteads were no longer given because there was no more land to give.

Good historians do not jump to conclusions about why and how things happened. They carefully study their topic first. They support their conclusion with facts. Use what you learned to draw a conclusion about a topic from the chapter.

1. On a sheet of paper, write a topic from the chapter that you would like to study.
2. Recall what you learned about research questions on page 106 of Chapter 3. Write three questions you have about your topic.
3. Evaluate your questions using the criteria listed on page 106 of Chapter 3. Which one of your questions would make the best research question?
4. Write facts from the chapter that help answer your research question.
5. Visit your school or local library and find a second source on the topic. This source should show a different perspective on the same topic. (Your sources must be published works.)
6. Write facts from the source that help answer your research question.
7. Study the facts you gathered from both sources, and write a conclusion that answers your research question.
8. Revise your conclusion so it is well supported by the facts you have gathered. Your conclusion should state an idea that the textbook does not already share.
9. On another sheet of paper, write a short essay with your conclusion as the thesis statement. Support your conclusion with facts from the chapter and your second source.
10. Share your research question and conclusion with the class.





# Chapter 5 Review

## Key Idea Review

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### Lesson 1

1. What effect did new trails have on New Mexico?
2. What changes did the Catholic Church see as a result of New Mexico becoming a U. S. Territory?
3. Why were many people drawn to New Mexico Territory? What was life like for people once they came to the territory?
4. Describe the impact of the railroad on New Mexico's population and economy.

### Lesson 2

5. Give three reasons for the growth of lawlessness in the territory of New Mexico.
6. Summarize the causes and outcome of the Lincoln County War.
7. For what other reasons were there disputes and violence in the territory?

### Lesson 3

8. Describe the the process for a territory to become a state.
9. Identify obstacles to statehood for New Mexico.
10. How did the Spanish American War help New Mexicans in their quest for statehood?

## Comprehension Strategy

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### Visualize the Text

Good readers “see” the story in their heads as they read. It is like watching a movie in your head every time you open a book. Picturing the text helps you understand what you read. This is how you visualize the text.

Choose one person or one event from this chapter that you were able to visualize well. Describe the event or person in your own words. Be sure to use words that excite the senses. Share your description with a partner and compare your visualizations.