

America Moving West Terminology

Manifest Destiny — Joint occupation
Expansionist policy — Mountain men — Frontier
Pioneer — Steamboat — Kentucky rifle
Cumberland Gap — Wilderness Road

Manifest Destiny	belief that it was inevitable for the United States to expand from coast to coast
Joint occupation	1818 agreement between the United States and Great Britain that both countries could settle the Oregon area for 10 years without a boundary being set
Expansionist policy	policy of a nation spreading out over more territory
Mountain men	people who lived, traded, and trapped in the mountains; discovered the best trails; took on the role of guides to settlers traveling west
Frontier	a not yet fully settled or developed area on the edge of a developed region
Pioneer	person who moved to a frontier area, causing the frontier to constantly move to a more distant point
Steamboat	boat, often with a paddle wheel, driven by steam; often used in the 1800s in America
Kentucky rifle	adapted from a European rifle, it was especially useful for shooting game or for protection on the frontier
Cumberland Gap	a natural pass through the Cumberland Mountain section of the Appalachians used by pioneers to cross the mountains
Wilderness Road	pioneer road started in 1775; important for traveling from Tennessee, across the Cumberland Mountains, to what is now central Kentucky

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