

Ch. 16: Life in the West



Objectives:

By the end of this PowerPoint, students should be able to

- List the reasons that explorers, Californios, mountain men, missionaries, pioneer women, Mormons, forty-niners, and Chinese moved to the West.
- List the hardships that they endured.
- Describe the legacies that they left to the West.

Eight Major Groups Moved to the West

16.2 The Explorers (pg. 212-213)

16.3 The Californios (pg. 216-217)

16.4 The Mountain Men (pg. 217-218)

16.5 The Missionaries (pg. 219-220)

16.6 The Pioneer Women (pg. 220-222)

16.7 The Forty-Niners (pg. 224-225)

16.8 The Mormons (pg. 222-223)

16.9 The Chinese (pg. 225-226)

The Explorers



16.2 The Explorers

- Reasons they moved to the West
 - They wanted to begin trade with Indian people.
 - They hoped to find the Northwest Passage.
 - They wanted to find out what the U.S. had bought when it purchased Louisiana.
- Hardships they faced
 - Rowing against the current caused blistered hands and sore muscles.
 - They were bothered by mosquitoes and grizzly bears.
 - Prickly-pear cactus thorns pierced their feet.
 - Starvation was an ever-present danger.
- Legacies they left
 - The explorers mapped the route to the Pacific.
 - They established good relations with western Indian peoples.
 - They brought back information about the West.

The Californios



16.3 The Californios

- Reasons they moved to the West
 - Spanish priests went to establish missions.
 - Other Spanish settlers wanted to find land for settlement.
- Hardships they faced
 - Neighbors lived so far apart that loneliness was a daily problem.
 - Government officials were unskilled and dishonest.
- Legacies they left
 - The Californios gave us Spanish names for California cities.
 - They brought new crops, such as grapes, olives, and citrus.
 - They opened California to the world.

The Mountain Men



16.4 The Mountain Men

- Reasons they moved to the West
 - The trappers went to search for furs.
- Hardships they faced
 - The mountain men feared attack by fur thieves, Indians, wolves, and bears.
 - Death from accident or disease was a hazard of the profession.
- Legacies they left
 - The mountain men explored the West.
 - Their routes became the Oregon and California Trails.
 - Their trading posts became supply stations for settlers.
 - Their personal journals make entertaining reading.

The Missionaries



16.5 The Missionaries

- Reasons they moved to the West
 - The missionaries intended to convert Native Americans to Christianity.
 - They also wanted to help settle the country and establish churches.
- Hardships they faced
 - Crossing the steep Rocky Mountains in wagons was difficult.
 - Hostile Indian warriors sometimes attacked them.
- Legacies they left
 - These settlers brought disease and death to many Native Americans.
 - They opened the West to settlement.

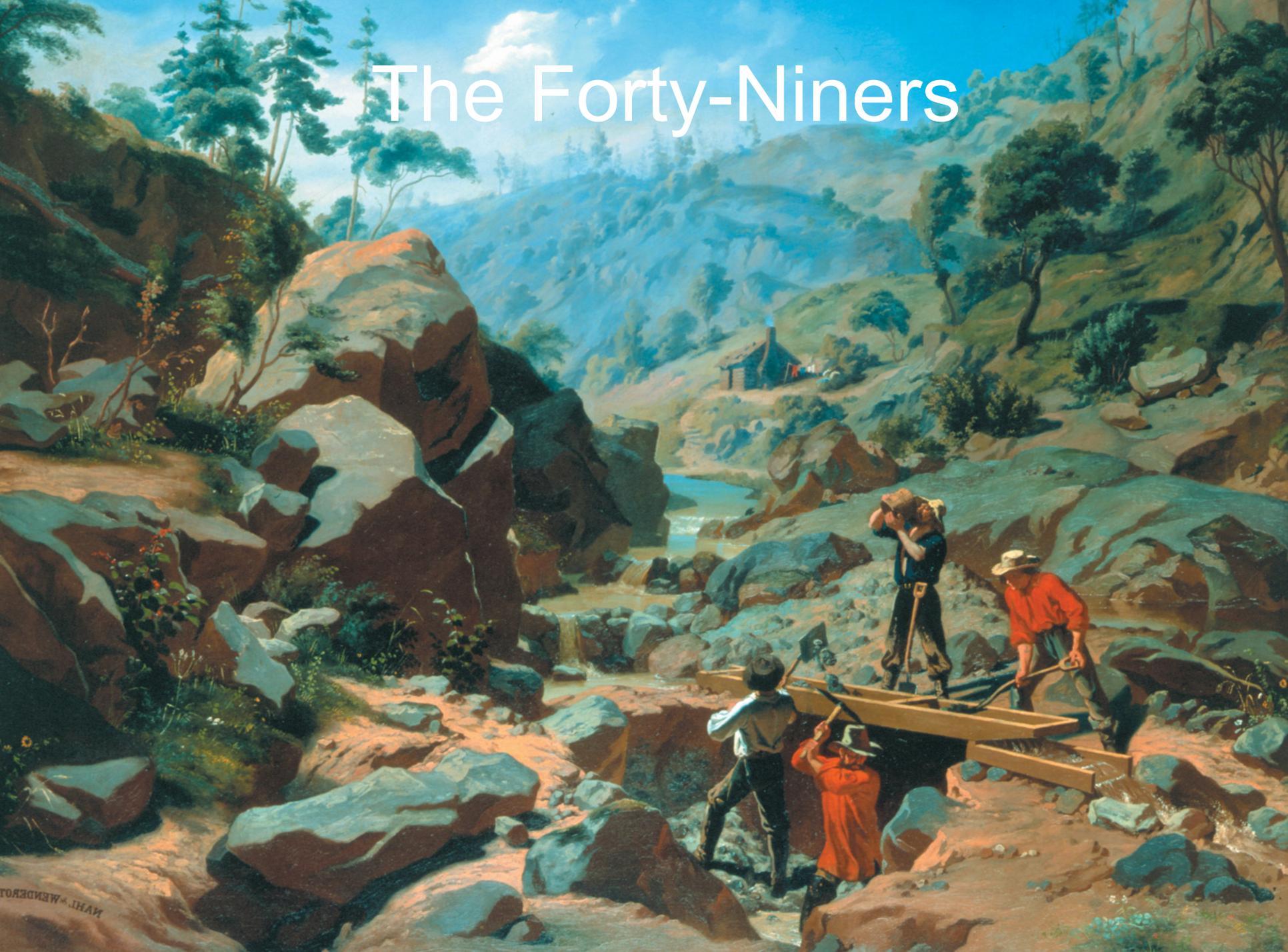
The Pioneer Women



16.6 The Pioneer Women

- Reasons they moved to the West
 - Women moved west to find new opportunities, such as establishing homesteads and finding husbands.
- Hardships they faced
 - Leaving the comforts of home and leaving treasured items along the trail was emotionally difficult.
 - Cooking, washing clothes, and caring for children while traveling 15 to 20 miles a day was grueling work.
 - Disease and accidents killed their loved ones.
 - Along the trail, they suffered from cold and thirst.
- Legacies they left
 - Women brought schools, churches, libraries, literary societies, and charitable groups to the rugged west.
 - They fought for and won the right for women to vote in the West.

The Forty-Niners



16.7 The Forty-Niners

- Reasons they moved to the West
 - The forty-niners hurried west to find gold.
- Hardships they faced
 - They had a difficult journey to California, by either land or sea.
 - High prices made it hard to get ahead.
 - There were no police to keep order, so camps were rough and dangerous.
 - Gold mining was hard, tedious work.
- Legacies they left
 - Warfare and disease reduced the Native American population.
 - Many Californios lost their land to these newcomers.
 - Their arrival increased the population of California so that it could become a state.

The Mormons



16.8 The Mormons

- Reasons they moved to the West
 - The Mormons moved west to escape persecution back east.
- Hardships they faced
 - Their road was a difficult journey with many deaths.
 - Life in a dry, barren land was difficult for these farmers.
- Legacies they left
 - Mormons were the first pioneers to settle in the Great Basin.
 - They pioneered farming methods such as dams, canals, and irrigation ditches.
 - They helped other settlers make their way west.
 - In Utah, they established a center for what is now a worldwide religion.

The Chinese



16.9 The Chinese

- Reasons they moved to the West
 - The Chinese migrated across the Pacific to find gold and riches.
- Hardships they faced
 - Laws taxing foreign miners drove these Chinese out of the gold camps.
 - Chinese immigrants suffered persecution by Americans.
- Legacies they left
 - The Chinese helped develop agriculture in California.
 - They brought their culture to the West.