

the frontier in american history

The Frontier in American History: Exploring the Edge of Expansion

the frontier in american history stands as one of the most compelling and defining themes that shaped the United States. It represents not just a physical boundary but a profound symbol of opportunity, challenge, and transformation. From the earliest days of colonization through the 19th century, the American frontier was a dynamic space where cultures met, landscapes were conquered, and the very identity of a nation was forged. Understanding this era is essential to grasp how America evolved socially, economically, and politically.

The Concept of the Frontier in American History

The frontier traditionally refers to the shifting border between settled European-American territories and the vast, unsettled wilderness to the west. This edge was never static; it moved steadily as pioneers, traders, and settlers pushed into new lands. The frontier was more than a line on a map—it was a zone of interaction, conflict, and exchange between Native American tribes, European settlers, and later, American citizens.

The Frontier Thesis: Frederick Jackson Turner's Influence

One of the most influential interpretations of the frontier's role in American history came from historian Frederick Jackson Turner in 1893. His Frontier Thesis argued that the existence of free land and the continuous westward expansion shaped American democracy, individualism, and innovation. Turner suggested that the frontier experience fostered a unique spirit of self-reliance and egalitarianism, distinguishing the United States from Europe. This thesis sparked decades of debate, encouraging historians to explore how the frontier molded national character.

Life on the Frontier: Challenges and Opportunities

Living on the frontier was both exhilarating and grueling. Settlers faced harsh environments, unpredictable weather, and limited resources. Yet, the promise of land ownership, economic freedom, and a fresh start attracted thousands of families and individuals seeking to improve their lives.

Settlements and Homesteading

The Homestead Act of 1862 was a pivotal law that accelerated frontier settlement. It offered 160 acres of free land to any American willing to cultivate it for five years. This act encouraged a wave of homesteaders—farmers, immigrants, and adventurous souls—to establish new communities. These settlements often began as isolated homesteads but gradually evolved into towns with schools, churches, and local governments.

Frontier Economy: Farming, Mining, and Trade

The frontier economy was diverse. Farming was the backbone for many settlers, but the discovery of precious metals like gold and silver triggered mining booms in areas such as California, Colorado, and Nevada. Additionally, fur trading and cattle ranching became vital industries, helping to integrate the frontier into national and international markets.

Impact on Native American Cultures

The expansion of the frontier had profound and often devastating effects on Native American tribes. As settlers moved westward, indigenous peoples were displaced, their lands seized, and their traditional ways of life disrupted.

Conflict and Displacement

Numerous clashes occurred as Native Americans resisted encroachment. These conflicts ranged from skirmishes to large-scale wars, such as the Sioux Wars and the Apache Wars. The U.S. government frequently negotiated treaties that were later broken or renegotiated under pressure, forcing many tribes onto reservations and away from their ancestral territories.

Cultural Changes and Resistance

Despite these hardships, Native American communities adapted in various ways. Some embraced new technologies and trade, while others maintained their cultural practices in the face of assimilation policies. Understanding these complex interactions sheds light on the resilience and diversity of Native American societies during the frontier period.

The Role of the Frontier in Shaping American Identity

The frontier experience influenced not only individual lives but also the collective American identity. It fostered a narrative of rugged individualism, self-made success, and democratic participation.

The Myth and Reality of the Frontier

Popular culture, including literature, art, and later film, romanticized the frontier as a place of adventure and heroism. Figures like Daniel Boone, Davy Crockett, and later cowboys and outlaws became emblematic of the frontier spirit. However, the reality was often more complicated, involving hardship, lawlessness, and conflict.

Innovation and Democracy

The challenges of frontier life spurred innovation in agriculture, transportation, and governance. Communities developed their own legal systems and institutions, laying the groundwork for democratic participation and civic responsibility. This grassroots development contributed to the distinct political culture of the United States.

Closing the Frontier and Its Legacy

By the end of the 19th century, the U.S. Census Bureau declared the frontier closed, as the western lands were largely settled or incorporated into states. Yet, the legacy of the frontier continued to influence American society.

From Frontier to Urbanization

As the frontier closed, many Americans moved into cities, contributing to rapid industrialization and urban growth. The pioneering spirit, however, lived on in the nation's pursuit of progress and innovation.

Environmental and Cultural Reflections

The frontier also left a lasting impact on the American landscape and environment. Conservation efforts, such as the establishment of national parks, emerged partly as a response to the frontier's transformation of wilderness areas. Additionally, the stories and histories of frontier life remain central to understanding American culture and heritage today.

Exploring the frontier in American history offers a window into the complexities of expansion, identity, and change. It reminds us that the story of America is one of constant movement and reinvention, shaped by those who dared to explore the unknown and build

new lives on the edge of the settled world.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is meant by 'the frontier' in American history?

The frontier in American history refers to the moving boundary line of settlement and civilization as European Americans expanded westward across North America, marking the transition from settled areas to wilderness.

Why was the frontier significant in shaping American identity?

The frontier was significant because it fostered values such as individualism, self-reliance, and democracy, which became central to the American national identity and cultural mythology.

Who was Frederick Jackson Turner and what was his Frontier Thesis?

Frederick Jackson Turner was a historian who, in 1893, proposed the Frontier Thesis, arguing that the American frontier was crucial in shaping the nation's character and institutions by promoting democracy and innovation.

How did westward expansion impact Native American communities?

Westward expansion led to displacement, loss of lands, cultural disruption, and violent conflicts for Native American communities, profoundly affecting their populations and ways of life.

What role did the Homestead Act of 1862 play in frontier settlement?

The Homestead Act provided free land to settlers willing to develop it, encouraging migration to the frontier and accelerating the settlement and cultivation of western territories.

How did the closing of the frontier in 1890 affect American society?

The 1890 census declared the frontier closed, symbolizing the end of continuous westward expansion and prompting Americans to seek new opportunities abroad or focus on industrial and urban development.

What technological advancements helped settlers on the American frontier?

Technological advancements such as the railroad, telegraph, barbed wire, and improved farming equipment facilitated transportation, communication, and agriculture on the frontier.

In what ways did the frontier influence American literature and popular culture?

The frontier inspired a genre of literature and popular culture focused on adventure, rugged individualism, and the taming of the wilderness, evident in works by authors like Mark Twain and in Western films.

How did government policies shape the development of the American frontier?

Government policies, including land grants, treaties, military actions, and laws like the Dawes Act, structured the settlement process, often at the expense of Native Americans, and promoted economic development.

Additional Resources

The Frontier in American History: An Analytical Review

the frontier in american history represents a pivotal theme that has shaped the nation's identity, culture, and socio-political development. This expansive concept refers not only to the physical boundary between settled and unsettled lands but also to the evolving idea of opportunity, challenge, and transformation that defined the United States from its colonial beginnings through the late 19th century. Understanding the frontier's role requires a nuanced look at its historical significance, the mythologies surrounding it, and its lasting impact on American society.

The Historical Context of the American Frontier

The frontier in American history traditionally denotes the moving line of settlement that pushed westward across the continent. As European colonists established footholds along the Atlantic coast, the frontier began as the edge of European civilization in North America. Over centuries, this boundary shifted westward, driven by exploration, economic aspirations, and federal policies.

The 19th century, particularly post-Louisiana Purchase (1803), marked the rapid expansion of the frontier. Key events such as the Lewis and Clark expedition, the California Gold Rush, and the Homestead Act of 1862 encouraged settlers to move into vast, often uncharted territories. The frontier became a place of opportunity for land

ownership, economic advancement, and new beginnings for immigrants and native-born Americans alike.

Frederick Jackson Turner's Frontier Thesis

One cannot discuss the frontier in American history without addressing Frederick Jackson Turner's seminal 1893 thesis. Turner argued that the existence of a frontier shaped American democracy, individualism, and innovation. According to his analysis, the frontier experience fostered a unique American character, distinct from European roots, by constantly challenging settlers to adapt and reinvent themselves.

Turner's thesis emphasized:

- The role of the frontier in promoting democratic institutions
- The development of a pragmatic, problem-solving mindset among settlers
- The decline of the frontier signaling a shift in American identity and future development

While influential, Turner's thesis has faced criticism for oversimplifying complex interactions and ignoring the experiences of Native Americans, women, and minorities.

The Multifaceted Nature of the Frontier Experience

The frontier was not a monolithic or uniformly positive force. It was a contested space defined by conflict, cooperation, and cultural exchange.

Indigenous Peoples and the Frontier

The expansion of the frontier often came at the expense of Native American tribes. The movement westward led to displacement, warfare, and profound disruption of indigenous ways of life. Treaties were frequently broken, and policies like Indian Removal and the reservation system institutionalized displacement.

The frontier thus represents both opportunity and tragedy. While settlers sought new beginnings, many Native communities faced loss of land, sovereignty, and cultural erosion.

Economic Dimensions of Frontier Expansion

From a socio-economic perspective, the frontier catalyzed significant growth. Land was a primary asset, and programs such as the Homestead Act allowed thousands of families to claim and cultivate farmland. This agricultural expansion supported the rise of rural economies, which in turn fed into burgeoning urban centers.

The frontier also spurred resource extraction industries—mining, logging, and ranching—which contributed to America's industrialization. However, these activities had environmental repercussions, including deforestation and habitat destruction, which modern assessments often critique.

The Legacy and Mythology of the Frontier

The frontier in American history became entwined with cultural narratives that extended well beyond its chronological end. Its mythology influenced literature, film, and political rhetoric, shaping perceptions of rugged individualism and manifest destiny.

Myth vs. Reality

Popular culture often romanticizes the frontier as a place of heroic pioneers, clear-cut struggles, and manifest progress. In contrast, historical records reveal a more complex reality marked by hardship, social tensions, and diverse experiences.

Key contrasts include:

1. **Heroic Pioneers vs. Collective Effort:** While individualism was celebrated, community cooperation was essential for survival.
2. **Manifest Destiny vs. Ethical Controversies:** Expansion was justified by destiny narratives but involved dispossession and violence.
3. **Opportunity vs. Inequality:** Access to land and resources was uneven, often excluding women, minorities, and the poor.

Influence on American Identity

Despite its contradictions, the frontier shaped enduring American values such as self-reliance, innovation, and a belief in progress. Politicians and cultural leaders have invoked frontier imagery to rally national unity and inspire ambition.

Moreover, the concept of a “new frontier” has persisted metaphorically, applied to areas like space exploration and technological innovation, indicating the frontier’s deep-rooted place in the American psyche.

Contemporary Perspectives and Reinterpretations

Modern historians and scholars have expanded the study of the frontier to include environmental history, gender studies, and indigenous perspectives. This broader approach challenges traditional narratives and highlights the complexity of frontier dynamics.

For example, environmental historians emphasize how frontier expansion transformed landscapes and ecosystems. Gender studies explore the roles and experiences of women on the frontier, often neglected in earlier accounts. Indigenous scholars foreground native agency and resilience rather than portraying tribes solely as victims.

These reinterpretations contribute to a more balanced and comprehensive understanding of the frontier in American history.

Frontier in American Education and Scholarship

Today, the frontier remains a key subject in academic curricula and research. Universities offer interdisciplinary courses that examine frontier history alongside cultural, environmental, and political dimensions. Public history initiatives and museums seek to present diverse narratives, ensuring that the frontier’s legacy is accessible and critically examined by wider audiences.

Conclusion: The Frontier’s End and Its Enduring Impact

While the physical frontier closed officially in 1890, its influence resonates in American culture and historical consciousness. The frontier in American history serves as a lens through which to understand the nation’s complexities, contradictions, and aspirations. It invites ongoing reflection about how societies grow, how identities form, and how history is remembered and retold.

In essence, the frontier was not merely a geographical boundary but a dynamic process that shaped the United States in profound and lasting ways.

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the frontier in american history: The Significance of the Frontier in American History Frederick Jackson Turner, 2008-08-07 This hugely influential work marked a turning point in US history and culture, arguing that the nation's expansion into the Great West was directly linked to its unique spirit: a rugged individualism forged at the juncture between civilization and wilderness, which – for better or worse – lies at the heart of American identity today. Throughout history, some books have changed the world. They have transformed the way we see ourselves – and each other. They have inspired debate, dissent, war and revolution. They have enlightened, outraged, provoked and comforted. They have enriched lives – and destroyed them. Now Penguin brings you the works of the great thinkers, pioneers, radicals and visionaries whose ideas shook civilization and helped make us who we are.

the frontier in american history: The Frontier in American History (Annotated) Frederick Jackson Turner, 2020-01-30 Differentiated book- It has a historical context with research of the time-The Frontier thesis or Turner thesis, is the argument advanced by historian Frederick Jackson Turner in 1893 that American democracy was formed by the American frontier. He stressed the process-the moving frontier line-and the impact it had on pioneers going through the process. He also stressed results, especially that American democracy was the primary result, along with egalitarianism, a lack of interest in high culture, and violence. American democracy was born of no theorist's dream; it was not carried in the Susan Constant to Virginia, nor in the Mayflower to Plymouth. It came out of the American forest, and it gained new strength each time it touched a new frontier, said Turner. In the thesis, the American frontier established liberty by releasing Americans from European mindsets and eroding old, dysfunctional customs. The frontier had no need for standing armies, established churches, aristocrats or nobles. There was no landed gentry who controlled most of the land and charged heavy rents and fees. Frontier land was practically free for the taking. Turner first announced his thesis in a paper entitled *The Significance of the Frontier in American History*, delivered to the American Historical Association in 1893 in Chicago. He won wide acclaim among historians and intellectuals. Turner elaborated on the theme in his advanced history lectures and in a series of essays published over the next 25 years, published along with his initial paper as *The Frontier in American History*.

the frontier in american history: *The Significance of the Frontier in American History* Joanna Dee Das, Joseph Tandler, 2017-07-05 Frederick Jackson Turner's 1893 essay on the history of the United States remains one of the most famous and influential works in the American canon. That is a testament to Turner's powers of creative synthesis; in a few short pages, he succeeded in redefining the way in which whole generations of Americans understood the manner in which their country was shaped, and their own character moulded, by the frontier experience. It is largely thanks to Turner's influence that the idea of America as the home of a sturdily independent people – one prepared, ultimately, to obtain justice for themselves if they could not find it elsewhere – was born. The impact of these ideas can still be felt today: in many Americans' suspicion of big government, in their attachment to guns – even in Star Trek's vision of space as the final frontier. Turner's thesis may now be criticised as limited (in its exclusion of women) and over-stated (in its focus on the western frontier). That it redefined an issue in a highly impactful way – and that it did so exceptionally eloquently – cannot be doubted.

the frontier in american history: The Frontier in American History Frederick Turner, 2018-10-08 *The Significance of the Frontier in American History*--Chapter 1 of this book--is one of the most important historical essays in United States history. It was originally presented by Frederick Jackson Turner at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893 and published

later that year. It was later incorporated into Turner's 1921 book *The Frontier in American History*. Here Turner presents his views on how the idea of the frontier shaped the American character and culture. He argues that the frontier has been the driving force in American history and he uses it to explain why America is what it is today. This frontier thesis has been both greatly respected and debated. Critics argue that many factors have influenced American culture and that Turner placed too great of an emphasis on the role on Westward expansion and the frontier experience. Still insightful over 100 years later, Turner's complete original essays are reproduced here for the modern audience to consider anew.

the frontier in american history: *The Turner Thesis* George Rogers Taylor, 1949 Problems in American Civilization is a distinguished series of topical readers centered upon important and controversial events, movements, theories, and personalities in American history from Colonial times to the present. Each volume brings together, under eminent editorship, numerous views on its theme, inspiring the reader to check, sift, interpret, and draw conclusions from a variety of authoritative sources. Suggestions for additional reading are included. For further details write to Faculty Correspondent, D. C. Heath and Company, 125 Spring Street, Lexington, Massachusetts 02173.--Publisher.

the frontier in american history: Shaping the American Character: The Significance of the Frontier in American History Frederick Jackson Turner, 2012-01-10 More than a hundred years after it was first articulated, Frederick Jackson Turner's frontier thesis remains one of the key interpretations of American history. Turner argued that the European heritage of Americans was less important in understanding the country they had made than their own experience in settling a continent. It was the circumstances of life on the frontier in fact a succession of frontiers that moved inexorably westward that were a determining influence on American character and institutions. Turner read this paper propounding his thesis at the meeting of the American Historical Association in Chicago, July 12, 1893, as part of the World's Columbian Exposition. It was timely, he suggested, because the Census of 1890 had announced the closing of the frontier in the United States and thus the end of an important stage of American development.

the frontier in american history: **The Frontier in American History** Frederick Jackson Turner, 2023-12-15 In *The Frontier in American History*, Frederick Jackson Turner presents a groundbreaking analysis of the role the American frontier played in shaping the nation's identity. Written in 1893, this seminal work employs a blend of narrative history and rigorous analysis, arguing that the continuous westward expansion fostered democracy, individualism, and a unique national character. Turner posits that the frontier experience was a major catalyst for American innovation and social development, positioning the landscape as a dynamic 'safety valve' for social tensions and a transformative pressure on cultural norms. His text marked a pivotal point in historiography, igniting discussions on American exceptionalism and the historical relevance of the frontier mythos in shaping the collective psyche of the United States. Turner, an influential historian of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, was deeply immersed in the themes of Westward expansion and American identity. His upbringing in the Midwest and exposure to the vast American landscape profoundly impacted his perceptions of cultural evolution. His presentation of the frontier thesis challenged the prevailing Eurocentric views of history, thus laying the groundwork for subsequent scholarship in American history, geography, and sociology. Turner's insights reflect not only his academic prowess but also his investment in the American narrative and its implications for national identity. For readers seeking a deeper understanding of the American experience, Turner's work is indispensable. Its insightful exploration of the frontier's impact on democracy and culture offers vital perspectives relevant to contemporary discussions about identity and land in the U.S. This text is essential for historians, students, and anyone interested in the intricate weave of American history, and it ultimately becomes a lens through which we can assess both the past and the future of the nation.

the frontier in american history: *The Frontier in American History* Frederick Jackson Turner, 2024-11-21 *The Frontier in American History* by Frederick Jackson Turner is a seminal work that

profoundly shaped the understanding of the American character and its development through the lens of westward expansion. First delivered as a paper in 1893, Turner's thesis argues that the American frontier experience was pivotal in forging a unique national identity, distinct from European influences. Turner contends that the availability of free land and the challenges of frontier life fostered individualism, democracy, and innovation among Americans. He explores how the continuous movement westward not only transformed the landscape but also the psyche of the nation, creating a spirit of resilience and adaptability. Throughout the work, he highlights the cultural, economic, and political implications of this expansion, examining how it influenced various aspects of American life, from social structures to the arts. *The Frontier in American History* is celebrated for its groundbreaking ideas and has been a foundational text in American historiography. Turner's insights into the significance of the frontier have sparked extensive debate and further research, prompting historians to reassess the complexities of American identity and the impact of westward expansion on different communities. Readers are drawn to *The Frontier in American History* for its compelling narrative and thought-provoking analysis, making it essential for anyone interested in understanding the roots of American culture and values. Owning a copy of *The Frontier in American History* provides an opportunity to engage with Turner's influential ideas, offering insights that remain relevant in contemporary discussions about identity, culture, and the American experience, making it a valuable addition to any library.

the frontier in american history: The Frontier in American History, by Frederick Jackson Turner. Frederick Jackson Turner, 2006-09-01

the frontier in american history: The Frontier in American History Frederick Jackson Turner, 2017-10-07 Frederick Jackson Turner (November 14, 1861 - March 14, 1932) was an American historian in the early 20th century, based at the University of Wisconsin until 1910, and then at Harvard. He trained many PhDs who came to occupy prominent places in the history profession. He promoted interdisciplinary and quantitative methods, often with a focus on the Midwest. He is best known for his essay *The Significance of the Frontier in American History*, whose ideas formed the Frontier Thesis. He argued that the moving western frontier shaped American democracy and the American character from the colonial era until 1890. He is also known for his theories of geographical sectionalism. In recent years historians and academics have argued strenuously over Turner's work; all agree that the Frontier Thesis has had an enormous impact on historical scholarship and the American mind. Early life, education, and career: Born in Portage, Wisconsin, the son of Andrew Jackson Turner and Mary Olivia Hanford Turner, Turner grew up in a middle-class family. His father was active in Republican politics, an investor in the railroad, and was a newspaper editor and publisher. His mother taught school. Turner was very much influenced by the writing of Ralph Waldo Emerson, a poet known for his focus on nature; so too was Turner influenced by scientists such as Charles Darwin, Herbert Spencer, and Julian Huxley, and the development of Cartography. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin (now University of Wisconsin-Madison) in 1884, where he was a member of Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity. He earned his Ph.D. in history from Johns Hopkins University in 1890 with a thesis on the Wisconsin fur trade, titled *The Character and Influence of the Indian Trade in Wisconsin*, directed by Herbert Baxter Adams. Turner did not publish extensively; his influence came from tersely expressed interpretive theories (published in articles), which influenced his hundreds of disciples. Two theories in particular were influential, the Frontier Thesis and the Sectional Hypothesis. Although he published little, he did more research than almost anyone and had an encyclopedic knowledge of American history, earning a reputation by 1910 as one of the two or three most influential historians in the country. He proved adept at promoting his ideas and his students, whom he systematically placed in leading universities, including Merle Curti and Marcus Lee Hansen. He circulated copies of his essays and lectures to important scholars and literary figures, published extensively in highbrow magazines, recycled favorite material, attaining the largest possible audience for key concepts, and wielded considerable influence within the American Historical Association as an officer and advisor for the *American Historical Review*. His emphasis on the importance of the frontier in shaping American character

influenced the interpretation found in thousands of scholarly histories. By the time Turner died in 1932, 60% of the leading history departments in the U.S. were teaching courses in frontier history along Turnerian lines. Annoyed by the university regents who demanded less research and more teaching and state service, Turner sought out an environment that would support research. Declining offers from California, he accepted a call to Harvard in 1910 and remained a professor there until 1922, being succeeded in 1924 by Arthur M. Schlesinger, Sr. In 1907 Turner was elected a member of the American Antiquarian Society, and in 1911 he was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Turner was never comfortable at Harvard; when he retired in 1922 he became a visiting scholar at the Huntington Library in Los Angeles, where his note cards and files continued to pile up, although few monographs got published. His *The Frontier in American History* (1920) was a collection of older essays....

the frontier in american history: Rereading Frederick Jackson Turner Frederick Turner, John Mack Faragher, 1999-02-08 In 1893 a young Frederick Jackson Turner stood before the American Historical Association and delivered his famous frontier thesis. To a less than enthusiastic audience, he argued that the existence of an area of free land, its continuous recession, and the advance of American settlement westward explain American development; that this frontier accounted for American democracy and character; and that the frontier had closed forever with uncertain consequences for the American future. Despite the indifference of Turner's first audience, his essay would soon prove to be the single most influential piece of writing on American history, with extraordinary impact both in intellectual circles and in popular literature. Within a few years his views had become the dominant interpretation of the American past. A collection of his essays won the Pulitzer Prize, and for almost half a century, Turner's thesis was the most familiar model taught in schools, extolled by politicians, and screened in fictional form at local movie theaters each Saturday afternoon. Now, a hundred years after Turner's famous address, award-winning biographer John Mack Faragher collects and introduces the pioneer historian's ten most significant essays. Remarkable for their truly modern sense that a debate about the past is simultaneously a debate about the present, these essays remain stimulating reading, both as a road map to the early-twentieth-century American mind and as a model of committed scholarship. Faragher introduces us to Turner's work with a look at his role as a public intellectual and his effect on Americans' understanding of their national character. In the afterword, Faragher turns to the recent heated debate over Turner's legacy. Western history has reemerged in the news as historians argue over Turner's place in our current mind-set. In a world of dizzying intellectual change, it may come as something of a surprise that historians have taken so long to overturn the interpretation of a century-old conference paper. But while some claim that Turner's vision of the American West as a great egalitarian land of opportunity was long ago dismissed, others, in the words of historian Donald Worster, maintain that Turner still presides over western history like a Holy Ghost.. Against this backdrop, Faragher looks at what the concept of the West means to us today and provides a reader's guide to the provocative new literature of the American frontier. Rereading these essays in the fresh light of Faragher's analysis brings new appreciation for the richness of Turner's work and an understanding of contemporary historians' admiration for Turner's commitment to the study of what it has meant to be American.

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Frontier in American History, whose ideas formed the Frontier Thesis. He argued that the moving western frontier shaped American democracy and the American character from the colonial era until 1890. He is also known for his theories of geographical sectionalism. In recent years historians and academics have argued strenuously over Turner's work; all agree that the Frontier Thesis has had an enormous impact on historical scholarship and the American soul.

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the frontier in american history: The Significance of the Frontier in American History Joanna Dee Das, Joseph Tandler, 2017-07-04 Turner's much-anthologized 1893 essay argues that the vast western frontier shaped the modern American character--and the course of US history. Interacting with both the wilderness and Native Americans, settlers on the frontier developed institutions and character traits quite distinct from Europe.

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Barsheba /Bathsheba Watts - mo - From the book, "John Stuart and the Southern Colonial Frontier", by John Richard Alden, we find that in 1757, John Watts was a supervisor of parties of Cherokees and

Egglestons on the frontier? - E.W was the youngest child of a pioneer family at the time the frontier was rapidly disappearing. E.W.'s father was a farmer and his mom was a school teacher on Indian

Re: Clawsons in SW PA, frontie - Re: Clawsons in SW PA, frontier Ohio & Ind. By John Laird August 30, 1999 at 10:18:16

Re: Book-MD Catholics on the F - The John Layton you mention from the book, b 1730 England, is my 5th great grandfather. Where could I find / purchase Maryland Catholics on the Frontier? Thanks, in

Robert Riley's BIG BOOK OF Ril - It just about says it all I have now received my Riley family history book (s) "The Colonial Riley Families of the Tidewater Frontier, by Robert Shean Riley. This mammoth work

Re: Byars of VA - I am quoting the appraisalment of Col. Byars from the historical article of E. C. Worthington, entitled "A Frontier Home." Col. William Byars, born November 18th 1776, was

Pompey Negro Slave Shawnee War - Pompey Negro Slave Shawnee War Cheif By Ace Maupin
January 30, 2009 at 11:47:40 AfriGeneas Western Frontier Forum The "Pompey" Factor By:Allen
L.Lee Date:

Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants - The state governments also realized that the revenue derived from the sale of vacant lands in the west was badly needed. The extension of settlements on the frontier would, in time, also

William Grills, frontiersman, - William Grills, frontiersman, family, journal By Richard L. Pangburn
June 13, 2002 at 04:40:00 Researching William Grills. He was captured and adopted by Indians, later became

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