

**Military Research
Civil War
1861-1865**

And

Mexican-American War
1846-1848

Little Known War

- Mexican – American War 1846-1848
 - President Polk’s war
 - Looking to expand the United States from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean
 - Newspaper editor [John O'Sullivan](#) is generally credited with coining the term *manifest destiny* in 1845 to describe the essence of this mindset, which was a rhetorical tone.
 - Texas petitioned for United States Annexation 1845.

Mexican-American War

- Mexico granted independence from Spain in 1821
 - Mexico contended with internal struggles that sometimes verged on civil war.
 - Protecting the Northern Frontier was not a high priority
 - The Comanche were particularly successful in expanding their territory in the Comanche–Mexico Wars and garnering resources.
 - The Apache–Mexico Wars also made Mexico's north a violent place, with no effective political control.
 - In 1829, as a result of the large influx of American immigrants, the non-Hispanic outnumbered native Spanish speakers in the Texas territory.

Mexican-American War



Mexico in 1824. Alta California is the northwestern most federal territory.

Mexican-American War

- Texas Republic
 - In 1834, General Antonio López de Santa Anna became the centralist dictator of Mexico, abandoning the federal system.
 - Santa Anna decided to quash the semi-independence of Texas.
 - Texas declared independence from Mexico 1836.
 - Remember the Alamo
 - Santa Anna defeated and captured at the Battle of San Jacinto
 - Santa Anna signed treaty recognizing Texas Independence

Mexican-American War



Texas and Mexico had disputes about the location of the southern border. Something Mexico never agreed in the Treaty of Texas Independence. Mexico said the southern border was at the Nueces River. Texas claimed the southern border as the Rio Grande River extending up to and including Santa Fe. This dispute would lead to the Mexican-American War

Mexican-American War

- Events:
 - July 1845, James Slidell sent to Mexico with offer of \$35M for half of Mexico (Mexico Refuses Offer)
 - Texas annexed into US and becomes the 28th State December 29, 1845 despite Mexico claims to the contrary.
 - Polk orders Army to Texas to defend the Rio Grande.
 - April 1846, elements of American and Mexican forces engage in skirmishes. Several Americans killed.
 - Polk invokes American blood spilled on American ground, Congress declares war on Mexico May 13, 1846.

Mexican-American War



Mexican-American War

- New Mexico
 - August 1846, General Kearny and the Mormon Battalion march on Santa Fe.
 - New Mexico Governor Manuel Armijo decides not to defend NM and retreats to Mexico leaving NM in United State control.
 - Except for the December 25, 1846, battle at Brazitos, south of Mesilla, there were no encounters between regular Mexican forces and American troops in New Mexico. For all practical purposes, Kearny's occupation of Santa Fe ended New Mexico's official involvement in the war.
 - Fighting would continue between the New Mexicans and the American Army in 1847.

Mexican-American War

- California & Pacific Campaign – Captain John Fremont, Commodore John Sloat (US Pacific Squadron)
- Northern Mexico Campaign – General Zachary Taylor
- Mexico City Campaign – General Winfield Scott, Commodore Andrew Perry (US Atlantic Squadron)
- Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, signed February 2, 1848

Mexican-American War

- Impact on the United States.
 - The treaty gave the U.S. undisputed control of Texas, established the U.S.-Mexican border of the Rio Grande, and ceded to the United States the present-day states of California, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, most of Arizona and Colorado, and parts of Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Wyoming.
 - In return, US would pay \$15M to Mexico.
 - US agreed to pay \$3.25M for debts owed by Mexico to US Citizens.

Mexican-American War



The Mexican Cession, shown in red, and the later Gadsden Purchase, shown in yellow. The US would pay cash strapped President Santa Anna \$10M for the lower portion of Arizona and New Mexico in 1853.

Mexican-American War

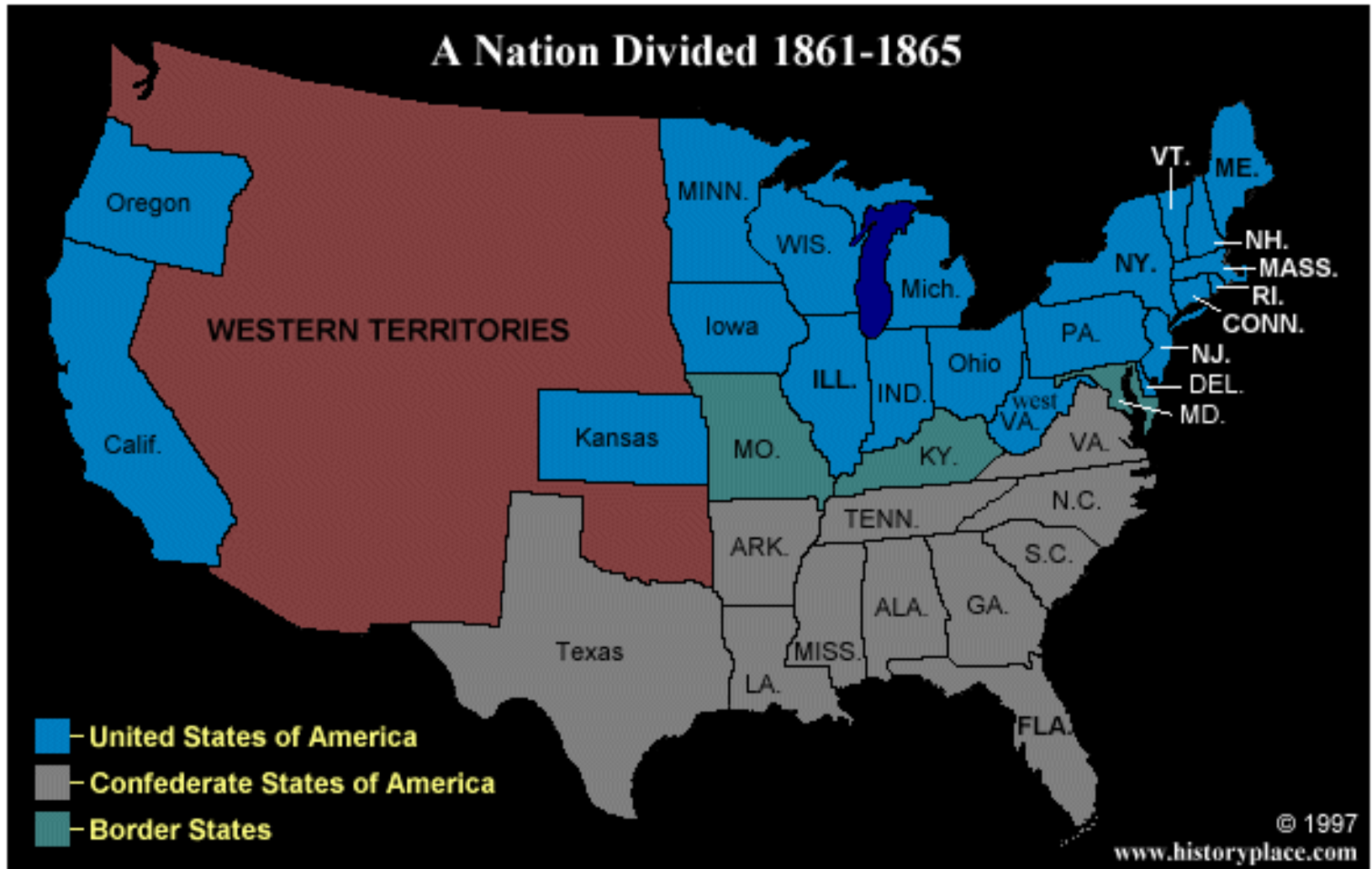
- Impact on the United States Civil War
 - Many of the military leaders on both sides of the American Civil War were trained at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and had fought as junior officers in Mexico.
 - Military men fighting for the Union: Ulysses S. Grant, George B. McClellan, William T. Sherman, George Meade, William Rosecrans, and Ambrose Burnside.
 - Military men who joined the Confederate States of America were Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, James Longstreet, Joseph E. Johnston, Braxton Bragg, Sterling Price, and the future Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

US Territories Acquired



Civil War

Union vs Confederate States



Civil War – Fort Sumter

- Fort Sumter attacked April 12, 1861
 - CSA had ordered the abandonment of all forts in the South.
 - Major Anderson refused, Fort Sumter build not complete due to President Buchanan's budget cuts.
 - Fort Sumter shelled for 34 hours.
 - No deaths on either side as a direct result of this engagement.

Civil War – Early Strategies

<http://www.civilwarhome.com/strategyandtactics.html>

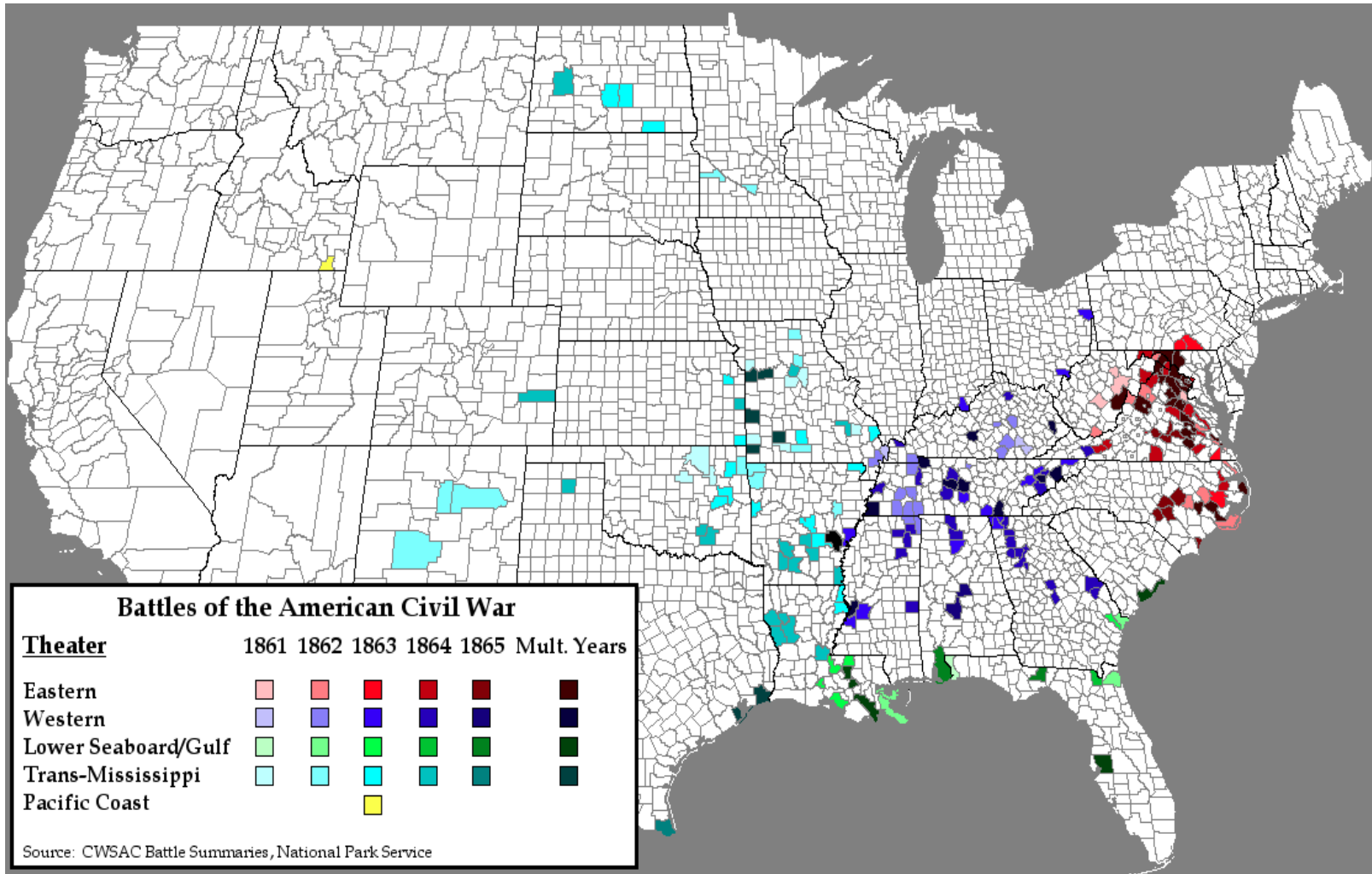
- North – Anaconda Plan
 - Blockade the South
 - Strong Thrust down the Mississippi valley with a large force
 - Line of strong Union position to isolate the Confederates
 - Aggressively adopted by Grant and Sherman in 1864
- South – Defend from Conquest
 - Win by not losing (wear down your opponent)
 - George Washington Strategy – Trade space for time
 - Eventually coalesced into the Offensive-Defensive strategy (Concentrate dispersed forces on an invading army and go on the offensive if the opportunity prevailed.)

Civil War - Europe

- Britain and France ruled by Monarchies.
 - Not fond of rebellions
- France – Remained Neutral throughout the war.
 - Napoléon took advantage of the Civil War to establish a French puppet state in Mexico. (Maximilian)
- Britain – Lot of Sympathies for the South
 - Mason/Trent Incident almost lead Britain to declare war on the Union (United States) 1861.
- Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation changed the tone of the war.

Civil War Battles

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_American_Civil_War_battles



Civil War - 1861

- April 12, [Battle of Fort Sumter](#) Charleston Harbor, South Carolina
- June 3, [Battle of Philippi](#), (West) Virginia
- A skirmish involving over 3,000 soldiers, Philippi was the [first battle of the civil war](#).
- June 10, Battle of Big Bethel, Virginia
- July 11, Battle of Rich Mountain, (West) Virginia
- July 21, [First Battle of Bull Run](#) Manassas, Virginia
- Also known as First Manassas, the first major engagement of the civil war.
- November 7–8, [Battle of Port Royal](#) Sound, South Carolina
- The battle of Port Royal was one of the earliest amphibious operations of the American Civil War.
- November 7, [Battle of Belmont](#), Missouri
- General Ulysses S. Grant took command and began his Civil War career.

Civil War - 1862

February 8, Roanoke Island, North Carolina

March 8–9, [Battle Of Hampton Roads](#), Virginia

First battle between the ironclad warships, *Monitor & Merrimack*.

April 5–May 4 Siege of Yorktown, Virginia

June 26, Beaver Dam Creek, Virginia*

June 27, Gaines Mill, Virginia*

June 27–28, Garnett's Farm and Golding's Farm, Virginia*

June 29, Savage Station and Allen's Farm, Virginia*

June 30, White Oak Swamp, Virginia*

June 30, Glendale, Virginia*

July 1, Malvern Hill, Virginia*

(*Collectively known as the **Seven Days Campaign** or [Seven Days Battles](#).)

August 9, Battle of Cedar Mountain, Virginia

August 28–30, [Second Battle of Bull Run](#) Manassas, Virginia

September 12–15, Harpers Ferry, (West) Virginia

September 14, [Battle of South Mountain](#), Maryland

September 17, [Battle of Antietam](#) / Sharpsburg

September 19–20, Shepherdstown, (West) Virginia

Union General George McClellan pursued Robert E. Lee through three mountain passes during the Maryland Campaign.

Civil War – 1862 (Continued)

December 11–15, [Battle of Fredericksburg](#), Virginia

February 6, [Fort Henry](#), Tennessee

February 11–16, Siege of [Fort Donelson](#), Tennessee

March 3–April 8, Siege of New Madrid and Island No. 10, Missouri (Mississippi River)

April 6–7, [Battle of Shiloh](#), Tennessee

May 25–30, [Siege of Corinth](#), Corinth, Mississippi

Henry Halleck took Corinth after a month-long siege.

June 28, [Battle of Vicksburg](#), Mississippi

August 29, [Battle of Richmond](#), Kentucky

October 3–4, [Battle of Corinth](#), Mississippi

Two years after the Siege of Corinth, Maj. General William S. Rosecrans defeated the Confederate Army.

October 5, Hatchie's Bridge, Tennessee

October 8, [Battle of Perryville](#), Kentucky.

Account of the 21st Wisconsin Infantry Regiment's harrowing fight.

December 31–January 2, [Battle of Stones River](#) / Murfreesboro, Tennessee

The culmination of the Stones River Campaign, the battle of Stones River had the highest casualty rates on both sides.

March 8, [Battle of Pea Ridge](#), Arkansas

October 4, Battle of Galveston, Texas

Civil War - 1863

- April 30–May 6, [Battle of Chancellorsville](#), Virginia
May 3, Fredericksburg, Virginia
July 1–3, [Battle of Gettysburg](#), Pennsylvania
April 10, [Battle of Franklin](#), Tennessee.
 - Account of the bloody confederate slaughter in Franklin, Tennessee.
 - May 18–July 4, [Siege of Vicksburg](#), Mississippi
September 18, [Battle Of Chickamauga](#), Georgia
November 23-25, [Battle Of Chattanooga](#),
Tennessee November 24, Lookout Mountain
(Chattanooga), Tennessee
- Civil War 1864

Civil War -1864

- May 5–7, [Battle Of The Wilderness](#), Virginia
- May 6–7, Port Walthall Junction, Virginia
- May 8–21, [Battle of Spotsylvania Courthouse](#), Virginia
- May 15, [Battle of New Market](#), Shenandoah County, Virginia
- The Confederates, along with cadets from VMI, drove Union General Franz Sigel out of the Shenandoah Valley.
- May 31-June 12, [Battle of Cold Harbor](#), Virginia
- June 15–18, [Battle of Petersburg](#), Virginia
- July 30, Battle of the Crater, [Siege of Petersburg](#), Virginia
- September 21–24, [Battle of Fisher's Hill](#), Virginia
- Union Major General Philip H. Sheridan attacked the seemingly impregnable heights of Fisher's Hill, grandly known as the 'Gibraltar of the Shenandoah Valley.'
- April 12, [Battle of Fort Pillow](#), Tennessee
- Nathan Bedford Forrest led a massacre in Tennessee.
- May 7–13. Rocky Face, Georgia
- May 13–15, [Battle of Resaca](#), Georgia
- Major General William T. Sherman took on Joseph E. Johnston during the Atlanta campaign.
- July 22, [Battle of Atlanta](#), Georgia
- December 15–16, [Battle of Nashville](#) Nashville, Tennessee
- The battle of Nashville was the last major battle in the Western Theater and a major victory for the Union.
- December 24–27, Fort Fisher, North Carolina
- August 5, [Battle of Mobile Bay](#)

Civil War - 1865

April 5, [Amelia Springs](#), Virginia*

April 6, [Rice's Station](#), Virginia*

April 6, [Saylor's Creek](#), Virginia*

April 6–7, [High Bridge](#), Virginia*

April 7, [Cumberland Church](#), Virginia*

April 8, [Appomattox Courthouse](#) at Appomattox Station, Virginia*

April 9, General Robert E. Lee surrenders to General Ulysses S. Grant at the Appomattox Court House in Virginia (***Collectively known as the [Appomattox Campaign](#).***)

Civil War – Human Lives Cost

<https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/facts.htm>

- 4,000,000 freed. 750,000 dead. 1 nation saved.
- Casualties (Battle Deaths, Disease, Wounded, POW)
 - North: 642,427 (Mortality Rate: 15.5%)
 - South: 483,026 (Mortality Rate: 12%)
- The bloodiest battles of the Civil War were:
 - Gettysburg: 51,116 casualties
 - Seven Days: 36,463 casualties
 - Chickamauga: 34,624 casualties
 - Chancellorsville: 29,609 casualties
 - Antietam: 22,726 casualties
- Note: Antietam had the greatest number of casualties of any single-day battle.
- Lincoln Assassination (April 14, 1865 – Ford Theatre, Washington DC)

Civil War – Economic Cost

- 1860 – All taxes derived from tariffs
 - US Budget \$63 Million
 - National Debt: \$65 Million
 - Revolutionary War Debt 1787: \$77 Million
 - No Income Tax, No estate Tax, and No Excise Tax
- 1865 and after
 - National Debt: \$2.7 Billion
 - Income Tax, Estate Tax, and Excise Tax
 - US Currency Tainted: Union had issued \$430M Greenbacks (not backed by gold)
 - After the war, US Budgets exceeded \$300 Million per year
 - Reconstruction, War Pensions, Corruption

New Mexico – Civil War

February to April, 1862

What's this got to do with New Mexico?

Loosely based story on Brigadier General Henry Hopkins Sibley's campaign to gain control of the Southwest, including the gold fields of Colorado and the ports of California.



Civil War – New Mexico



*Brigadier General
Henry Sibley in his
Confederate Uniform*

Glorieta Pass is commonly referred to as the “Gettysburg of the West.” It was here that Federal forces were finally able to turn back the Southern invasion of New Mexico. The two small armies commanded by Confederate lieutenant colonel William Scurry and Union Colonel John Slough totaled only about 2,500 troops, but the fighting was critical to the outcome of the war in the West. The battle began with a preliminary encounter at Apache Canyon on March 26. March 28 was the decisive day of the conflict, as Scurry attacked Federals resting and filling canteens near Pigeon’s Ranch. The fighting dragged on throughout the day, as the Confederates gradually forced Slough to retreat eastward. When a detachment of Union infantry burned their supply train, the Rebels were forced to retreat back into Texas.

Civil War – New Mexico

March 26 and 28, 1862

