

# THE CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH



## Teachers Guide

By Marsha Jacobs

## **References**

I kindly acknowledge the following reference materials used in gathering information for the  
**Gold Rush Program.**

**California History the Study of Our State** (Teachers Edition)

Program Authors

Dr. Joan Schreiber, William Stepien, Dr. John Patrick, Dr. Richard Remy,  
Dr. Geneva Gay, Dr. Alan Hoffman

**Dover Books Story of the California Gold Rush Coloring Book**

By Peter Copeland

**Instructional Fair**

**Crossing America Series the Oregon Trail**

By Ann Lockledge and Ted Hanson

**The Great American Gold Rush**

By Rhonda Blumberg

**The California Gold Rush**

By American Heritage

The Magazine of History

# PLANNING YOUR TRIP TO THE HERITAGE MUSEUM OF ORANGE COUNTY

## THE CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH

Thank you for your recent program reservation. As you prepare for your visit, we want to help you with the logistics of your field trip. We hope these suggestions will provide you with the information you need to have a successful, enjoyable, and educational day.

**Using the Teacher's Guide to prepare your students for their field trip will help them to understand the program and the activities planned for them at the museum.**

**Please provide a copy of this packet to all teachers coming on the field trip.**

1. **Clothing** The program includes hiking through brushy areas. Sturdy shoes and long pants are strongly suggested for students and adults.
2. **Arrival** The Museum schedules programs throughout the day, so it is imperative that you arrive on time to receive a full program. Allow for the check in process by arriving at least 10 minutes before your program. Please alert the Museum if you know you will be late. Restroom break will be taken at the end of the program, so please have children use restrooms before arriving.
3. **Group/Nametags** Please write each student's first name only on the nametags. Our site interpreters appreciate being able to call everyone by their names. For all adults write the name the students use, i.e. *Ms.* or *Mr. Doe*. Nametags are included in this packet.
4. **List of Students** Please Fill out and bring a copy of the master list of all students included in the packet for emergency information. List any medical problems, physical handicap or learning disability that our site interpreters need to be aware of in order to make their visit enjoyable.
5. **Museum Store** Upon request, we are happy to have the museum gift shop available to your group at lunch or after your program. Items range in price from approximately .50 to \$5.00.
6. **Lunch at the Museum** If you are planning to have your lunch at the Museum please notify Museum staff before you arrive. Lunch will be either after or before your program. All lunches should be placed in a box or container for easy storage and labeled according to school or group name.
7. **Directions** Please provide copies of our map to ALL DRIVERS. *A map is included in this packet.*
8. **Evaluation** We appreciate your comments and suggestions. Please complete the program evaluation and return it to the Museum at your earliest convenience. If you should have any questions feel free to call us at. (714) 540-0404 x222.

**\* WE SUGGEST YOU PROVIDE A COPY OF ALL MATERIALS TO EACH TEACHER AND SUPERVISOR ACCOMPANYING YOUR GROUP.**

*Note: Gold Rush is an outdoor program. It will be necessary to reschedule in the event of rain, high gusty winds, or muddy conditions due to heavy rain just prior to the program. If you are in doubt about conditions at the museum, please leave a voice mail with your name and number for Linda Sheffield (ext. 222) as early as possible the day of the program.*



## Directions to the Heritage Museum of Orange County:

From the 405 freeway, take the Fairview exit. Follow Fairview north (2.2 miles) to Harvard Street. Turn left on Harvard. (Harvard is between Warner and Edinger.) The Museum is located on the right.

From the 55 freeway, take the Edinger Avenue exit. Follow Edinger west (4-5 miles) to Fairview Street. Turn left on Fairview and right on Harvard. The Museum is located on the right.

From the 22 freeway west, take the Haster exit. Turn left onto Haster Street and take the first left onto Garden Grove Blvd. Turn right on Fairview Street. Follow Fairview (4 miles) to Harvard Street. Turn right onto Harvard. The Museum is located on the right.

From the 22 freeway east, take the Fairview exit. Turn right onto Fairview. Follow Fairview south (4 miles) to Harvard Street. Turn right onto Harvard. The Museum is located on the right.

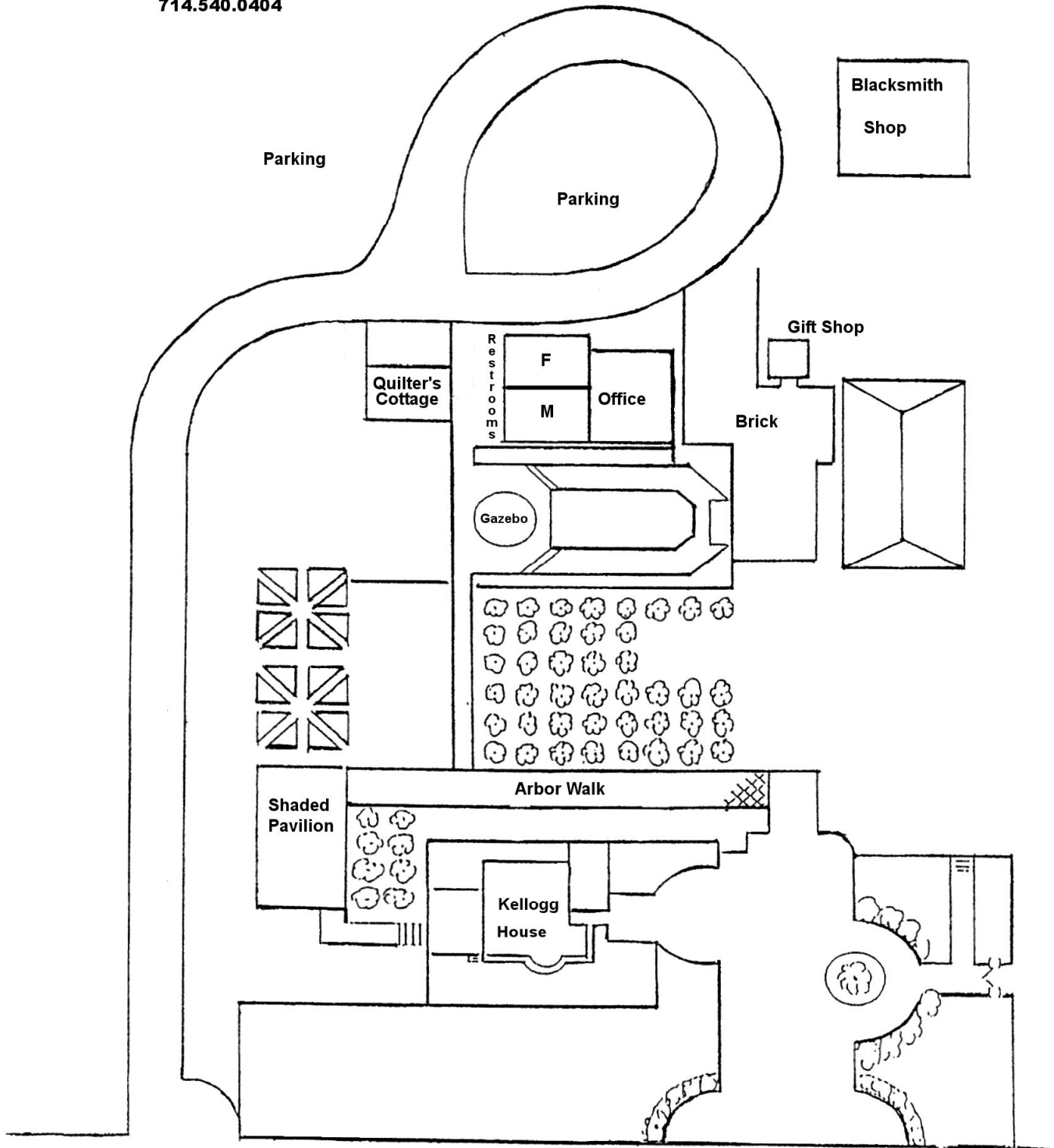
**Parking:** To reach the parking lot, enter through the gate just past the Kellogg House and follow the driveway past the rose garden to the oval parking area behind the 2-story Carriage Barn/office building. School buses will fit through the gate. Buses should pull up in front of the brick walkway area to unload students and lunches, and then they will be directed by museum staff as to where they can park.

**If you get lost or are running late, please call us at (714) 540-0404.**

3101 W. Harvard St., Santa Ana, California 92704 (714) 540-0404, Fax (714) 540-1932

*[www.heritagemuseumoc.org](http://www.heritagemuseumoc.org)*

Heritage Museum of Orange County  
3103 West Harvard Street  
Santa Ana, CA 92704  
714.540.0404



Entrance

Harvard Street

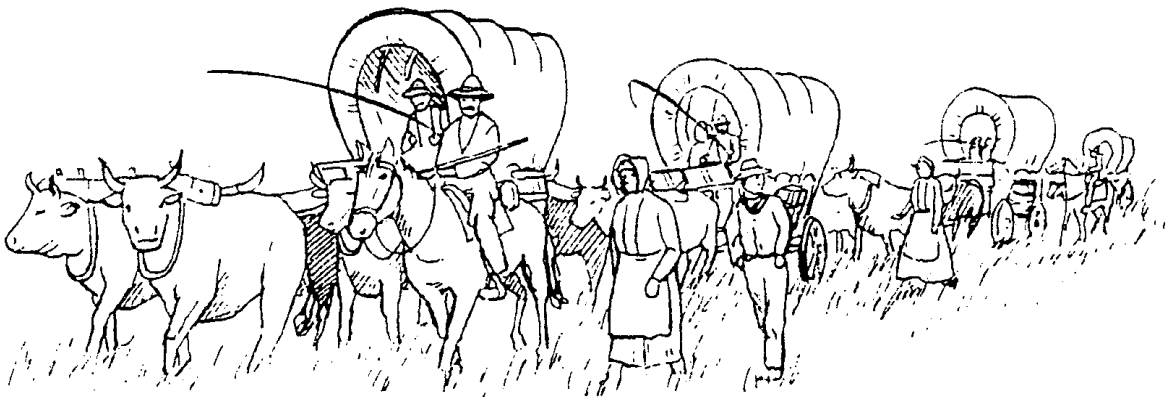
## Teachers Guide / Student Worksheets

We are looking forward to your visit to the Heritage Museum of Orange County. As you prepare for your visit we would like to give you some background information about The Gold Rush program.

School children visit the Museum to learn and discover what life was like at the turn of the century. Through the California Gold Rush program children will learn about the people who helped shape and developed our state into what it is today. They will discover the courage required and the hardships endured as they traveled west in search of California's gold, hoping that fame and riches would ensure them a better way of life. Students will also learn about the diverse ethnic backgrounds and cultures that made it challenging, for miners to trade and live together while searching for gold.

Through hands-on activities students will experience for themselves what it was like to be a miner seeking gold in California. The children will join in as we recreate the traveler's journey to the west. They will learn some of the difficulties and challenges that many faced traveling in a wagon train or sailing the rough seas from lands faraway. They will hear about the explorers who mapped the paths to the west and brought back exaggerated tales of their discoveries: mountains bigger than anyone could ever dream, streams and rivers overflowing with fish, and corn that grew as tall as trees. They will come to understand how these stories influenced people in the east to leave their homes with all the hopes of making a better life for themselves and their families.

**Students Activities will include: Role-playing, making a pioneer craft, panning for fool's gold, identifying the trails leading to Oregon and California.**



# **Extra! Extra!**

## **A newspaper article about the Discovery of Gold**

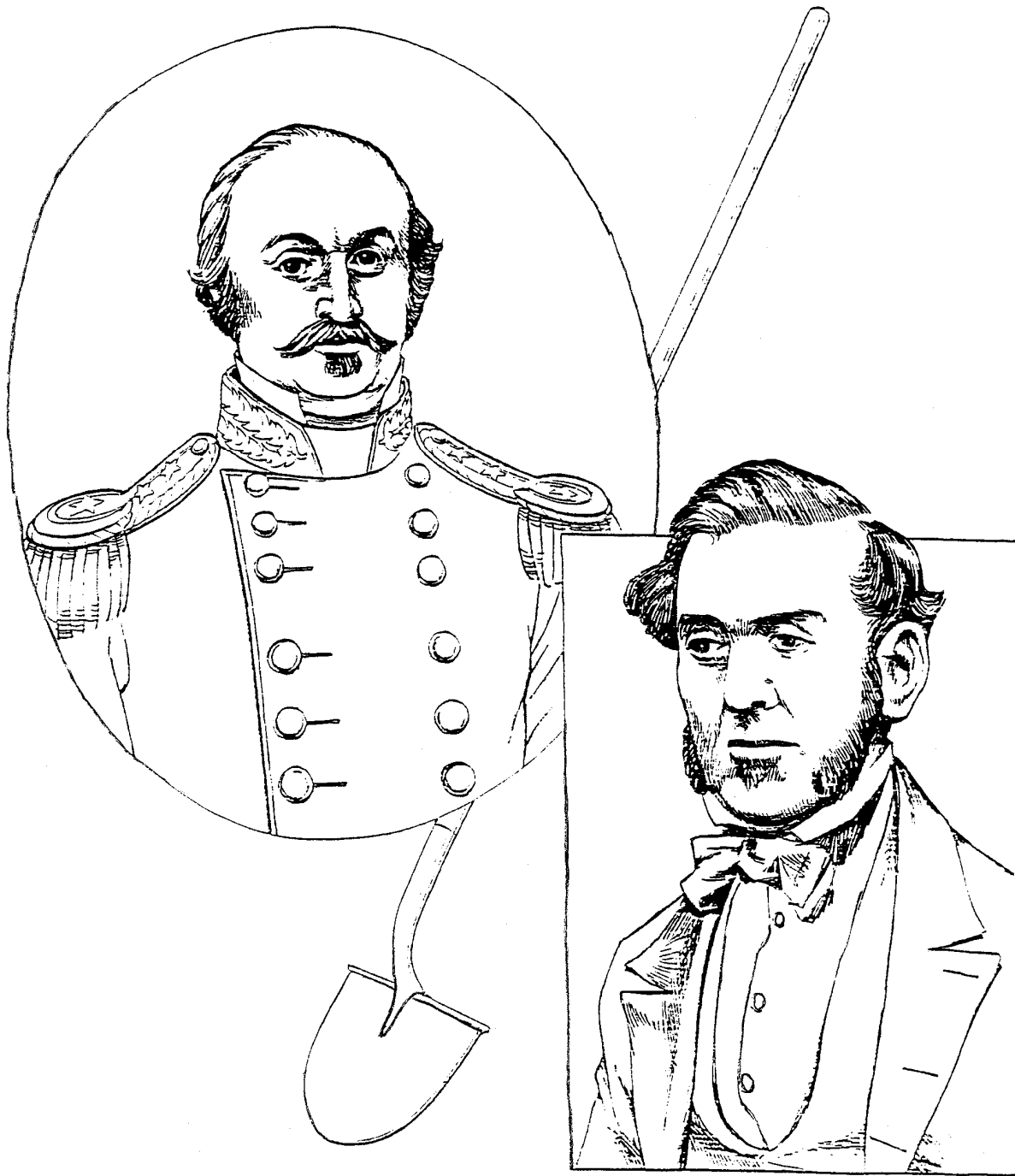
This is a small sample of what a person might have read in a newspaper or heard from peddlers during the Gold Rush. Try to have your students imagine what it would have been like to hear this exciting news in a time when news traveled slowly and when money and gold were rare things.

### **GOLD FOUND IN THE HILLS OF CALIFORNIA**

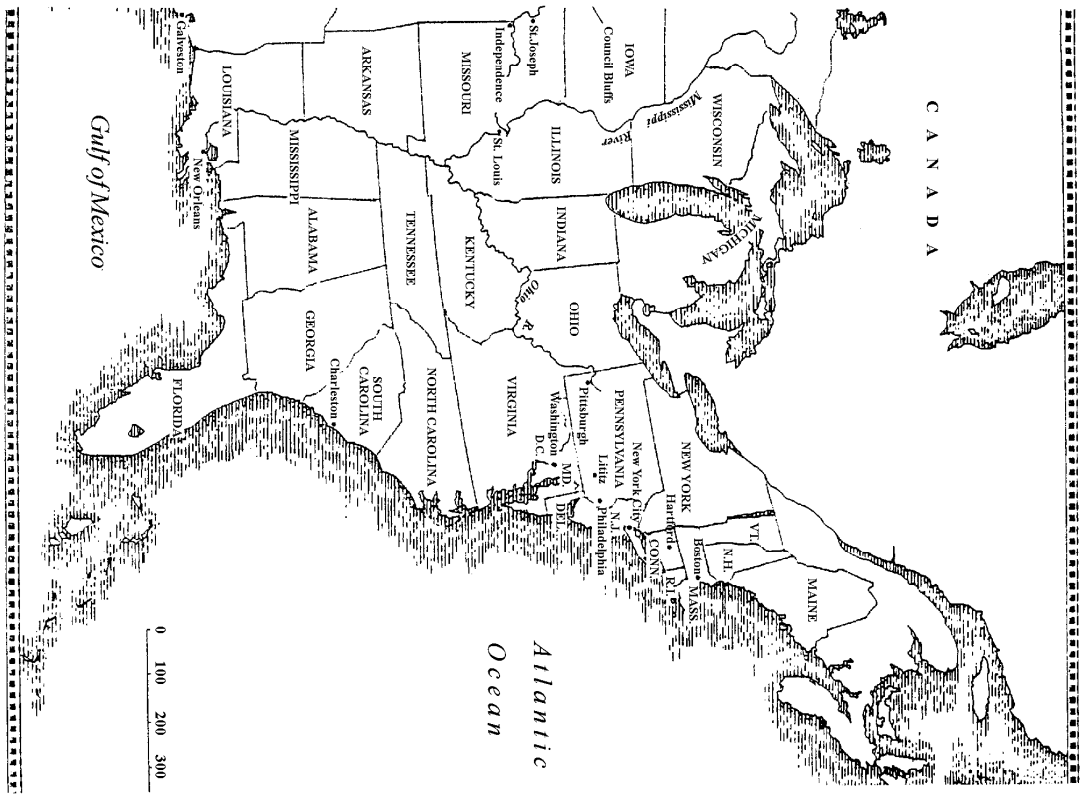
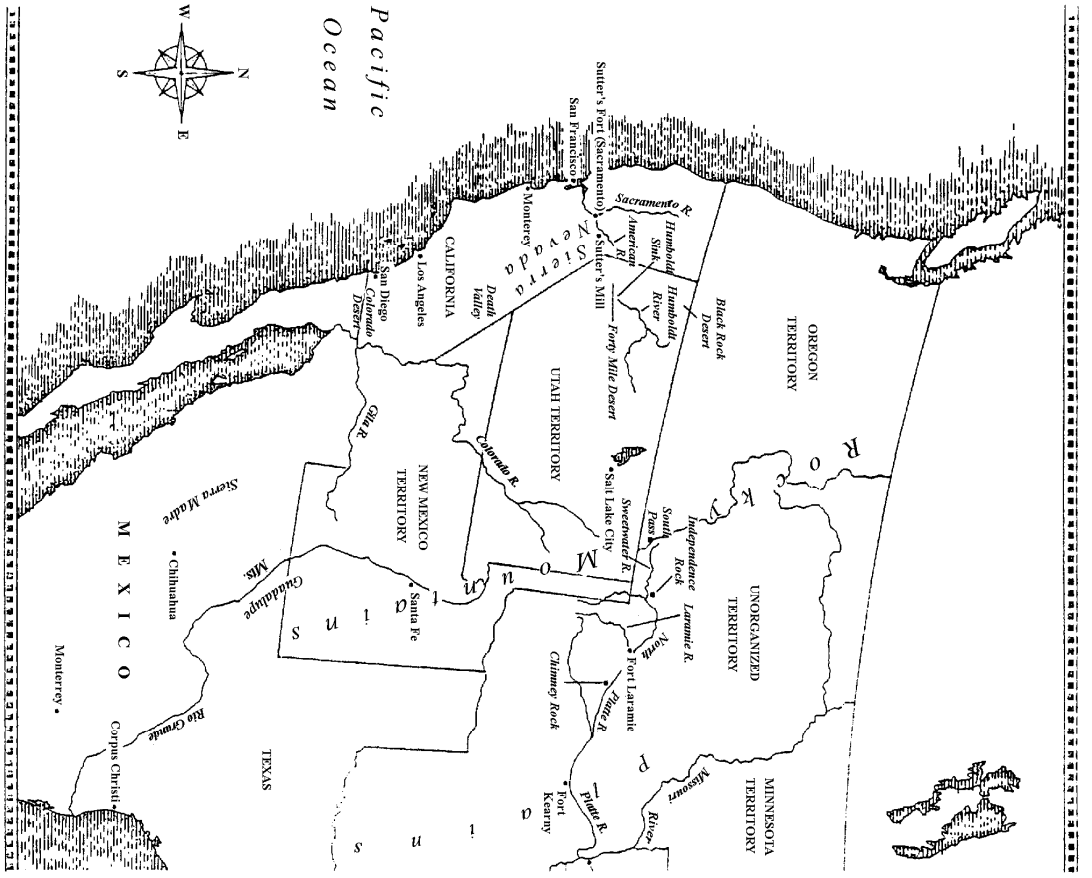
January 1848. John Sutter, a sawmill owner, and his partner James Marshall discovered gold near Sacramento, California, at Sutter's Fort. James Marshall, who found the gold in a stream near the sawmill, was reluctant to talk about his discovery.

Many accounts are pouring in of people ecstatically running through the streets of San Francisco shouting, "EUREKA! I've found gold! Gold, in the American River!" News comes slowly now due to the fact that both newspapers in San Francisco have closed down. Most San Franciscans have left the city in search of gold in the hills of Sacramento.

Have your students imagine they are a newspaper reporter living in Yerba Buena, now called San Francisco, in 1848. Have them write their own article or advertisement about the discovery of gold in California.



Meet **John Sutter** and **Sam Brannon**. John Sutter owned Sutter Fort and the land on which gold was first discovered. Sutter later became a major general in the California state militia. Sam Brannon was a shrewd shopkeeper who spread word of the discovery to encourage would-be miners to outfit themselves at his shop before they went to seek their gold in the fields and hills of California.



The States of the Union and the Western frontier territories  
 The most traveled land trail was from Independence, Missouri, following the Platte River  
 to Fort Kearny and then on to Fort Laramie.

# Sailing Poster

Posters like these about oceangoing vessels were placed on city walls, buildings, and fences. Newspapers featured large advertisements for anyone wanting to travel to the gold filled rivers of California. They often advertised about being the fastest sailing vessels with finest luxury accommodations. What they found however was not always what they read. It took many months and the accommodations were often poor.

**A PASSAGE TO THE GOLD REGION FOR \$75 !**



**FOR SAN FRANCISCO DIRECT.**  
THE SPLENDID A. No. 1 NEWLY COPPERED  
**PACKET SHIP APOLLO**  
recently in the European trade, having most of her freight engaged, will sail for  
**SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA,**  
and the gold region in that vicinity, from the  
**Foot of Chambers Street, North River,**  
WHERE SHE NOW LIES, ON THE SECOND OF JANUARY NEXT.  
Passengers will be taken on the following terms :

<b>Steerage Passage</b>	- * - - - -	<b>\$ 75.</b>
<b>Cabin Passage</b>	- - - - -	<b>150.</b>
<b>Ditto out and home</b>	- - - - -	<b>200-</b>
<b>Ditto with board while there</b>		<b>250.</b>

**Several Families can be Accommodated.**

The advantages offered to passengers by this conveyance cannot be surpassed. The APOLLO is one of the swiftest and most airy ships in New York, and has few equals in speed. She is destined to sail *directly*, not only for San Francisco, but, if it can be done as is expected, she is to be taken up the Sacramento river thirty or forty miles, into the very heart of the Gold Region, where she is to remain for some time.

The voyage each way, it is expected will be made in about four months.

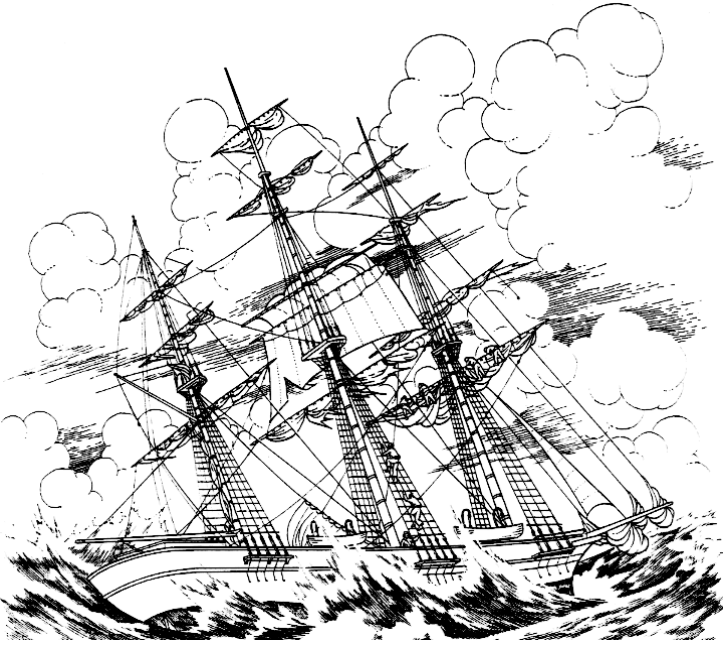
Persons intending to take passage by this vessel will do well to secure their berths *at the earliest possible moment*, as the ship will, in a day or two be occupied entirely by Carpenters, Stevedores and other Mechanics, busily engaged in fitting up berths, stowing freight, taking in a supply of provisions, and making other preparations for the voyage. Choice of Berths will be given to passengers in the order of the numbers upon their passage tickets.

*Freight taken on consignment or otherwise, at the lowest rates.*

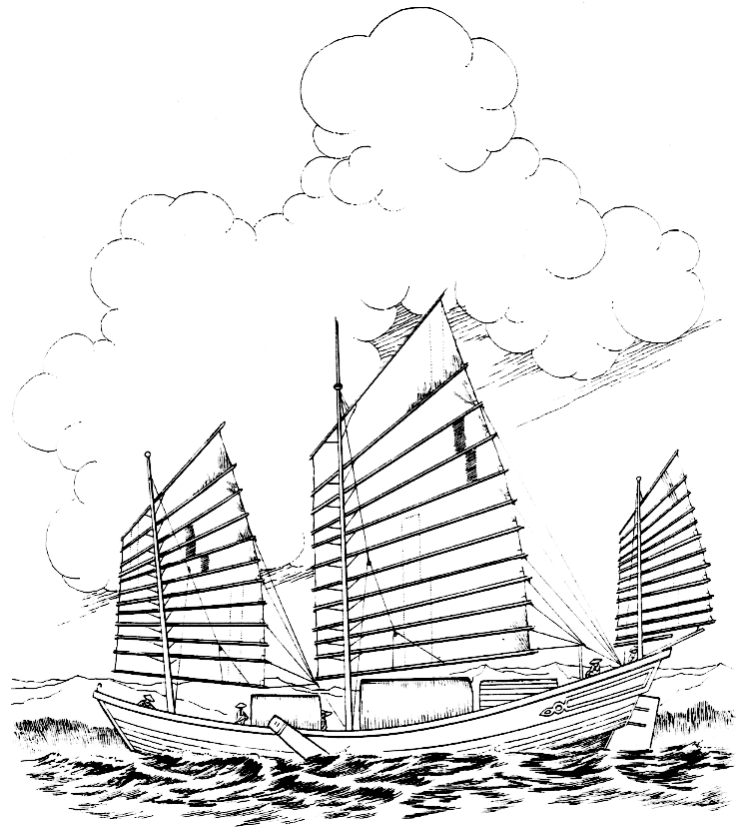
**No Passage secured until paid for.**

As a class assignment have students pair up and design a poster of their own that promotes travel by ship, hot air balloon, or a made-up means of travel such as a land sailing ship. People were so eager to get to California they believed and tried almost anything to get to the gold country.

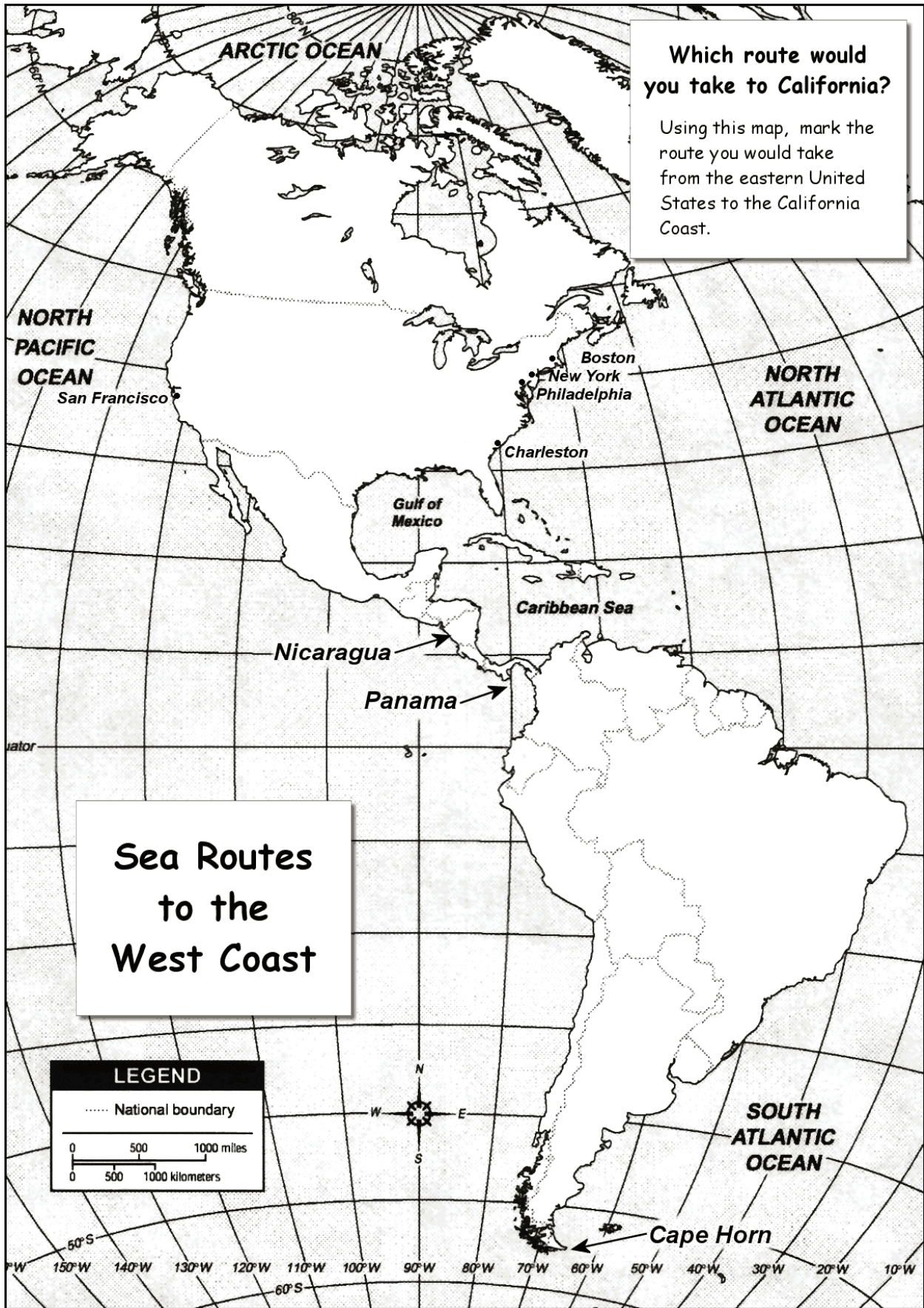
## Sailing to California

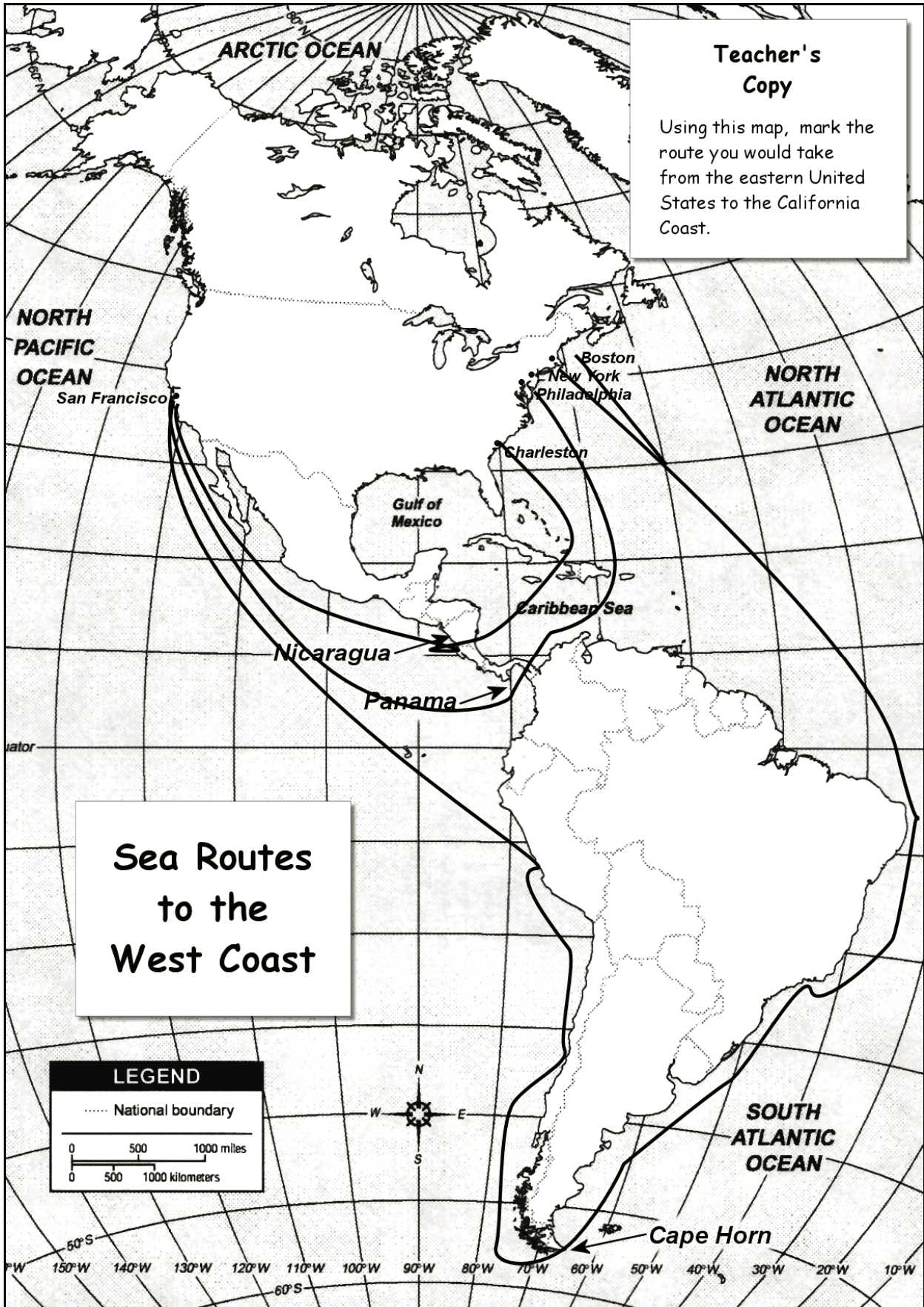


**A California clipper in a Cape Horn storm.**  
Because would-be prospectors were eager to reach California to establish their claims, many traveled the treacherous and stormy seas around the tip of South America, called Cape Horn.



**A Chinese junk in California waters.**  
Gold fever brought ships from all over the world. By 1849, junks like these filled the bay in San Francisco.





**Teacher's Copy**

Using this map, mark the route you would take from the eastern United States to the California Coast.

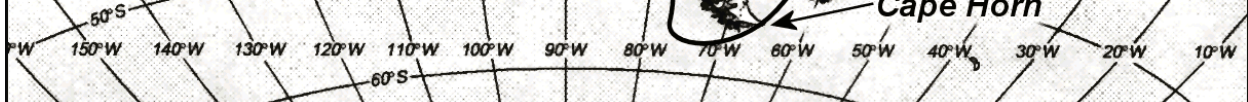
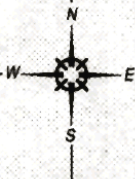
**Sea Routes to the West Coast**

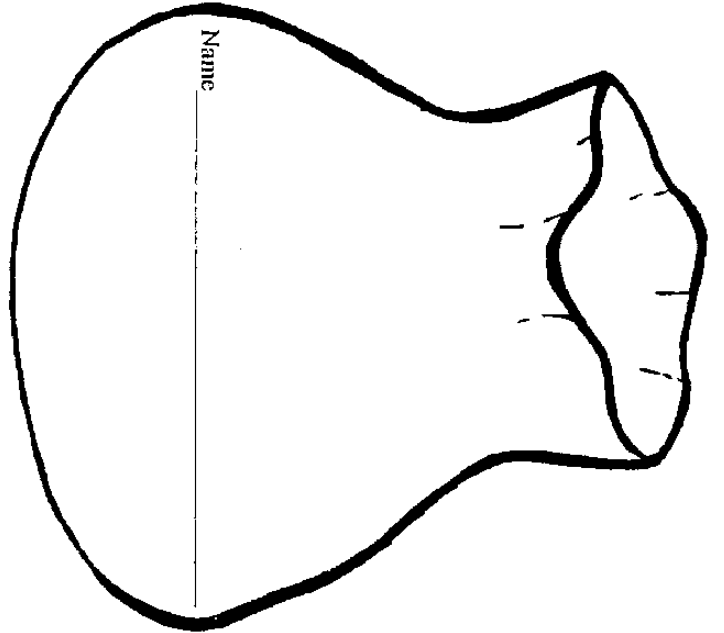
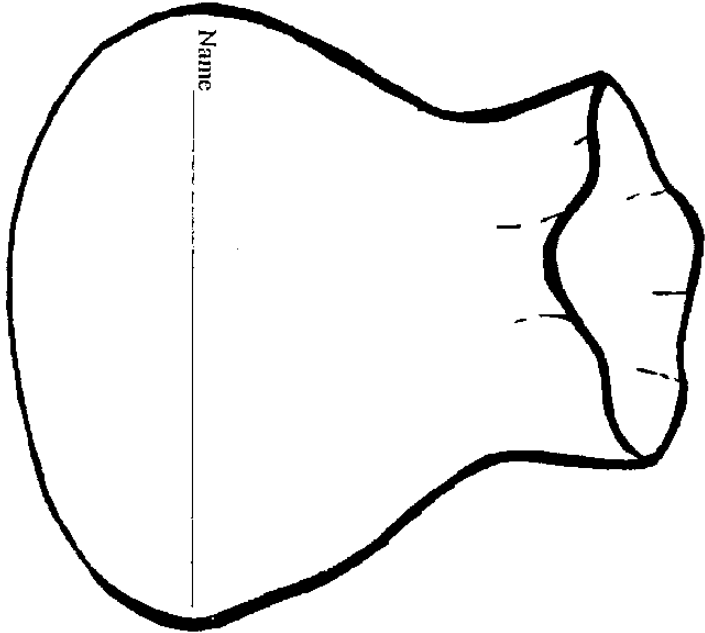
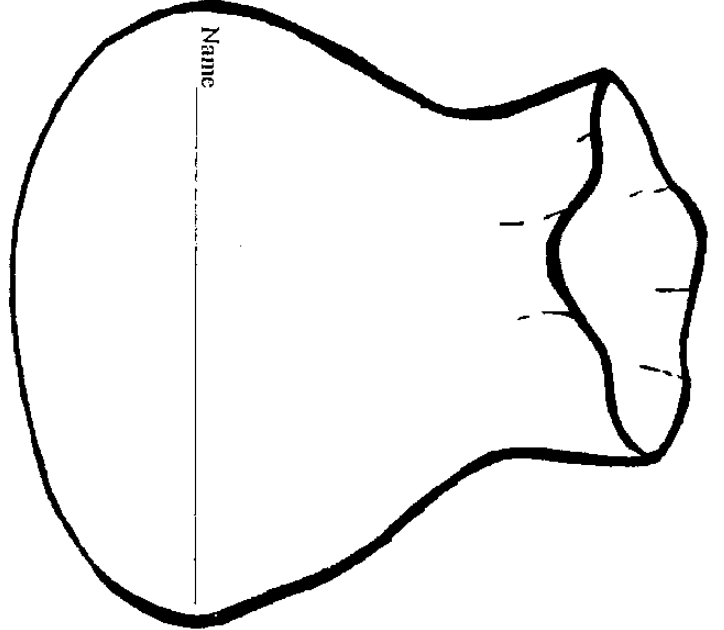
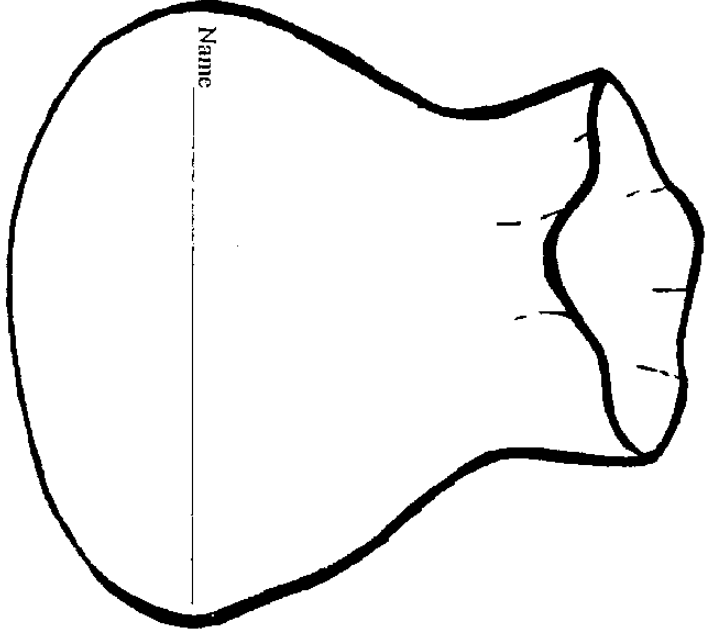
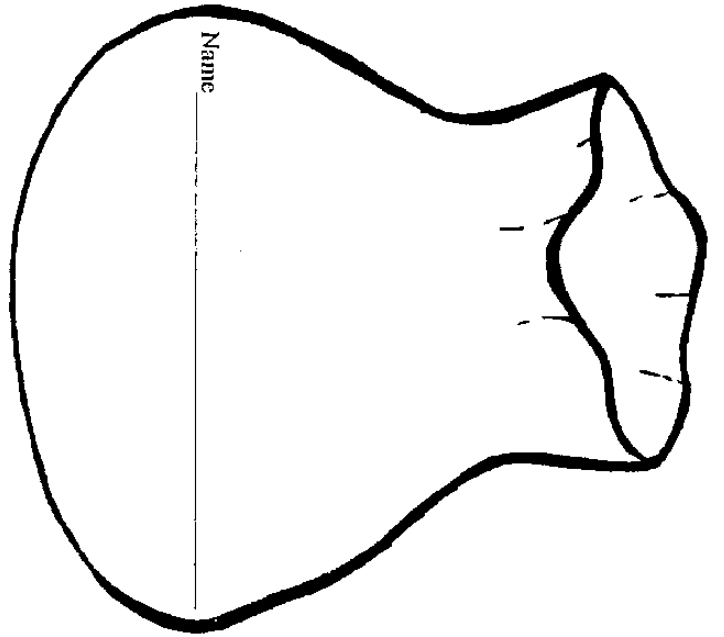
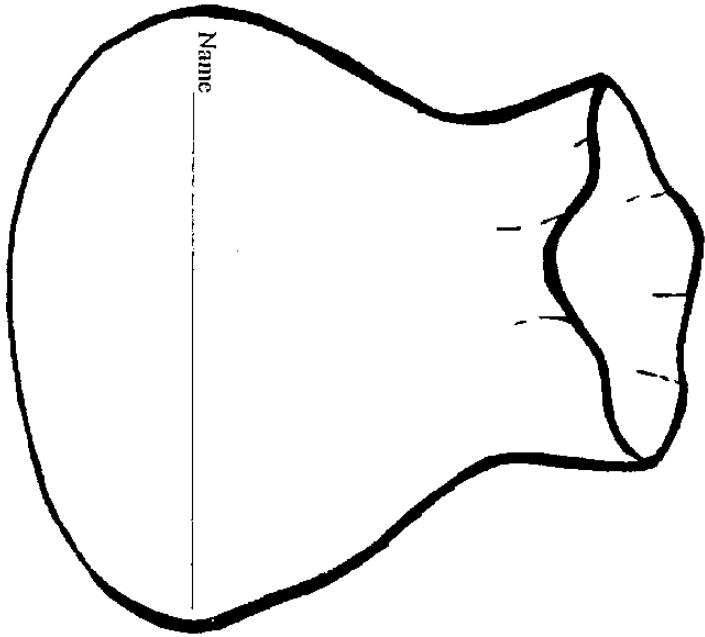
**LEGEND**

..... National boundary

0 500 1000 miles

0 500 1000 kilometers





# California Gold Rush Program Evaluation

School \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Visit \_\_\_\_\_

Program Title \_\_\_\_\_

Teachers: Please take a few minutes to complete this evaluation and return it as soon as possible after your visit. Your responses will help us improve HMOC's educational programs. We greatly appreciate your input.

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Needs Improvement	Comments _____
<b>Pre-Trip Coordination</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was it easy to book your visit?</li> <li>• Did you get your materials in a timely manner?</li> </ul>					
<b>Teacher's Guide</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was it helpful?</li> <li>• Were the activities appropriate?</li> </ul>					
<b>On-site Organization</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did your visit go smoothly?</li> <li>• Was the staff helpful and courteous?</li> <li>• Did you have the amount of time you needed?</li> </ul>					
<b>On-site Activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Were the activities appropriate?</li> <li>• Did the staff teach to the appropriate grade level?</li> </ul>					
<b>Educational value of program</b>					
<b>Overall reaction of teachers to program</b>					
<b>Overall reaction of parents to program</b>					
<b>Overall reaction of students to program</b>					

Thank you for evaluating our tours. Please return this form to:  
Heritage Museum of Orange County, 3101 W. Harvard Street, Santa Ana, CA 92707