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The American West

The story of the American West has exerted a powerful influence over the psyche of the modern world, helping to fashion senses of national identity as well as permeating literary and cinematic culture.

Tales of frontier life, of Native Americans and of vigilantes and outlaws are of constant interest, and are matched by more recent interest in the growth of urban centers, the environmental impact of westward expansion and of life in the borderlands.

Through a mixture of original manuscripts, maps, ephemeral material, and rare printed sources, this collection is a dynamic teaching and research resource.

- Papers of early pioneers, explorers and hunters, including items such as the original manuscript journal and papers of James Audubon.
- Documented accounts of the **Gold Rush** and the landscape of Canada and the Pacific Northwest.
- **City directories** and prospectuses that show the evolution of Western towns.
- **Maps and records** from key railroad companies explore the growth of railway and road networks
- Emigrants' guides, manuscript travel journals, store catalogues, illustrations and maps that bring a greater understanding of the phenomenon of **Westward expansion**.
- Accounts of ranches and of the prairie lands document the **agricultural transformation** of the West.
- Rich resources for the study of Texas, Mexico and the South.
- The **mythic West** contrasts with the reality of the times with literary and historical works ranging from contemporary newspapers and posters to firsthand accounts of the lives of vigilantes and outlaws

This collection complements ***American Indian Histories and Cultures*** and is an invaluable resource for scholars working in Western American history, Southern History, the History of the Pacific Northwest, Western Literature, Film and Cultural Studies.

Both ***The American West*** and ***American Indian Histories and Cultures*** are cross-searchable for a more in-depth user experience.



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