

Sequent Occupance

Purpose: To familiarize student with the changes in land use and practice through time in California.

Objective: The student will be able to name and identify the cultures of people and how they influenced the development of the California landscape.

Ref. Miller Ch. 8

I. Introduction

A. Environmental Determinism vs. Cultural Determinism

1. Env. Det. - environment determines land use.
2. Cult. Det. - culture determines land use and env. is independent of decisions.

B. Middle of the road is more realistic, but Cal. development leans toward Env. Det. due to topography, variations in climate etc. influence decisions more than would be case in a "Flat" state. i.e. Oklahoma, Nebraska etc.

C. Isolation of Cal. very Important - ocean to the west, desert to the east = another Env. Det. influence.

D. Define sequent occupance - sequential land use by different people through time in a given place. In California's case;

1. Native Americans
2. Spanish Crown =
3. Mexican period =THE CALIFORNIOS
4. Americans =

II. "Original Californians" Map of Tribes Fig.8-1, pg. 163

A. Arrival - between 30 and 50 thousand yrs. ago probably via Bering Strait during glacial period. Evidence - dwarf mammoth B.B.Q. 30,000 yrs ago on Santa Rosa Island- started a Calif. tradition.

B. At time of Spanish Contact

1. Population 130-300 thousand = largest pop. density of any non-agricultural native population ever discovered.
2. Languages many - 135 dialects, 20 Linguistic families.
3. Dress - little : stature - varied : house types - many as the land provided.
4. Peaceful people, little warfare, well adjusted to their environment.
5. Villages or rancherias = about 130 people.
6. Lacked the necessity for invention
7. Religion - shamanism = priest invokes gods good and bad.
8. Spanish brought disease, starvation, subjugation, death, = population decrease. By 1911 pop. down to 20,000.
9. W.H. Hustchinson (historian) said "Indians - vital to Spain, useful to Mexico, Annoyance to U.S.

III. European Exploration

A. Spanish- English Cortes, Coronado, Ullva, Cabrillo etc.

1. Cabrillo (Juan Rodriguez) first to enter Alta Calif. - San Diego Bay 1542.
2. Sir Francis Drake – 1579. Stayed one month. Golden Hinde (his ship) called area Nova Albion. Told of area.
3. Spanish worried about Drake's claims. Sent more explorers to Alta Calif. Francisco Gali 1584-1602. but area largely ignored until 1760's.
4. Explain the role of the Spice Trade and relevance to Alta California's importance to Spain.
5. Russians- 1812 Fort Ross. Russian-American Fur Co. after fur of sea otter and seal. When fur ran out they sold out to John Sutter 1841 – Ended Russian claims to Northern California.

IV. Spanish Settlement

A. International competition- Spanish decided to protect their claim on area by establishing:

- 4 Presidios-military bases started 1769 S. Diego
- 21 Missions- San Diego 1769 - Sonoma 1823.
- 3 Pueblos-3 L.A., San Jose, Branciforte (S. Cruz)
- El Camino Real = Kings or Royal Highway (mustard seed?, fact or fiction?)

B. Presidios- 4 tot.-secular control, military outposts to protect harbors etc. Some ajoined missions.

C. Missions - Most successful - 21 total

- 1. about 100,000 acres in size.
- 2. Brought Indians to one place – caused slavery, disease, death (especially from the natives point of view).
- 3. Economy - crude manufacturing- weaving, cattle, farming, tanning, blacksmithing, masonry, carpentry.
- 4. About 30 miles apart- one day on horseback.
- 5. Under church control.
- 6. Father Junipero Serra – Franciscan Priest founded many of the missions in California

D. Pueblos - 3 total - supposed to be secular farming areas.

- 1. San Jose - 1777 first planned city in Cal.
- 2. L.A. - 1781
- 3. Branciforte (Santa Cruz) 1797 (Mission 1791)
 - a. Supposed to be a villa, chartered frontier settlement,
 - b. to be inhabited by retired soldiers and settlers who were well versed in trade & manufacturing.
 - c. Given “lavish” support by govt. but not successful - reason: Few skilled artisans came because area populated by "convicts and other undesirables".

E. Less than 35 land grants given out during Spanish Period.

V. Mexican Period - 1821 to 1848.

A. Disintigration of Spanish empire. Sp. Am. Colonies were largely independent because of distance and poor communication.

- 1. 1821 Reublic of Mexico formed
- 2. Alta Cal. part of republic because of trade and heir of Spain.

B. Californios = non-Indian settlers & rancheros who made homes in area of modern day Cal.

C. Secularization of Missions- removed church control- 1834 Lands divided up = private ranchos.

D. Cattle stations - replaced mission briefly

E. Land Grants- 20 in 1821 to 600 by 1846.

- 1. Vaqueros = cowboys. Two roundups / yr. 1.Branding 2.Slaughtering.
- 2. Size - 4500 to over 100,000 acres.
- 3. Local Ranchos - south to north in S.C. County
 - Bolsa de Pajaro, Los Corralitos, San Andreas, Laguna de las Calabesas, Aptos, Shoquel and its Augmentation, Arroyo de Rodeo, San Agustin, Refugio, Zayante, Canada del Rincon en el Rio de San Lorenzo, Arroyo de la Laguna, San Vicente, Agua Puerca y las Trancas, Punta de Ano Nuevo, Butano (not in county).
- 4. This period gave fasinating legendary (romantic) background for the state in the minds of people who came later.

VI. Foreign Incursions

A. Yankee Ships- brought news and trade.

B. Trails and American Fur Traders- Jedediah Smith, William Wolfskill, John Fremont early 1800's.

C. Led to American immigration- shift in demographic & political orientation to Alta Calif.

D. Letters and word of mouth many stayed & became owners of ranchos. Told of relaxed lifestyle, climate, etc.

E. By 1840's - emigrant trains were a common occurrence. many trails were established (Donners, Bidwells, etc.)

F. Mexican-American War 1846 = ineffectiveness & indifference of Californio population to American takeover.

G. 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo = territory to U.S. see map

H. Gold Rush – discovered in 1848

I. 1850 - California adopted to union.

VII. The Gold Rush

Most important event to convert Calif. to a vital part of the U.S. Harpers in 1859 "... most significant, if not the most important event of the present (1800's) century connected with America..."

- A. Brought many people to the west.
- B. Inspired development of the Railroads.
- C. Increased commerce in Cal. services industry, agriculture, irrigation, yankee aggressiveness.

VIII. Decline of Indian Population

- A. Alcohol, measles etc., bullets, culture shock
- B. Population 1850 100,000 : 1911 20,000
- C. No real warfare - except one sided brutal events.
- D. Exceptions Modoc Wars-
 - 1. Modoc tribe lived near Mt. Shasta
 - 2. Many immigrants passed through
 - 3. 1852 massacre of one immigrant party
 - 4. 12 years of sporadic battles
 - 5. 1864 forced to reservation.
 - 6. Chief "Captain Jack" led people back home
 - 7. fought army to a standstill in lava beds area
 - 8. ran out of water, surrendered on 1873.
 - 9. there are today numerous small reservations for California natives in the state.

IX. Beef

- A. Gold rush changed production from tallow and hides to beef for food. By 1860's 3 million head.
- B. Large scale ranches took over smaller spreads.
- C. Fenced in ranges, cross breeding, meat and dairy farms.
 - 1st. commercial dairy in state at Ano Nuevo 1860's can be seen today at state park.
- D. Land Act of 1851 Congress - people required to prove ownership of Spanish and Mexican land grants. Not easy to do. Legality, morality & honesty were largely absent in result- Californios ripped off by American settlers, squatters etc.

X. Transportation-

- A. Isolation shaped early history of Cal. Overcoming isolation strongly affected the next phase.
- B. Overland Stage 1850-60's not very effective.
- C. Railroad Domination
 - Central Pacific later to become Southern Pacific helped to mold the state more than any other entity.
 - 1. 1855 local lines began - but
 - 2. Connection to transcontinental system most important.
 - 3. Land- 20 sections (sq. mile) of public land for each mile of track laid + loans + other encouragements (pg. 173).
 - 4. C.P. and Union Pacific May 19 1869 - golden spike
 - 5. "Big Four" of the C.P. - Mark Hopkins, Leland Stanford, Collis P. Huntington, Charles Crocker. Sacramento businessmen controlled C.P. and started Southern Pacific as a holding company (now SP = Central Pacific again).
 - a. Set rates - monopoly
 - b. Farmers caused some violence
 - 6. Railroads desires largely determined the growth patterns of the state- i.e. largely ignored S. Cal. until Santa Fe (competitor) broke monopoly.
 - 7. S.P. still owns over 10 million acres of California.
 - 8. Brought in immigrants from China and Europe to work on the railroad. Added ethnic minorities to the state.
 - 9. Positive contribution
 - a. tied Cal. to rest of nation
 - b. World trade
 - c. population mobility
 - 10. Negative contribution
 - a. focal point for racial hatred
 - b. greed
 - c. questionable business practices
 - d. political dealings

XI. Farming - Diversity

- A. Wide range of climatic and soil conditions.
- B. Dry Farming vs. extensive irrigation explain the differences
- C. Dry farming came first
 - 1. During the gold rush - grains dominant
 - 2. Cal. 2nd in nation in wheat production in 1870's.
 - 3. Success led to orchard and vineyard farms.
- D. Railroad allowed for widespread markets.
- E. Irrigation
 - 1. Mid 1850's Mormon settlement - San Bernardino 4000 acres under direct irrigation later in San Joaquin Valley and Riverside.
 - 2. Led to fruit crops, grapes, other high value agric.
 - 3. Wright Act of 1887-
"Appropriate and Beneficial Use" of waters led to growth of irrigation districts. Huge tracts of land developed in Coachella Valley and Imperial Valley.
- F. Development of Water Transport Systems - later lecture

XII. Oil

- A. La Brea Tar Pits also known as "Alders of San Estavan"
Used by Indians for caulking, canoes, baskets, etc.
- B. Pico Canyon 1876 first commercial oil well in Cal.
- C. By 1895 1 million bbls./yr. in production
- D. 1920's oil boom made plenty of oil available for cars.
Fields on Huntington Beach, Signal Hills, Santa Fe Springs, Torrance, & Dominguez (southern Cal.)
- E. Easy availability of fuel = car = unofficial state emblem =
the position that the car holds to this day. There are only five countries in the world have more cars in them than are found in Southern California.
- G. WW II more need for oil and more immigration of people.
- H. Tidelands act of 1955 = offshore exploration for oil. Led to oil spill in Santa Barbara Channel etc.

XIII Movies -

- A. Turn of the century Hollywood = sleepy town climate mild, open space available.
Far from N.Y. - patents and the "movie trust" near Mexican border (run to from the law)
By 1915 Hollywood = self proclaimed film Capital of world
- B. Most Important
Hollywood came to = California to the rest of U.S.
location shots- Cal. = America to many in the world.
 - 1. Tourist attraction- still is
 - 2. Industry- service cosmetics, electronics, clothing etc
 - 3. Drew many people to live there & rest of west coast
- C. T.V. Takes over after 1950's uses same facilities.
Hollywood now urban but old Century City, Universal City Culver City, Studio City, Burbank etc. makes T.V.
the Major customer of movie industry.

XIV. The Depression

Grapes of wrath - false promises and ideas. Many came but few prospered. Roy Rogers is an exception.

XV. WW II. Defense Plants, Japanese Internment.

- A. California
 - 1. Embarkation station for Pacific war.
 - 2. Aviation Industry already here built up. S. Cal.
 - 3. Ship building in Bay Area.
 - 4. Shift to urbanized industrial lifestyle.
 - 5. Increasing racial ambivalence toward blacks, Mexican-Americans, Japanese- Americans.

B. Internment of Japanese-Americans.

1. Why- racial hatred, unproven suspicions. The people farmed some of the best land in the state. Land confiscated or sold cheaply. Planned rip off. Racial hatred based on hard working industrious people.

2. Manzanar- In the Owens Valley, Tulie Lake in Northern California.

3. General John L. De Witt - Cdr. Western Def. Command.

4. 110,000 Japanese- Americans from Ca. Ore. and Wash.St.

C. Movement of many minorities to take industrial jobs during the war. Many military and others who later moved to Ca. for climate etc. Also Cal. kept jobs after war as major defense contractors, aerospace, cold war, etc. kept employment high.

XVI. Recent times.

A. 1950's, 60's, 70's continued growth although a slowdown at the end of the 70's. L.A. = Smog, congested traffic, Watts riots, etc. and the new found SUNBELT of the Southwest- Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and lesser extent the Old South where cheaper land for housing, encouragement by state tax laws etc. have drawn off many to that area. MOST CALIFORNIANS SEE THIS AS GOOD SINCE THERE IS A REAL FEAR OF PARADISE LOST IF AREA BECOMES TOO CROWDED.

B. New industries

1. Continued growth in agriculture but on land that is not as good as before since urbanization has taken over much of the prime ag. land. SPECIALIZED CROPS HIGH RETURN ON INVESTMENT i.e. raisins, garlic, wine, avocados, takes place of citrus etc.

2. Electronics industry started in new areas like Silicon Valley. This type of industry has mobility since it produces a product that has little raw material transport cost and little bulk (therefore) cost to ship final product. BASIC ECONOMIC GEOG. and therefore can be RELOCATED EASILY if land, housing for workers, and oppressive environmental laws make it more productive to go elsewhere like Asia or Phoenix etc.

3. 90's recession broken earlier in the Silicon Valley than in Southern California, but fast to rise = fast to fall?

4. State is still trend setter i.e. Prop 13, clothing, hair, etc.

End