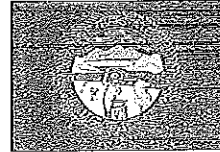
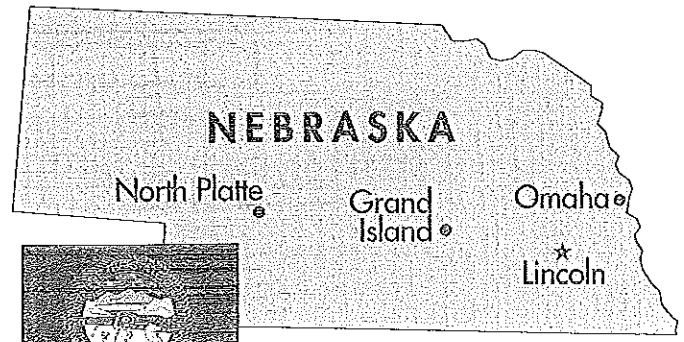


NEBRASKA (NE)

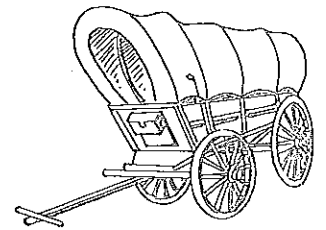
Cornhusker State

Fast Facts

State Capital: Lincoln
Population: 1,711,263 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 76,872 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1867



State Flag



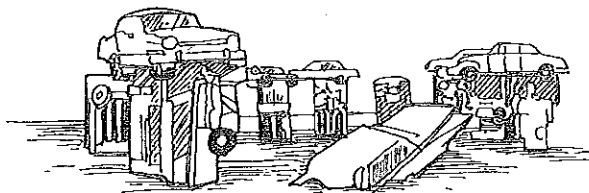
Nebraska comes from the Indian word *nebrathka*, meaning “flat water.” The name refers to the Platte River, which cuts across the state. Pioneers followed the Oregon, California, and Mormon Trails along the river as they trudged westward. The ironclad wheels of Conestoga wagons cut deep grooves into the earth that still can be seen today. The vehicles were also called *prairie schooners*—the white-topped wagons looked like sailing ships on an ocean of prairie grass.

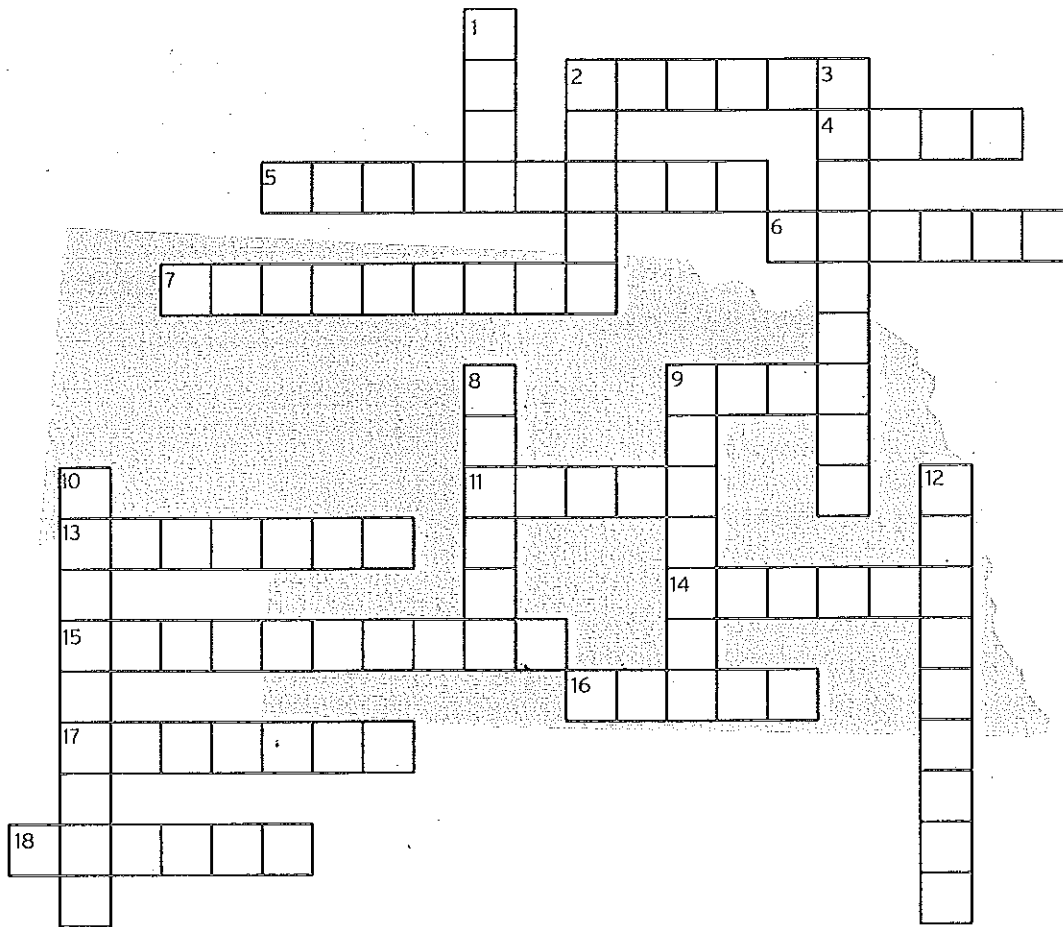
Under a treaty in 1834, Nebraska was Indian territory—closed to white settlers. Indian chief Red Cloud fought against the United States, successfully closing the Bozeman Trail, which cut through Indian land. (The city of Red Cloud is named after him.) The Homestead Act of 1862, however, drew even more pioneers to Nebraska. The government gave settlers 160 acres of land for a small sum, if they could successfully farm for five years.

Today, Nebraska’s fertile prairies produce wheat, corn, and fodder for cattle. Nebraskan J. Sterling Morton contributed much to the state’s agriculture and soil conservation. Morton, who was Secretary of Agriculture under President Grover Cleveland, encouraged tree planting on the dry, dusty plains. In 1885 he started Arbor Day, which is celebrated by planting trees.

In contrast to its expansive flat plains, Nebraska has interesting geological features such as Chimney Rock, which marks the start of rough terrain, and Scotts Bluff National Monument, called the “Lighthouse of the Plains.” The Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha boasts the largest indoor rain forest in the world. Farther west, Kearney has one of the largest migrating bird flyways anywhere. Sandhill and whooping cranes, eagles, geese, and ducks abound.

Some of Nebraska’s attractions are human-made. The Strategic Air Command Museum in Bellevue exhibits B-52s and the SR-71 Blackbird planes. Carhenge features 36 cars painted gray and implanted in the earth, mimicking England’s Stonehenge monument. Who needs to travel abroad when you can find such wonders right here?





ACROSS

2. Sandhill and whooping _____ gather in Kearney, Nebraska.
4. The Carhenge monument features _____ planted in the earth.
5. Scotts Bluff is called the “_____ of the Plains.”
6. The Henry _____ Zoo features a large indoor rain forest.
7. The _____ Act attracted many settlers to the west.
9. Settlers could stay in Nebraska if they could successfully farm for _____ years.
11. _____ Day is celebrated by planting trees.
13. _____ is the capital of Nebraska.
14. Nebraska was originally designed to be _____ territory.
15. Nebraska is known as the _____ State.

16. J. Sterling Morton encouraged the planting of _____.
17. Chief Red Cloud successfully closed the _____ Trail.
18. The _____, California, and Mormon Trails ran beside the Platte River.

DOWN

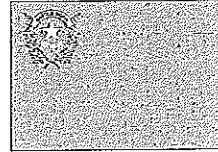
1. *Nebrathka* means “_____ water.”
2. The city of Red _____ is named after an Indian chief.
3. Prairie _____ were wagons that took pioneers westward.
8. The _____ River cuts across Nebraska.
9. Nebraska has _____ prairies, good for farming.
10. The SR-71 _____ can be seen at the Strategic Air Command Museum.
12. _____ wagons had ironclad wheels.

NEVADA (NV)

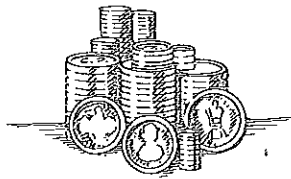
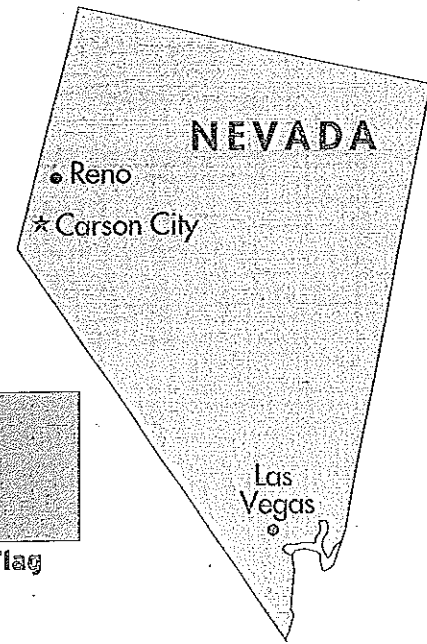
Silver State

Fast Facts

State Capital: Carson City
Population: 1,998,257 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 109,826 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1864



State Flag



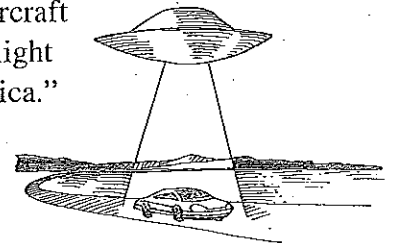
Nevada means “snow-covered” in Spanish and refers to the Sierra Nevada mountain range. Nevada’s temperature, however, is seldom brisk. In July, the average daily temperature in Las Vegas is 105 degrees.

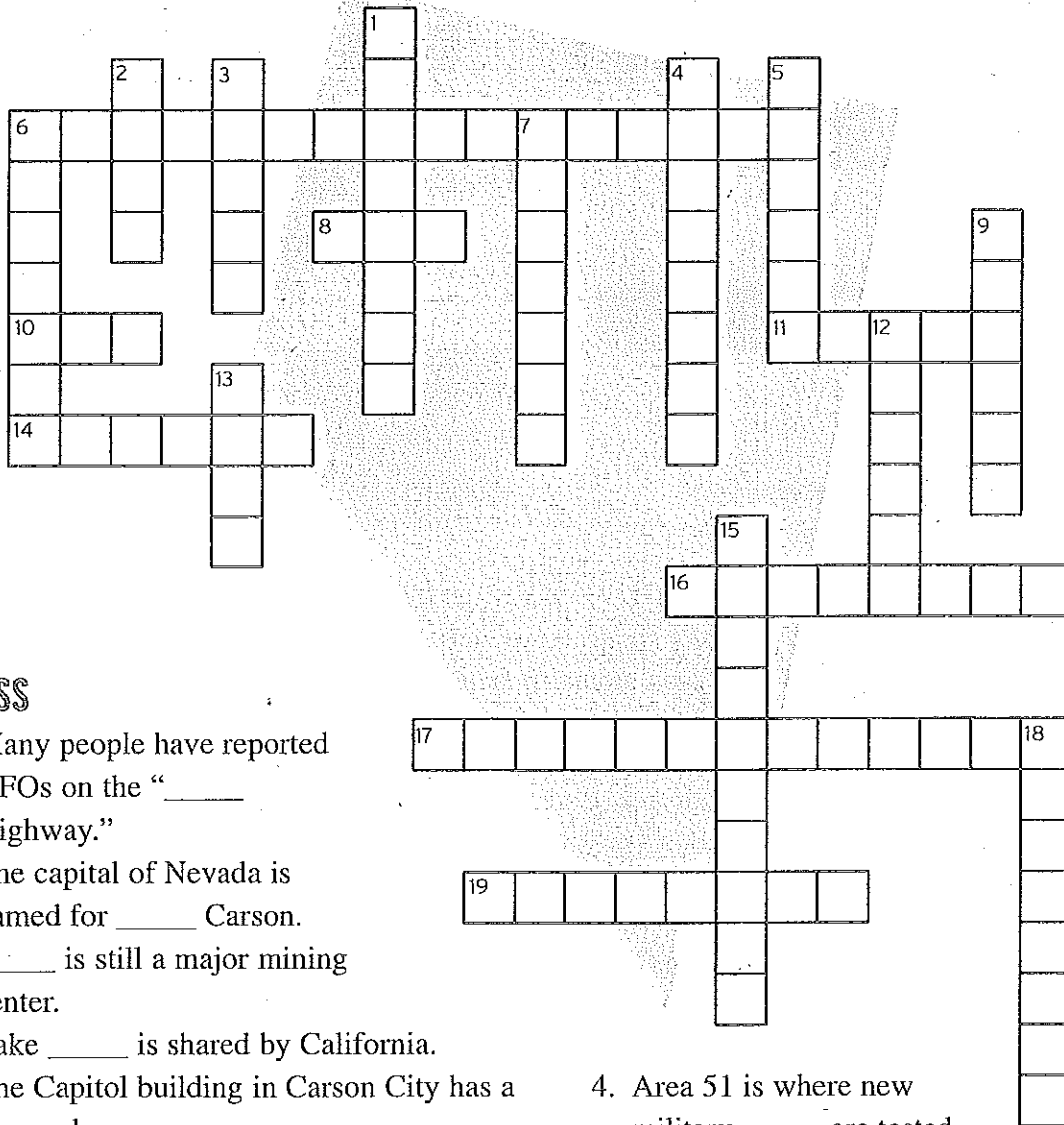
Nevada relies heavily on air-conditioning. Essential hydroelectric power is created at Hoover Dam, which controls the Colorado River. In 1931, work started here in brutally hot weather. It took five years and 6.6 million tons of concrete to complete the dam. Lake Mead, created by the dam, has six recreational areas. Today, the Colorado River makes the desert “bloom.”

Among the things that have bloomed is the state’s population. According to the 2000 Census, Nevada’s population grew a whopping 66.3 percent over the last 10 years. Most of the state’s population lives in Las Vegas and Reno.

Glitzy Las Vegas features more big hotels, casinos, and shows than any place on earth. (Gambling was legalized in Nevada in 1931.) Carson City, the capital of Nevada, is named after Indian fighter, Kit Carson. The city’s Capitol building features a silver dome. Silver found in the Comstock Lode turned Virginia City into a bustling town. Today it is a ghost town, drawing 1.5 million tourists each year. Many abandoned mines and ghost towns surround Ely, which is still a major mining center near the Utah border. (Nevada was once part of Utah territory.) Also near the border is the Great Basin National Park, home of impressive mountain peaks and a small glacier. On the opposite side of the state near Reno is Lake Tahoe, which Nevada shares with California.

Two special roads go through Nevada. State Road 375 is called the “Extraterrestrial Highway” because of numerous UFO sightings along its length. Rumors say that extraterrestrials are bunked around Area 51, where new military aircraft are tested. (Nearby Fallon is the home of the Navy’s “Top Gun” Flight School.) Nevada’s Route 50 is called the “Loneliest Road in America.” Drivers can travel for hours without any road services, following the old Pony Express Trail.





ACROSS

- 6. Many people have reported UFOs on the “_____ Highway.”
- 8. The capital of Nevada is named for _____ Carson.
- 10. _____ is still a major mining center.
- 11. Lake _____ is shared by California.
- 14. The Capitol building in Carson City has a _____ dome.
- 16. The Hoover Dam was built to control the _____ River.
- 17. Hoover Dam supplies _____ power to Nevada.
- 19. Legalized _____ is a major industry in Nevada.
- 4. Area 51 is where new military _____ are tested.
- 5. The Navy’s “Top Gun” _____ School is in Fallon, Nevada.
- 6. “The Loneliest Road in America” follows part of the old Pony _____ Trail.
- 7. Nevada means “snow-covered” in _____.
- 9. The _____ Nevada mountain range are covered in snow.

DOWN

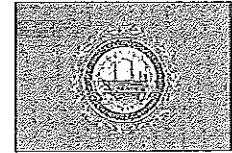
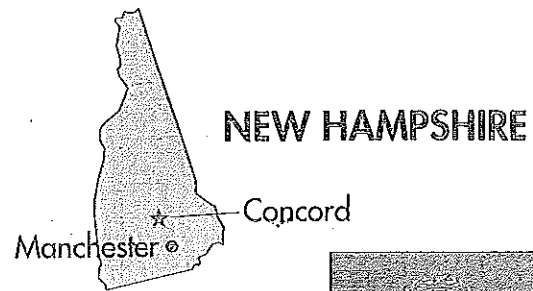
- 1. Silver made _____ City a bustling town.
- 2. Nevada used to be part of the _____ Territory.
- 3. There is a small glacier in Great _____ National Park.
- 12. _____ Dam took five years to build.
- 13. Lake _____ was created by Hoover Dam.
- 15. Since the 1990 Census, Nevada’s _____ has grown 66 percent.
- 18. The _____ Lode was full of silver.

NEW HAMPSHIRE (NH)

Granite State

Fast Facts

State Capital: Concord
Population: 1,235,786 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 9,024 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1788



State Flag

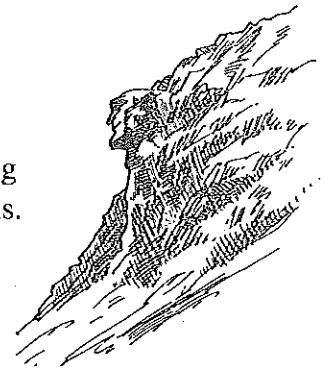


“Live Free or Die” is New Hampshire’s motto. The state was the first colony to break free from England and establish a *provisional* (temporary) government. Because it was the ninth state to *ratify* (officially approve) the U.S. Constitution, it assured the creation of the United States of America. (Nine of the 13 colonies were required to ratify the Constitution.) Continuing its strong political heritage, New Hampshire holds the first presidential primary every four years.

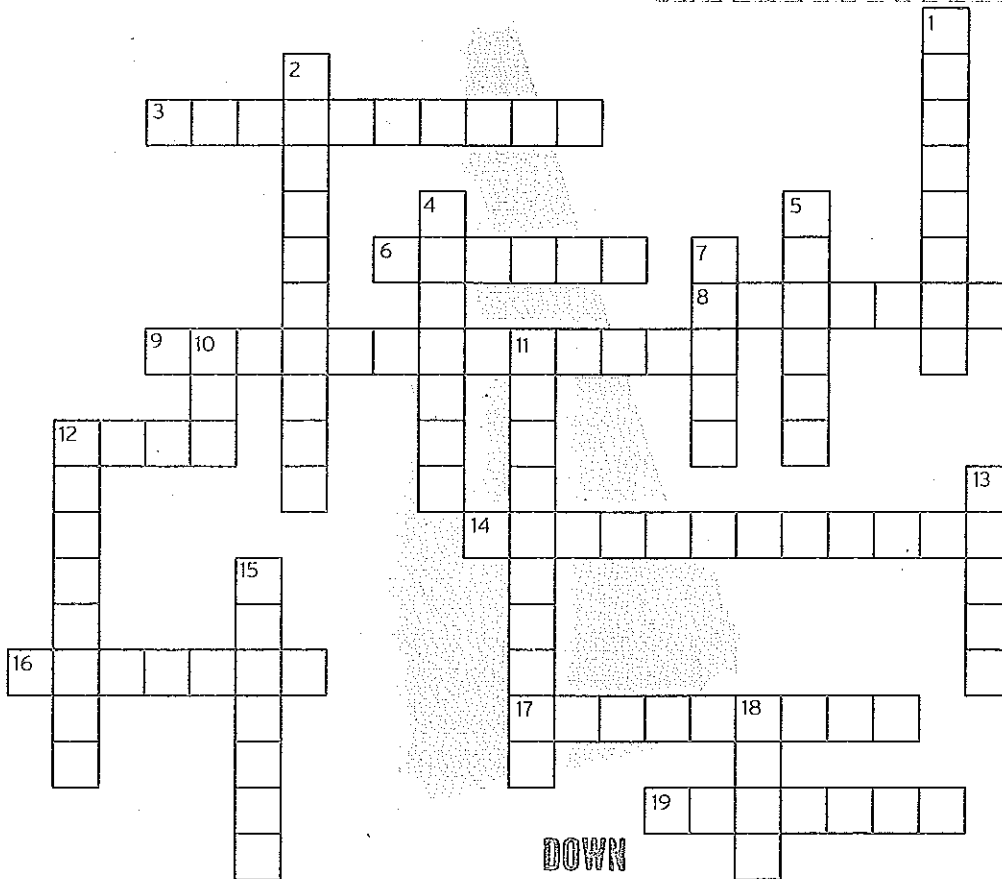
New Hampshire has produced its own noteworthy citizens. First American in space Commander Alan B. Shepard, Jr. grew up in Derry. Christa McAuliffe, the first civilian in space, was a social studies teacher in Concord. Tragically, space shuttle *Challenger* exploded in 1986, killing her and six other astronauts onboard.

Long before people even dreamed of going to space, New Hampshire was covered by a huge ice sheet. When it retreated, it left giant mountain ranges with notches cut by glaciers. The “Old Man of the Mountain” is a natural rock formation that looks like a man’s profile. The Presidential Range features the highest mountain in the northeast—Mount Washington (6,288 feet). The peak has a climate similar to Antarctica and the highest wind speed ever recorded on earth—231 miles per hour. Visitors can drive to the top, take the cog railway, or walk. But sudden changes of weather can drop temperatures below freezing, even in August.

More forests cover New Hampshire today than in the early days of our country. Farmers had cleared trees for fuel and to make room for farmland. As the nation expanded, farms moved to the more fertile Midwest. Forests reclaimed their territory, offering some of the best recreational areas. Other favorite tourist spots include the Flume, along the side of Liberty Mountain, with its cascading streams and waterfalls. Lake Winnepesaukee (meaning “smile of the Great Spirit”) boasts almost 300 inhabitable islands. Whichever place you decide to visit, you’re sure to be wowed by the beautiful scenery.



New Hampshire Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

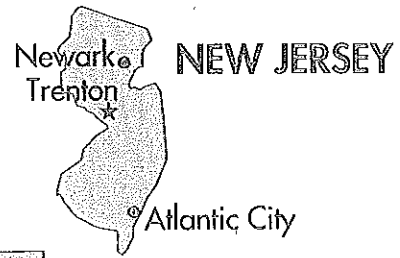
3. Mount _____ is the highest peak in the northeastern United States.
6. New Hampshire was the first _____ to break free from England.
8. The first presidential _____ takes place in New Hampshire.
9. _____ means "smile of the Great Spirit."
12. "Live _____ or die" is the motto of New Hampshire.
14. The _____ Range has the highest mountain in the northeast.
16. You can reach the top of Mount Washington by cog _____.
17. _____ Alan B. Shepard, Jr. was the first American in space.
19. Christa McAuliffe, the first civilian in space, was from _____.

DOWN

1. _____ cut notches in New Hampshire's mountain ranges.
2. The space shuttle _____ exploded upon take-off in 1986.
4. New Hampshire has more _____ today than it did in the early days of the U.S.
5. When New Hampshire ratified the Constitution, the _____ States was born.
7. The highest wind _____ was recorded on top of Mount Washington.
10. Long ago New Hampshire was covered by an _____ sheet.
11. The top of Mount Washington has a climate like _____.
12. In the early days of the U.S. forests were cleared for _____.
13. The _____ is located on Liberty Mountain.
15. New Hampshire is the _____ State.
18. _____ states were required to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

NEW JERSEY (NJ)

Garden State



Fast Facts

State Capital: Trenton
Population: 8,414,350 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 7,417 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1787



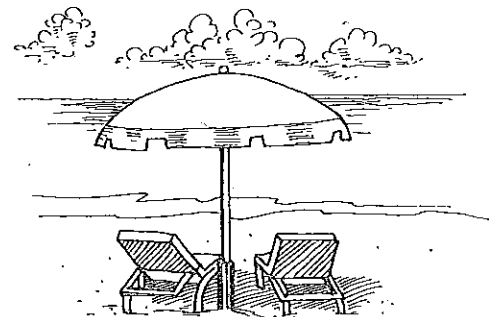
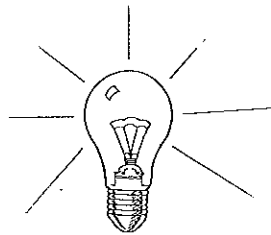
State Flag

The U.S. Mint produced new quarters to honor every state's adoption of the Constitution. New Jersey's coin bears an appropriate slogan: Crossroads of the Revolution. On December 26, 1776, General George Washington secretly crossed the Delaware River from Pennsylvania to British-occupied Trenton. His troops surprised a garrison of Hessians, German *mercenaries* (hired soldiers) fighting for Britain. Shortly thereafter, Washington defeated General Charles Cornwallis at the Battle of Princeton. At the Battle of Monmouth, Molly Pitcher became famous by replacing her fallen husband on the battle lines.

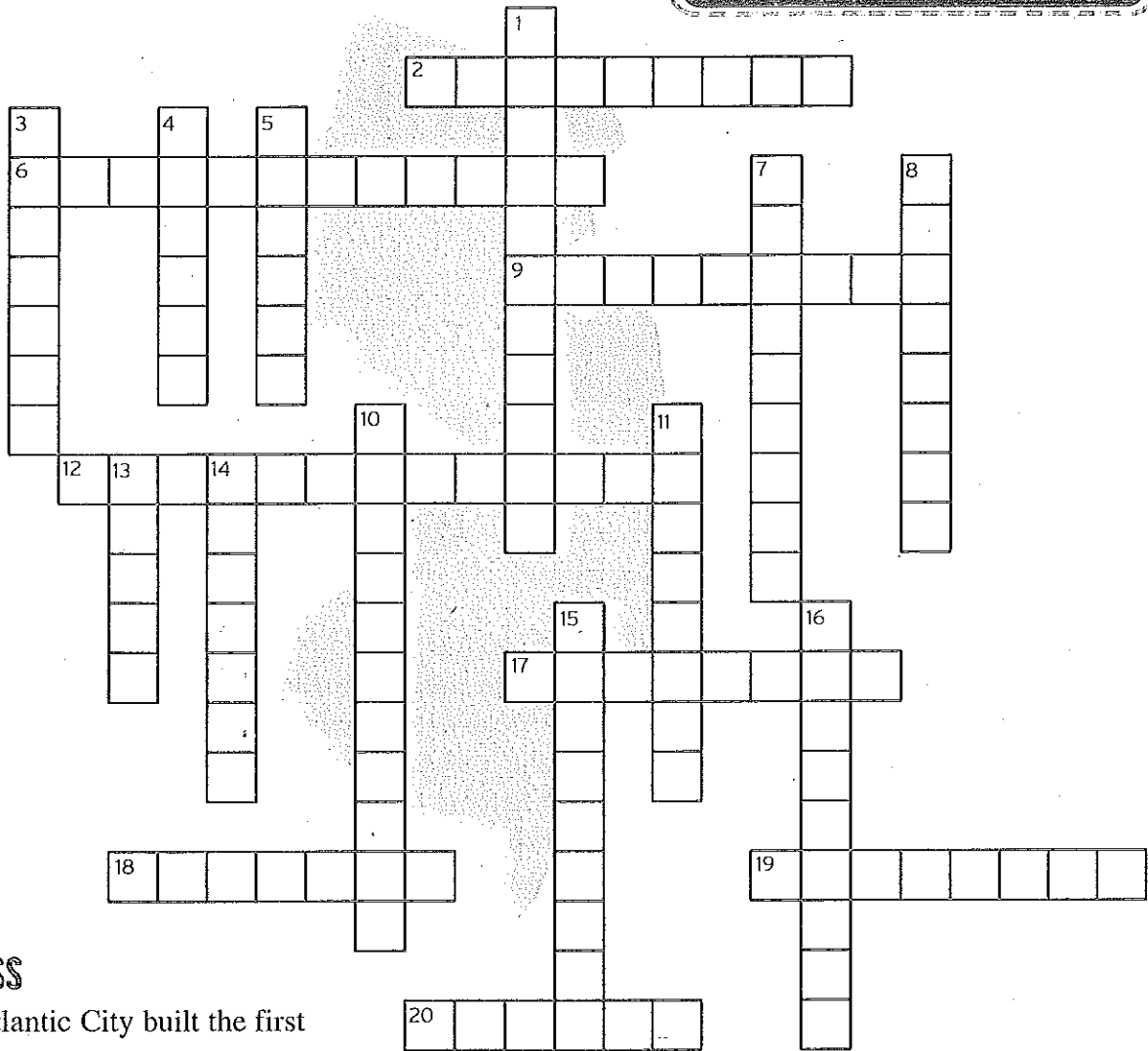
New Jersey's historical connections continued with the opening of Ellis Island in 1892, welcoming more than 12 million immigrants until 1924. New Jersey, in fact, is the most densely populated state in the country. One of its famous residents was physicist Albert Einstein, who worked at Princeton University and urged President Franklin D. Roosevelt to develop the atomic bomb before Germany. New Jersey's Thomas Alva Edison, "the Wizard of Menlo Park," invented the incandescent lightbulb and phonograph. He held more than 1,000 patents for his inventions.

Northern New Jersey is the industrial and transportation center of the state. The Garden State, however, has extensive farmland and more than 125 miles of public beaches along the Atlantic, from Sandy Hook in the north to Victorian-style Cape May at the southern tip. Atlantic City's street names were made famous by the game Monopoly. This city, which originated the boardwalk and picture postcard, is now known for casino gambling (introduced in the 1970s).

Another state attraction is the Pine Barrens, where a mass of scrub pines and bogs grow cranberries and blueberries. Carnivorous plants (which eat insects), ventriloquist tree frogs, exotic orchids, and the legendary winged creature called the "Jersey Devil" make the Barrens their home.



New Jersey Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. Atlantic City built the first _____ along the beach.
6. Edison invented the _____ lightbulb.
9. Cape May is a _____-style town.
12. _____ tree frogs live in the Pine Barrens.
17. New Jersey's industry is in the _____ part of the state.
18. The U.S. Mint issued a new _____ to honor New Jersey.
19. General George Washington crossed the _____ River to Trenton.
20. New Jersey is known as the _____ State.
4. Atlantic City is known for _____ gambling.
5. The Wizard of Menlo Park was Thomas _____.
7. A _____ is a soldier hired for the job.
8. The board game _____ uses street names from Atlantic City.
10. _____ and cranberries grow in Pine Barrens.
11. New Jersey has more than 125 miles of sandy beaches on the _____ coast.
13. Part of _____ Island is in New Jersey.
14. The capital of New Jersey is _____.
15. New Jersey is the most densely _____ state.
16. Albert Einstein worked at _____ University.

DOWN

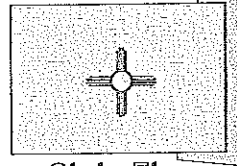
1. _____ plants trap and absorb insects.
3. Molly _____ fought in the Battle of Monmouth.

NEW MEXICO (NM)

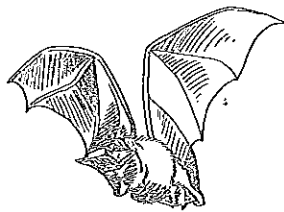
Land of Enchantment

Fast Facts

State Capital: Santa Fe
Population: 1,819,046 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 121,356 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1912



State Flag

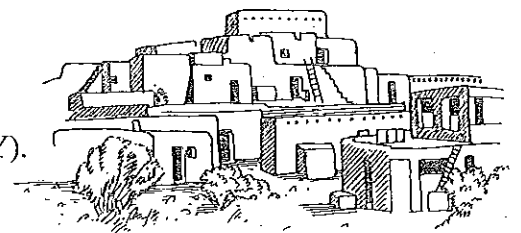


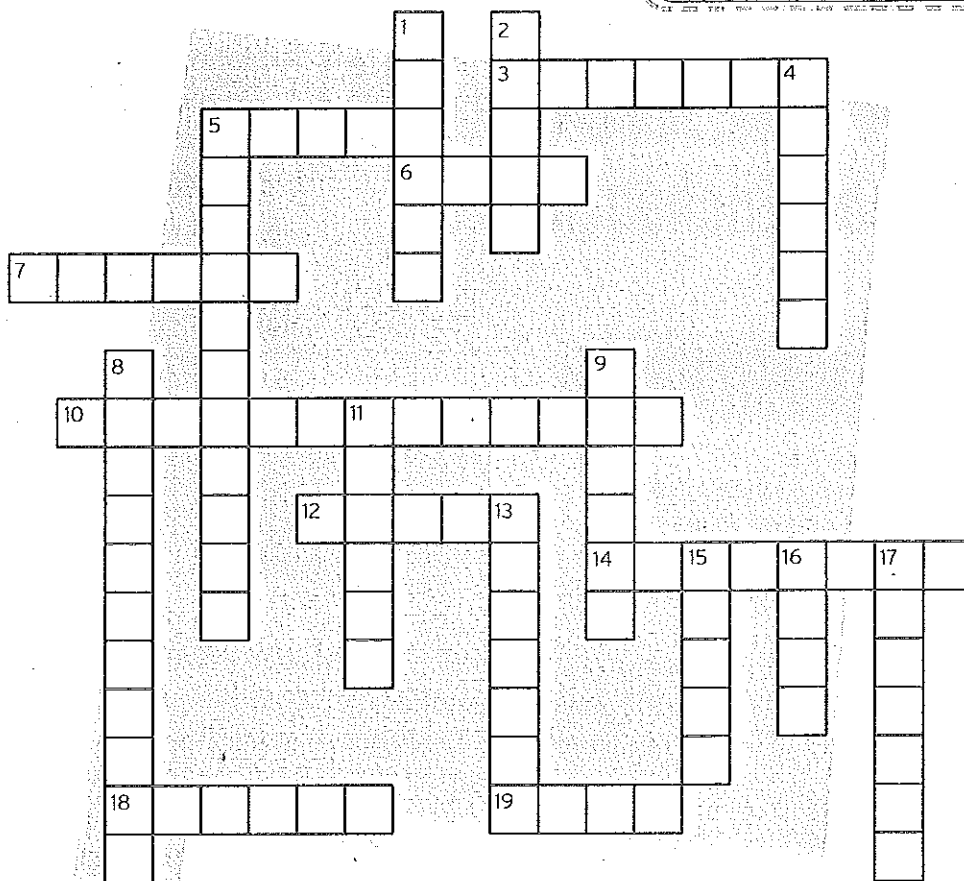
True to its nickname, New Mexico is the land of enchantment. This fifth-largest state offers tall mountains and awe-inspiring deserts, luring writer D.H. Lawrence to a ranch near Taos and artist Georgia O'Keefe to Abiquiu. At White Sands National Monument, dunes of sparkling white gypsum sand cover the Tularosa Basin. In the Cibola National Forest, visitors can ride the Sandia Peak Aerial Tramway for a 2.7-mile spectacular view of the deep canyons and surrounding terrain of the Sandia Mountains. At sunset in Carlsbad Caverns National Park, about a quarter of a million bats fly out of the Bat Cave to feast on insects. The park has one of the largest cave systems in the world.

New Mexico's cities offer attractions, too. In October, Albuquerque hosts the International Balloon Fiesta, where brightly colored hot-air balloons float to the skies. The city's Old Town is centuries old. Its *adobe* buildings (made with sun-dried bricks of earth, charcoal, sand, and grass) now contain shops, restaurants, and galleries. Santa Fe has great museums, especially the Museum of International Folk Art and the Santa Fe Children's Museum. The Palace of the Governors in Santa Fe is the oldest public building in the United States. Built in 1610 of adobe, it was the seat of government until 1909, and is now a museum. The front portal provides shade and shelter for American Indians selling their wares.

Ancient churches such as the Mission of San Miguel in Santa Fe attest to its Spanish history. Taos Pueblo, an Indian community, has been continuously occupied for thousands of years. Eight million acres in New Mexico belong to the Pueblo, Apache, and Navajo Nations.

New Mexico and its native people played an important role during World War II. The first atomic bomb was detonated at Trinity Site outside Alamogordo in 1945. During the war, the Navajo language was used as a secret military code, which the Germans could never break. Here is one Navajo word you can learn and use—"Hagoonee" (ha-go-NAY). It means "good-bye."





ACROSS

- 3. Some bats feast on _____.
- 5. Sun-dried bricks made from earth, sand, charcoal, and grass are called _____.
- 6. _____ are flying mammals.
- 7. The Tularosa Basin consists of white _____ sand.
- 10. The Museum of _____ Folk Art is in Santa Fe.
- 12. _____ Fe is the capital of New Mexico.
- 14. _____ Caverns National Park has one of the largest cave systems in the world.
- 18. The _____ language was used as a secret code in World War II.
- 19. Adobe brick buildings make up Albuquerque's Old _____.

- 2. New Mexico is the _____ largest state in area.
- 4. The _____ Peak Aerial Tramway travels 2.7 miles.
- 5. The International Balloon Fiesta is held in _____.
- 8. New Mexico is the Land of _____.
- 9. The oldest public building in the U.S. is the _____ of the Governors.
- 11. Tribal lands in New Mexico belong to the Pueblo, Navajo, and _____ Indians.
- 13. The Mission of San Miguel in Santa Fe is an _____ (very old) church.
- 15. D.H. Lawrence lived on a _____ near Taos.
- 16. In 1945, the first atomic bomb was exploded at Trinity _____.
- 17. Artist Georgia O'Keefe lived and worked in _____.

DOWN

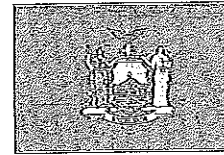
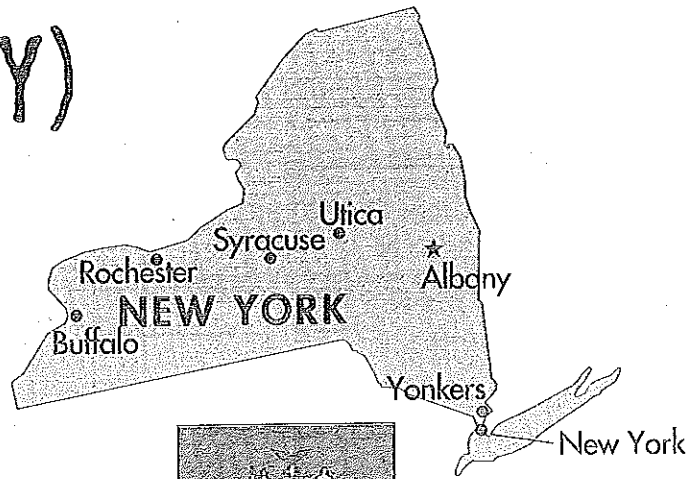
- 1. The Taos _____ has been occupied for more than a thousand years.

NEW YORK (NY)

Empire State

Fast Facts

State Capital: Albany
Population: 18,976,457 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 47,214 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1788



State Flag

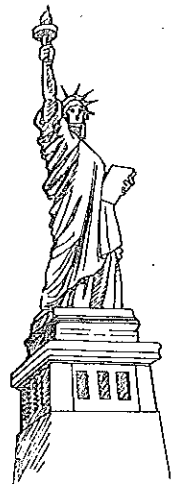


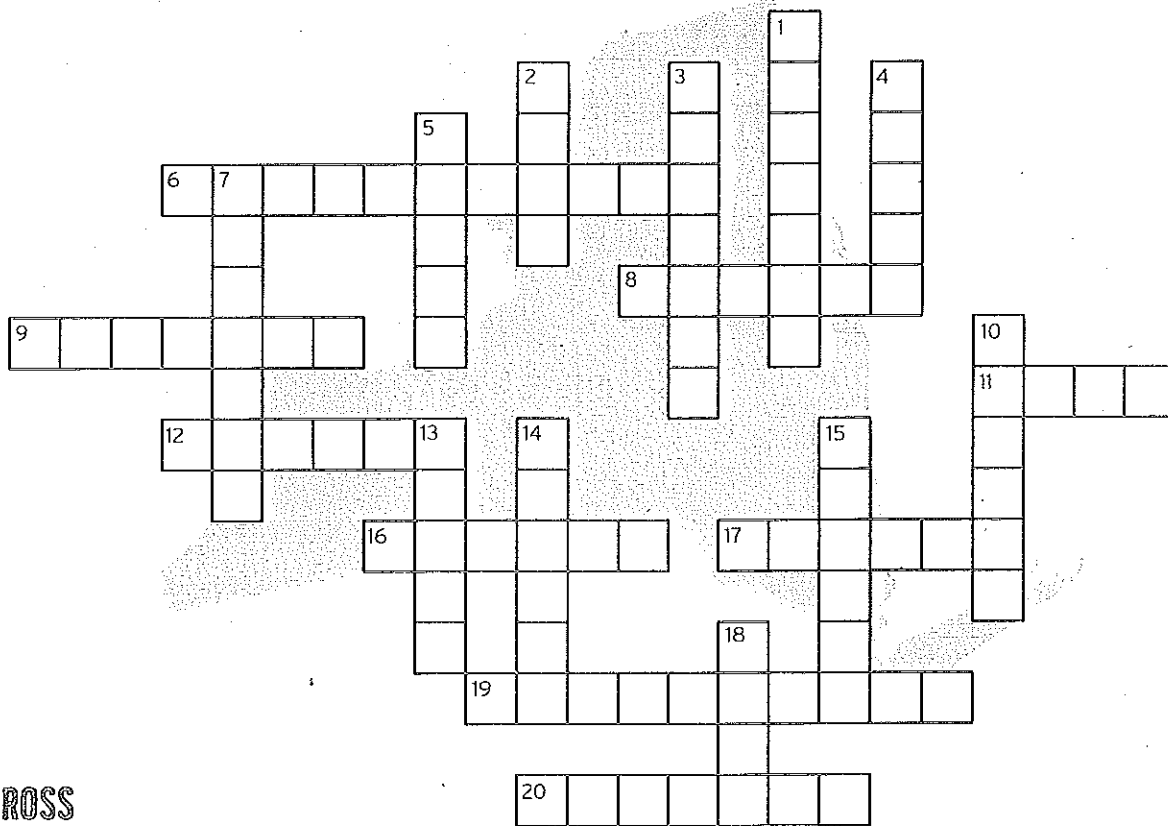
New York spans from the Great Lakes Erie and Ontario to the Atlantic Ocean. The city of Buffalo, known for its heavy snowfalls, sits on Lake Erie. Just north lies Niagara Falls, shared by the United States and Canada. Here the *Maid of the Mist*, a boat filled with tourists in slickers, hovers close to the foot of the cascading Niagara Falls.

Toward the east are New York's Finger Lakes, a series of 11 long, deep lakes. At Massena on the St. Lawrence Seaway, huge locks carry ships down an 80-foot drop, allowing them to pass between the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes. Slightly to the south are the Adirondack Mountains, 6 million acres of land with 45 peaks over 4,000 feet. Lake Placid was the site of the Winter Olympics in 1932 and 1980.

In the southern part of the state is New York City. Five boroughs make up the Big Apple—Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, and the Bronx. The Bronx is home to baseball's Yankee Stadium while the New York Mets play at Shea Stadium in Queens. (The National Baseball Hall of Fame is in Cooperstown, near Albany.)

New York City is the largest city (by population) in the United States. In the past, New York has been a gateway for many immigrants. Ellis Island (shared with New Jersey) has an American Immigrant Wall of Honor remembering those who passed through early in the century. The Statue of Liberty, a gift from France, is another famous icon celebrating immigration. The Empire State Building, built in 1931, was the world's tallest building at the time it was completed, and stayed that way for many years. At Grand Central Station, thousands of commuters pass through every day. New York City's Central Park contains ponds, statues, a children's zoo, two outdoor skating rinks, and a carousel on 840 acres of land. Visitors also stop by the city's many ethnic neighborhoods, including Chinatown, Little Italy, and Little Odessa (Russian), which help make New York home to the world.





ACROSS

- 6. The Baseball Hall of Fame is in _____.
- 8. The Statue of Liberty was given to the United States by _____.
- 9. The city of _____ is located on Lake Erie.
- 11. The *Maid of the _____* takes tourists near the Niagara Falls.
- 12. _____ Italy is one of the many ethnic neighborhoods in New York City.
- 16. _____ is the capital of New York.
- 17. The _____ Lakes are long, deep bodies of water in New York.
- 19. In the _____ Mountains, 45 peaks exceed 4,000 feet.
- 20. New York has been a _____ for many immigrants.

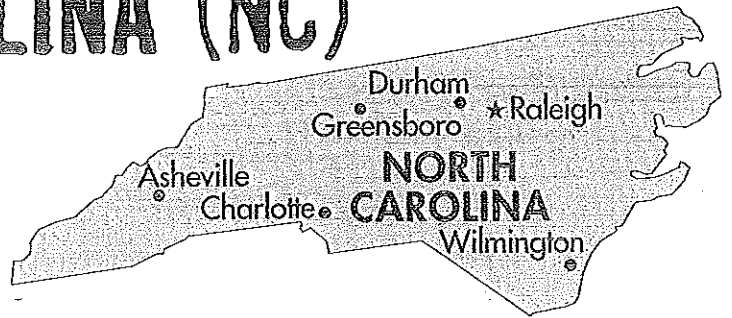
- 2. New York _____ has the largest population of all U.S. cities.
- 3. _____ Park has a carousel and zoo as well as other attractions.
- 4. New York City is known as the Big _____.
- 5. The five boroughs of New York City are: Manhattan, Queens, the _____, Brooklyn, and Staten Island.
- 7. Erie and _____ are the Great Lakes touching New York.
- 10. New York is the _____ State.
- 13. The American Immigrant Wall of Honor is on _____ Island.
- 14. Lake _____ was the site of two Winter Olympic Games.
- 15. Niagara Falls is shared by _____ and the United States.
- 18. In the winter, Buffalo gets lots of _____.

DOWN

- 1. The locks at _____ move ships across an 80-foot drop.

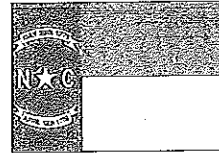
NORTH CAROLINA (NC)

Tar Heel State



Fast Facts

State Capital: Raleigh
Population: 8,049,313 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 48,711 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1789



State Flag



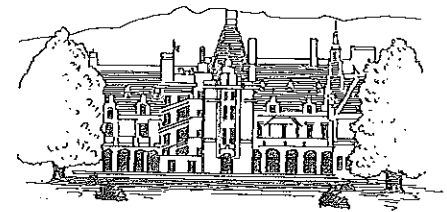
North Carolina's Outer Banks, a 125-mile chain of barrier islands including Cape Hatteras and Cape Lookout National Seashores, helps protect the mainland from the fierce onslaught of hurricanes, winds, and waves. Those same Carolina winds helped Orville and Wilbur Wright launch their first power-driven airplane at Kill Devil Hills near Kitty Hawk in 1903.

Off the coast is Diamond Shoals, the "Graveyard of the Atlantic," where more than 600 ships have sunk. Notorious pirate Blackbeard preyed on ships along the Atlantic coast from North Carolina in the 18th century. His ship, the *Queen Anne's Revenge*, sank off the state's coast.

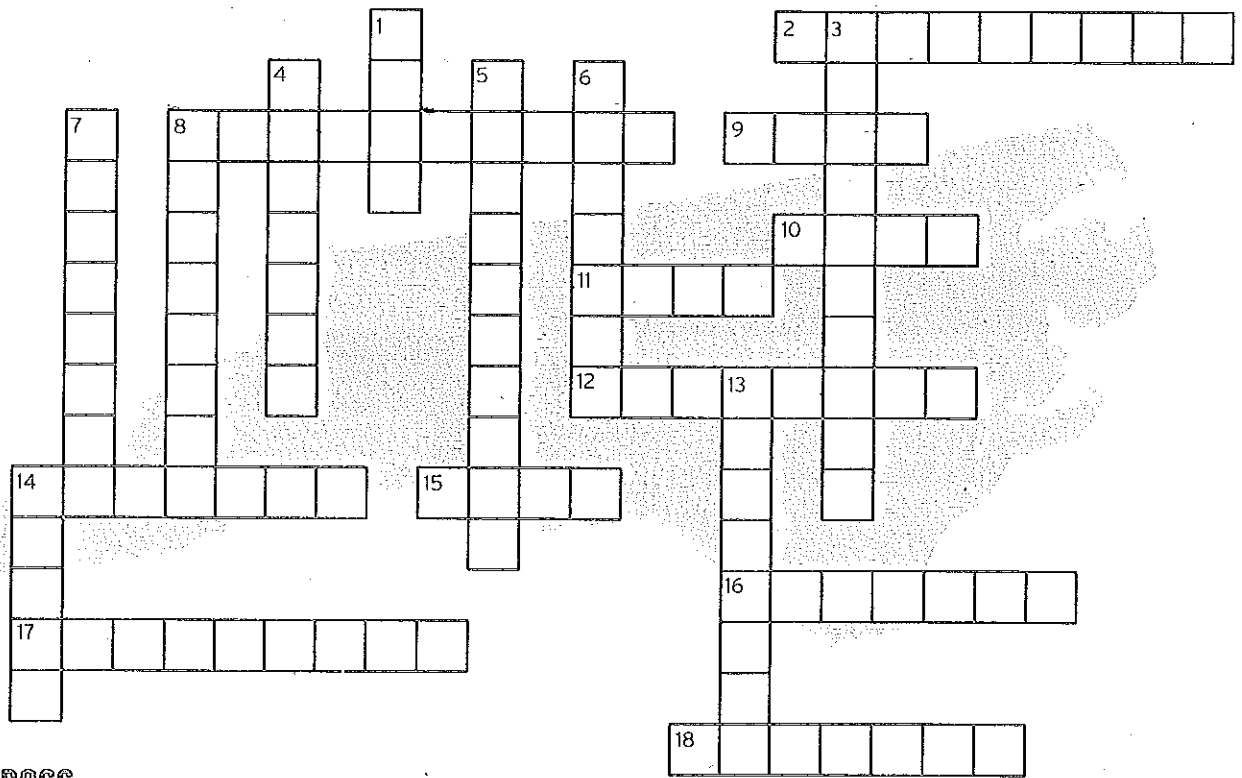
Ships were not the only things that disappeared in North Carolina. Mystery still surrounds "The Lost Colony" of Roanoke Island. In 1587, a group of English settlers, led by John White, established a colony on the island. In that same year, Virginia Dare became the first English child to be born in America. White sailed back to England for supplies, but when he returned in 1590, the entire colony had vanished.

It's no mystery why people love to visit North Carolina. The Blue Ridge Parkway, one of the country's most scenic roads, joins Shenandoah National Park in Virginia to North Carolina's Great Smoky Mountains. President Franklin D. Roosevelt started the parkway in 1935 to create jobs during the Depression. At Blowing Rock in the Blue Ridge Mountains, snow can fall upward and objects thrown off the cliff sometimes return in the wind. Near the Smoky Mountains in Asheville, the Biltmore Estate stands as the largest private home in the United States, with 250 rooms and a 75-acre garden.

North Carolina has the eleventh-largest population in the U.S., mostly concentrated in its cities. Charlotte, on the southern border, is a major financial center, while the center of North Carolina is home to America's largest think tanks. North Carolina State University (in Raleigh), Duke University (in Durham), and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill form the Research Triangle.



North Carolina Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. The city of _____ is a major financial center.
8. _____ was a pirate who preyed on ships along the Atlantic coast.
9. Virginia _____ was the first child of English parents born in America.
10. _____ Devil Hills is where the Wright Brothers flew their airplanes.
11. The "_____ Colony" was founded on Roanoke Island.
12. North Carolina is the _____ largest state in population.
14. Many 18th-century sailors feared the sight of the *Queen Anne's* _____.
15. Snow falls upward at Blowing _____.
16. The Outer Banks is a chain of barrier _____.
17. Diamond Shoals is called the "_____" of the Atlantic.
18. North Carolina is the _____ State.

DOWN

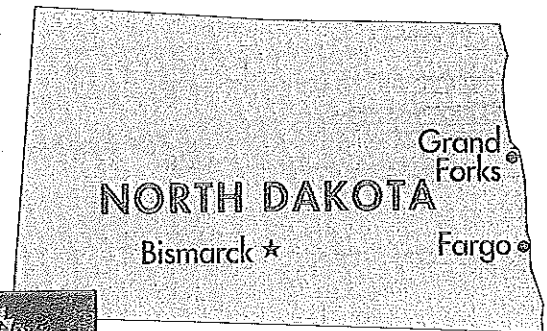
1. _____ University is located in Durham.
3. _____ with high winds often hit the coast of North Carolina.
4. _____ is the capital of North Carolina.
5. During the _____, President Roosevelt created jobs by building highways.
6. _____ and Wilbur Wright first flew near Kitty Hawk.
7. The Research _____ includes Durham, Chapel Hill, and Raleigh.
8. The _____ mansion has 250 rooms.
13. Shenandoah National Park is in _____.
14. The Blue _____ Parkway joins Shenandoah National Park to the Great Smoky Mountains.

NORTH DAKOTA (ND)

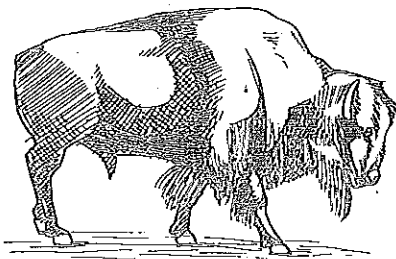
Flickertail State

Fast Facts

State Capital: Bismarck
Population: 642,200 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 70,665 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1889



State Flag

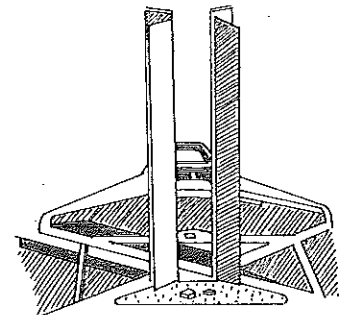


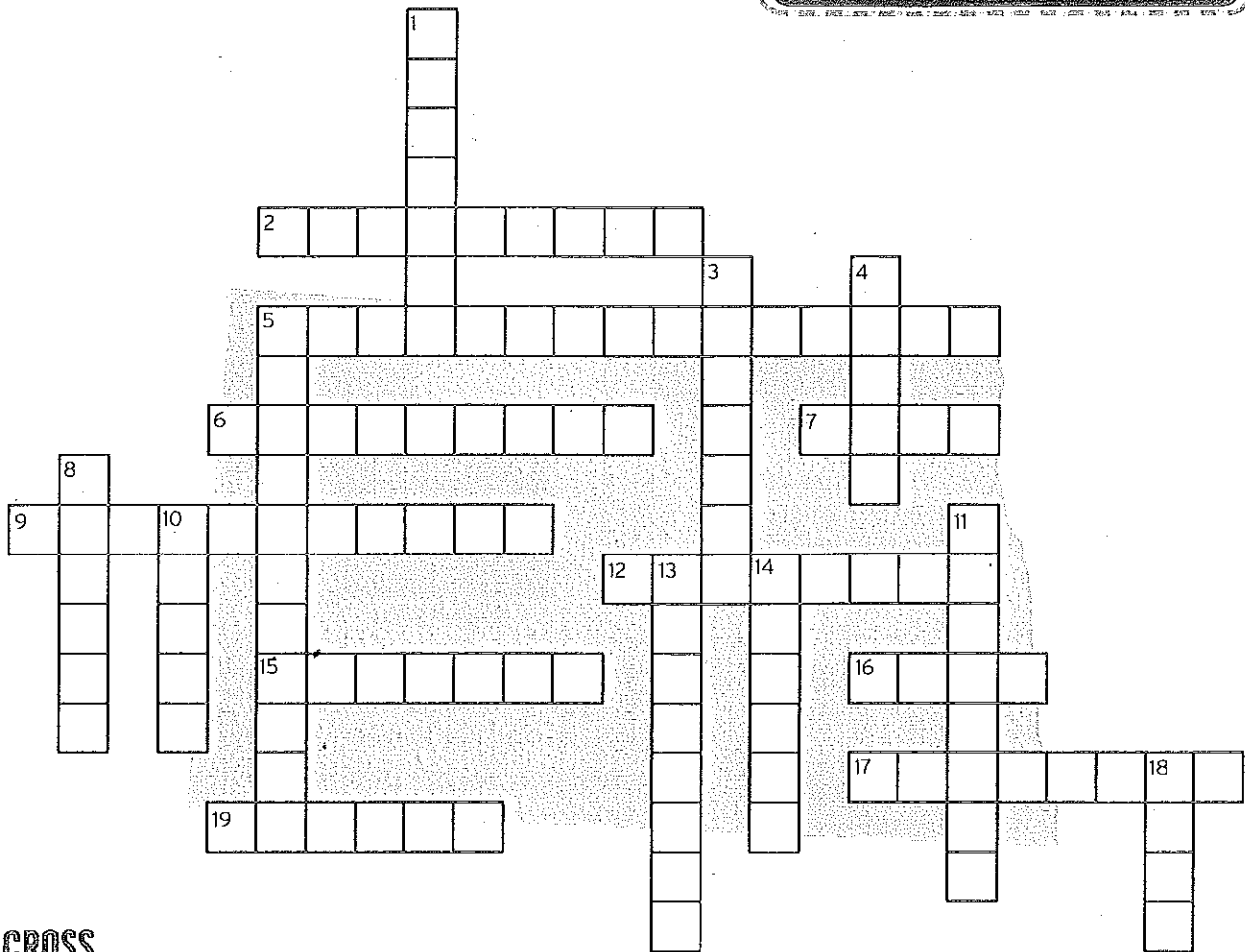
North Dakota's mostly flat plains were once full of American bison (incorrectly known as buffalo). The Indians lived off these cow-like, shaggy animals. Bison supplied meat, leather, snowshoes, tents, and sinews for bowstrings. Buffalo *chips*—dried manure—were burned for fuel. Before the Homestead Act of 1862 brought large numbers of settlers to the state, bison population (including those in the Great Plains) was

about 30 million. Hunted throughout the 1800s—"Buffalo Bill" Cody killed 4,000 in one year—the bison were eventually brought to the edge of extinction. Today its population is slowly climbing to around 50,000 in various reserves and ranches around the country.

As more people settled in the state, President Benjamin Harrison signed North and South Dakota into states in 1889. President Theodore Roosevelt later lent his name to a national park. A forward-thinking conservationist, Roosevelt is the only person who has a national park named after him. The park is located in an area called the Badlands, where lightning set exposed coal veins on fire, burning for years and baking sand and clay to red *scoria* (cinders). For Roosevelt, however, the rugged quality of the land cemented his character and strengthened his spirit.

Another of North Dakota's main attractions is the International Peace Garden. Here 150,000 flowers are planted annually to celebrate our country's peaceful relations with Canada. Manitoba, Canada, shares the garden with the United States. In Jamestown, a 60-ton concrete likeness of a buffalo calls attention to the National Buffalo Museum and Visitor Center. Visitors here can see a rare *albino* (white) buffalo, sacred to the Indians. Today buffalo have returned in large numbers to North Dakota. Buffalo meat is lean and lower in cholesterol than beef. It has gained popularity in today's food market.





ACROSS

- 2. The National Buffalo Museum is in _____.
- 5. President Theodore Roosevelt was a great _____.
- 6. The _____ Act was enacted in 1862.
- 7. Exposed _____ veins were set on fire by lightning in the Badlands.
- 9. North Dakota is also known as the _____ state.
- 12. The International Peace Garden is shared by North Dakota and _____, Canada.
- 15. After settlers arrived in North Dakota, bison became almost _____.
- 16. The only person to have a national _____ named after him is Theodore Roosevelt.
- 17. _____ is the capital of North Dakota.
- 19. North Dakota's landscape is mostly flat _____.

DOWN

- 1. Thousands of _____ are planted in the International Peace Garden each year.
- 3. There used to be about 30 _____ bison in the U.S.
- 4. _____ are incorrectly known as buffalo.
- 5. Buffalo meat is lower in _____ than beef.
- 8. The _____ or white buffalo is sacred to the Indians.
- 10. Buffalo _____ were once burned for fuel.
- 11. Benjamin _____ was U.S. president when North Dakota became a state.
- 13. North and South Dakota were _____ to the Union on the same day.
- 14. When the buffalo disappeared, so did the traditional _____ way of life.
- 18. "Buffalo Bill" _____ was a noted buffalo hunter.

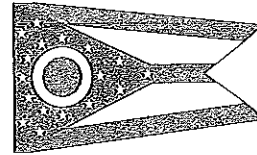
OHIO (OH)

Buckeye State

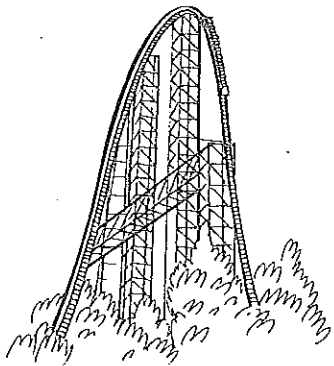


Fast Facts

State Capital: Columbus
Population: 11,353,140 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 40,948 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1803



State Flag



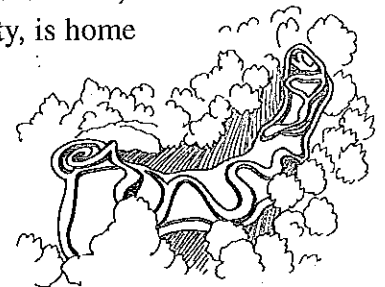
Ohio has produced a number of notable people, including eight U.S. presidents and two Civil War generals: Ulysses S. Grant (who later became president) and William Tecumseh Sherman. The state also offered twice its share of volunteers to fight for the Union (North side) during the war. Oberlin was an anti-slavery town and a major stop on the Underground Railroad—a series of escape routes that runaway slaves used to travel from the South to northern states. During a demonstration against the Vietnam War, four Kent State University students were killed by National Guardsmen.

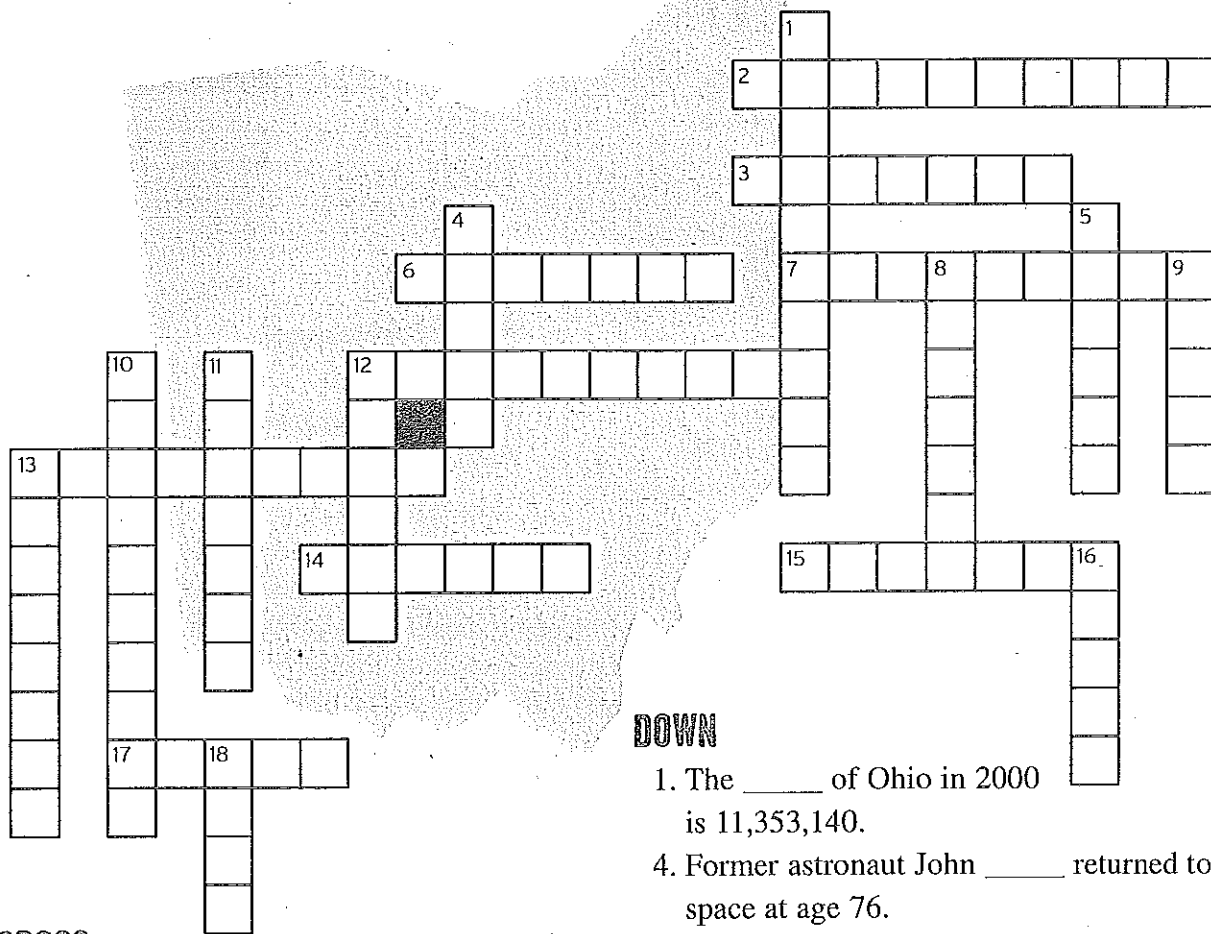
Among its outstanding citizens are two famous astronauts. In 1962, John Glenn became the first American astronaut to orbit the earth. In 1998, Glenn returned to space on the shuttle *Discovery* at age 76. On July 20, 1969, millions of TV viewers watched Neil Armstrong take his first steps on the moon.

For more earthbound adventures, try Ohio's two large amusement parks filled with thrilling, stomach-churning rides. The *Son of Beast* at Paramount's Kings Island in Cincinnati is currently the world's only wooden roller coaster with a loop. Cedar Point in Sandusky is the largest amusement ride park in the world with 14 roller coasters, including the *Millennium Force*—"the tallest, fastest, steepest roller coaster on the planet" in 2000.

Ohio is also a transportation and industrial giant with a number of dynamic cities. Ohio's biggest cities are the three C's: Cleveland (on Lake Erie, with its Rock and Roll Hall of Fame), Columbus (the state capital, which sits on the Mason-Dixon Line—the boundary between the country's North and South), and Cincinnati (on the Ohio River, once called the Queen City of the West). Canton, a smaller "C" city, is home to the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Another sight worth seeing is the Great Serpent Mound near Hillsboro. Built around 800 B.C., this large prehistoric American Indian mound is in the shape of a snake swallowing an egg. There's a lot to see in the Buckeye State!





ACROSS

2. Several _____ from Ohio fought for the Union.
3. Ohio is nicknamed the _____ State.
6. Oberlin was an anti-_____ town and an Underground Railroad stop.
7. Neil _____ was the first person to step on the moon.
12. The city of _____ is on the Ohio River.
13. _____ is one of Ohio's cities near Lake Erie.
14. If you like to ride _____ coasters, go to Ohio.
15. Kent State students were killed during a protest of the _____ War.
17. _____ of Ohio's principal cities begin with the letter C.

DOWN

1. The _____ of Ohio in 2000 is 11,353,140.
4. Former astronaut John _____ returned to space at age 76.
5. The *Son of Beast* is the only _____ roller coaster with a loop.
8. Great _____ Mound is a prehistoric American Indian site.
9. Ohio native Ulysses S. _____ was a Union general and president of the United States.
10. Eight _____ of the United States were from Ohio.
11. William Tecumseh _____ was a famous Union general from Ohio.
12. The Pro Football Hall of Fame is in _____.
13. The capital of Ohio was named for explorer Christopher _____.
16. The _____-Dixon Line separates the nation's North and South.
18. The Rock and _____ Hall of Fame is in Cleveland.

OKLAHOMA (OK)

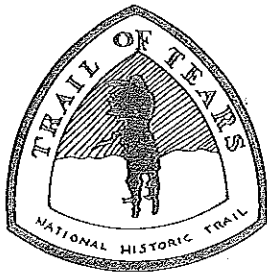
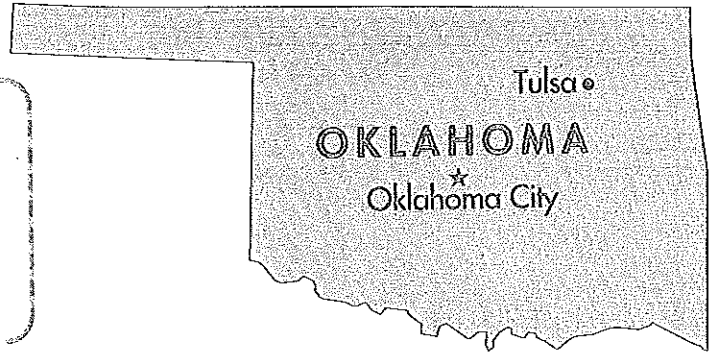
Sooner State



State Flag

Fast Facts

State Capital: Oklahoma City
Population: 3,450,654 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 68,667 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1907



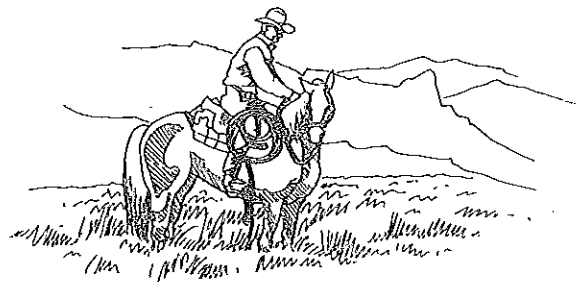
In 1832, President Andrew Jackson relocated the Choctaw, Creek, Chickasaw, Cherokee, and Seminole Indians from the southeastern United States to Oklahoma. This forced march, known as the "Trail of Tears," was brutal, killing thousands of people. (Tahlequah is currently the capital of the Cherokee Nation.)

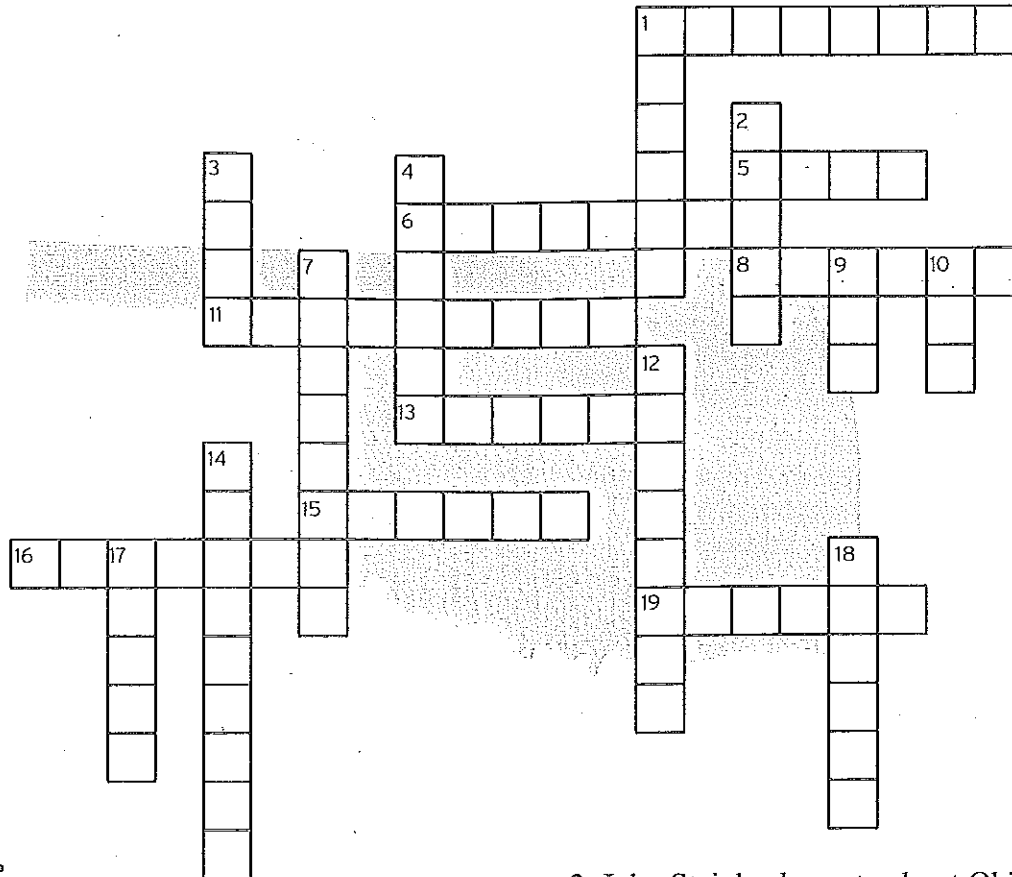
Cowboys herded their cattle from Texas through Indian Territory along the Chisholm Trail to the markets in Kansas. Oklahoma's National Cowboy Hall of Fame commemorates those who rope, brand, handle, and drive cattle to market. Today, the country's largest live-cattle auction happens twice a week in Stockyards City.

On April 22, 1889, the Oklahoma land rush began. Would-be landowners lined up along the border to stake claims in Oklahoma Territory. A few hours after the border opened at noon, Guthrie and Oklahoma City grew from open field to cities of 10,000 people. Some settlers, called the "Sooners," staked land illegally even before the border was opened.

The state prospered up to the 1920s, thanks to oil. By the 1930s, however, the Great Depression (a worldwide economic slump) and the Dust Bowl (destructive wind and dust storms) forced whole communities to flee to California. John Steinbeck memorialized these starving "Okies" in his book, *The Grapes of Wrath*. After the state became more economically stable, renowned architect I. M. Pei redesigned Oklahoma City in 1964. But the city reeled again in 1999 when it was struck by a deadly tornado.

Perhaps because of its hardships, Oklahoma has fostered many American legends. Newscaster Walter Cronkite hails from Oklahoma, as did cowboy Gene Autry and Indian Olympian Jim Thorpe. Born in 1879, Will Rogers was a good-natured philosopher known for the line, "I never met a man I didn't like." Folk singer Woody Guthrie penned "This Land Is Your Land" and other songs that gave a voice to the nation.





ACROSS

- 1. Cowboys once herded cattle through the _____ Trail.
- 5. On April 22, 1889, the Oklahoma land _____ began.
- 6. _____ City is the state's capital.
- 8. Jim _____ was a famous Indian athlete.
- 11. _____ is the Cherokee Nation's capital.
- 13. A _____ was a person who illegally staked land before the Oklahoma land rush began.
- 15. Cowboys sold their cattle in markets in _____.
- 16. Woody _____ wrote the song "This Land is Your Land."
- 19. Oklahoma was once known as _____ Territory.

DOWN

- 1. The National _____ Hall of Fame is in Oklahoma.

- 2. John Steinbeck wrote about Okies in *The Grapes of _____*.
- 3. Drought and bad farming practices caused the _____ Bowl in the 1930s.
- 4. Philosopher Will _____ was born in Indian Territory in 1879.
- 7. The Choctaw, Creek, Chickasaw, Seminole, and _____ tribes were moved to Oklahoma.
- 9. _____ brought prosperity to Oklahoma through the 1920s.
- 10. I. M. _____ redesigned Oklahoma City.
- 12. Legendary newscaster Walter _____ is an Oklahoman.
- 14. _____, destructive whirling windstorms, are common in Oklahoma.
- 17. President Andrew Jackson ordered the "Trail of _____" march.
- 18. Live _____ auctions happen in Stockyards City.

OREGON (OR)

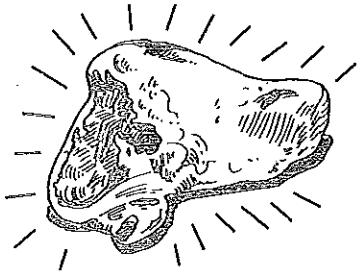
Beaver State

Fast Facts

State Capital: Salem
Population: 3,421,399 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 95,997 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1859



State Flag



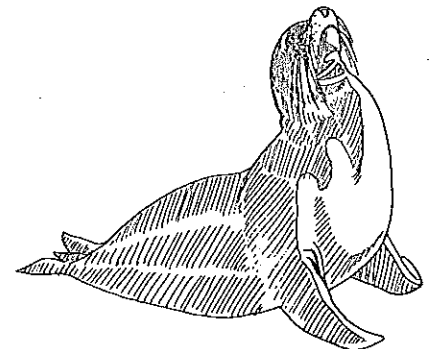
In 1843, about 1,000 pioneers, 120 wagons, and 5,000 heads of livestock left Independence, Missouri, to make their way to Oregon. Over a span of 30 years, 300,000 people would brave the Oregon Trail. One out of 10 would not survive the journey. Some were killed by American Indians, but most were overcome by diseases (such as cholera), grass fires, storms, and floods. Travelers even had to float their wagons down the treacherous Columbia River to move west.

Settlers were drawn to the Oregon Territory principally for gold. The precious metal was discovered first in Baker City, which today displays a gold nugget weighing 80.4 ounces. Oregon's gold mines eventually ran out, however, and Oregon settlers discovered the vast natural resources the territory had to offer.

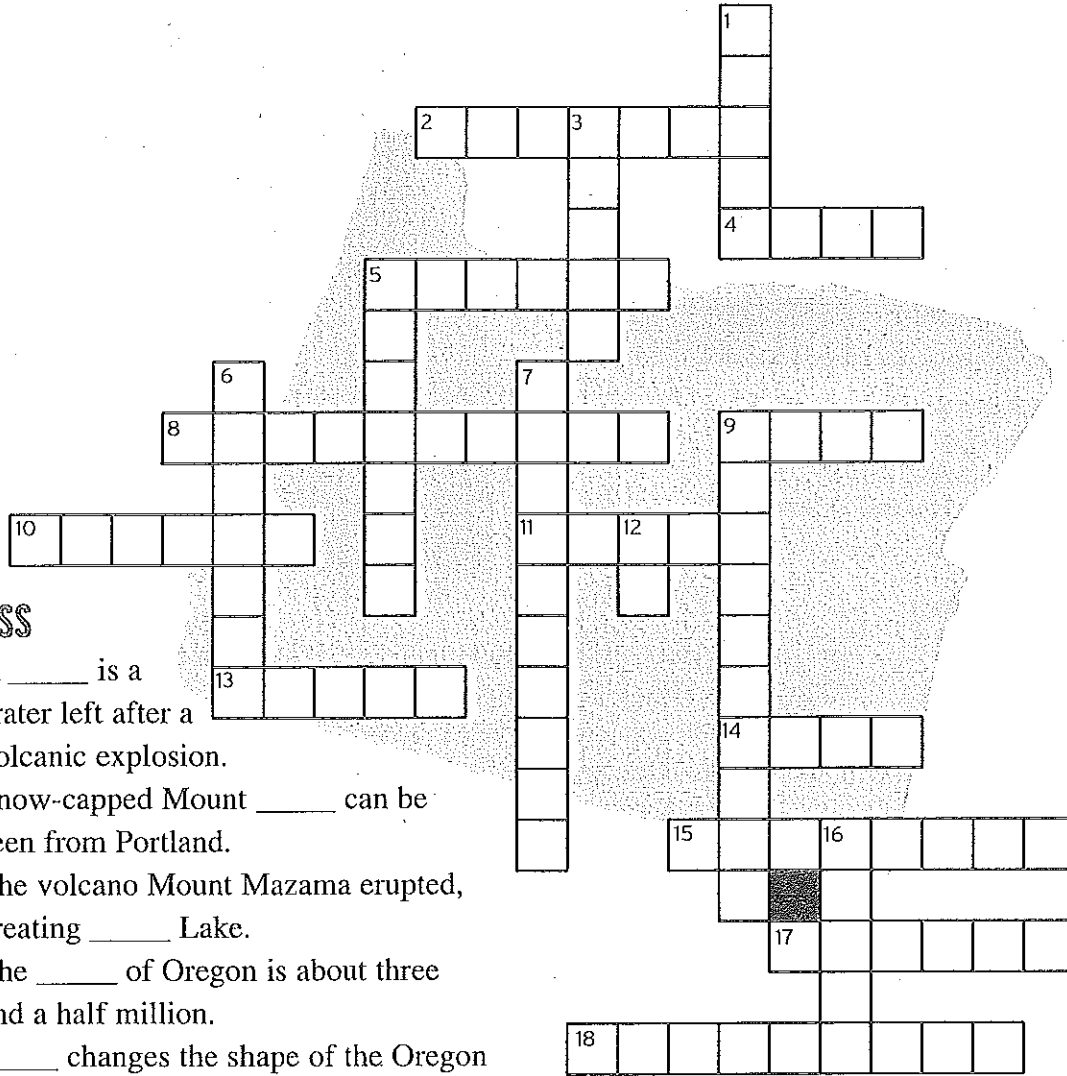
These include a 400-mile coastline of unmatched beauty and a huge variety of sea life. To this day, Oregon's entire beach area is publicly owned. Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area has sand dunes to explore and trails for horseback riding. Due to the effects of wind, the dunes vary in height from day to day, sometimes reaching as high as 500 feet. Sea lions in their natural habitat are on display at Sea Lion Caves near Yachats.

The Cascade Range contains the huge Willamette and Fremont National Forests. Columbia River has cut a scenic gorge in both Oregon and Washington states. The *confluence* (flowing together) of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers created water deep enough for an inland port. The city of Portland lies in the shadow of snow-capped Mount Hood. Portland, the "City of Roses," features 200 parks.

One of Oregon's most stunning sites was created by a volcanic explosion. Mount Mazama blew up 7,700 years ago, creating a giant *caldera*, a crater caused by the collapse of the volcano's core. Rain filled this deep hole creating a sapphire-blue lake. Today Crater Lake is a national park.



Oregon Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. A _____ is a crater left after a volcanic explosion.
4. Snow-capped Mount _____ can be seen from Portland.
5. The volcano Mount Mazama erupted, creating _____ Lake.
8. The _____ of Oregon is about three and a half million.
9. _____ changes the shape of the Oregon Dunes every day.
10. Baker City has an 80.4-ounce gold _____ on display.
11. Near Yachats, you can watch sea _____ in their natural habitat.
13. The capital of Oregon is _____.
14. _____ was the reason many settlers came to Oregon.
15. _____ is called the "City of Roses."
17. In 1843, about 1,000 settlers traveled to Oregon with 120 _____.
18. The _____ of Oregon is 400 miles long.

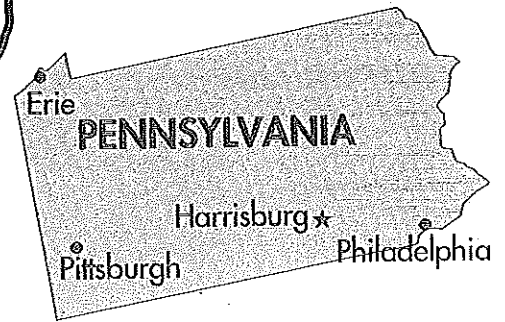
DOWN

1. Oregon's _____ areas are publicly owned.

3. Oregon _____ can be explored while horseback riding.
5. Diseases, such as _____, killed pioneers traveling to Oregon.
6. The Cascades contain the Willamette and Fremont National _____.
7. In Portland, the Columbia and _____ Rivers come together.
9. The Columbia River cuts a gorge through Oregon and _____ states.
12. The postal abbreviation for Oregon is _____.
16. The Oregon _____ went from Missouri to Oregon.

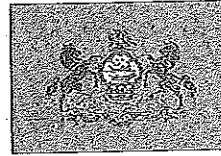
PENNSYLVANIA (PA)

Keystone State

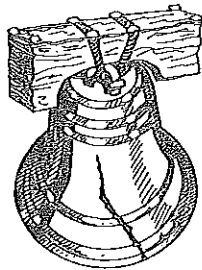


Fast Facts

State Capital: Harrisburg
Population: 12,281,054 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 44,817 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1787



State Flag



In 1681, England's King Charles II granted William Penn, a prominent British Quaker, land in America. Penn used Quaker principles of tolerance to guide the new colony of Pennsylvania (Penn's woods). He made treaties with American Indians and kept them. He also named Philadelphia—the fifth largest city in the U.S. today—the “City of Brotherly Love.”

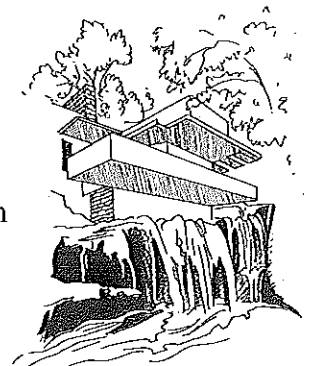
Philadelphia's Independence Hall witnessed the birth of the United States of America. On July 4, 1776, representatives of the 13 colonies signed the Declaration of Independence at this state capitol and the Liberty Bell was rung.

Nearly 100 years later, Pennsylvania played a significant role in the war that almost divided the nation. On three days in July 1863 during the Civil War, Union soldiers successfully defended Gettysburg from the Confederate army. On November 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln dedicated a national cemetery at Gettysburg and delivered his famous speech: “Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.”

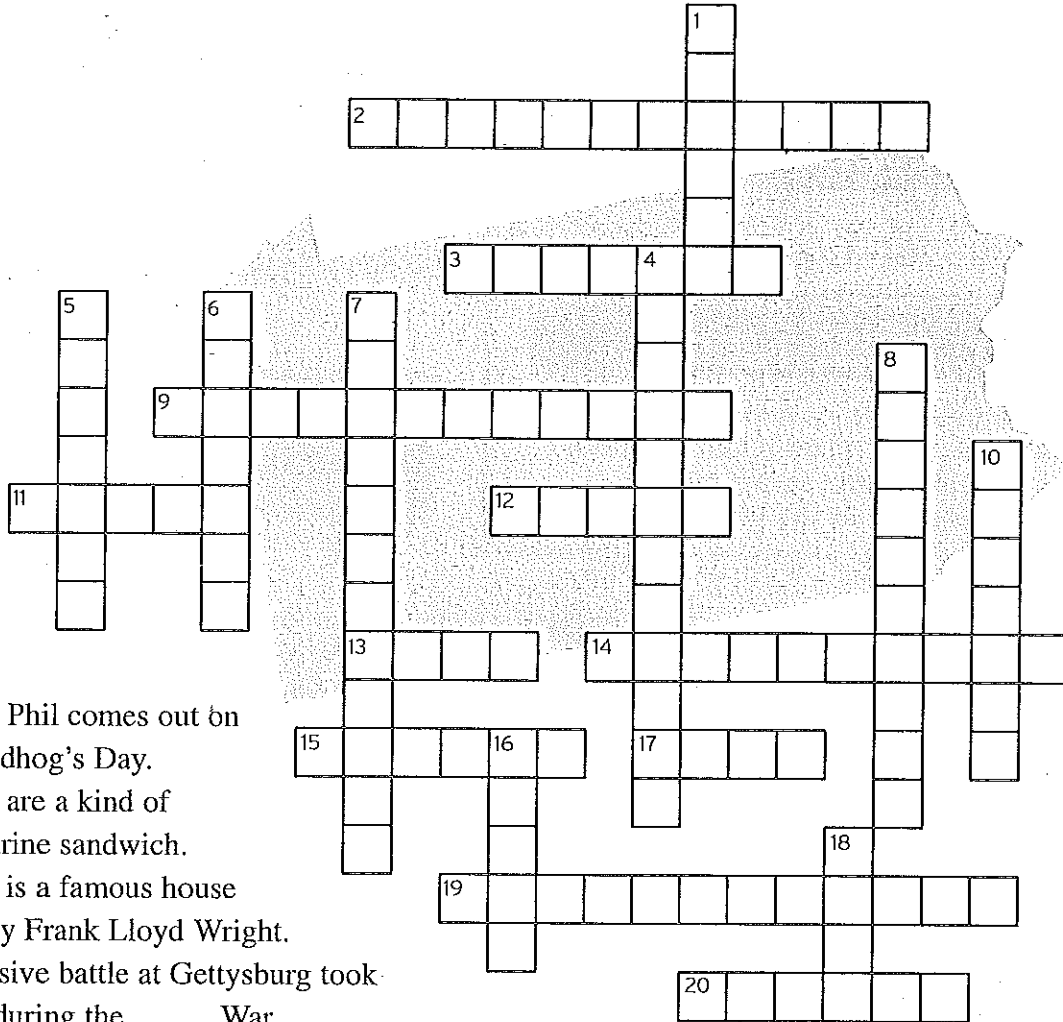
Pennsylvania is proud to be the first state to abolish slavery. It was also in Pennsylvania that Dr. Jonas Salk developed his first polio vaccines. Little League Baseball was first established at Williamsport. Pennsylvania also developed chocolate (Hershey) “kisses,” Philly cheese steaks, and *hoagies* (submarine sandwiches). Famous architect Frank Lloyd Wright designed Fallingwater, the first house built around a waterfall, in Mill Run.

For energy, the first oil well was drilled in Titusville. Pittsburgh, once the world's leading steel producer, is still a center for coal production. Nearly all of the U.S. anthracite coal is mined in Pennsylvania. In 1979, a nuclear plant at Three Mile Island became the site of the nation's worst nuclear accident.

Another small town in Pennsylvania becomes the center of attention every year on February 2nd. That's when groundhog Punxsutawney Phil lets the world know when spring will arrive.



Pennsylvania Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

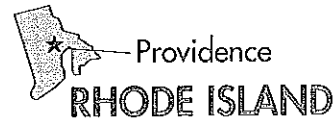
2. _____ Phil comes out on Groundhog's Day.
3. _____ are a kind of submarine sandwich.
9. _____ is a famous house built by Frank Lloyd Wright.
11. A decisive battle at Gettysburg took place during the _____ War.
12. A nuclear-power plant accident happened at _____ Mile Island.
13. Philadelphia is called the "City of Brotherly _____."
14. In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln gave a speech at _____.
15. Philadelphia is known for its _____ steaks.
17. The U.S. anthracite _____ supply comes from Pennsylvania.
19. _____ means Penn's Woods.
20. William Penn had strong beliefs built on his _____ religion.
4. The Declaration of _____ was signed in 1776.
5. Pennsylvania was the first state to _____ slavery.
6. King _____ II gave what is now Pennsylvania to William Penn.
7. The fifth largest city in the United States is _____.
8. _____ is the capital of Pennsylvania.
10. The _____ Bell rang out on July 4, 1776.
16. Pittsburgh was once the world's biggest _____ producer.
18. Dr. Jonas _____ developed the polio vaccine.

DOWN

1. Little _____ baseball began in Williamsport.

RHODE ISLAND (RI)

Ocean State

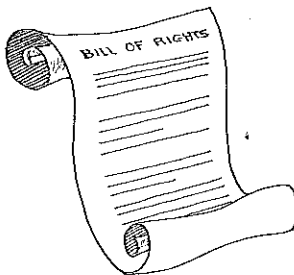


Fast Facts

State Capital: Providence
Population: 1,048,319 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 1,045 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1790



State Flag

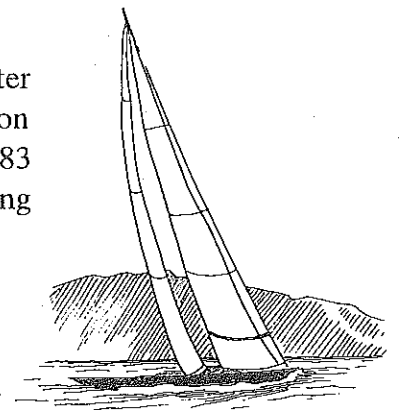


Roger Williams founded the Rhode Island Colony in 1636. He bought the land from the Narragansett Indians. Williams had been banished from Massachusetts because of his religious beliefs and his insistence that the lands of Massachusetts and Plymouth really belonged to the Indians. People searching for religious freedom flocked to the state, including Jewish immigrants. Touro Synagogue in Rhode Island is the oldest Jewish house of worship in the United States.

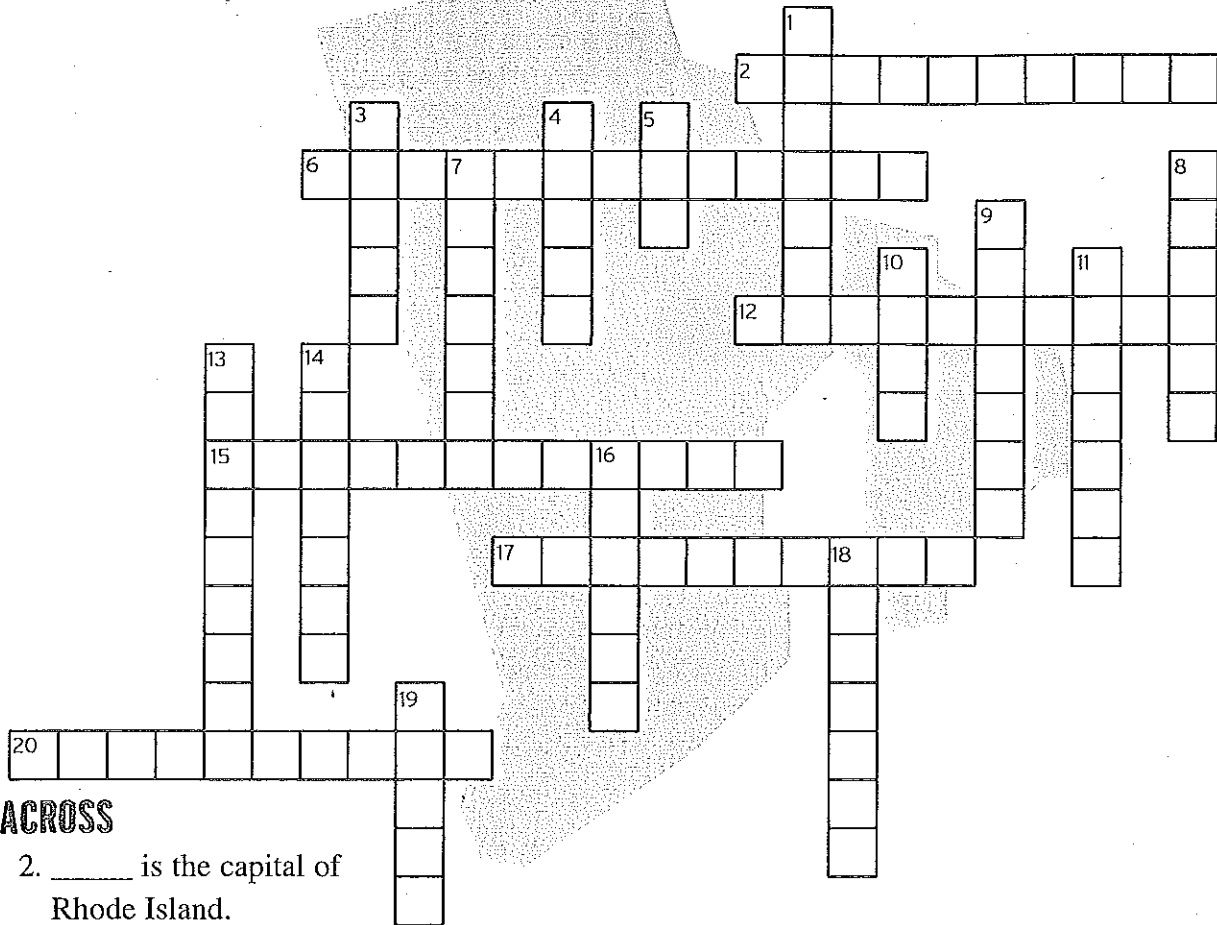
Insisting on the rights of the individual, Rhode Island was the first colony to declare its independence against Britain and the last (or 13th) to ratify the Constitution. Rhode Islanders refused to consent until the Bill of Rights was included. These ten amendments provide for individuals' freedom of religion, speech, and the press. The Bill of Rights also allows citizens to assemble and protest peaceably, to bear arms, and other legal rights.

Rhode Islanders helped influence the development of our nation. Brothers Oliver and Matthew Perry were U.S. naval heroes. During the War of 1812, Oliver defeated the British in the Battle of Lake Erie. In 1853, Matthew sailed into Tokyo Bay and, with a show of force, prompted Japan to open its doors to U.S. trade and diplomatic relations.

It's no surprise that Rhode Island has a long maritime history. With its islands, nooks, and crannies, Rhode Island—the smallest state—has 400 miles of coastline. Narragansett Bay provides shelter for ships sailing the Atlantic. (Pirates took advantage of the location until 1723 when the British hanged 23 of them.) From 1936 to 1983 Rhode Island was home to America's Cup, an international yachting competition. Besides being a sailing and naval center, Newport is noted for its mansions built during the Gilded Age, when the U.S. was experiencing rapid industrialization after the Civil War. One such home is the Breakers, the 70-room Vanderbilt estate on the Cliff Walk, overlooking Rhode Island Sound.



Rhode Island Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. _____ is the capital of Rhode Island.
6. Roger Williams was banished from _____.
12. Rhode Island was the _____ (number) state to ratify the Constitution.
15. Rhode Island is on _____ Bay.
17. The first ten _____ to the Constitution are called the Bill of Rights.
20. The _____ family owned a house in Newport called the Breakers.
8. Rhode Island would not ratify the Constitution without the Bill of _____.
9. Historically, Rhode Island attracted people seeking religious _____.
10. The Bill of Rights protects citizens' rights to bear _____.
11. Rhode Island once belonged to the Narragansett _____.

DOWN

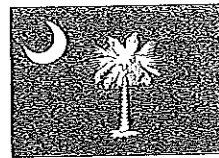
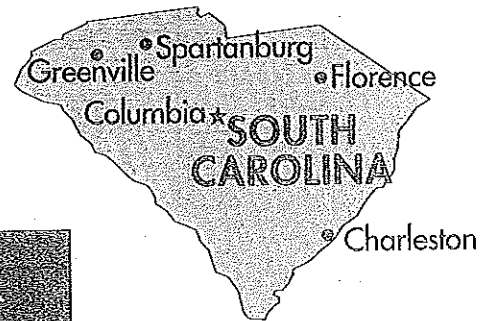
1. Oliver Perry fought the _____ navy during the War of 1812.
3. Matthew Perry forced _____ into establishing trade with the United States.
4. Rhode Island is called the _____ State.
5. The America's _____ is an international yachting competition.
7. Newport is a _____ and naval center.
13. Touro _____ is the oldest Jewish house of worship in the U.S.
14. _____ once preyed on ships near Rhode Island.
16. The Bill of Rights guarantees freedom of religion, press, and _____.
18. Mansions in _____ were built during the Gilded Age.
19. The _____ Walk overlooks Rhode Island Sound.

SOUTH CAROLINA (SC)

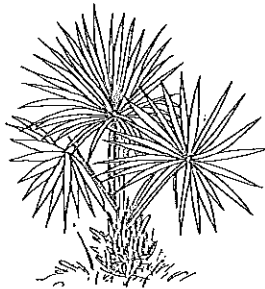
Palmetto State

Fast Facts

State Capital: Columbia
Population: 4,012,012 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 30,110 square miles
Year Admitted to the Union: 1788



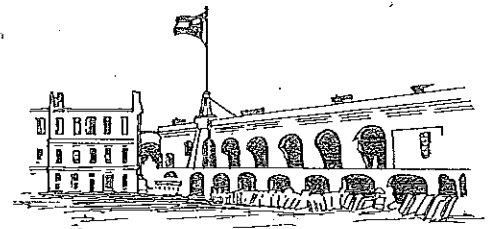
State Flag



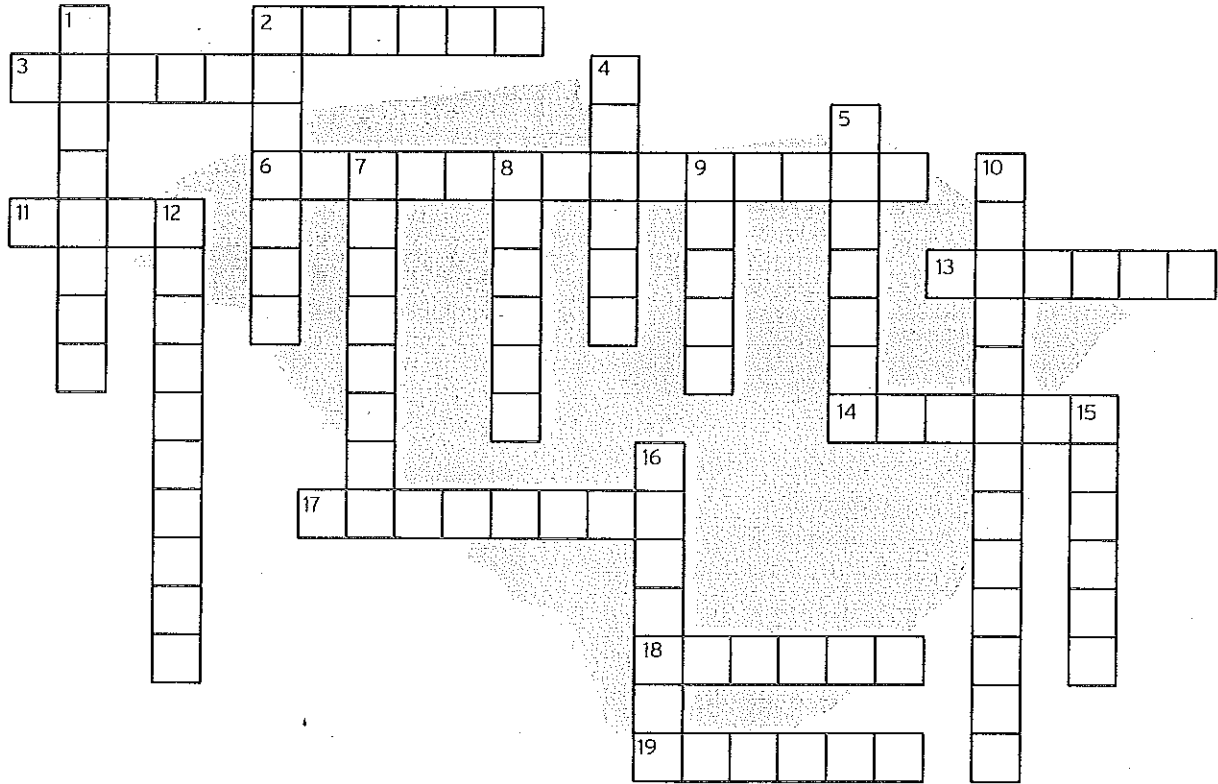
South Carolina fought more battles during the Revolutionary War than any other state. At Kings Mountain, pro-Revolution mountain men defeated local *Tories* (those who sided with Britain). Later, a smashing American victory at the Battle of Cowpens turned the tide of the war, preparing the way for British defeat.

Showing its independence, South Carolina was the first state to *secede* (withdraw) from the Union in 1860. South Carolina's economy was founded on the plantation system, which used slave labor to do manual work in the fields and households. Abolitionists (mostly northerners) felt slavery violated the U.S. Constitution, and wanted it outlawed. The other Deep South states (Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas) joined South Carolina in secession. Together with Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, and Arkansas, they formed the Confederate States of America. Jefferson Davis became the Confederate President. In April 1861, Confederate forces attacked Fort Sumter, a Union garrison off the South Carolina coast, starting the Civil War. This "War Between the States" took more lives than any other U.S. war. Union General William Sherman burned much of South Carolina in the following years. After the war, during Reconstruction, more hardship fell on the state.

Today, Fort Sumter has become a national park open to tourists. Along the coastline, popular resorts line the Grand Strand from Little River near North Carolina to the Santee River (60 miles south). Myrtle Beach offers swimming, fishing, surfing, amusement parks, and 100 golf courses. Nearby Murrells Inlet, named for a pirate, serves great seafood. On Pawleys Island, visitors can sample a handmade hammock. An exotic look into the nation's African-American past can be found at Hilton Head Island, where the Gullah culture and language (a mix of English and African) are still alive.



South Carolina Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. South Carolina was the first state to _____ or withdraw from the Union.
3. _____ language can be found in Hilton Head, South Carolina.
6. The _____ was the time when southern states were recovering from the Civil War.
11. South Carolina is one of the states considered the _____ South.
13. Revolutionary forces defeated the _____ at King's Mountain.
14. Deep South _____ include Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida.
17. North _____ is located above South Carolina.
18. There were a total of _____ (number) states in the Confederacy.
19. The Grand Strand stretches from Little River to the _____ River.

DOWN

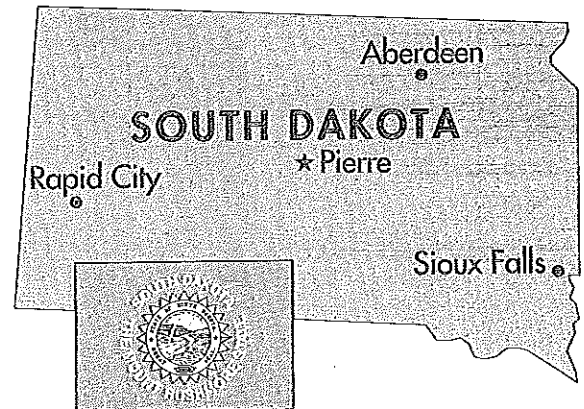
1. _____ Inlet was named after a pirate.
2. General William _____ burned much of South Carolina.
4. _____ Beach, South Carolina, is a popular resort.
5. Americans defeated the British at the Battle of _____.
7. _____ is the capital of South Carolina.
8. The Grand _____ is a 60-mile stretch of South Carolina coastline.
9. The War Between the States is also called the _____ War.
10. _____ wanted to outlaw slavery.
12. South Carolina's early economy was founded on the _____ system.
15. The first shots of the Civil War were fired on Fort _____.
16. On _____ Island, you can buy a handmade hammock.

SOUTH DAKOTA (SD)

Mount Rushmore State

Fast Facts

State Capital: Pierre
Population: 754,844 (Census 2000)
Land Area: 75,885 square feet
Year Admitted to the Union: 1889



State Flag



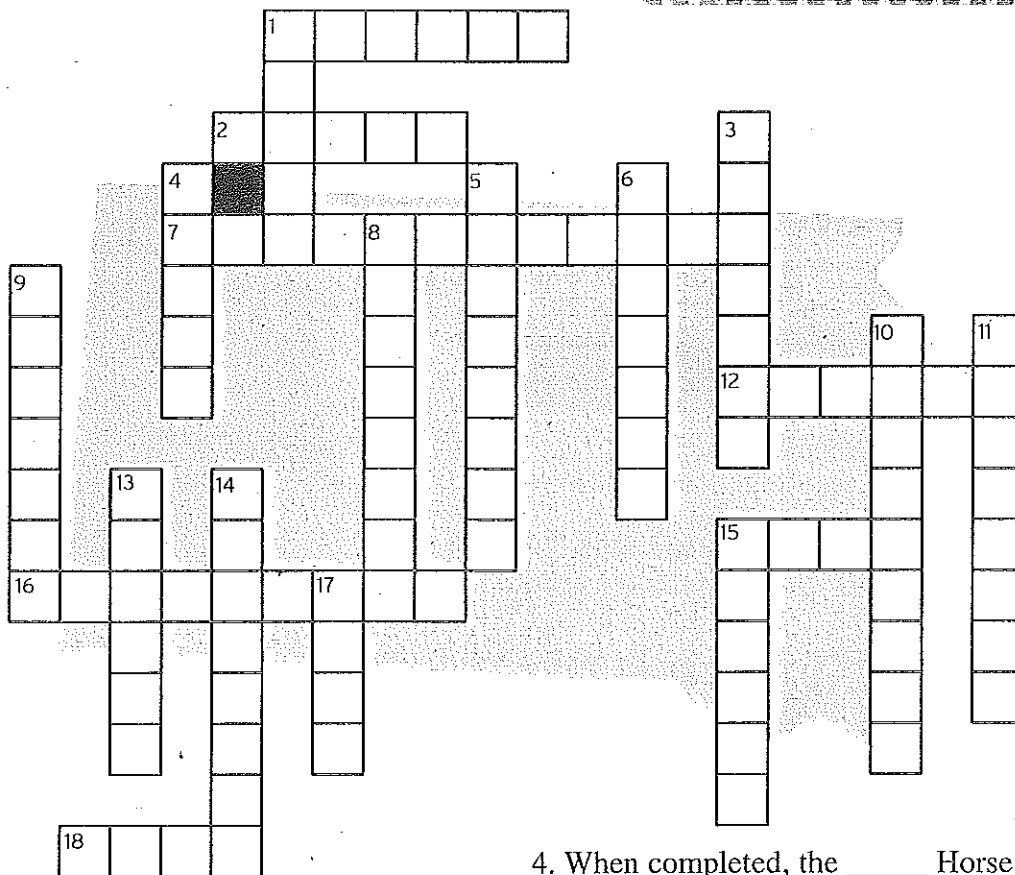
South Dakota's Black Hills were so-named because the dense ponderosa Spine trees made them seem black from a distance. The Sioux (or Lakota) Indians hold the Hills sacred. They gained the land here by treaty in 1868 after defeating U.S. forces. When gold was discovered in the hills, though, settlers and the 7th cavalry, led by General George Custer, poured into the territory in a gold rush. Chief Crazy Horse and the Sioux fought hard for their land, killing Custer at Little Bighorn. In the end, however, the Sioux were defeated and confined to reservations. In 1890 the U.S. Army massacred 200 Sioux Indians, including women and children, at Wounded Knee. Until the 1940s, it was illegal to teach—or speak—Sioux language. Sioux culture and history were completely suppressed. In 1973, members of the American Indian Movement occupied Wounded Knee for 70 days to protest Indian treatment.

Today the Black Hills are a popular tourist spot. The Hills are home to Mount Rushmore, where Presidents George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson, and Theodore Roosevelt's images are carved in the face of the mountain. Gutzon Borglum designed and oversaw the creation of the sculpture from 1927 to 1941. South Dakota soon will have another sculpture, the largest in the world—a tribute to Crazy Horse and American Indians everywhere. Still under construction, the face of the great warrior alone will stand nine stories high.

Many legendary figures once roamed the Dakota Territory, including frontier marshal Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane, a frontierswoman who often dressed as a man. Both frequented Deadwood, a gold-rush town in the Black Hills Region. Hickok was shot in the back here while playing poker.

Southeast of the Black Hills are the Badlands, which offer one of the strangest landscapes on the continent. About half of the area is located on the Pine Ridge Indian reservation. Inhabited by snakes and, some say, spirits, the Badlands is a very dry region filled with gullies, spires, canyons, and pinnacles—a virtual “moonscape.” Fossils of ancient mammals have been found in this national park.





ACROSS

1. Wild Bill _____ was killed in Deadwood.
2. The _____ Hills got their name because the dense forests made them look dark.
7. After the battle between the Sioux and U.S. soldiers, the Indians were moved to _____.
12. The _____ Indians are also known as the Sioux.
15. About half of the Dakota Badlands is located on the _____ Ridge Reservation.
16. At Wounded Knee, Lakota Indians were _____ in 1890.
18. _____ was discovered in the Black Hills in the 19th century.

DOWN

1. The Black _____ are sacred to the Indians of South Dakota.
3. _____ of mammals that lived long ago have been found in the Badlands.

4. When completed, the _____ Horse Monument will be the largest sculpture in the world.
5. _____ Jane spent time in South Dakota.
6. In 1973, the American Indian Movement staged a protest at _____ Knee.
8. Mount _____ features the sculpted images of four U.S. presidents.
9. Gutzon _____ was the sculptor who created Mount Rushmore.
10. President Theodore _____ is one of the faces on Mount Rushmore.
11. The _____ are inhabited by large snake populations.
13. General _____ led the 7th cavalry in a fight against the Sioux.
14. _____ was a gold-rush town.
15. _____, the capital of South Dakota, is pronounced "Peer."
17. A gold _____ caused the U.S. to break its treaty with the Sioux Indians.