

Jackson's Antebellum Travels in the United States¹

Trace Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson's travels on the 19th century United States map (page 3) and label the destinations. Use a **red** pen or marker for stagecoach travel, **green** for railroads, **black** for walking, and **blue** for ships or riverboats.

- 1) In 1842, Jackson left his hometown of Clarksburg, in northwestern Virginia, and took a stagecoach east to Washington, D.C.
- 2) Jackson then took a train northeast from Washington D.C. to New York City.
- 3) From New York City, Jackson used a Hudson River Ferry to travel upriver to West Point, on the banks of the Hudson River, south of Albany.
- 4) In 1846, Jackson traveled southwest on foot to Pittsburgh, a Pennsylvania city on the Ohio River.
- 5) Jackson then took a ferry down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 6) Jackson took a ship south through the Gulf of Mexico to Point Isabel, a town on the coast of Texas near the Rio Grande River, to fight in the Mexican War.
- 7) Returning from the Mexican War, Jackson took a ship north from Mexico to New Orleans. Here he boarded a river steamer and traveled up the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers to Pittsburgh, and returned to New York City by stagecoach.
- 8) Jackson then returned home to Clarksburg, traveling southwest by stagecoach.
- 9) Jackson went east to Richmond by river boat, then to Fort Meade, in Central Florida, by ship via the Atlantic Ocean.
- 10) In 1851, Jackson traveled by ship from Florida to New York City.
- 11) Jackson then settled in Lexington, in central Virginia, and traveled there by stagecoach.
- 12) On his wedding trip with Elinor Junkin, Jackson traveled east to Richmond by riverboat, then took a ship north through the Atlantic Ocean to Philadelphia. Then they took a stagecoach northwest to Niagara Falls. Afterward, they took a boat down the St.

¹ Teacher's Note: Details of Jackson's means of travel in examples 7-9 and 12-13 are unclear and these designations are speculative. Overall, this exercise contains generalizations intended to have students recognize the predominant forms of transportation of the era.

Lawrence River to Montreal, Canada. After a Canadian tour, they boarded a ship to Boston. Then they took a train southwest to Philadelphia, and returned to Lexington by stagecoach.

- 13) On his wedding trip with his second wife Mary Anna Morrison, Jackson took a stagecoach southeast to Charlotte, North Carolina. They then took a stagecoach north to Richmond and another stagecoach north to Baltimore, Maryland. Then they took a train northeast to Philadelphia, and another train northeast to New York City. They used a ferry to travel up the Hudson River to visit West Point and Saratoga, a Revolutionary War battlefield north of Albany. Then they rode a stagecoach northwest to Niagara Falls. They returned to Lexington by stagecoach.

Conclusions

- 1) Which method of transportation did Jackson use most? Why do you think this is?

- 2) What patterns do you notice about the methods of transportation? Where was railroad travel most common? Where was stagecoach travel most common? What does this say about the regions of the country?

- 3) Why would Jackson travel from Florida to New York City by sea and not by land? Would you do this today? Why or why not?

- 4) Which method of transportation do you think would be fastest? Slowest? Most expensive? Cheapest? Most fun? Does the purpose of a trip affect what method of transportation you use?

The United States, 1854-1861

