

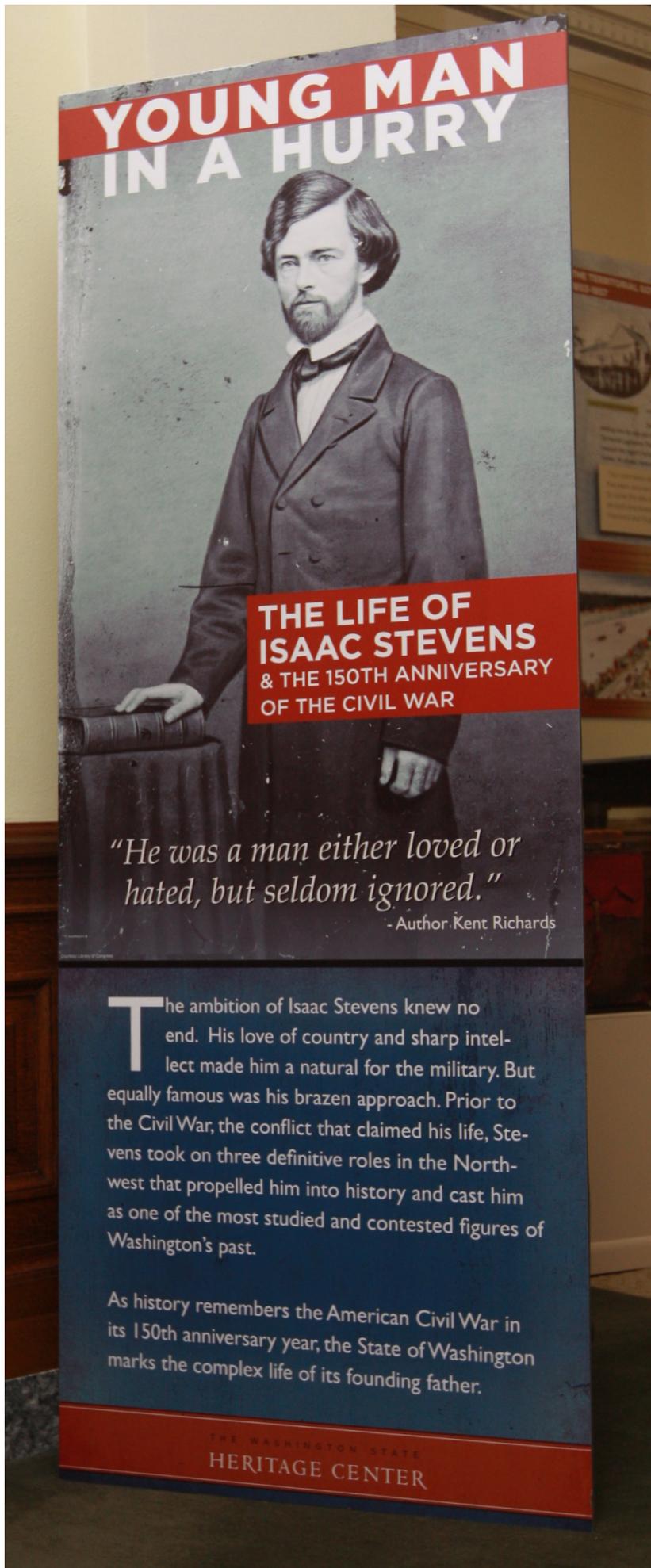
Young Man in a Hurry: The Life of Isaac Stevens & the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War

Traveling Exhibit:

This exhibit was prepared for the Heritage Center display in the Office of the Secretary of State for April, 2011 through March, 2012 to chronicle the life of Washington's first Territorial Governor and to recognize both his service in the Civil War and that of other noted Civil War figures who also served in the Northwest Territory of the United States.

The exhibit is available to travel to museums, libraries, public buildings free of charge. The receiving institution will be responsible for providing transportation of the exhibit from Olympia to their location as well as a certificate of insurance naming the Washington State Heritage Center as co-insured.

For information on available dates or more information about the exhibit, please contact Carleen Jackson, 360-902-4126, carleen.jackson@sos.wa.gov.



#1 Introduction panel.

Freestanding (Easel like mechanics hold panel up in back) panel is 30" wide by 78" tall. Print is laminated on 1/2" gatorboard.

THE SURVIVOR 1818-1835



Born on a farm in Andover, Massachusetts, Stevens becomes the seventh descendant of the town founder, John Stevens.

Isaac Ingalls Stevens entered the world in the spring of 1818 with mild pituitary dwarfism. The condition limited his height to roughly 5' and likely fed his lifelong need to prove himself.

Pushed by a strict father on the family farm, Stevens grew into a disciplined and at times relentless competitor.

When he was a young boy his mother Hannah suffered an ultimately fatal blow to the head in a carriage accident caused by his father's "furious" driving.

Stevens later called his mother's death the most devastating loss of his life.

Stevens immersed himself in studies. He attended Phillips Academy by age 15. Stevens was intellectually curious and known for his skills in math.



Phillips Academy, located in Andover, ranks as the oldest incorporated academy in the United States.

THE LIEUTENANT 1835-1853



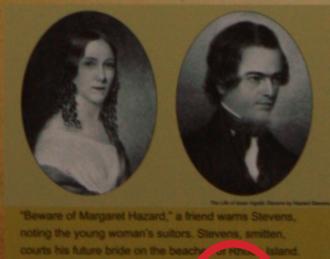
Stevens' well-rounded interests show in his impressive illustration of the infant Jesus.

Military life suited Stevens. He excelled at the prestigious West Point Military Academy and graduated first in his class in 1839. Stevens won top honors in every subject he pursued. From French to engineering, his wide range of academic interests carried him throughout his life.

Stevens' 14-year career with the Army Corps of Engineers also began in 1839. The Lieutenant helped build forts along the Atlantic Coast and fought in the Mexican-American War. Stevens took a near-deadly gunshot wound to the foot in combat.



Stevens characterizes the Battle of Churubusco as "the terrible and decisive conflict" of the Mexican-American War. During the conflict, Stevens is promoted quickly from Lieutenant to Captain to Major.



"Beware of Margaret Hazard," a friend warns Stevens, noting the young woman's suitors. Stevens, smitten, courts his future bride on the beach of Rhode Island.

Stevens married the well-heeled Margaret Hazard, a prominent beauty from Rhode Island, in 1841.

"Meg" saw a "strong undercurrent of soul refinement and honor" in her husband. The couple had five children.

Metal clip

#2 Early Life Panel

Mounted panel is 54" wide by 72" tall. Print is laminated on 1/2" gatorboard. This panel includes two pop-out photos, Isaac's original home (top left, and the Battle of Churobusco (bottom right). Pop out mechanisms (gatorboard Velcro blocks) included.

Panels are mounted to walls with 4 1/2" metal clips and screws.

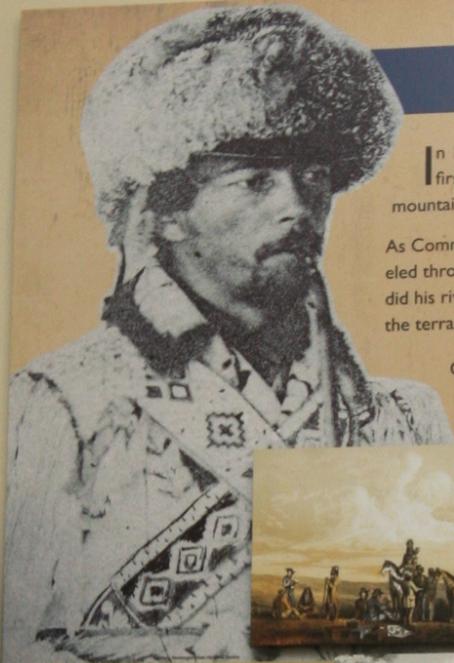
THE SURVEYOR 1853

In 1853, politicians fiercely debated possible routes of the country's first transcontinental railroad. Multiple survey crews conquered mountain peaks, valleys and rivers to identify the best course.

As Commander of the North Pacific Railroad Survey, Isaac Stevens traveled through the West between the 47th and 49th parallels. Stevens outdid his rivals with his thorough and detailed report vividly documenting the terrain and encounters with Indians.

On September 24, 1853, in a violent rainstorm, the survey crew reached the summit of Cadotte's Pass. Thunder rang out in the Rocky Mountains as Stevens welcomed his crew to the newly-created Washington Territory.

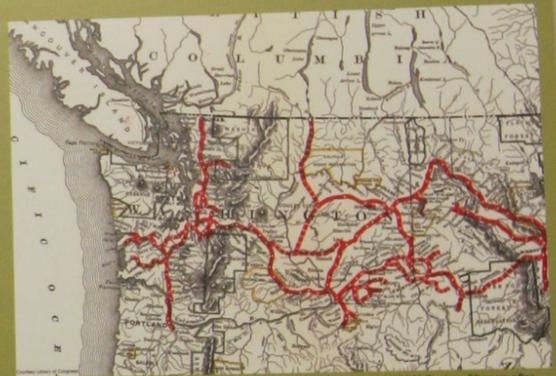
The expansive region encompassed modern-day Washington State, northern Idaho, and north-west Montana.



Artists accompany Stevens to document the historic survey, the first comprehensive exploration of the region since Lewis and Clark.

Stevens' crew is shown in present-day Montana at Fort Benton, top left.

Stevens and his party encounter Gros Ventres Indians, left.



Above, the red tracks illustrate actual and proposed railroad routes at the turn of 20th Century, 50 years after Stevens' North Pacific Railroad Survey.

THE VISIONARY

With an eye toward the future, Stevens understood the importance of the transcontinental railroad for the country, and the merits of a northern route. "... its shortness, its connection with the Great Lakes and this splendid Sound looking upon Asia, and made by nature to become the emporium of a vast trade, are considerations which cannot be disregarded."



Stevens produces an exhaustive survey report detailing, among other things, the flora and fauna of the Pacific Northwest.



Above, "Rocky Mountains to Puget Sound," illustrates Stevens' railroad routes with dark lines, and possible routes with dotted lines, 1853-1854.

#3 The Surveyor with Visionary Sidebar Panels

Mounted Surveyor panel is 60" wide by 72" tall. Print is laminated on 1/2" gatorboard. This panel includes two pop-out photos, center top and center bottom. Pop out mechanisms (gatorboard Velcro blocks) included.

Panels are mounted to walls with 4 1/2" metal clips and screws.

The Visionary sidebar panel is 30" wide by 48" tall and mounted on 1/4" gatorboard. Panel is mounted approximately 10"-12" inches overlapping Surveyor panel with long gatorboard Velcro blocks (included).

THE TERRITORIAL GOVERNOR 1853-1857



Olympia's Washington Hotel circa 1870s.

Wearied, disheveled and soaked from a drenching rain, freshly appointed Territorial Governor Isaac Stevens arrived at Olympia's Washington Hotel to claim his post as chief executive of the Territory. His frontier buckskins were no match for the prestige of his new position. As the legend holds, no one recognized Stevens. He was disregarded and ordered outside "until the governor arrived."

Stevens, just 35 years old, wasted no time settling into his new job. He quickly called for the election of the Territorial Legislature. The Governor created military roads to connect the region's forts and pushed for multiple railroad routes. As always, Stevens looked ahead.

"Our commerce doubles in seven years, our railroads in four or five years, and we have reason to believe that for some years to come this rate of increase will be accelerated. Roads must be built simultaneously to the great harbors on the Pacific, San Francisco and Puget Sound, if practicable routes are found."

- Isaac Stevens, Territorial Governor

Olympia does not provide the lifestyle to which Margaret Stevens had long been accustomed. Lonely, she refuses to leave her home for two months.

"At night we were told on ascending a hill, there is Olympia. I looked out eagerly to see our future home. Below us in the deep mud were a few low wooden houses at the head of Puget Sound. My heart sank for the first time in my life at the prospect." - Margaret Stevens



In this depiction of Olympia in 1856, Governor Isaac Stevens stands on a platform proclaiming an end to the Indian War to his volunteer army. The Sylvester's Window project, a series of eight historically accurate illustrations of Olympia from 1841 to 2001, is developed by Lynn Erickson and painted by Robert Chamberlain.

"THE PARDON"

A legendary dispute between Governor Stevens and Ed Lander, Chief Justice of the Territorial Supreme Court, unfolded in 1856. In the wake of Indian attacks in Shellicoom, Governor Stevens declared martial law in Pierce County. Stevens suspected a handful of white men were aiding and abetting hostile Indians and ordered them into blockhouses. When the men refused to go, he had them arrested.

Justice Lander left his volunteer military post without leave. He opened court in Pierce County so a writ of habeas corpus could be filed on behalf of the defendants. Stevens refused to show up in court and ordered Lander arrested for violating martial law. After he was released, Lander ordered Stevens arrested for contempt of court. The Governor eventually abrogated martial law and reportedly pardoned himself "from ever declaring it in the first place." Governor Stevens received a slap on the wrist from President Franklin Pierce.

Isaac Stevens, above, remains the youngest Governor in Washington history. Edward Lander, Judge and Military Commander, right.

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, in the prosecution of the existing Indian War, it became necessary, for the reasons set forth in the proclamation of the Governor of the Territory of Washington of the 3d of April, to proclaim Martial law in and through Pierce county, in said Territory; and whereas, the same efforts are now being made in the county of Thurston by the issue of the writ of habeas corpus, to take from the purview of the Military Commission, which is ordered to convene on the 20th instant, certain persons charged with giving aid and comfort to the enemy; and, whereas, an overruling public necessity leaves no alternative but to persist in that trial in order that the military operations be not rendered abortive, and the lives of the citizens needlessly sacrificed,

Therefore I, ISAAC I. STEVENS, Governor of the Territory of Washington, do by these presents proclaim Martial law in and throughout the county of Thurston, and do call upon all good citizens to see that Martial law is enforced.

Given under my hand at Olympia, this 13th day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, and the year of Independence the eighty-first.

ISAAC I. STEVENS.

#3 The Territorial Governor

Mounted Territorial Governor panels combined are 72" wide by 72" tall. Panel is divided into 2 pieces, split at the line between the orange and blue portion. Panel is laminated on 1/2" gatorboard. This panel includes two pop-out pieces, the quote on top panel and the Proclamation on bottom right. Pop out mechanisms (gatorboard Velcro blocks) included.

Panels are mounted to walls with 8 (4 for each panel) 1/2" metal clips and screws.

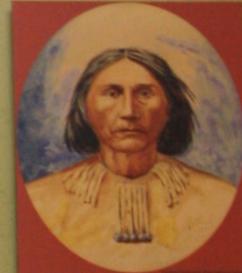
THE SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS 1853-1857

Stevens knew his widely contested role as Superintendent of Indian Affairs would define his legacy. His orders were clear. For the settlers to claim the West, Stevens charged: "The Indian title must be extinguished throughout the length and breadth of the territory."

Under clear orders, the Superintendent brokered 10 treaties with Indians across the Northwest in 13 months. His fast-paced negotiations earned him a reputation as an unscrupulous dealmaker.

Bitterness washed over the tribes and war erupted. Stevens vowed to bring hostile Indians into "unconditional submission," yet "give no cause of offense to the friendly Indians."

The conflict eventually came to an end. But strife over treaties endured for more than a century. Prophetically, Stevens observed: "I trust the time will come when my treaty operations of 1855... when I shall be able to vindicate them... and show that they were wise and proper and that they accomplished a great end."



After the treaty negotiations, war erupts in Washington Territory between tribes and the militia. Chief Leschi, a Nisqually Indian, is hanged in 1858 for the "murders" of Abram Moses and Joseph Miles, Territorial militia men.



THE BOLDT DECISION

The debate over the Stevens treaties continues long after his death. In the 1970s, Federal Judge George Boldt handed down a landmark opinion to settle, once and for all, the century-old fight over treaty fishing rights. The court case hinged on a single phrase in the treaties: "The right of taking fish, at all usual and accustomed grounds and stations, is further secured to said Indians in common with all citizens of the Territory." The Boldt Decision split the harvestable catch in half between treaty tribes and non-Indian fishermen.

The opinion enraged sports and non-Indian commercial fishermen. Sports fishermen pounded the pavement in protest and a violent backlash ensued on Washington waters. Tribal attorneys called the ruling one of the most important decisions ever handed down in the Pacific Northwest. The United States Supreme Court affirmed the principles of Boldt's decision in 1979. Although major issues have been settled, the court case remains in the American justice system to this day.

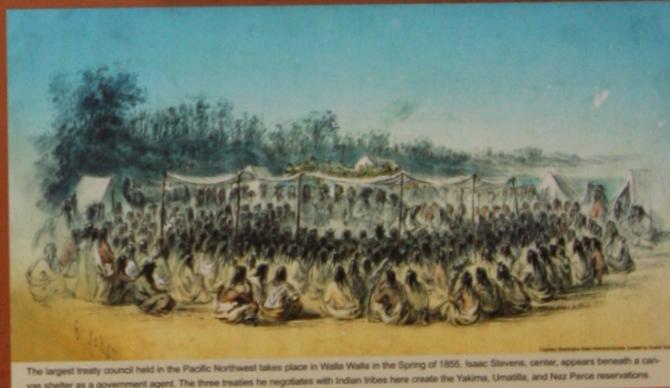


An Eisenhower appointee to the federal bench and a well-respected jurist, George Hugo Boldt takes on U.S. v. Washington. Despite the number of high-profile cases behind him, his opinion on tribal fishing rights becomes his legacy.



"The Almighty made us and gave us breath: we are talking together and God hears all that we say today. ... I am afraid of the Almighty. Shall I steal this land and sell it? or what shall I do? this is the reason that my heart is sad."

- Yakama Chief Owhi, official transcript, Walla Walla Treaty Council

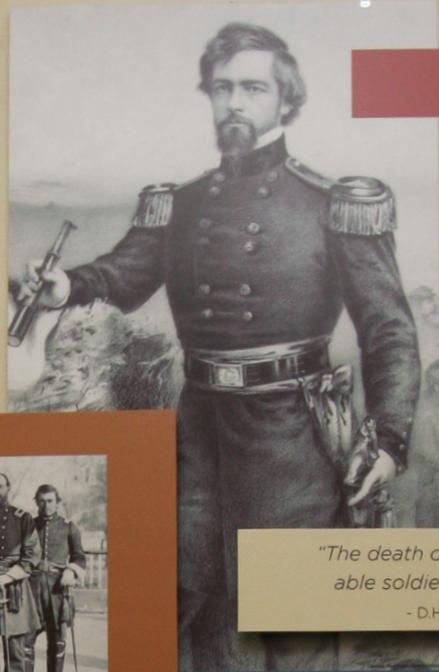


The largest treaty council held in the Pacific Northwest takes place in Walla Walla in the Spring of 1855. Isaac Stevens, center, appears beneath a canvas shelter as a government agent. The three treaties he negotiates with Indian tribes here create the Yakima, Umatilla, and Nez Perce reservations.

#4 Superintendent of Indian Affairs

Mounted Indian Affairs panel mirrors the setup and dimensions of the #3 (Surveyor) panel. Panel is 60" wide by 72" tall and is laminated on 1/2" gatorboard. This panel includes two pop-out pieces, the quote in the center and the photo of Chief Leschi. Pop out mechanisms (gatorboard Velcro blocks) included.

The Boldt Decision side bar is 30" wide by 48" tall and mounted on 1/4" gatorboard. Panel is mounted approximately 10"-12" inches overlapping Indian Affairs panel with long gatorboard Velcro blocks (included).



THE MAJOR GENERAL 1861-1862

Brigadier General Stevens of the 79th New York Highlanders led troops from the conflict at Port Royal to the Second Battle of Bull Run during the bloodiest war ever fought on American soil.

On September 1, 1862, the General ordered his wounded son from the Civil War battlefield at Chantilly. Stevens clutched the Highlanders flag, gave orders and charged ahead as a bullet pierced his temple. He was just 44.

"The death of this highly gifted man and able soldier is a national misfortune."
- D.H. Mahan, U.S. Military Academy at West Point



Mapmaker Robert Knox Sneed illustrates the planned Battle of Chantilly at Fairfax, Virginia. In a single day, the conflict takes the lives of both Union commanders Isaac Stevens and Philip Kearny, and roughly 1,500 soldiers.



General Isaac Stevens, seated, and his son Hazard, circled, appear in presumably their last photograph together, taken in 1862.

LIVING LEGACY

An Indian called them "boobahdy" for clawing their way to the summit of Washington's towering landmark covered in snow and ice. In August of 1870, Hazard Stevens and P.B. Van Trump scaled more than 14,000 feet to the record books in the first documented climb of Mount Rainier. Conspiring modern-day Washington's highest peak thrust Stevens out of the shadow of his famous father, Isaac Stevens.

Born June 9, 1842 in Rhode Island, Hazard Stevens found success as a soldier, a lawyer, and a politician. His greatest achievement as a writer fills two volumes in an intimate biography of his father.

As America hungered to claim the West, Stevens accompanied his father, then Superintendent of Indian Affairs, to historic land negotiations with Northwest Indian tribes.

He fought at his father's side during the Battle of Chantilly where he was wounded twice and became a Brigadier General in the Union Army. For his service at Fort Huger, Virginia, Stevens received the Medal of Honor.

Stevens joined the bar in 1871. Representing the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, he pushed the government to crack down on timber poachers. He was later accused of "allowing mill companies to log government and railroad land" and freed.

In 1874, Stevens moved to Dorchester, Massachusetts. He cared for his ill mother and eventually ran as a Reformer for the Massachusetts State Legislature.

After his mother's death, Stevens returned to Washington. He established the Cloverfields Dairy Farm on the present-day site of Olympia High School. You can still find his name bestowed on monuments and scenic viewpoints at Mount Rainier National Park.

Hazard Stevens died in 1918; he is buried in Newport, Rhode Island.

The turn of events marked the end of a life punctuated by controversy and exceptional achievement, even in death. Posthumously, Stevens' actions earned him a promotion from Brigadier General to Major General.



A soldier to the west, Isaac Stevens in his final moments.

Isaac Stevens Sr., Stevens' father, died on August 22, 1862, just ten days prior to the death of his son.

#6 The Major General

The Major General panel and sidebar has the exact dimensions and mounting as #4 panel and sidebar.

WASHINGTON & THE CIVIL WAR 1861-1865

DID YOU KNOW?

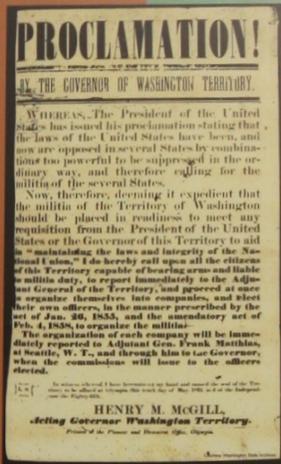
• The vast majority of Washingtonians backed the Union when the Civil War broke out in April of 1861.

• As soldiers fled their territorial posts for Civil War battlefields, President Abraham Lincoln called for a Washington Territorial Militia to guard the region in their place. But a sparsely populated Territory made recruitment all but impossible. Eight out of ten companies in Washington Territory, it turned out, were manned by Californians.

• General Rufus Ingalls used Chinook Jargon of the Pacific Northwest to send coded messages.

• The end of the war brought a flood of settlers to the Territory; the surge pushed Washington toward statehood in 1889.

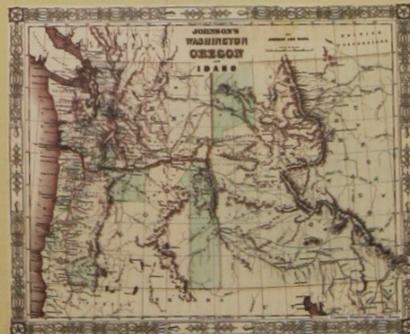
• The Civil War is recognized today in Washington State. The Grand Army of the Republic maintains a cemetery on Seattle's Capitol Hill. Many organizations re-enact Civil War battles and educate children on their relevance.



America's bloodiest war called into question founding principles of the country itself. The freedom of citizens, the rights of states, and the power of the federal government pitted brother against brother. The injured and dying filled churches and schools. Of the three million soldiers who charged across Civil War battlefields, a staggering 600,000 lost their lives.

In the rough and tumble Washington Territory, settlers' views on slavery were mixed. Opinions on popular sovereignty, however, were clear: new states should decide for themselves whether to uphold slavery.

The American Civil War, a turning point that defined freedom and the role of government, strengthened the country and charted the course for the future. But the battle was costly. The War Between the States remains today the deadliest battle ever fought on American soil.



Civil War politics dramatically changed the boundaries of Washington Territory in 1863, removing present-day Idaho, western Montana and western Wyoming.

WASHINGTON GENERALS

Washington Territory served as a proving ground for some of the best known generals from both sides of the Civil War, the Union (U) and the Confederacy (C).



Ulysses S. Grant (U)



George Pickett (C)



George McClellan (U)



Benjamin Alvord (U)



George Wright (U)



Phil Kearney (U)



Charles Sidney Winder (C)



Philip Sheridan (U)



Rufus Ingalls (U)

#7 Washington and the Civil War

Washington and the Civil War panel have the exact same dimensions as #3 Surveyor and sidebar panel in terms of size and mounting. This panel does not have any pop-out pieces.



Replica of 1853 Copybook

In 1853, neither copy machines nor carbon paper had been invented. When Stevens was traveling west with his railroad survey expedition, he would periodically send reports back East. Each time he prepared a report, he would write a copy of it into the book. Each report had to be hand-carried by a small party of men, thereby diminishing the number of men in the company, so he sent back very few reports. Stevens continued this process to send his reports to Congress while he was Territorial Governor.

This letter was written on September 21, 1853 in Fort Benton (in what is now Montana) from Stevens to George W. Manypenny, Office of Indian Affairs Commissioner. The letter states that Lt. Saxton has established a supply depot at St. Mary's Village and is heading for Fort Benton; describes the situation at St. Mary's Village; Mr. Stanley, the expedition artist, made contact with the Blackfeet who wish to have a council; expands on the need for a boat on the Upper Missouri River; established a meteorological post and supply depot under James Doty; Lt. Mullan has been sent to talk to the Flatheads to induce them to return to St. Mary's Village; entry incomplete.

This book is a replica of a copybook of his Indian affairs activities. The original is in the Washington State Archives. Courtesy of Washington State Archives.

*Copy book does not come with book stand or vitrine



Replica of 1854 Hide Coat, Gift from the Nez Perce Tribe

Replica of a hide coat in the Métis (pronounced may-tee) style given in 1854 to Governor Isaac Stevens by the Nez Perce tribe as part of the Walla Walla Treaty Council. It is likely, though not confirmed, that the Nez Perce acquired the coat in trade with the Métis, a tribe in northwestern Canada. The coat is typical of a style worn by mountain men, trappers and explorers in the early to mid 1800's. The original, decorated with beading, is on display at the Washington State Historical Museum in Tacoma.

Replica created and hand sewn from elk hide and sinew by Frank "Rusty" Starr.

*Hide coat does not come with mannequin or coat stand