

## **Historical Summaries**

### **Prehistoric Arizona**

Sometime between the years 3000 to 2000 BC, a very primitive type of corn, or maize, was brought north from Mexico. As improved varieties of corn reached the Southwest, the hunter-gatherer bands developed into farmers. By 100 BC, the major prehistoric cultures of the Hohokam, Anasazi, and Mogollon were established in areas of present-day Arizona. As their civilizations grew, trade developed between the groups, as well as with tribes in Mexico. In addition to corn, cotton and beans also moved north from Mexico. The Hohokam used shells from the Gulf of California for jewelry. Copper bells made in Mexico and feathers from parrots and macaws were highly prized. In addition, the platform mounds and ball courts built by the Hohokam also had origins in southern Mexico.

### **Spanish Arizona**

The Spanish entrance into present-day Arizona began with the search for the Seven Cities of Cibola in 1539-1540. Explorers, soldiers, and missionaries came into this area, the northern part of New Spain, for over the next 200 years. As the Spanish explored and attempted to settle these lands, they introduced many products to the Indians living there.

The Spanish missionaries' main goal was to spread their religion to the native Indians, but they also introduced livestock and new crops such as wheat. The Spanish brought horses, cattle, sheep, and chickens north. The Spanish style of architecture and the spread of the Spanish language were also a result of this exploration and settlement.

### **Mexican Arizona**

In 1821, the Mexican people won their independence from Spain and the country of Mexico was established. Arizona was now a part of Mexico. Under Mexican rule, the missions started by the Spanish were abandoned and the Apache Indians raided the towns and ranches of southern Arizona. Very little movement occurred from Mexico during this time, mainly supplies for soldiers, miners, and ranchers. Captain Jose Romero traveled north to locate a good route to California in 1823, however his road was rarely used.

## **Arizona as Part of the United States**

Most of Arizona became part of the United States in 1848 as a result of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ending the Mexican War (Mexican Cession of 1848). An international border now existed in southern Arizona along the Gila River. The border was moved south to its present location after the Gadsden Purchase from Mexico in 1854. The creation of this imaginary line on maps did little to stop the flow of people, ideas and products north from Mexico.

Overseas supplies came into the coastal town of Guaymas, Sonora, Mexico, and were taken to the Territory of Arizona in the United States. By 1860, there was a wagon road from Guaymas to Tucson. In addition to the supplies from overseas, wheat and flour were transported along the same road from Hermosillo into southern Arizona. A railroad line, the Sonoran Railroad, followed the wagon road route from Guaymas to the American border in 1882. The town of Nogales was established at the border at this time.

## **Modern Arizona**

People, goods, and ideas still cross the international border between the United States and Mexico. Mexican towns and cities along the Arizona border have factories called maquiladoras, which assemble American products for shipment back into the United States. Of all the ports of entry into the United States, Nogales has the largest amount of winter fruits and vegetables coming from Mexico. Mexican trucks and railway cars carry these products north to the border where they are transferred to American trucks and railways for delivery in the U. S.

Mexican citizens also travel north across the border. Some come for a short time to shop or visit, while others will stay longer for jobs or an education. There are also some Mexican citizens who cross the border illegally in the hopes of finding better-paying jobs in the United States.

Today, as in the past, there is an important flow of people, goods, and ideas north from Mexico into Arizona and the United States.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Notetaking Sheet

**Historical Period** \_\_\_\_\_

What moved north from Mexico during this period? (What was the cause?)

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What happened in Arizona as a result of that movement? (What was the effect?)

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