

Wild West Annotated Map



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- ▶ In 1893 U.S. had an economic panic, not enough gold, major railroad companies failed, lots of problems all over the country.





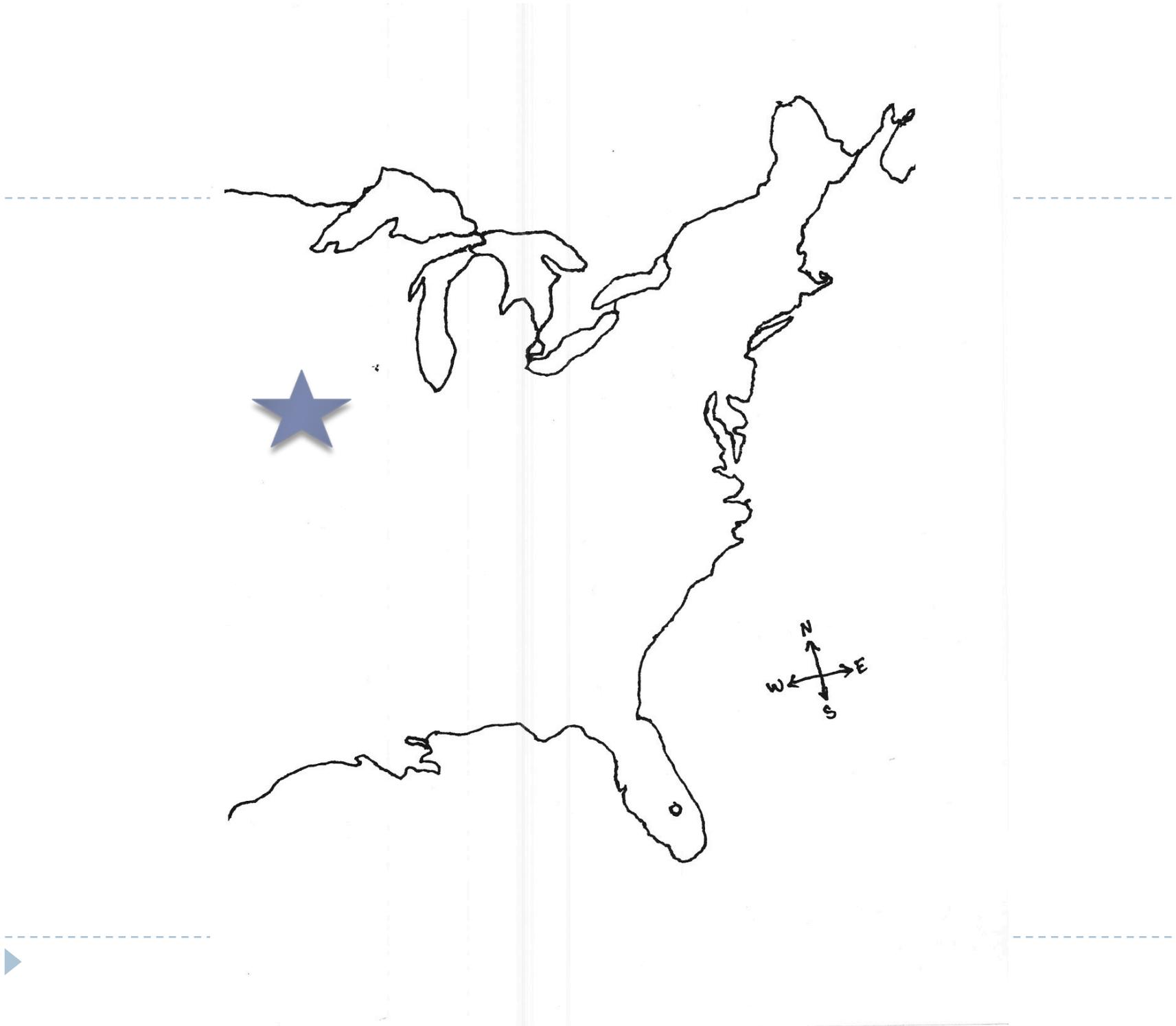
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- ▶ At a convention in 1892 in St. Louis, Missouri the Populist Party was created to help farmers; wanted gov't regulation of railroad/telegraph/telephone and free coinage of silver.





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- ▶ Homestead Act passed in 1862 gave government land to farmers, U.S. citizen could get 160 acres if promised to live on it for 5 years. Opened west and encouraged settlers/farmers; allowed unmarried women to have land too





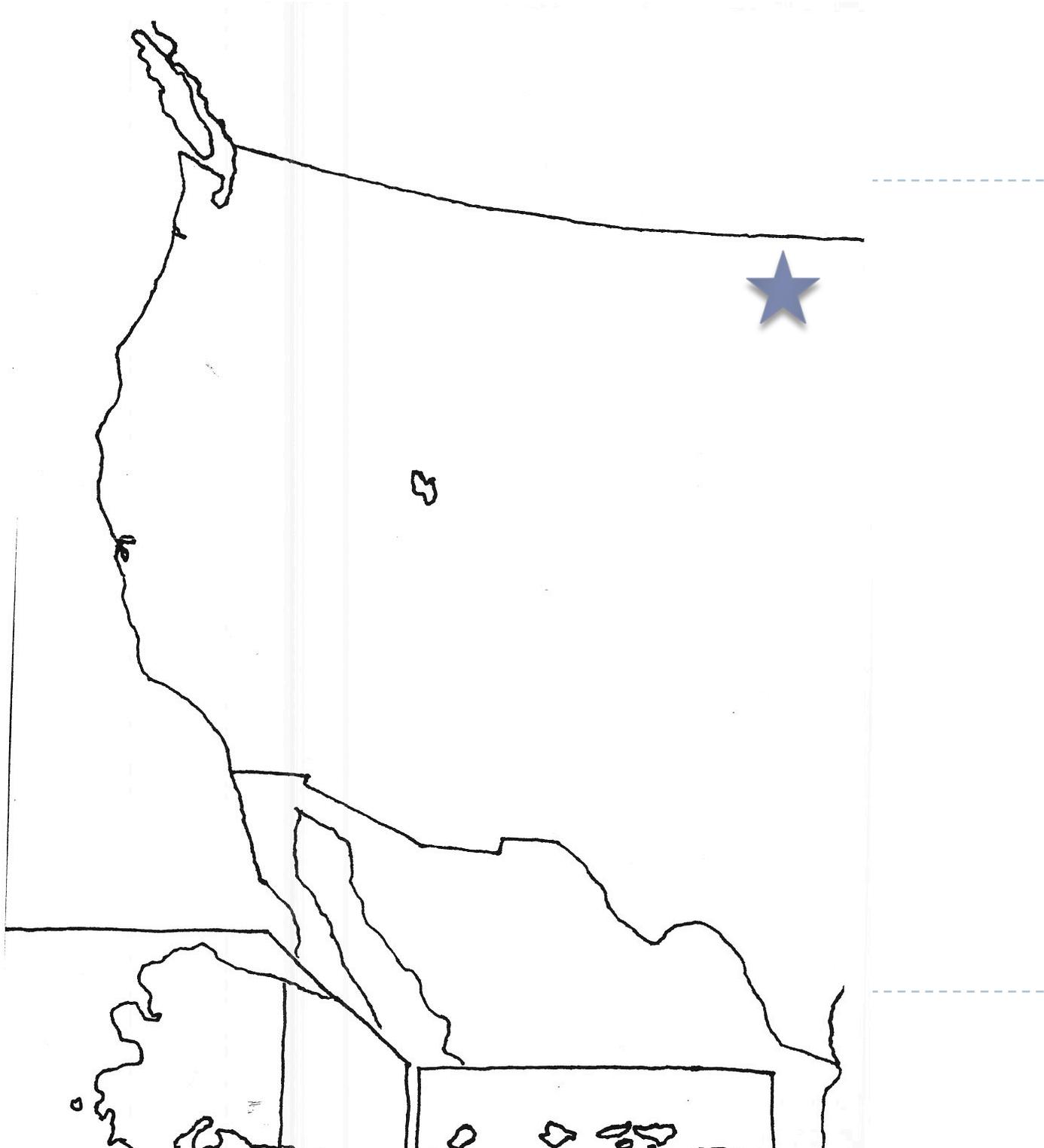
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- ▶ National Grange started in 1867 association for farmers; came out of need to work together to solve economic problems; wanted to change laws to help farmers





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- ▶ Nez Perce were ordered to go to a reservation in Idaho; killed settlers in Oregon then went on 1,400 mile journey to flee to Canada, were caught in 1877 right at the border and forced to move to Oklahoma





Battle of Little Bighorn on June 25, 1876 Sioux forces defeated US troops and Custer's whole command was killed. Worst US defeat in battle in west.





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- ▶ Cattle kingdom reached from Texas to Canada in the Great Plains, cattle raised by ranchers to be sold for increased prices in east. Cattle drives were long to bring cattle to grazing land or to market. Open land ended with the invention of barbed wire, loss of grass on prairie





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- ▶ Chisholm Trail started by Jesse Chisholm in 1860's, trail took cattle from San Antonio, Texas to pens created by Joseph McCoy in Abilene, Kansas for shipment east





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- ▶ Transcontinental railroad completed in Promontory, Utah in 1869, connected two competing lines built by Irish/Chinese immigrants, had to deal with many geographic challenges. Spurred railroad building in west.

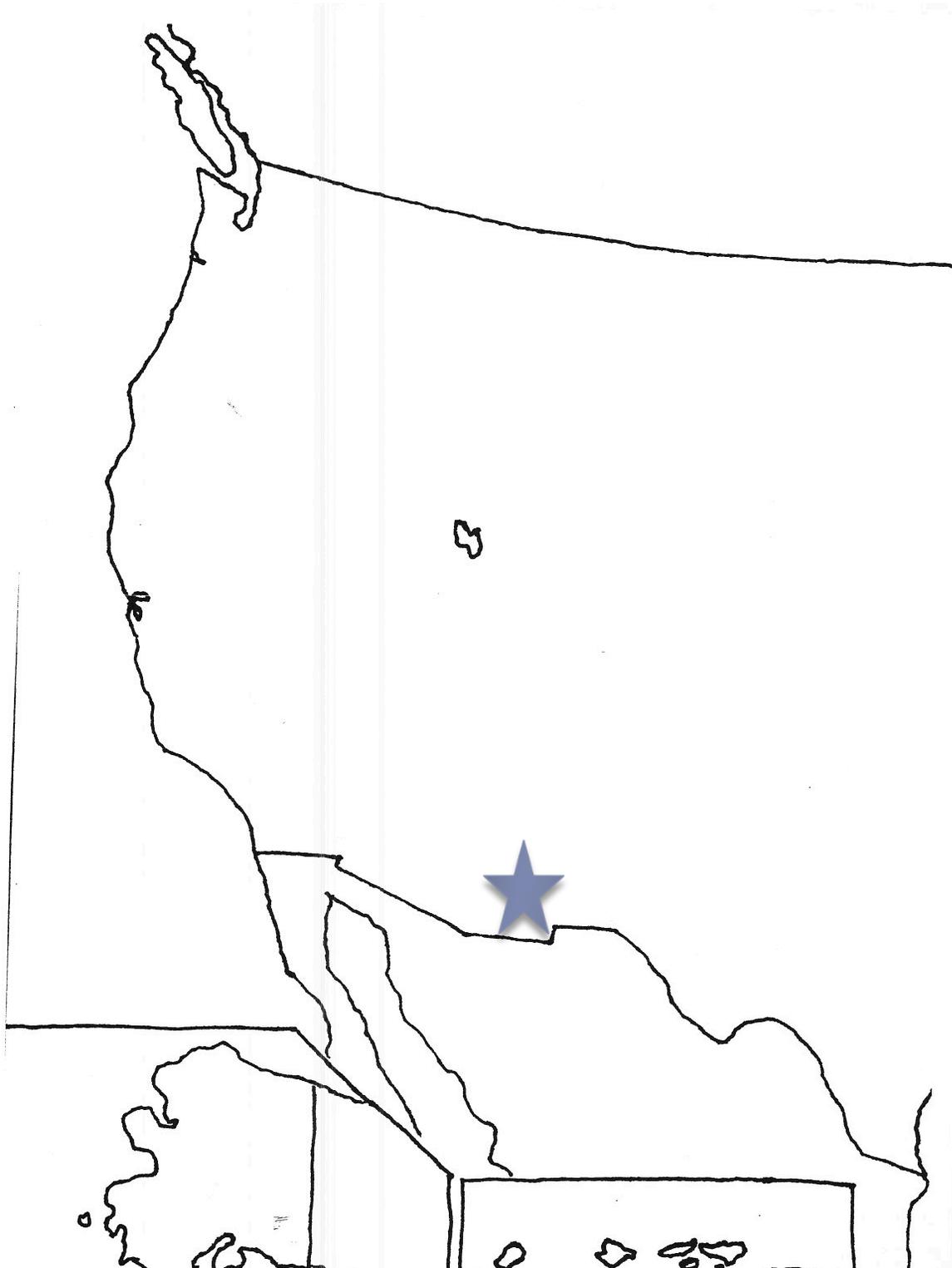






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- ▶ Pony Express began in 1860, system of horseback messengers carried mail 2,000 miles; only lasted couple of years before telegraph ended it.





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- ▶ After Navajo refused to settle on a reservation, US troops raided homes and forced them out in 1864, forced to march 300 miles across desert from Arizona to New Mexico





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- ▶ Comstocklode discovered in 1859 by Henry Comstock, huge deposit of gold/silver in Nevada brought thousand of miners → produced \$500 million gold/silver

