

The

WILD WEST

People and Events
That Shaped the
American West



FATHER JUNIPERO SERRA

Junipero Serra was born in Spain 1713. He became a Franciscan monk at age 16, and at age 36 he decided it was his calling to travel to the New World and be a missionary. He set sail with some other monks and arrived in California (now Mexico) in 1749 and was sent to serve as a missionary in the Sierra Madre. Soon, he was given the task of building missions in upper California, a land that very few people had visited before them. Father Serra established the first mission in San Diego in 1769 and went on to build 21 more all the way up the California coast to Sonoma. The work of Father Serra and his missionaries was the first major effort by outsiders to settle in the West coast.

Did you know? El Camino Real, or “The Royal Road”, was a long road that connected the missions. Much of it is now rerouted by modern streets and highways, but you can still drive on a long portion of it in the San Francisco area.

WORD SCRAMBLE!

Can you unscramble the name of each mission?

1. San CRSLAO Borromeo de Carmelo _____
2. Nuestra Senora de la DDSOELA _____
3. San TNONAOI de Padua _____
4. San GMIELU Arcangel _____
5. San ILSU PBISOO de Tolosa _____
6. La IPMRISUA Concepcion _____
7. Santa EISN _____
8. San CFROACNIS SAOOLN _____
9. San RFALAE Arcangel _____
10. San FACISORNC de Asis _____
11. San OJES _____
12. Santa LCRAA de Asis _____
13. Santa ZUCR _____
14. San JNUA UABTATIS _____
15. Santa AAABRBR _____
16. San BNAUNEVETUAR _____
17. San OFNEANRD Rey de Espana _____
18. San IGALBRE Arcangel _____
19. San AJUN CPISTORAAN _____
20. San IUSL Rey de Francia _____
21. San GDOIE de Alcala _____