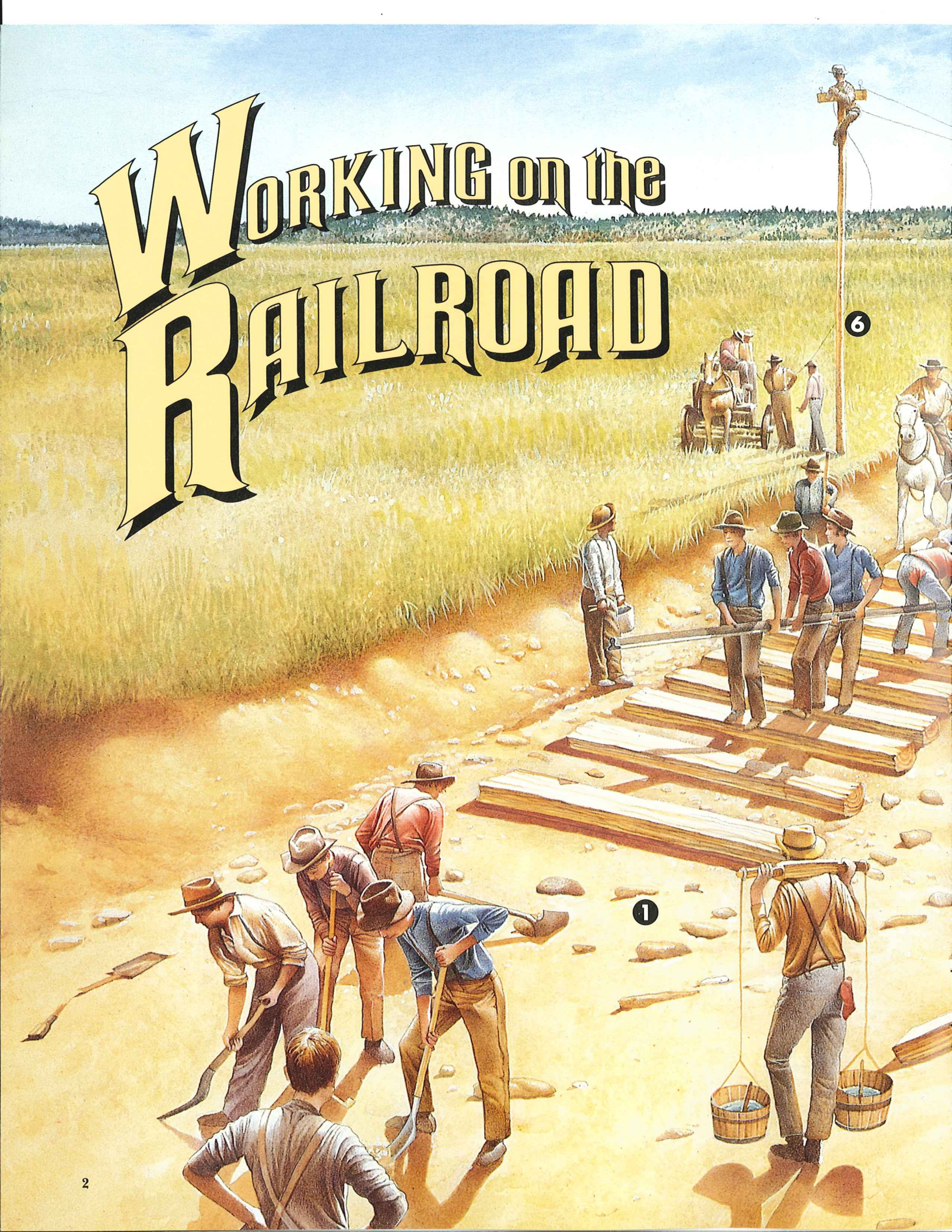


Maps, Trains, and People



WORKING on the RAILROAD





Sounds of hammers and shouts of workers rang out across the plains as work progressed on the transcontinental railroad. To speed construction, foremen drove their men hard and encouraged competition among work crews. The huge project was broken down into steps, and most workers had specific jobs.

1 ROADBED: Advance crews created the roadbed, the level surface where track was laid.

2 CROSSTIES AND RAILS: Wooden crossties anchored the rails to the roadbed. The 30-foot iron rails were hauled into place by 4-man teams.

3 SPIKES: Two spikers alternated hammer blows in a steady rhythm as they drove iron spikes into cross-ties. The heads of the spikes held the rails to the ties.

4 RAILCAR: A horse-drawn railcar delivered rails and other supplies to track crews.

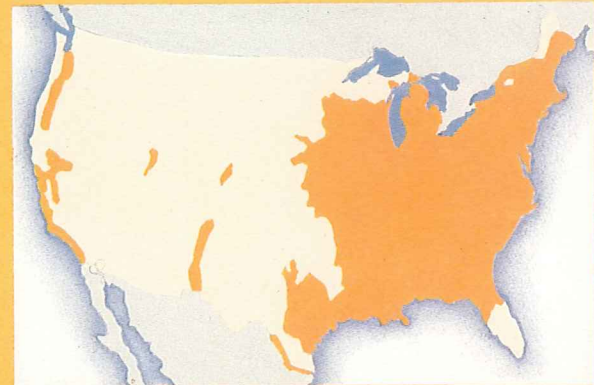
5 CONSTRUCTION TRAIN: An enormous movable work site, the construction train carried everything needed to maintain workers, animals, and equipment. It had a dormitory, dining cars, a blacksmith shop, a carpenter shop, and a telegraph office.


6 TELEGRAPH: Workers attached thin copper wire to insulators on tall poles to create the telegraph line. The telegraph linked the work site with company headquarters.

Moving West

Settlement of the

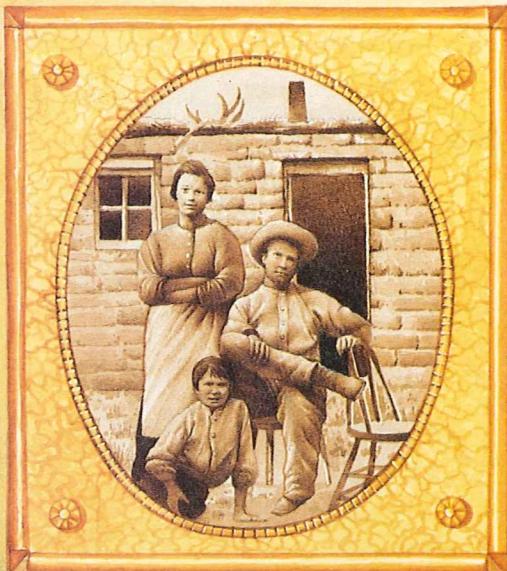
1860



 Fewer than two settlers per square mile



Cowboys drove cattle to trains that took them to market.



Railroads carried settlers to free lands in the West, where they established farms.

First buffalo hunters, then the railroad, then settlers invaded the hunting grounds of the Plains Indians—who eventually were forced off their land.



EST

the United States

1890



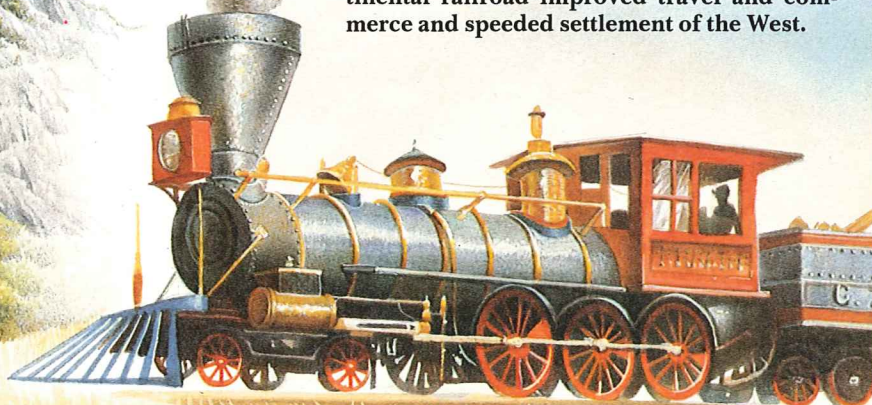
More than two settlers per square mile

Exciting news reached eastern cities of the United States in the mid-1800s. From California came stories of people who had discovered gold and become rich. Travelers returned from the West with reports of fertile land that could be turned into productive farms by energetic settlers. Many Americans dreamed of starting a new life in the West. But only the hardest pioneers set out on the long, difficult journey by covered wagon. In 1860, there were very few settled regions in the western half of the country. Then, in 1869, the completion of the first transcontinental railroad cut the westward journey to about five days. As more railroads were built, the flow of people moving west became a flood. By 1890, settlers had spread into many parts of the West. Railroads helped people settle in remote areas and linked these settlements with the rest of the nation.



Prospectors moved west before the railroad was built.

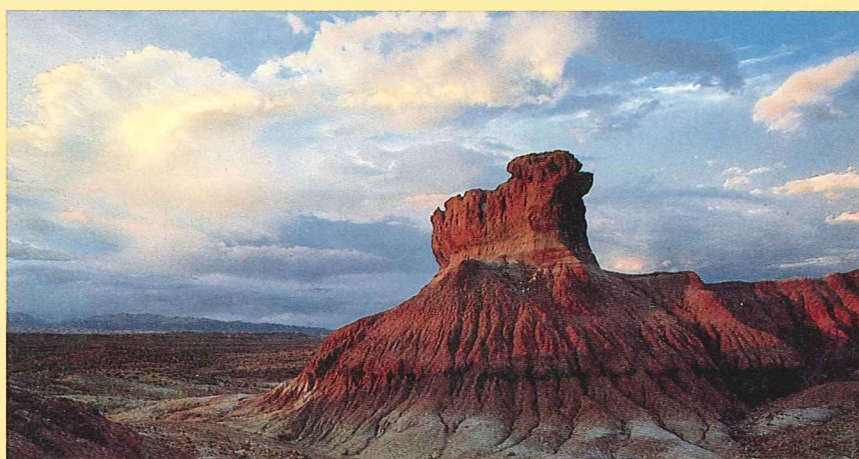
Stretching nearly 1,800 miles across the nation's heartland, the transcontinental railroad improved travel and commerce and speeded settlement of the West.



The builders of the transcontinental railroad took great risks—and made huge profits.

UNION PACIFIC

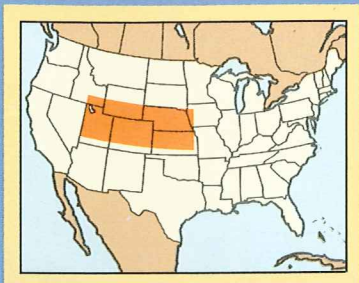
ROUTE



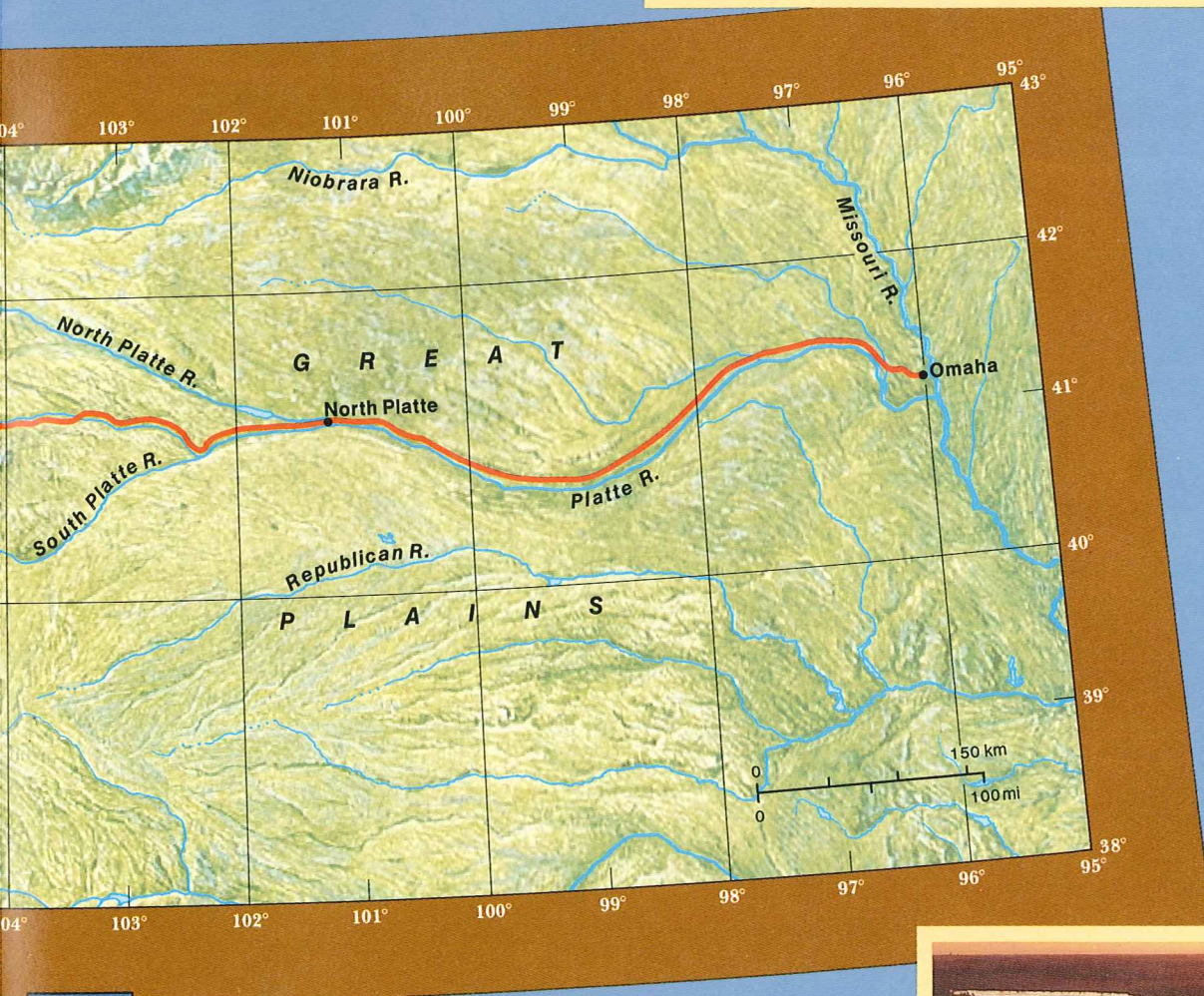
Plume Rocks near South Pass

Map Key

-  Evergreen forest
-  Mixed forest
-  Grassland
-  Shrub
-  Desert
-  Dry salt lake



Buffalo feed on lush grasses on rolling prairie in Nebraska.



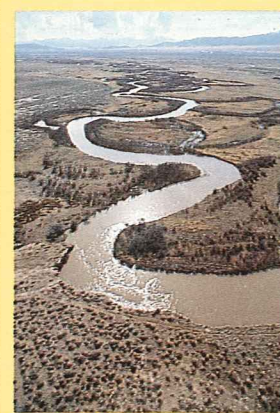
The first step in building a railroad is to plot the route. The present-day map above shows a stretch of land between Promontory, Utah, and Omaha, Nebraska. The orange line shows the route that the Union Pacific Railroad followed in the 1860s, when the company built 1,085 miles of the transcontinental railroad.

Around the map are numbers that indicate latitude and longitude. These numbers correspond to numbers that appear on the computer screen on Disk 2 of THE GOLD-EN SPIKE simulation. Use the map and the numbers to help you plot your course as you play the game.



Platte River flows through the Great Plains.

CENTRAL PACIFIC ROUTE



Humboldt River in Nevada



Donner Lake near Donner Pass

T

he present-day map above shows a stretch of land between Sacramento, California, and Promontory, Utah. The orange line shows the route that the Central Pacific Railroad followed in the 1860s, when the company built 690 miles of the transcontinental railroad. Use the map to help you plot your course as you play **THE GOLDEN SPIKE** simulation game on Disk 1.

Map Key

- Evergreen forest
- Mixed forest
- Grassland
- Shrub
- Desert
- Dry salt lake