Inquiry Set 7.1 - San Francisco as a Site of Encounter in the Gold Rush era

. Inquiry Set Introduction	
Inquiry Set Title	San Francisco as a Site of Encounter in the Gold Rush Era
Brief Description	Using the example of San Francisco during the Gold Rush, this set introduces students to the concept of sites of encounter.
Authors	Shennan Hutton, Program Coordinator, CHSSP
Grade Levels	7
Topics/Concepts	sites of encounter, cultural exchange, movement of people, Gold Rush, Chinatown, migration, diversity, San Francisco, Sierra Gold Country, Andrew Hallidie, wire rope, cable cars, gold fields
CA HSS Standards / Frameworks	World History and Geography: Medieval and Early Modern Times 7.1 Students analyze the causes and effects of the vast expansion and ultimate disintegration of the Roman Empire. *Note from the author: There is no standard that applies to this set, due to two factors. First, the substrands from the standards and the units from the framework do not match for grade 7. The framework structure takes precedence. The first unit of grade 7 in the framework is "The World in 300." Second, there is nothing about California in the Gold Rush era in the standards. Please note that this is an exceptional case.
Framework Excerpt	Themes and large questions offer cohesion to the world history course, but students also need to investigate sources in depth. For this, a useful concept is the site of encounter, a place where people from different cultures meet and exchange products, ideas, and technologies. A site of encounter is a specific place, such as Sicily, Quanzhou, or Tenochtitlán/Mexico City, and students analyze concrete objects, such as a porcelain vase or the image of a saint, exchanged or made at the site. As students investigate the exchanges that took place and the interactions of merchants, bureaucrats, soldiers, and artisans at the site, they learn to consider not only what was happening in one culture but also how cultures influenced each other At the site of encounter, new products, ideas, and technologies are often created because of the exchange.

Standards	California English Language Development Standards for Grade 7
	Part I. Interacting in Meaningful Ways B. Interpretive 6. Reading closely literary and informational texts and viewing multimedia to determine how meaning is conveyed explicitly and implicitly through language 7. Evaluating how well writers and speakers use language to support ideas and arguments with details or evidence depending on modality, text type, purpose, audience, topic, and content area Common Core State Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies, Grades 6 – 8 1. Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources. 4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies. 7. Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.
Investigative Question	How was San Francisco a site of encounter?
Historical Background	As described in the HSS Framework excerpt, at a site of encounter, there are movements of people and a variety of interactions that can be analyzed through concrete objects. Sites of encounter attract people from different cultures because they are centers for trade, crucial geographical locations for expansion or defense, or the locations of desired commodities. Interactions between cultures at the site of encounter happen in different ways. While trade is a frequent response, war and conquest are also common. Different groups often compete with each other, and one group usually holds more power than any of the others, because its members control the government, land, and/or economic resources. However, there are also exchanges of products, ideas, and technologies at the site. The circulation of different ideas leads to synthesis — the invention of new products, technologies, and ideas. Objects are a useful tool to help students understand the difficult concept of synthesis. This source set is designed to introduce students to the concept of a site of encounter through a familiar example: the city of San Francisco during the Gold Rush. The set also offers a model for teachers to use for their own communities in the present day or at some time in the past to introduce this concept. First, students investigate

why San Francisco became a site of encounter. This includes both the geographical factors that made the site an ideal spot for a port (Source 1) and the impact of the discovery of gold. After news of the discovery of gold on the American River, many people dropped everything and rushed to the Sierra to get rich. Those who were already in or near California went on foot to the gold fields. For those who were farther away, the fastest route was by ship to Yerba Buena, now renamed San Francisco, and then by foot to the gold fields. San Francisco was thus both a transit point and a supply depot for people passing through.

Second, students examine evidence of the different groups of people and their places of origin. The basis of a site of encounter is that there are exchanges of people, products, and ideas. In Gold Rush era San Francisco, people from multiple cultures were either passing through or settling in the city, merchants imported and sold goods and exported gold, and people exchanged ideas about how to mine gold and how to survive in the gold fields. The gold hunters were overwhelmingly male, so much so that in 1850, among non-Native Americans, only 1 in 12 was a woman. Sources 2 through 4 show just a little of the incredible diversity of peoples who came from China, Hawaii, South America, Europe, the eastern United States, and Australia. The non-Native population of California grew from less than 15,000 in 1848 to more than 220,000 in 1852.

These exchanges produced effects. People coming in from other lands soon outnumbered Californios and Native Americans. While Indians, Chinese, and other people of color also panned for gold, white miners often drove them from a profitable claim. Domination by white North American and European men grew so intense that groups of white men hunted down and slaughtered Native Americans, voted for discriminatory laws against the Chinese, and seized lands belonging to Californios. The power dynamic in the city of San Francisco and the new state of California shifted significantly. Most of the miners did not strike it rich. Most of the gold wealth went to merchants and suppliers in San Francisco and elsewhere. Within a few years, large-scale hydraulic mining, requiring huge capital investment, was the only profitable way to find gold.

Another effect was that San Francisco grew from a transit and supply point (Source 5) into an established city. Numerous ethnic and religious communities established neighborhood communities in the city, such as Chinatown, which supported its own newspaper (Source 6) and Buddhist temple.

The exchanges of products, technology, and ideas at a site of encounter also stimulate the creation of new products, technology, and ideas. One famous San Francisco example is blue jeans, created by Levi Strauss and Jacob Davis in 1873. Another example is wire rope, invented by Andrew Hallidie to be more durable than the commonly used hemp rope. In the 1870s, he pioneered the cable car — a tram pulled up a steep hill by wire rope (source 7.)

Map
San Francisco; Coloma; American River; Sacramento; Sierra Nevada; Hong Kong, China; London, UK; Valparaiso, Indiana

II. Source Sets #1 Secondary A Satellite View of California Source national*atlas*.gov CALIFORNIA SATELLITE VIEW SATELLITE VIEW In 1972, Landsu began transmitting views of our planet back to Earth. He irst Landst and its five successors (two of them are in operation now) have delivered millions of irrages from a satellite orbiting 438 miles above the Earth. Landsu's rothi enables a new irrage to be recorded every sixteen days of any area on the Earth's surface. The satellite view on this map was Landsut irrages joined together. Colors were selected to better show variations in the landscape. Relief shading was added to enhance the terrain and make the landforms of each state more apparent. UTAH NEVADA ARIZONA

	Title of Source	California Satellite View, The National Atlas of the United States of America
	Holding Institution	The National Atlas of the United States of America, U.S. Geological Survey
	Link to Record	California Geographic Alliance, <i>California: A Changing State: An Atlas for California Students</i> . Humboldt State University, 2011. https://nationalmap.gov/small_scale/printable/images/pdf/satelliteview/pagesat_ca.pdf
For the Student	geography. The fir from the storms of had about 800 peo the Pacific to trade of gold in the Ame of present-day Sac	or reasons why San Francisco became a site of encounter in 1848. Both of them relate to set is the location of the city just inside San Francisco Bay, a large bay where ships could shelter the Pacific Ocean. The city, first called Yerba Buena, was founded in 1835. While the town only ople living in it before the discovery of gold, the port was important for ships that traveled across with China. The second reason was that on January 24, 1848, James W. Marshall found flakes rican River in Coloma, a town in the Sierra Nevada foothills that is approximately 50 miles east cramento. When thousands of fortune seekers heard about the news and rushed to California to a Buena, renamed San Francisco, was the closest and most convenient port to the gold fields.
For the Teacher	In 1835, while California was governed by Mexico, an Englishman named William Anthony Richardson founded a little town called Yerba Buena. In 1846, during the Mexican—American War, a US warship sailed into the bay and took over the town for the United States. It was one of several ports at which ships could load cattle hides and tallow, exports from California. Before gold was discovered in 1848, there were approximately 800 people in the town. They were Mexican, Californio, Native American, European, Chinese, African American, and Hawaiian. Not far from Yerba Buena, in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains, James W. Marshall found flakes of gold in a streambed while building a water-powered sawmill for John Sutter. News of the discovery soon spread, and thousands of fortune seekers from all around California, the eastern states, South America, China, Australia, and Hawaii rushed to the Sierra. When traveling to the gold mines from outside of California, the fastest way was to sail to Yerba Buena, now renamed San Francisco — making that port a fast-growing transit and supply point for the miners.	

#2 Primary Source

Indenture of Awye Chinaman, 1849



Transcript: ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT made, entered into and concluded this 28th day of July, in the Year of Our Lord, One thousand Eight hundred and Forty Nine Between Jacob P....

Esq. of [illegible—Monterey?] I of

the one part Awye Chinaman of the other part, Witness that for the consideration hereinafter contained on the part of the said Jacob P.... Esq. he the said Awye doth hereby covenant, promise and agree with, and to the said

Jacob Esq, that he the said Awye will proceed in and on board of a certain ... of Vessel called the ... whereof ... is Master now lying in the Harbour of Hongkong, and about to proceed on a voyage to San Francisco a Port or Ports, on the West Coast of America, and that he will any where in that

Country, for the space or period of (3) three Years from the date of his arrival at the Port of destination, work as a Tailor or otherwise to the best of his knowledge and ability, under the orders and directions, of the said Jacob P ... Esq. or any other person holding this Contract. And that the said Awye will keep and provide himself with all the necessary and proper tools of his trade, and will also find, and provide his own

clothing. And that he will not do or assist to do or direct or aid in any manner whatsoever any work or business, other than, that ordered or directed by the said Jacob P, Esq., or any other persons to whom this contract may be transferred. And these presents further witness that in consideration of the covenants herein before contained on the part of the said Awye he the said Jacob P. . ., Esq. doth hereby for himself his Heirs Executors, and administrators covenant promise, and agree with, and to the said Awye that be his Survivors or Substitutes shall and will afford to him a passage in the above mentioned Vessel, to the West

Coast of America, and shall, and will as soon as he shall have entered on such work or trade of a Tailor as aforesaid furnish and provide him with lodgings, and suitable provisions, and food for, and during the said space or period of (3) three Years, and that the said Awye is to be paid for his work a the rate of (\$15) Fifteen Dollars per month payable monthly in the due, and proper fulfilment and completion of their said agreement, and covenants herein before contained, the said wages to be computed for the period of (3) three Years from the date the said Awye shall arrive at the Port of destination. And it is hereby agreed by and between the said parties hereto that the said Awye shall not receive any wages until, and after the Sum of (\$30) thirty Dollars advanced to the said Awye shall have been paid off, and satisfied, and the said Awye doth hereby acknowledge the receipt of the said advance so made to him by the said Jacob P...,

Esq. And it is hereby further agreed, that in case the said Jacob P... Esq. or his substitute not requiring the services of the said Awye at any time during the said period of (3) three Years; he the said Jacob P... Esq. or his substitute shall be at liberty to cancel this Contract on giving to said Awye One Month's notice, and from and after the expiration of such one Month's notice, this contract shall be null and void.

In Witness whereof the said patties to the presents have hereunto set their Hands and affixed their Seals at Victona, Hongkong aforesaid the Day and Year first before written,

Signed Sealed and delivered after being duly explained in the presence of

[Chinese character signature (Awye)] [Chinese character; A Shue]

	[Signature: J. P]		
	Title of Source	Indenture of Awye, Chinese man	
	Holding Institution	California Historical Society	
	Link to Record	https://oac.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/hb587003vc/?layout=metadata&brand=oac4	
For the Student	under indenture, which return, the employer pa named Awye, who agr Many more Chinese ca 1852, 30,000 Chinese	ally men, came to work in San Francisco and in other parts of California. Most of them came in meant that they signed a contract to work for an employer for a certain number of years. In aid for their ship passage to California. This indenture contract was for a Chinese man eed in 1849 to work for three years as a tailor for a San Francisco merchant, Jacob Leese. ame for the Gold Rush and then worked building railroads, farming, and making clothing. In sailed from Hong Kong to San Francisco. In the same year, San Francisco's population 2000 — from about 800 just four years before.	
For the Teacher	zone linking North Ame and a major San France rapidly growing population Hong Kong attract earliest known evidence fortune in San Francisco	The Gold Rush forever transformed not only California, but the whole Pacific region, turning it into the world trade zone linking North America with China and beyond. Hong Kong became the Asian gateway to Pacific trade routes and a major San Francisco trading partner. Ships from Hong Kong not only delivered cargo to support California's rapidly growing population but also supplied the population itself, as tens of thousands of workers departed China from Hong Kong attracted by the economic opportunities that the Gold Rush presented. The document is the earliest known evidence of Chinese labor migration to California. Jacob Leese was born in Ohio and made his fortune in San Francisco. He indentured Awye and at least two other Chinese men as well as some Hawaiians, who also worked as sailors and laborers in California.	
#3 Primary Source	A Photograph of Go	old Rush miners, circa 1850s	

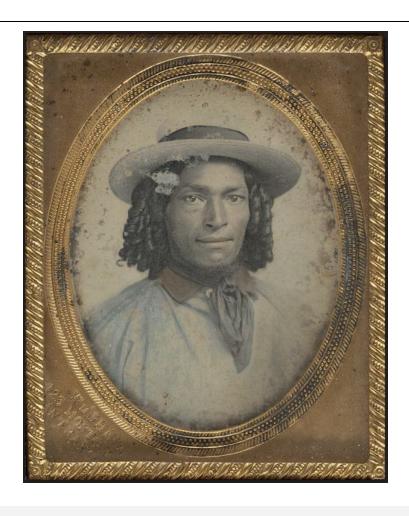


Title of Source	[Group of miners]
Holding Institution	California Historical Society
Link to Record	https://oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/c81g0svc/

For the Student

When gold was discovered in California, people from all around the United States, Europe, Asia, South America, and the Pacific Islands rushed to the mines hoping to find wealth. Look at this image of a party of Gold Rush miners. Although we do not know where this photo was taken, the men likely passed through San Francisco. The

	gold miners, or forty-niners, as they were called, were usually male, and most came from the eastern United States. Of course, with so many people looking for gold, there wasn't enough to go around! Most of the forty-niners failed to find much gold and stayed poor. As competition for gold became fierce, white men from the eastern United States drove Chinese, Native American, and Hawaiian forty-niners from the gold fields. In later years, some white men killed so many Native Americans that there were only 15,000 left by 1900.
For the Teacher	The Gold Rush dramatically changed California's demographics. Before the discovery of gold, the territory's population was approximately 160,000, the vast majority of whom were Native Americans. Because California belonged to Mexico until 1848, Californios made up the majority of the 14,000 non-Natives who lived there. By about 1855, more than 300,000 people had arrived; thousands of them were from South America or Asia, especially China, but the vast majority were from the eastern United States. By 1870, Hispanic people made up only 4 percent of the total population, and the Native American population declined dramatically to 15,000 by 1900. The gold miners were almost always male. In 1850, among non-Native Americans, only 1 in 12 was a woman. This demographic dynamic combined with socioeconomic factors led to many violent conflicts, crime, low morale, and, in most cases, impoverishment.
#4 Primary Source	Daguerreotype of a Chilean Sailor, circa 1852



Title of Source Portrait of a Chilean Sailor

Holding Institution The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art

Link to Record https://art.nelson-atkins.org/objects/68600/portrait-of-chilean-sailor?ctx=3cc940c7-4e0b-4

	748-b551-848d6f568fbf&idx=17302
For the Student	You may have heard about or even been to Chinatown or Little Italy in San Francisco — beautiful and vibrant neighborhoods. But what is long gone is Chilecito, or Little Chile, which was a settlement of thousands of Chileans at the foot of Telegraph Hill. They had arrived in California at the very beginning of the Gold Rush. The Chilean port city Valparaiso is conveniently located for ships sailing to California, and as gold had been mined in Chile for centuries, a lot of people there were experienced miners and were excited to test their luck in the rich new gold fields. In the photo you see a young Chilean sailor who jumped ship in the San Francisco Bay to join the gold miners. Unfortunately, many Chileans — both at the mines and at their settlements — were viciously attacked by racist white miners. These attacks and other discrimination, such as the foreign miner's tax, caused many of the settlers to return to Chile.
For the Teacher	At the start of the Gold Rush, thousands of people came from all over the world to California through the port of San Francisco seeking a fortune in the mines. After crossing the southern tip of South America, ships would typically stop in Valparaiso, Chile, and would often pick up Chilean sailors and passengers on the way to San Francisco. Once in San Francisco, thousands of sailors jumped ship and entered the city and the gold-mining world. Many Chileans had experience in gold mining in their home country, but in California they faced significant xenophobia, discrimination, and racist sentiment. The Chilecito settlement was attacked and robbed in 1849 by the Hounds, a xenophobic San Francisco gang. Discriminatory laws, such as the foreign miner's tax, made it extremely difficult for foreigners to work in the city. In the end, many of the Chileans who found their way to San Francisco returned to their native country poorer than when they had left.
#5 Primary Source	Panorama photograph of San Francisco, Spring 1851

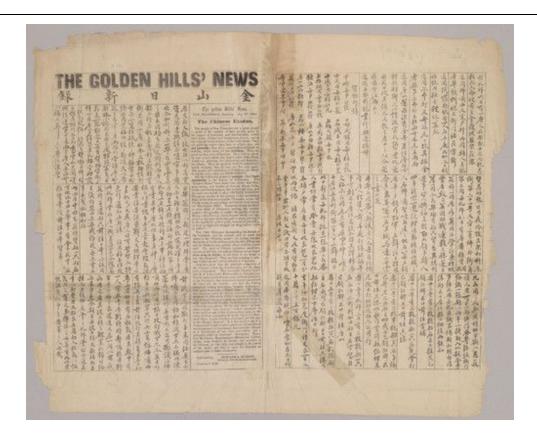


Title of Source	San Francisco Panorama (C)
Holding Institution	California Historical Society
Link to Record	http://digitallibrary.californiahistoricalsociety.org/object/4427?solr_nav%5Bid%5D=4b9 2e04939967c5cc8c3&solr_nav%5Bpage%5D=0&solr_nav%5Boffset%5D=3

For the Student

This is a photograph taken of the harbor of San Francisco in 1851. It was one of seven slides that made up a panorama showing the whole city. The photographer was standing at the corner of First and Howard streets. This type of early photograph is called a daguerreotype. At that time, photography was a very new invention. Although

#6 Primary Source	The Golden Hills News
For the Teacher	This scene from a panorama daguerreotype of San Francisco shows what the harbor area of San Francisco looked like in the early Gold Rush years, before much building was done in the city. The shoreline does not match the modern wharves, because large parts of the northern city along the bay were created with landfill. There are many stories of people dropping what they were doing when they heard the news that gold had been discovered. San Francisco and other California towns lost many inhabitants, and their economies were seriously disrupted by the lack of workers. The hundreds of deserted ships in the harbor are an arresting illustration of the allure of gold fever.
	San Francisco was much smaller than it would be later, the buildings and wharves around the harbor show that it was set up for ships to sail in, and for merchants to trade goods. Ships sailing across the Pacific to China, Japan, the Philippines, and Southeast Asia often stopped here for supplies and trade. When news of the discovery of gold reached San Francisco, sailors deserted (left) their ships and took off for the gold fields to get rich. That is why there are so many ships in this harbor. All of them were empty, and some never sailed out again. Some were used in the landfill that enlarged the harbor. They are still lying underneath the city.



English translation of Chinese newspaper text:

[Front page, Purpose of the Newspaper]

The purpose of publishing a newspaper is to promote commerce, provide knowledge, convey public sentiments, and communicate government regulations. Now, California is the meeting place of people from all over the world, and various countries have published their own newspapers except the Chinese. Therefore, although there are many Chinese merchants, they lack the skills to run their businesses, have limited general knowledge, and are powerless to make decisions. They do not fully understand business conditions, and are easily manipulated by tricksters; they are ignorant of government regulations, and are bullied by those with evil intentions. It is a pity that they, despite having years of experience, are struggling in their business and facing so many obstacles. This has

prompted me to start this Golden Hills News, and use the Chinese language to describe daily happenings about Chinese and American business and government and legal affairs. It will be published every Saturday, so that people will know what is going on. If you have business news, we can advertise it here. That way, business will flourish, knowledge will expand, public sentiments will be felt, and government regulations will be understood; and to the Chinese this is by no means a small benefit.

Mr. Howard

In San Francisco some Americans have built a new church. Many Chinese have also made donations. Now that construction is completed, it will start preaching sermons on the 10th day of the 5th moon, Chinese calendar, at one o'clock. The following Sunday, at one o'clock and also at half past seven at night, there will be Bible studies. The middle level will be the chapel for worshipping God. The third level and downstairs will be used for libraries. Starting the 11th day of the 5th moon, the church will teach how to read and speak English, covering all subject matters. These classes are open to all Chinese; that's why we give advance notice now. Please come to the church at that time. To get there just go up Sacramento Street. It is across the street from the old Siyi Huiguan.

The United States has sent ships to Japan to negotiate with their emperor. The goal is to form an alliance of mutual trust with everlasting peace between the two nations.

In the middle of this past April an American cargo ship named Ladybugs* set sail from San Francisco to Japan on a trade mission, carrying several thousand gold coins and miscellaneous merchandise.

After Russia prepared to attack Turkey, England and France tried to mediate for peace. Russia refused the overtures and made enemies of them. Now England and France have joined forces to attack Russia. England has about 40 war ships and more than 20,000 troops. France has sent 20,000 soldiers. It's too early to tell who will emerge victorious.

In Louisiana, there was a member of the Jewish religion who was very wealthy. When he died he bequeathed his life savings to build a large home for the sick and the poor. Those who were widowed, orphaned, or abandoned in Boston were given funds so they would not be destitute. Synagogues in Boston, Hartford, Charleston, and Savanna were each given \$5,000. He also donated \$50,000 to help the finances of the Jewish religion. With someone like this, how can we say that there is no philanthropist among barbarians?

[Back Page]

Last Saturday a Chinese was arrested by police for murder in Grass Valley. He is now in jail awaiting trial.

Recently heard that two men from France and Mexico violated some city ordinances and are now awaiting trial at City Hall.

Recently heard in Russian Mine a man named Matthew Calliston was buried alive while digging gold inside a mine.

Recently heard the Nevada Mine and Coloma Mine are crowded with gold diggers. Nevada is in the north and Coloma is in the south.

Recently heard the rebellious bandit Hong Xiuquan and his followers in China were raping women and pillaging villages. This caused great anger among the people and government officials and they banded together to fight. The Hong Xiuquan bandits were defeated in dozens of battles and 50 to 60 percent of their men suffered casualties or deserted. They have reportedly retreated to south of Yangzi River now.

Recently heard Sonora has expelled all prostitutes.

Food prices:

Coffee: 18¢ a pound

Fine salted pork: \$27/big bucket

Medium salted pork: \$22, \$23 each bucket Fine salted beef: \$18, \$20 each big bucket Medium salted beef: \$20 each bucket

Fine ham: 20¢ a pound

Fine bacon: 15¢, 16¢ a pound Manilla fine sugar: 7¢, 8¢ per pound

Lard: 15¢, 16¢ a pound

Fine Chinese sugar: 9¢ a pound

Second-rate Chinese sugar: 8¢ a pound

Fine black tea: 50¢, 55¢ a pound

American fine sugar: 12.5ϕ a pound Chinese rice: 5ϕ , 6ϕ , 6.25ϕ a pound

Carolina Rice: 6¢ a pound Monarch rice: 3¢, 3.5¢ a pound

Bokee, Titcomb's Auction House is located at 61 - 63 California Street, second house at the corner of Front Street. They hold auctions of Chinese and American goods every Tuesday and Friday.

The Flower Flag Country [nickname of the United States] originally belonged to England. Due to abundant resources and wealth it later warred with England and scored a big victory, and became an independent country. Now there is maritime commerce at every port. It follows the rule that when issues arise that they be resolved based on public opinions. It chooses a president from among the people every four years. The man who currently holds this post is named Franklin [Pierce]. He lives in a place called Washington. Washington originally is the name of a general. The people wanted to commemorate his great deeds, so they named a city after him. This reflects the love people had for him.

In this city, barbarians of different nationalities bully the Chinese too much. From now on, if a Chinese is harassed, beaten, or cheated, he can report it to Mr. Howard so an English notice can be translated and sent to all countries. Chinese do not have to suffer mistreatments in silence. Mr. Howard is located at 163 Clay Street, upstairs.

This Golden Hills' News is published in one sheet every week. It's for sale in all American bookstores in town. Each sheet costs 25 cents. For those businesses that wish to subscribe, cost is 75 cents a month, payable twice a month. If you have news or have goods to sell, you can advertise on this paper. Each word costs three cents – Howard.

People from different countries who come to America and wish to become Americans can first go to court and take an oath. The court will issue a paper which can be renewed every two years. With that they can go to the hills to dig gold and do other things without having to pay for a license. If you wish to learn more, please visit Mr. Howard upstairs for a more detailed discussion.

On the 23rd, Western calendar, Mischief, a 3-masted ship, was cleared to sail to Whampoa.

On the 23rd, Western calendar, Senator, a 3-masted ship, was cleared to sail to Hong Kong.

On the 23rd, Western calendar, Jacoba Cornelia, a 2.5-masted ship captained by Ludwyks, was cleared to sail to Hong Kong. This ship is a "yellow-flagged" ship owned by Gildemeester, de Fremery & Co.

On the 25th, Western calendar, Wednesday, Isabella Hargas, a 3-masted ship captained by Robinson, was cleared to sail to China.

On the 25th, Western calendar, Friday, Monsoon, a 3-masted ship captained by Willet, was cleared to sail to Hong Kong. This ship is owned by B. F. Moses.

The Sacramento government office reported an expenditure of over \$1,302,500 last year.

Recently heard a government official of this city named Baker is going to resign soon. Another person will be appointed to replace him.

Note *

All names translated from Chinese to English are transliteration and may bear no resemblance to the original English names.

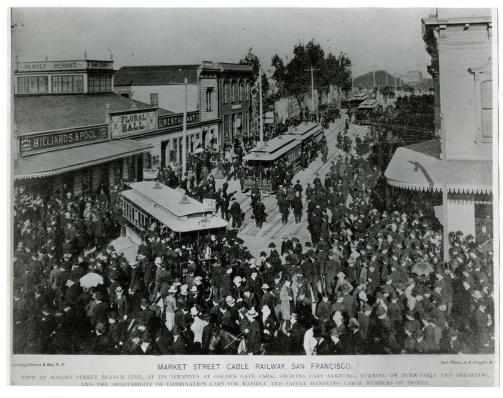
Translation of Chinese text provided by Roland Hui.

Title of Source	The Golden Hills News
Holding Institution	California Historical Society
Link to Record	https://oac.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/hb3j49n625/?brand=oac4

For the Student

We do not know what happened to the Chinese tailor Awye after his contract expired, but if he stayed near San Francisco, he probably read this newspaper. The *Golden Hills News* was founded in 1854 in San Francisco and became the first newspaper to be published in a Chinese language (Cantonese) in California and the United States. Chinese immigrants who came to California for work disembarked in San Francisco, and many thousands

	7b. Market Street Cable Car Railway, San Francisco
	With the view of obviating these difficulties, and for the purpose of reducing the expense of operating street railways, I devoted all my available time to the careful consideration of the subject, and so far matured my plans that I had California Street surveyed [in order] to run a rope railway
#7 Primary Source	Ta. Andrew Hallidie, Wire Rope and Cable Cars I was largely induced to think over the matter from seeing the difficulty and pain the horses experienced in hauling the cars up Jackson Street, from Kearny to Stockton Street, on which street four or five horses were needed for the purpose—the driving being accompanied by the free use of the whip and voice, and occasionally by the horses falling and being dragged down the hill on their sides, by the car loaded with passengers sliding on its track
For the Teacher	Not many Chinese came in the first two years of the Gold Rush, but after the outbreak of a civil war in China in 1851, many came to California in search of gold. By 1852 there were about 25,000 Chinese migrants living in California, concentrated in San Francisco and the mining districts. Many of them traveled under a "credit-ticket" system, which entailed a low-wage contract to work for already established Chinese miners in return for free passage to San Francisco. The <i>Golden Hills News</i> was the first Chinese newspaper in the United States. It was founded in 1854 in San Francisco by Protestant missionaries and was printed in both Cantonese and English. The newspaper printed in a Chinese language is a sign of a large and vibrant community that was established in San Francisco very early in the history of American California.
	of them settled there, creating a vibrant community that eventually became San Francisco's famous Chinatown, the oldest in North America and the largest Chinese settlement outside Asia. It had a Buddhist temple and many shops that sold Chinese food and products. At sites of encounter, people from different cultures form communities and set up their own churches, shops, and places to socialize. Other people in San Francisco learned about Chinese languages, religions, and writing from visiting the Chinese neighborhoods. Why do you think they made the title of this newspaper the <i>Golden Hills News</i> ?



	Title of Source	7a. Andrew Hallidie and the need for cable cars
		7b. Market Street Cable Railway, San Francisco
	Holding Institution	7a. California Historical Society 7b. California Historical Society
	Preferred Citation	7a. Andrew Hallidie as quoted in: Myron Kahn, Edgar. "Andrew Smith Hallidie." <i>California Historical Society Quarterly</i> (June 1940).

For the Student

Andrew Smith Hallidie became interested in engineering as a child in London. He traveled to San Francisco as a teenager with his father during the Gold Rush and stayed to try his hand at mining. He eventually found success building bridges and doing other construction and engineering work. Experienced miners from Chile and other places brought the technology of mining with them to California. Hallidie saw those technologies and invented improvements. He saw that the hemp rope miners used to slide ore containers on aerial tramways across canyons often broke. He was inspired to invent rope made of wire that would not break as easily. In 1873, he used the wire rope to create cable cars in San Francisco.

At sites of encounter, like San Francisco in the Gold Rush era, the encounters between people of different cultures create a synthesis that can lead to new technology and new products. Hallidie's cable cars spread to large cities across the country, including New York, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles. Whether you live in San Francisco or just visit Fog City, you can still ride the cable cars up the steep hills today!

Vocabulary

induced: caused, led to

obviating: getting rid of, solving

matured my plans: started making his design into a real project

For the Teacher

Andrew Smith Hallidie traveled to California from London in 1852 as a teenager and started working as a gold miner, taking on many other jobs, such as blacksmithing; surveying water ditches, roads, and trails; and building bridges. He moved to San Francisco in 1857 and successfully built a career as an engineer designing suspension bridges. Among his early important inventions was the wire rope that improved workers' abilities to transport heavy loads. Living in San Francisco, Hallidie saw an issue with transportation in the hilly city, and he worked into the 1870s to invent the cable car, which used underground cables to power the tram. The world's first commercial cable car ran on August 1, 1873. The cable car was a huge success in San Francisco and was used across the country as a means of public transit into the 1900s.

The invention of wire rope and its application to cable cars is an example of the new technologies that emerge at sites of encounter from the synthesis of different cultures. Chileans and other foreign miners brought in knowledge of the early techniques of mining, and Hallidie used his engineering background to devise an improvement.

III. English Language Development extension activity

In this short excerpt, the inventor of wire rope (cable), Andrew Hallidie, describes why he adapted his invention to haul tram cars up the hills of San Francisco. The text poses several challenges for the reader because of the elaborate and somewhat archaic language he uses and the length of the sentences. Another challenge is the use of passive voice and participial phrases in descriptive passages, which obscure agency and confuse students. Hallidie organizes this section into a cause-and-effect text pattern. The following chart will help students extract meaning from the passage. In addition, a vocabulary list will help define difficult words.

Directions

- 1. Read aloud and discuss with students the "For the Student" secondary introduction. Draw their attention to the question, How did Andrew Hallidie get the idea to use wire rope (cables) on street railways (trams)?
- 2. Organize students in small groups or pairs. Have them fill in the blanks in the middle column. If the blanks are enclosed in parentheses, the students should write down what the preceding phrase refers to. If the blank has no parentheses, students should write down the missing words from the text.
- 3. Having students share out answers, discuss with them vocabulary, meaning, and the arrows that show the cause-and-effect relationships. Ask them how an effect can become a cause, using the text as an example. Point out the boldfaced signal words. Tell them that historians often use a cause-and-effect text structure, and when students see these words, students should expect a cause-and-effect structure.
- 4. Have student pairs answer the questions in column 3 and write an answer to the reading question.
- 5. Review as a class. Connect the reading question to the investigative question, How was San Francisco during the Gold Rush a site of encounter? Remind students that people create new technologies at sites of encounter because of the synthesis of cultures. Andrew Hallidie brought his engineering skills from Great Britain and developed a new technology wire rope for gold mining and cable cars.

*See handouts.