



EDUCATION KIT

Mapping Manifest Destiny: Chicago and the American West
A Newberry Library Exhibition Nov. 3, 2007—Feb. 16, 2008

MAPPING MANIFEST DESTINY TRANSPARENCY #3

Gilpin Country Gold Regions Map

Detail from Pratt, John J. and Bela S. Buell; vignettes by John E. Dillingham.
Map of the Gold Regions in the Vicinity of Central City, Gilpin Co., Colorado Territory.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: W.H. Rease, 1862.
Newberry Library (Gift of Everett D. Graff): vault Graff 3344

EXHIBIT TEXT:

After John H. Gregory discovered gold in Colorado in 1859, Central City grew up at lightening speed. Surveyor John Pratt and mining claims recorder Bela Buell charted this transformation on a map published in 1862. Buell, who also bought and sold claims, used the map to lure investors and settlers to the area by picturing its prosperity and sophistication. The central section maps the organization of the mining districts, while an inset at the lower right shows the division of the territory into counties. The border vignettes, picturing sublime natural scenery and substantial towns, emphasize the promotional purpose of the map.

An unidentified owner annotated this copy, marking new lodes west and south of Mountain City and demarcating individual mining districts (operated by companies including the Illinois Central Railroad) in brown ink.

TEACHER NOTES:

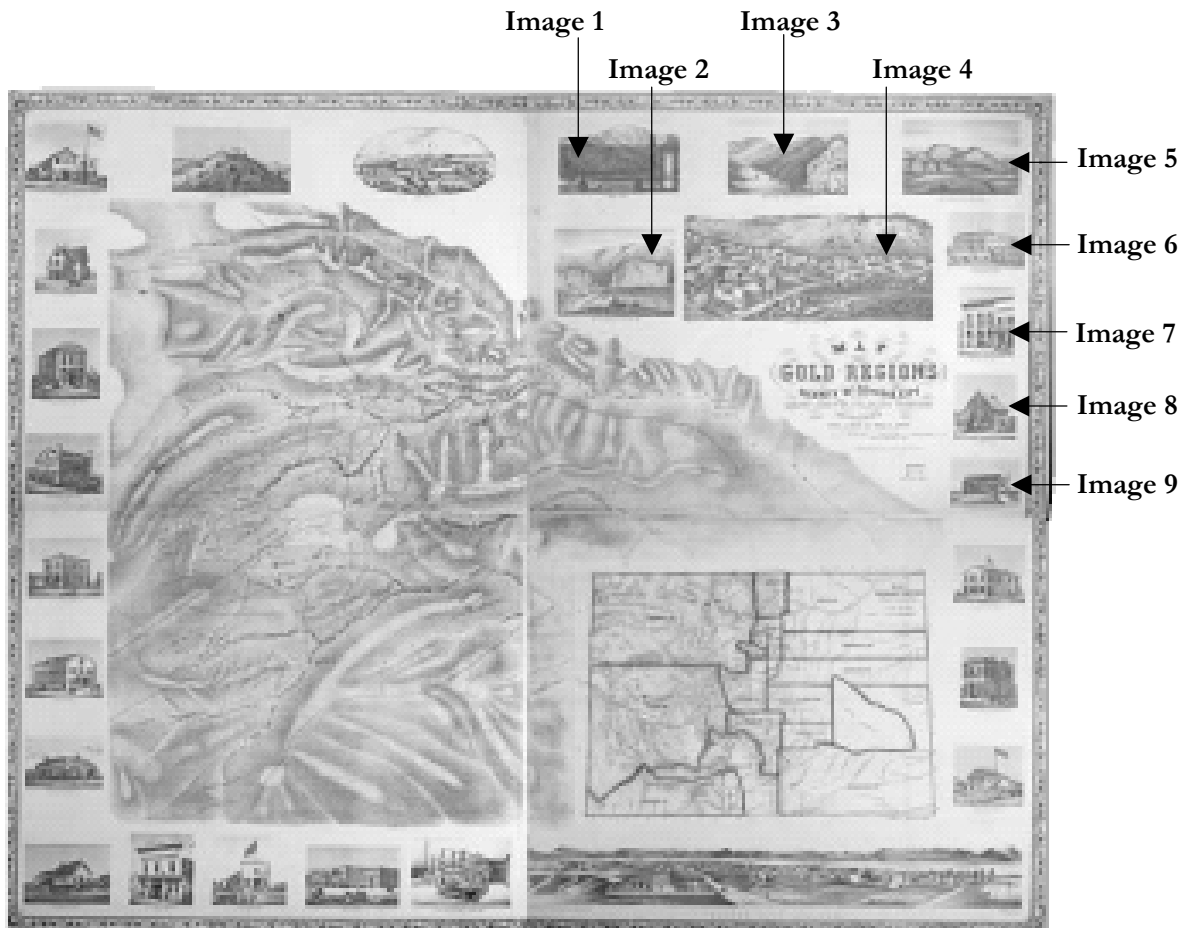
- Transparency #3 is a detail from a map used as a promotional guide to the mining claims in Central City, Colorado. The full map, shown below, includes 27 different pictorial views showing prosperity and growth in the area in hopes of luring investors to the region.
- While each business featured around the map paid for its inclusion as a form of advertisement, all were chosen to highlight the economic opportunities within the region.
- In addition to serving as promotional material, this map was featured on the walls of local homes and businesses expressing regional pride.
- Titles and description of images in the area of the detail provided (see key below):
 - Image 1 = *Pikes Peak* shows the mountains as an idyllic place
 - Image 2 = *The Red Rocks at Colorado City* also shows the Colorado Territory as an idyllic, beautiful location.
 - Image 3 = *View in Bear Creek Valley* depicts another landscape of the Colorado Territory, yet this one is portrayed with gentle, rolling hills.
 - Image 4 = *Central City, Col'o Ter.* identifies a busy city which can easily be viewed as a center of trade and commerce.
 - Image 5 = *Mountains Near Canon City Showing the Stratified Rocks Over Lying the Igneons* shows a very rocky, yet beautiful, terrain.
 - Image 6 = *Broadwell House JM Broadwell Propn* shows a busy, successful business to help convince settlers of the economic stability of the region.
 - Image 7 = *Overland Stage Co. Office Central City, C.T.* depicts the successful businesses of the region while also indicating the ease of mobility that a settler can find.
 - Image 8 = *AC Hunt & Co., 5th St. near Femy WD* is also intending to show a strong, successful business in the area.



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- Image 9 = *Kershaw & Co's Ice House* clearly was shown to help indicate the variety of materials and supplies found in the region.
- In addition to the businesses and images described above, other portions of the full map advertise the local post office, a brewery, a bookstore, a newspaper company, and the local quartz mill.



DISCUSSION PROMPTS/SUGGESTED CLASS ACTIVITIES:

- Describe what you see in each of the images along the top and right sides of the picture. Why do you think these images were chosen?
- What do you think the purpose of this map is?
- Based on the images shown, would you want to move to Gilpin County? Why or why not? What else would you want to know about Gilpin County before moving there?
- If you wanted to advertise your neighborhood or city, describe the kinds of images that you would include on your map. What “story” would you want to tell?