

Tour of the Southwest



A Big Rig Tour of the Southwest



A Big Rig Tour of the Southwest



Monument Valley Utah

Navajo Nation

- created by erosion of rocks and sandstone
- 300,000 Navajo live on 16 million acres called Navajo Nation
- Sheep wool is used for weaving rugs
- They raise, shear, wash, spin, and dye wool themselves.



Four Corners



Buttes & Mesa



Three sisters & the thumb



hogan

Painted Desert & Petrified Forrest

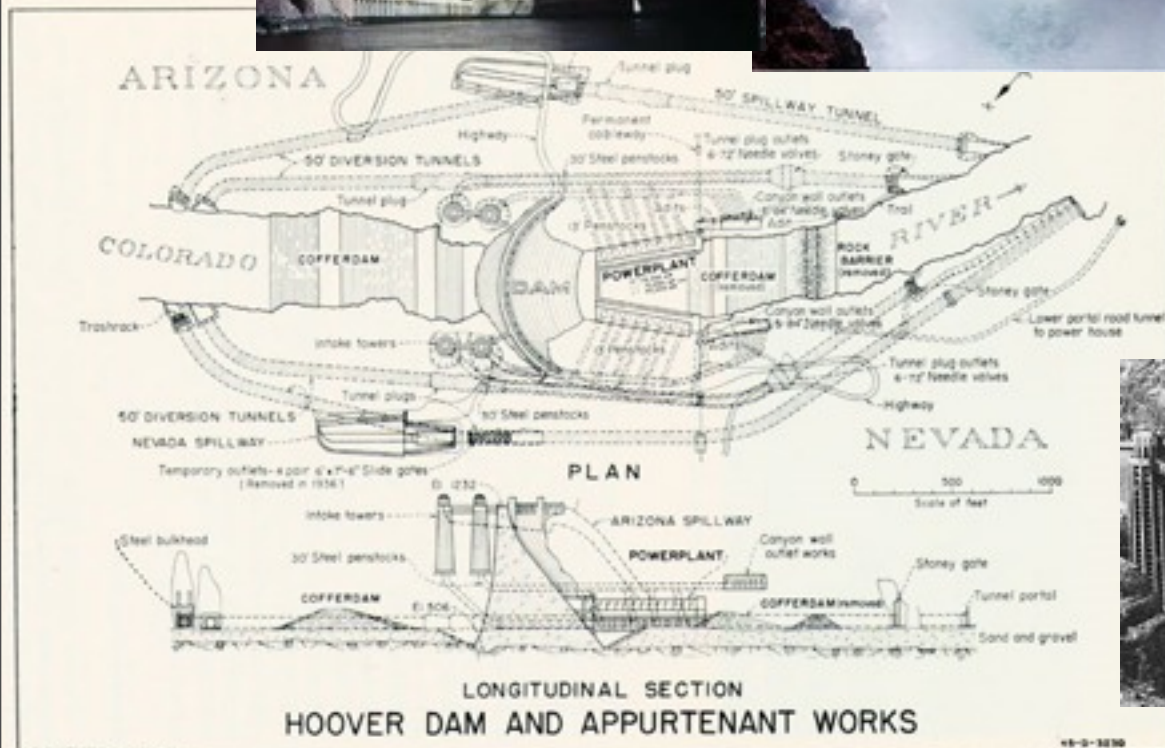
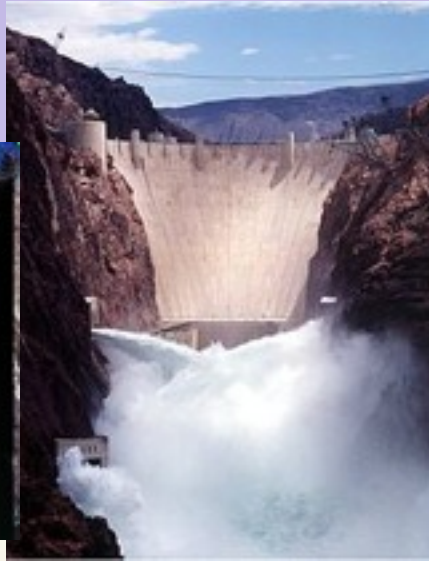
Arizona

- 146 square miles of dry rocks that have been eroded by wind and water
- Erosion has resulted in layers of siltstone, mudstone and shale that make the different colors
- Minerals have caused the wood logs to turn to stone over time
- Unlike fossils, which are pressed into rock, these original logs are turned to stone
- Formed during the Triassic period millions of years ago



Hoover Dam

- Once called Boulder Dam
- Arch dam that puts the water pressure into surrounding rock
- Thick at the bottom, thin at the top
- Forms Lake Mead
- In the Black Canyon of the Colorado River, on the border of Arizona and Nevada
- Built between 1931 to 1936
- Controls floods, provides irrigation water, and produces hydroelectric power
- 112 people died while planning and building the dam



upstream

Grand Canyon

Arizona

- One million acres of land
- 5-6 thousand feet from top rim to river bottom
- 5-6 million years old (young)
- Formed by erosion due to the Colorado River, that still flows in the bottom of the canyon



Carlsbad Caverns

New Mexico



- Limestone was part of an inland sea 20 million years ago
- Limestone reef was pushed up by tectonic plates forming Guadalupe Mountains
- Cave was formed by sulfuric acid dissolving the limestone rock in cracks
- Minerals on the ceilings and walls are cave decorations
- Found in 1898 but Native Americans knew about caves for centuries
- From April to October, thousands of bats fly out of the caves every night to eat insects

El Paso and Ciudad Juarez



- On the Rio Grande River
- El Paso, TX and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico
- Western tip of Texas
- El Paso was under Spanish Rule until Texas Revolution
- One of the largest Megalopolis areas in the world
- Four international points connecting the two cities



San Antonio, Texas

The Alamo

- Originally belonged to missionaries and Indians
- Spanish took control and used it as a military post
- Revolutionaries and Royalists both used it while Mexico fought for its independence
- Important battle site during the Texas Revolution
- Texans and Tejanos joined forces to defend the Alamo but lost the battle because they were out numbered by the Mexican army (200 to 2,000)
- A month later, many had joined the Texan Army to take back the Alamo
- The state of Texas bought the site in early 1900's



San Antonio, Texas

The River Walk



- The source of the river is a nearby natural spring that is part of an underground lake
- The river is so narrow because the source is so close to downtown San Antonio
- The River Walk started as a way to control the river from flooding in 1938
- Is currently 2 miles along the river, being extended to 13 miles long

Austin, Texas

- Live Music Capital of the World
- 200 live music venues
- Home to thousands of musicians
- Live music can be found any day of the week at any time, day or night
- Hosts many music festivals: Austin City Limits, South by Southwest, Pachanga, and Urban Music Fest are a few



Guthrie, Oklahoma

- Became a stop on the railroad and sprung up overnight
- Originally a tent city, replaced by wooden buildings and eventually red brick and sandstone buildings
- First Capital of Oklahoma until 1913
- Located in unassigned lands of Indian Territory

