ExplorePAhistory Academy

Persistent Paths: Trails to Tracks to Turnpikes

Crossing the Alleghenies

Worksheet 1: Physical Map of Pennsylvania



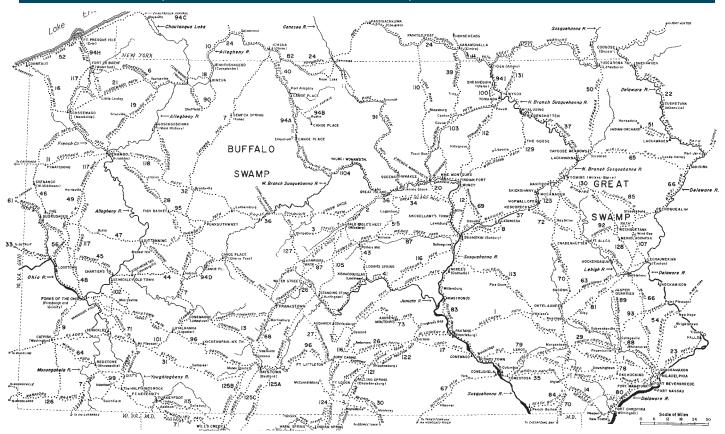
Source: *The Atlas of Pennsylvania*, edited by David J. Cuff, William J. Young, Edward K. Muller, Wilbur Zelinsky and Ronald Abler. Philadelphia: Temple University, 1990. P. 3. From Erwin Raisz, *Landforms of the United States*, sixth revised edition, copyright 1957. Reproduced with permission of Katherine Raisz.

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Worksheet 2: Key to the Indian Paths of Pennsylvania, Paul Wallace



Using the map provided, discuss the following questions.

- 1. What appear to be the major routes Native Americans traveled within Pennsylvania? Long journey routes? Short journey routes? What places appeared to be major destinations?
- 2. What were likely common reasons for traveling? Less common reasons?
- 3. Look closely at the names of these paths or villages; can you draw any conclusions about their purpose? Give examples.
- 4. From the evidence on the map, what modes of transportation did Native Americans use before European contact?



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5.	What is common to these forms of transportation? What energy source do they share?
6.	What tools and technology did the Indians use in creating or using these paths?
7.	What types of geographic features do the Indian paths tend to follow? What factors influenced their decisions about where to walk?
8.	List both the advantages and disadvantages of locating paths near each of these features.
9.	What type of vegetation covered the Allegheny Mountain region? How would vegetation patterns influence the location of trails?
10.	Which paths might have advantages for different purposes?at different times of year?in different weather conditions?
12.	What impacts did Native Americans have on the environment when they built or used these paths?
11.	Does it appear that the Allegheny Mountains were a great barrier to the Native Americans? Explain.
13.	This map was created in the 20 th century, what physical evidence do we have on the landscape today that proves these paths really did exist?



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Worksheet 3: Notes on a Journey in America

Answer the following quesitons after reading Source 3: "Notes on a Journey in America, from the Coast of Virginia to the Territory of Illinois."	
1.	What modes of transportation were used to travel between Pittsburgh and Philadelphia in the early 1800s? Describe advantages and disadvantages of each.
2.	Why did the author make this journey and why did he come specifically to McConnel's Town (McConnellsburg)?
3.	What physical features did travelers encounter during this part of their journey?
4.	How extensively was this route used? Describe reasons for its use.
5.	The turnpike Birkbeck mentions linked Pittsburgh with Philadelphia and passed through towns suc as Bedford and Ligonier. What former Indian path did this turnpike follow?
6.	Speculate on what tools and technology were most likely used in the 1800s to build this road.
7.	Speculate on the impact these new roads had on the physical environment as they were created and also as they were used.

8. What changes were made to the "cultural" landscape as these new roads were built and traveled

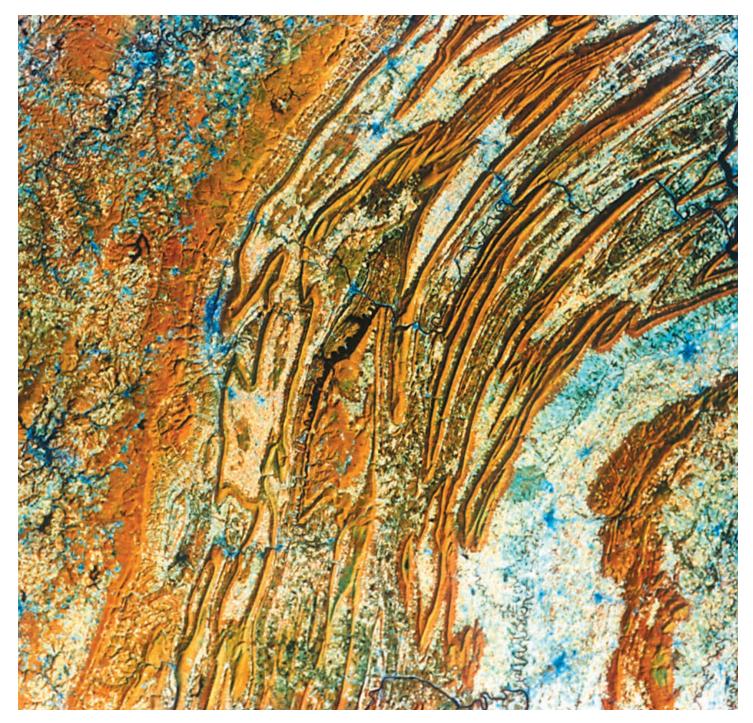
upon?

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Overhead 1: Satellite Image of Ridge and Valley in Pennsylvania



NASA photo