The 1845 annexation of Texas led to the Mexican-American War and the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, forcing Mexico to lose almost one-half of its land—an area larger than the Louisiana Purchase. Mexicans living in what was now the United States were given a choice of continuing to live on their land and be granted full rights as citizens of the United States or move to what was now Mexico. However, those who decided to stay and become U.S. citizens eventually found that their rights and equality were almost immediately called into question and land titles held by former Mexicans were taken away. Their descendants have been fighting for their rights ever since.

A picture containing text, trouser, fabric

Description automatically generated

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M103796;type=101>

Object Name: Mexican flag

Date: 1920

Object ID: 79.L.34

Note: Mexico ruled California from 1832 to 1849.

A picture containing person, wall, person, indoor

Description automatically generated

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M548922;type=101>

Object Name: Painting

Maker: Unknown artist

Title: *Portrait of Thomas P. Larkin*

Date: 1832–1840s

Object ID: 88.238.1

Notes: Larkin first settled as a merchant in Monterey, California, in 1832. He served as United States consul in Mexican California. In October of 1845, Larkin was appointed as a "confidential agent" and instructed to work toward the secession of California from Mexico and its becoming part of the United States.

A picture containing text, indoor, old, oven

Description automatically generated

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M541222;type=102>

Object Name: Photograph  
Maker: Unknown artist  
Date: Circa 1845  
Object ID: 92.140.1  
Notes: Commodore John D. Sloat and wife, Abbey Gordon. Commodore Sloat landed in Monterey, July 7, 1846, and asked California residents to reject Mexican rule and accept United States rule. The ‘Republic of California’ established by the Bear Flag Revolt ended with U.S. occupation of San Francisco and Sonoma.

A picture containing text, outdoor, old, outdoor object

Description automatically generated

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M20021;type=102>

Object Name: Photograph

Maker: Frank A. Schilling

Title: *Monument Commemorating the California Bear Flag Revolt*

Date: 1946

Object ID: P.13370

Notes: Photograph taken in Sonoma, California, of the monument commemorating the California Bear Flag Revolt.

A group of people sitting on a bench

Description automatically generated with low confidence

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M555282;type=101>

Object Name: Print

Maker: Unknown artist

Title: *War News from Mexico*

Date: 1846–1848

Object ID: 88.162.2

Notes: This print was one of fourteen thousand made from a popular painting by Richard Woodville. The artist shows various people reacting to the news about a war with Mexico.

Text, letter

Description automatically generated

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M533661;type=105>

Object Name: Document

Object ID: 90.132.5

Title: *Commission of John C. Hays of the 1st Regiment of Texas Mounted Volunteers*

Date: 1847

Document certifying commission of John C. Hays as a Colonel in 1st Regiment of Texas Mounted Volunteers, Austin, Texas, May 11, 1847. The First Regiment of Texas Mounted Rifle Volunteers, unofficially known as Hay's Texas Rangers, was a United States Volunteer regiment raised in June 1846, with a core of Texas Rangers, for service in the Mexican–American War.

A person sitting in a chair

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M114118;type=102>

Object Name: Photograph

Maker: Unidentified photographer

Title: *A Portrait of Andrés Pico*

Date: Mid-1800s, printed 1900s

Object ID: P.36760

Notes: Andrés Pico was a Californio and Mexican General during the Mexican-American War who commanded the Mexican forces in California, the California Lancers.

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M512050;type=101>

Object Name: Drum  
Date: 1846  
Object ID: 93.21.8  
Notes: This drum might have been used by the army of General Andrés Pico.

A picture containing text, book

Description automatically generated<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M507054;type=105>

Object Name: Newspaper  
Title: *Gleason's Pictorial Drawing Room Companion*  
Date: 1849  
Object ID: 90.138.83  
Notes: Newspaper page featuring a drawing depicting the Battle of San Gabriel, California, on January 8, 1849.

A person riding a horse with a group of horses following him

Description automatically generated with low confidence

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M514879;type=101>

Object Name: Painting

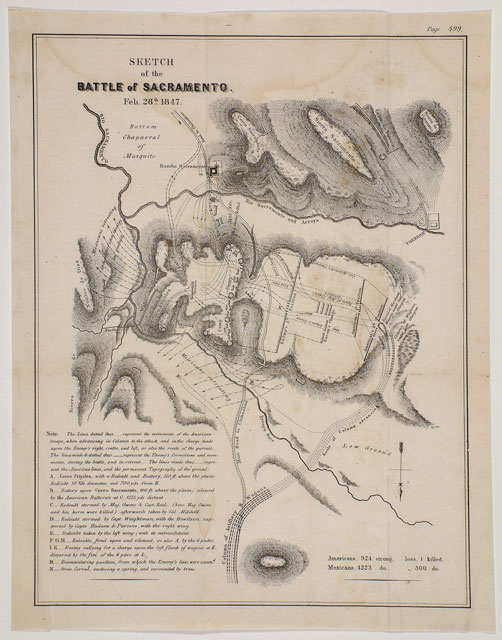
Maker: Alexander Edouart

Title: *The Chase*

Date: 1857

Object ID: 92.33.1

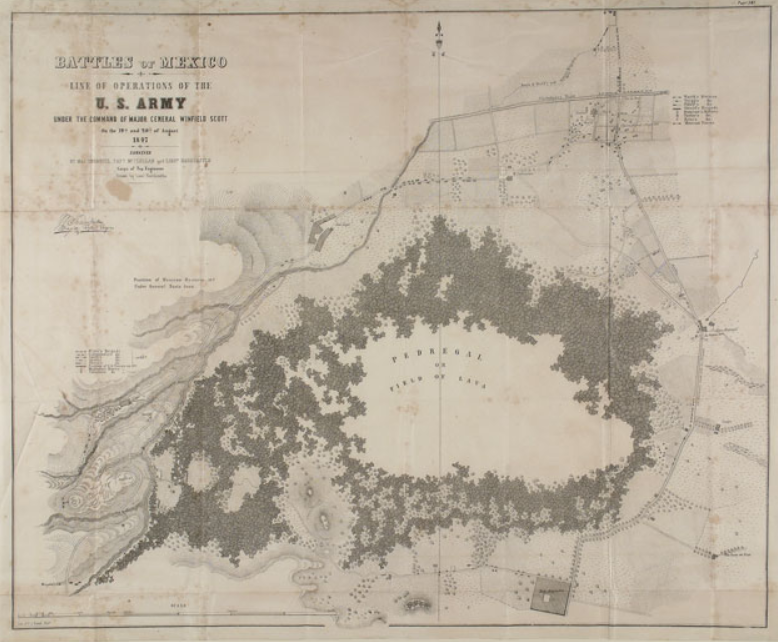
Notes: This painting, commissioned in 1857, depicts Henry L. Ford, a captain in General John Frémont's California Battalion, being chased by Californio Lancers during the Mexican-American War in California.

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M512559;type=103>

Object Name: Map  
Title: *Sketch of the Battle of Sacramento, Feb. 28th, 1847*   
Date: Circa 1847  
Object ID: 90.138.94

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M558896;type=101>

Object Name: Print  
Maker: United States government   
Title: *Sketch of the Battle of Los Angeles Upper California, 1847*  
Date: 1847  
Object ID: 90.138.131

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M522184;type=103>

Object Name: Map  
Maker: Edmund Hardcastle  
Title: *Battles of Mexico/Line of Operations of the /U.S. Army/Under the command of Major General Winfield Scott*  
Date: 1847  
Object ID: 90.138.90  
Notes: Map of United States Army positions near the Churubusco River, Mexico.

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M560571;type=101>

Object Name: Print  
Maker: Carl Nebel  
Title: *Battle of Buena Vista*  
Date: 1851  
Object ID: 90.253.291.4  
Notes: This battle took place near Monterey, Mexico.

A picture containing text, outdoor, plant

Description automatically generated<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M512551;type=101>

Object Name: Print  
Maker: Carl Nebel  
Title: *Battle at Churubusco*  
Date: 1851  
Object ID: 90.253.291.8  
Notes: The Battle of Churubusco was fought near Mexico City on August 20, 1847. General Winfield Scott led the U.S. forces and General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna led the Mexican forces. Soon after, the U.S. captured Mexico City.

A group of people sitting at tables

Description automatically generated with low confidence

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M27098;type=102>

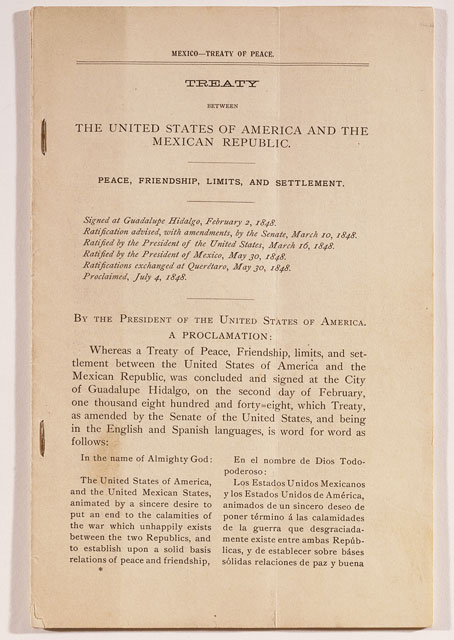
Object Name: Photograph

Maker: Charles Chester Pierce and Carl Oscar Borg

Title: *The Signing of the Treaty of Cahuenga*

Object ID: P.14679

Notes: Photograph of a painting of the signing of the Treaty of Cahuenga in Los Angeles, California, 1847, which resulted in a ceasefire between Mexicans and Americans in California.

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M537908;type=105>

Object Name: Document  
Title: *Treaty between the United States of American and the Mexican Republic*    
Date: Circa 1848  
Object ID: 90.253.301  
Notes: Signed at Guadalupe Hidalgo, February 2, 1848, the Treaty marked the end of the war. In return for fifteen million dollars, Mexico ceded to the United States the territory of present-day California, Nevada, Utah, and parts of Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Colorado, and Wyoming.

Map

Description automatically generated

<http://collections.theautry.org/mwebcgi/mweb.exe?request=record;id=M564724;type=103>

Object Name: Map

Maker: Samuel Augustus Mitchell

Title: *A New Map of Texas, Oregon, and California: With the Regions Adjoining*

Date: 1846

Object ID: 90.253.289

Notes: The map includes the states of California, Texas, Oregon, Washington state, Missouri, and Indian Territory. Includes a table of distances along the Emigrant Route from Missouri to Oregon.