Sacramento City Floods:

1849-1862
Sutter’s Fort
Gold Rush Era Population

- Population Influx as recorded in 1850

- San Francisco Harbor Master Report
  - Men: 35,333
  - Women: 1248
  - Fort Laramie, main overland Trail
    - Men: 39,560
    - Women: 1248
    - Children: 649
Sacramento Waterfront - 1848
Fall of 1849
Flood of 1849-1850
Changing Direction
The Levee
Great Conflagration
Sacramento 1854
Sacramento Becomes the State Capitol
Sacramento 1857
Four Factors contributing to Historic Flood of 1861-1862

1.) Record Rainfall
2.) High Population based along streams and rivers
3.) Melting of Snow
4.) Hydraulic Mining
December Storm
In Sacramento City
The January Storm
THE FLOOD OF 1862.

SACRAMENTO IMPROVING

THE WATER SLIGHTLY FALLING

THE DAMAGE IN MARYSVILLE

LOSS OF STOCK.

STOCKTON CITY STILL FLOODED

THE FLOOD IN THE MINES

GREAT DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY

The Storm in Nevada

THE SCARCITY OF PROVISIONS

QUARTZ WORKS INJURED, ETC., ETC., ETC.
Devastation to the Valley

- Sacramento Union reports “1/3 of the taxable property in the state of California is lost”
- An estimated ¼ of all cattle drowned (200,000)
- One house in eight destroyed and 7/8 of all houses damaged
- Brewer: The loss of property is between $50 and $100 million
- Average Californian lost $100 - $200
- Loss of cattle by flood and the record drought the followed ended the early California cattle industry
- There is no accurate death count
The Reaction
Raising the Streets