

California Proofreading Task 1

California

more than 20,000 years ago, the first people arrived in what is now California. They walked from Asia, crossing on a strip of land that's now submerged under a body of water between Russia and the United States called the Bering Strait. For thousands of years, hundreds of Native American tribes thrived on this land.

Europeans landed in the 16th century, with Spanish explorers leading the way. But when Mexico gained its independence from Spain in 1821, it also gained control of California. That didn't last long: in 1848, at the end of the Mexican-American War, California became a U.S. territory. When gold was struck in 1849 at Sutter's Mill in Coloma, more than 100,000 people, nicknamed "forty-niners," rushed to California to seek their fortunes. Just a year later, in 1850, California officially became a state.