

1546: The "New Laws" barring Indian enslavement were repealed at the insistence of New World colonists, who developed a society and economy dependent on slave labor

1600's Europeans of the time held steadfastly to the belief that their introduced diseases were acts of God being done in their behalf. One settler proclaimed while speaking about the deaths of Native Americans, "Their enterprise failed, for it pleased God to effect these Indians with such a deadly sickness, that out of every 1000, over 950 of them had died, and many of them lay rotting above the ground for lack of burial."

187: Story of Washo fighting off Spanish, there is no time period. The Spanish from California stole some Washo women and children while the men were away. The men caught up with them the next day at Indian Valley, Alpine County, California and got the women and children back and dealt the Spanish a lesson that they never came back over the mountain again.

1824: The Second Continental Congress created the Office of Indian Affairs in 1824.

1825: Explorers come through Washo country (Jedidiah Smith).

1832: Congress established the position of Commissioner of Indian Affairs

1844: First recorded mention of Washoe by Captain John C. Fremont in the winter of 1844 in Alpine County, California, described Washoe wearing snowshoes

1844: January 18, 1844- [Fremont's journal, Carson River] there were Indian lodges and fish-dams on the stream. There were no beaver cuttings on the river...

1844: W.T. Hamilton claimed to have seen: ...large lake and beautiful valley at the upper end of the Truckee River where a small band of Indians had their village about half a mile from our camp. They were a miserable and degraded lot. I doubt if our ancestors a million years back could have been more so. They could properly be classed with the savages of the flint age, as they used flint for the points of their arrows and spears, of indifferent manufacture. Game was readily approached and they were easily able to supply themselves with meat, while they were expert in catching fish. They were notorious beggars

1846: Washoe attempt to help Donner Party near Truckee California, but were shot at by the beleaguered immigrants, so help from Washo didn't come. Later Washo were shocked at happenings at the Donner Camp (cannibalism) and never attempted to help again

1848: June 27, 1848 Washoe killed Mormon soldiers of the Mormon Battalion (alleged) south of Silver Lake, Amador County, California. "The killing took place at an ancient Washoe habitation site, which leads me to believe the Mormons came into a Washoe village and from there things went bad. The location is now called Tragedy Springs...DC"

NO Date: [p. 206) John Marlin and James Williams, in charge of pack trains from Mormon station to California are killed by Washoes on the trail which crossed the mountains south of Lake Tahoe on the same day, one at Slippery Ford hill and the other on the summit. The settlers became alarmed and called upon the people of California for assistance. Arms and ammunition were rendered by the governor of the state; the Pah Utes also offered their warriors to fight the Washoes.

1848: August 6, 1848 – (Fremont's journal, Carson River, 10 miles. They continued down Carson River and passed a hot spring. Addison Pratt killed a rattlesnake. They named this place Rattlesnake Camp. At night they saw one hundred Indian fires flickering all over the mountains

1849: September 19, 1849, (Gould) we are now in the Sierra Nevada Mts., some of the ranges very lofty. They are on fire in many places, which are probably the work of Indians (following Carson River Route).

1849: October 14, 1849 - ...Saw one [Indian] wading in the creek in a state of nudity, spearing fish. He had killed two fine ones which he gave to Doc, who gave him in return an old pair of pants. We had fine bean soup for dinner and fish... [Carson River]

1849: Thousands of miners' flood through Washoe country on the way to California looking for gold, using ancient Washo trails to get there

1850: August 10, 1850 – Camped on the meadows late last night, where we remain to-day to recruit our horses. Jonathan and myself went into the mountains hunting, found a few deer, but they were so wild that we could not get a shot; killed a large yellow rattlesnake, a sage hare, and found an old Indian and boy fishing; traded my pocket knife to the boy for a line with 10 bone hooks I attached to it, caught about 40 small fish... [Carson River some miles below Eagle Valley]

1850: California Government and Protection Act, which established the means whereby Indians of all ages could be indentured or apprenticed to any white. Eleven years later an editorial in the *Humboldt Times* noted: *"This law works beautifully. A few days ago V. E. Geiger, formerly Indian Agent, had some eighty Indians apprenticed to him and proposes to emigrate to Washoe with them as soon as he can cross the mountains. We hear of many others who are having them bound in numbers to suit. What a pity the provisions of this law are not extended to Greasers, Kanaks, and Asiatics. It would be so convenient, you know, to carry on a farm or mine when all the hard and dirty work is performed by apprentices"*

1850: The 1850 Act for the Government and Protection of Indians facilitated removing California Indians from their traditional lands, separating at least a generation of children and

adults from their families, languages, and cultures (1850 to 1865). This California law provided for “apprenticing” or indenturing Indian children and adults to Whites, and also punished “vagrant” Indians by “hiring” them out to the highest bidder at a public auction if the Indian could not provide sufficient bond or bail. California Law declared any jobless Indian as a vagrant and he is auctioned off for forced labor up to four months until his debt paid in labor

1850: The price for an Indian scalp in California was 25 cents a scalp and by 1860 the price of a scalp was five dollars. Five dollars per severed head was paid in Shasta County, California. In 1855, 25 cents were paid for Indian scalps at Honey Lake, California.

1851: in 1851 the United States paid out one million dollars for scalps

1851: Peter Burnett, California's governor in 1851, stated: ... *that a war of extermination will continue to be waged between the two races until the Indian race becomes extinct, must be expected. While we cannot anticipate the result with but painful regret, the inevitable destiny of the race is beyond the power and wisdom of man to avert.*

1851: Captain Jim leased land at Genoa to John Reese for two sacks of flour but never received compensation thereafter

1851: Congress creates reservations to manage Native peoples. The U.S. Congress passes the Indian Appropriations Act, creating the reservation system. The government forces Native peoples to move to and live on reservations, where it can better subdue them. Native peoples find themselves severely restricted in their ability to hunt, fish, and gather their traditional foods. For some tribes, the U.S. institutes food rations, introducing wheat flour, grease, and sugar into American Indian diets.

1852--Trekking from Carson Valley, over Daggetts Pass to Lake Valley and the new Johnson's Cutoff, Col. L.A. Norton described the region as “unbroken forest, wild, inhabited by grizzlies, California lions and wild Indians” (Scott 1957:361).

1852: The state of California paid 1.1 million dollars for militias to hunt down and kill natives

1852: July 1852 - ...In some of the open places on the banks there were temporary huts erected; the spaces about them were strewn with fish heads and bones in thick profusion, demonstrating the abundance, and showing, too, that they must have been of a good size... [Carson River]

1852: July 1852 – On watering our stock, we found the sands everywhere imprinted with the bare-foot marks of Indians, employed, as we supposed, in fishing, from the number of fine trout we could see in the clear stream...We spent the evening in angling, some with baits and some with flies, but we did not get a solitary nibble, though we could see those fastidious, (Carson River)

1852: August 1852-Next morning, when we were midway down the valley, we saw a lot of Indians crossing it from the river, all carrying fish, which they caught in ingenious traps made of willow, laid in the likely haunts, from which the trout, once in, cannot escape. They had upwards of two dozen very fine ones, from two to five pounds each (Carson River)

1853: John Calhoun Johnson guided a reporter from The Placerville Herald who claimed to have visited Cave Rock and that they were the first white men to discover what is now Meeks Bay: This little gem among mountain vales, is the summer resort of the "Digger," and as the lake abounds with fish, 'tis here he luxuriates till the next winter's snows drive him down to the valleys... There are about seventy Indians in the valley [at Meeks Bay], though it might be made as well the home of thousands, for the waters of the lake are literally alive with fishes, among which the speckled trout and the real salmon predominate (Placerville Herald, July 9, 1853).

1854: Commissioner of Indian Affairs in California, T.J. Henley, proposed to the federal government that all California Indians be hauled off to a reservation east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in order to "rid the state of this class of population."

1854: June 10, 1854-Mountain Democrat (Placerville)-FROM CARSON VALLEY - Mr. Dritt, the Carson Valley mail carrier, arrived in this city Wednesday...The Indians are quiet and friendly - They are engaged in fishing for trout, large quantities of which they take from the Carson River, and exchange with the whites for bread and other provisions.

1854--In this year, A. H. Hawley opened one of the first trading posts on the immigrant road through south Lake Tahoe, and in his memoirs wrote: When I first went into Lake Valley the Indians would not allow white men to fish in the lake...they tried to drive me off, but I was never afraid of Indians except their treachery... I consider all Indians treacherous and think the government ought to deal with them in a firm and steady hand (A. H. Hawley 1917:177).

1855: Reporting on an encounter with a group from the "Washaw Tribe" in Indian Valley just south of Lake Tahoe, O.B. Powers wrote that they were digging for wild onions, "peaceful, friendly but wary" led by a "captain or chief they called Pah-sook": who spoke English and "wore a blue flannel shirt and a white fur hat." The chief guided them to Carson Valley (Powers 1855:187-191).

1855: August 1855 - Dr. Winter... carried on a small trade with the Indians. An Indian friend of his daily caught some ten pounds of trout for him in the Carson._. [Vicinity of Genoa]

1856: In 1856 The State of California issued a bounty of \$0.25 per Indian scalp. 1860 The State of California increased the bounty to **\$5.00 per Indian scalp**. 1903 The Federal Government came back into the picture 50 years later and was trying to figure out how to save the existing population.

1857-60: A correspondent of the San Francisco Herald in Genoa, Nevada (using the pen name "Tennessee") wrote a series of letters between 1857 and 1860 that contain vivid examples of ambivalent white views of the Washoe. The following paginated extracts are from The Tennessee Letters (Thompson 1983): Two more men have been murdered today...by them Washoe Indians... About three hundred Washoes are encamped within a few miles of this place [Carson Valley], and they have declared their intention to kill all the whites in the Valley. (p. missing, suspicion rests upon him. (p. 3)1)...It has turned out that only one man was killed --by whom it is not known, but as his partner suspicion rests upon him. (p. 3)

...The Washoe Indians...are a warlike and dangerous tribe, numbering some eight thousand [!] They cherish an antipathy to the white man, and lose no opportunity to do him injury when there is little danger of discovery. Some weeks ago, Uncle Billy Rodgers shot two of them in the street here, for theft... Their enemies, the Pah Utahs, say it is dangerous for the whites to go unarmed out of sight of the settlements. (p. 3) [Ironically enough, the settlers were engaged in a war with the Pyramid Lake Paiute two years later, and the Washoe were praised for aiding the whites.].

..Our old adversaries, the Washoe Indians, of whose bloody deeds you used hear so much...seem to be disposed to peace...perhaps the red skinned rascals are propitiated by a present of a pound of flour apiece, made to about a hundred of them a short time ago, by our Indian Agent, Colonel Dodge. (p. 19)

...During the late severe weather we have had, the Washoe Indians have suffered much for want of food...several have died of starvation...and probably a great many more among the mountains. Game, such as they are accustomed to hunt, is becoming scarce, and it is high time for Uncle Sam to provide something for their assistance. Major Dodge, it is true, has done all in his power, but thus far his time has been occupied almost exclusively with the Pah-Utahs.

...[The settlers]...attempted the destruction of some wolves by means of strychnine baited beef, which being stolen and eaten by a band of Washoe Indians, resulted in the death of seven of them. (p. 49)

...The Shashose [Washoes] are engaged in packing acorns from California to Lake Bigler, where they are to have a grand feast and fishing. (p. 53)

...Captain Jim, the Washoe chief, refused to permit whites to fish in Lake Bigler, but Maj. Dodge has succeeded in convincing the rascal that he cannot whip the whole world with his few hundred redskins. (p. 59)

...Whatever was once their condition, it is quite apparent that at the present day and generation our Indians here are so poor as to need the care of the Government. I have an original suggestion...to sell them to the highest bidder for cash...instead of being a

burden...they would be a fruitful source of revenue and...the poor devils would be better provided for by individuals than...at the hands of government officials. (p. 110-111)

...“Captain Jim of the Washoes” was visited the other day by the Agent, and considerable donations were made to him and his tribe. They are all encamped on Lake Bigler, within the California line, where they have been fishing. This whole tribe remains at peace. (p. 154)

1857: Captain Jim organized a “gift exchange” with entertainment for leasing lands to the immigrants in exchange of compensation

1857: Potato War at Milford, California; supposedly Washo harvested potatoes from a farm and in retaliation the local militia killed a bunch of Washo on several occasions, however the Washo don’t have a recollection of the events as it was stated. Washoe resistance to incursions on their lands proved futile, and the last armed conflict with the Washoes and non-Indians was the Potato War of 1857, when starving Washoes were killed for gathering potatoes from a European-American farm near Honey Lake in California

1857: Brigham Young, governor and superintendent of Indian affairs for Utah, in the summer of 1857 sent Garland Hurt, Indian agent, to Carson valley, who made a treaty of amity with the Washoes.

1858: The whites outnumbered the Washo in western Nevada

1858: Washo forbade any fishing in Lake Tahoe

1858: The Carson Valley Agency was established with Frederick Dodge as the first Indian Agent

1859: Silver was discovered in Western Nevada. 20,000 miners arrived seeking riches this began the immediate destruction of the lands to support the mining industry and was the beginning of the end of a way of life for the Washo.

1859: Sarah Winnemucca refers to the killing of three Washoe men by a group of angry whites in a wrongful accusation for the murder of two white men led to the death of three Washoe men by a group of angry whites. She states, “This was the first trouble the poor Washoe’s had with white people, and the only one they ever had with them.”⁸⁵ This statement implies the general peacefulness, or desire of the Washoe people to stay out of trouble with the whites. Conflicts between the Paiutes and whites often had repercussions for the Washoe people caught in the middle. Nevers cites the Pyramid Lake War of 1860 as an example. White soldiers looking for revenge after an initial defeat killed any Indian they encountered—the aftermath of one such attack in Washoe Valley left a group of Washoe women dead.

1859: Paiutes encroach on Long Valley, California and Deer Dick, Welmelti Leader met with Colonel Warren Wasson to make a deal

1859: Indian Agent Frederick Dodge proposed to move the Washoe to the Pyramid Lake and Walker River Reservations

1859: July 9, 1859 - Territorial Enterprise (Genoa)-Fish - The Indians are supplying our market with excellent trout, which are caught in Carson River in great abundance.

1859: Commercial fishing at Lake Tahoe started and by 1880 they had depleted the cutthroat from Lake Tahoe

1860: Washo were blamed for killing two white men at Carson City because Washo arrows were stuck in the bodies. The government threatened to kill all Washoe unless they bring in the guilty to face punishment. Three Washo men were sacrificed for the crime, but escaped and shot and killed while running away.

1860: Pyramid Lake War, the Washo donated guns to the state militia because the Washo thought an enemy of their enemy is their ally. The guns were never returned to the Washo.

1860: Soldiers attacked and kill Washo women near Slide Mountain, Washoe Valley, Nevada.

Interview Data: Jo Ann Nevers learned that the attack on the Washoe women at the base of Slide Mountain was at the hands of soldiers *en route* to the battle of the Pyramid Lake War in 1860. Her aunt Helen Nevers Enos (born at Martis Creek ca. 1900) told her the story of the attack as told to her by her great or great-great grandmother, who may have been present. Helen Enos told JoAnn that a small child or infant was saved from the attack when one of the women hid the small child under a basket (Nevers p.c. 2013).

Ms. Nevers' other aunt Amy Washoe James told her when she and other Washoes traveled past the tragic site of the earthquake that they always spoke to the deceased, telling them "We are not here to harm or disturb you," to ward off spirits from haunting them (Nevers p.c. 2013) and (Tiley and McBride 2013:W6 and CrNV-03-E0162).

Date Unknown: Slide Mountain, Nevada; Malazingita or daw mat lášij (Sand slide). The base of Slide Mountain, near a spring behind Bowers Mansion, was the site of a Washoe campsite with several families. Oral tradition tells of a massive earthquake that buried the camp and all its residents; it is a place for Washoe to avoid today (Nevers 1976:36). This locale is also where a group of women were gathering willows when they were attacked without provocation (Nevers 1976:52).

1861: Washoe requested a Treaty with the US Government

1862: Hazlett, Fanny G.- Historical Sketch and Reminiscences of Dayton, Nevada. Nevada Historical Society Papers, 1921-1922.- (1862] Eldorado Canyon...heavily covered with nut pine. Choppers and teamsters with ox, mule and horse teams traveled from the range to Dayton

through dense clouds of dust daily ...Also from Como came a steady stream. In all, one hundred and twenty-five teams daily entered Dayton loaded with wood...Along in '62 and '63 the Indians saw with alarm their pine trees disappearing. Numaga came into the wood camps with a large number of Indians. He eloquently set forth the condition of his people. As a matter of justice to the natives, and in order to avoid trouble, the woodmen agreed to pay four hundred dollars and possibly more. They raised half the amount then. The balance was to be paid three months later. At the appointed time they came and received the balance, and no further trouble arose. *"This version of the story is erroneous and we think people in those days mislabeled any Indian to their understanding"*-statement by THPO/CRO

1862: August 21, 1862 - We reached at sunrise what is called the "slough of the Carson river", which we had to cross on a toll bridge... Some Indians came around with fish to sell. They asked "four-bits" for whatever they had, no matter how many or how few...

1862: U.S. Department of Interior introduced name for Tahoe but didn't become official until 1945 as Lake Tahoe. Mark Twain despised the name because it is a Washo name

1862: The mapmaker for the federal [U.S. Department of the Interior](#), joined the political argument in 1862 when he asked a member of the Sacramento Union paper for a new name for the lake. "Tahoe," was suggested, a local tribal name believed to mean "water in a high place." It was agreed, and the mapmaker telegraphed the Land Office in [Washington, D.C.](#) to officially change all federal maps to read "Lake Tahoe."

Quote from Samuel Clemens about Lake Tahoe: "People say that Tahoe means 'Silver Lake' - 'Limpid Water' - 'Falling Leaf.' Bosh! It means grasshopper soup, the favorite dish of the digger tribe - and of the Pi-utes as well."

1863: the San Francisco newspaper Golden Era reprinted a column from the Territorial Enterprise [Virginia City] attributed to Mark Twain in which he discourses with a friend named "Grub" concerning the name Tahoe:...Hope some early bird will catch this Grub the next time he calls Lake Bigler by so disgustingly sick and silly a name as "Lake Tahoe." I have removed the offensive words from his letter...which at least has a Christian English twang about it... Of course Indian names are more fitting than any others for our beautiful lakes and rivers, which knew their race long ago...but let us have none as repulsive to the ear as "Tahoe" for the beautiful relic of fairyland forgotten and left asleep in the snowy Sierras when the little elves fled from their ancient haunts and quitted the earth... I yearn for the scalp of the soft-shelled crab--be he Indian or white man--who conceived of that spooney, slobbering, summer-complaint of a name. Why, if I had a grudge against a half-price nigger, I wouldn't be mean

enough to call him by such a epithet as that... "Tahoe"--it sounds as weak as a soup for a sick infant (Golden Era, September 13, 1863).

1863--Thomas McConnel of Sacramento bought 388 acres of lakefront from Hampton Craig Blackwood who homesteaded the land around Blackwood Creek. It is said that Blackwood shot a Washoe tribesman for setting a fish trap on the creek (Scott 1957:64).

1863: On November 2 of 1863 the elected delegates of Nevada Territory met in Carson City to frame a constitution for the "State of Washoe." A number of the delegates objected to the name, among them an L.O. Stearns from Esmeralda County who offered the following remarks:-
-We are here, sir, to brush away the relics of Washoe barbarism, Pi Ute ignorance and atrocity... We oppose the name Washoe because it represents the lowest and most despicable tribe of Indians that ever desecrated the American continent--Wash-oe, Wash-what? This despicable tribe--a disgrace to the name of Indian-- possessing all his baser instincts, and none of his manly attributes... Let his name go down unsung and unpainted upon the escutcheon on the gem of the Pacific (Sacramento Daily Union, November 9, 1863).

1864: Indian Agent Jacob Lockhart recommended 360 acres in Carson Valley and 360 acres in Washoe Valley be set aside as reservation lands for Washo

1865, 1871 & 1877: The Indian Agency recommended Washoe reservations but there was no action taken

1866: H.G. Parker, Superintendent, Nevada Indian Affairs Agent stated "there is no suitable place for a reservation in the bounds of their territory and, in view of their rapidly diminishing numbers and the diseases to which they are subjected, none is required"

1869:-As for the naming of the Lake, our beloved humorist Twain adds the following ethnocentric eloquence to his earlier diatribe: "Sorrow and misfortune overtake the legislature that still from year to year permits Tahoe to retain its unmusical cognomen! Tahoe!..." "Tahoe means grasshoppers. It means grasshopper soup. It is Indian, and suggestive of Indians. They say it is Pi-ute -- possibly it is Digger -- those degraded savages who roast their dead relatives, then mix the human grease and ashes of bones with tar, and 'gaum' it thick all over their heads and foreheads, and ears, and go caterwauling about the hills and call it mourning. These are the gentry that named the Lake." (cf. James 1915:26)

1870: In 1870, Congress ratified the 15th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution affirming the right of all U.S. citizens to vote: *The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous conditions of servitude.* However, even after the 15th Amendment was ratified, most American Indians, including California Indians, did not have the right to vote until the federal Citizenship Act of 1924 was passed.

1871-1891: Washo attended ghost dance at Walker River

1877: July 17, 1877 - Carson Valley News (Genoa)- FISH DYING - Indians report great mortality among the fish in the Carson river. They say, "No more catchem. Heap sick. Heap die." Whether it is the low stage of the water or the use of poisonous or explosive material that causes the destruction, no one pretends to know. We understand that it is confined exclusively to the West Fork, nothing of the kind being perceptible on the East Fork. Fish above the rear of the wood drive are as plentiful and healthy as ever

1877: September 13. 1877 - Territorial Enterprise (Virginia City)-The Indians are preparing to go out into the mountains in search of pine nuts. Pine Nut Valley is the nearest point where they can hope to gather much of a harvest, and even there the charcoal burners are fast sweeping away the trees.

1879: March 21, 1879 -Nevada Daily Tribune (Carson City)-Fish Commissioner Parker proposes placing two hundred young salmon into the Carson River, near Schultz's ranch next week, to ascertain how well they thrive there.

1880: April 11, 1888, Captain Jim, Captain Pete, and Captain Walker met and prepared a petition to Governor Kinhead of Nevada requesting that he stop the destruction of pine nut trees and also the depletion of fish in Lake Tahoe:...we demand that the Government stop further destruction of the property belonging to the Washoe Indians... Or, in default thereof, that the Government of the United States make us a suitable compensation for the same (Council of Washoe Indians, 1880).

1880: A new law forbid Washo from fishing because the commercial fishing at Lake Tahoe depleted the Lahonton Cutthroat. Again the Washo paid the costs for someone else's crimes.

1881: Indians at Lake Bigler are destroying many fish with spears. As the law does not appear to affect them, it would be a good thing to arrest the whites who purchase the speared fish. If the Indians cannot dispose of the fish in that way, they will soon discontinue the practice (Genoa Weekly Courier, April 22, 1881).

1881:...an uprising was narrowly averted when friendly tribesmen from the nearby Washoe encampment were forbidden to spear and net trout in the streams (Scott 1957:156).

1883: August 23. 1883 - Territorial Enterprise (Virginia City)-GATHERING PINE NUTS – The harvest moon now shines for the pine nut harvest of the aborigines. In this region the pine nut orchards of the red men are no more. They have fallen before the ax of the white man. Before the discovery of silver, there were in this vicinity, thousands of acres of bearing trees, yielding yearly hundreds of bushels of nuts. At Como, also, was a famous orchard, an orchard that old Captain Truckee, whose bones now lie buried there, vainly strove to save. Now the Paiutes

must go far away into the eastern part of the State to find bearing trees. Just now many of the tribe are out at Cowitch Mountain and other places in that direction gathering the nuts. It is now their only harvest. Formerly they had a harvest of bunch grass, reaping it, tying it up in sheaves and threshing it, just as our ancestors reaped and threshed wheat in ancient times. But the cattle of the white man now reap the bunch grass on a thousand hills, and reap it very close to the ground. This information also mislabeled Washo

1885: January 23. 1885- Genoa Weekly Courier-We see Indians and even white men come into town every day with strings of large fine trout caught in the Carson River...

1887: Allotment lands were introduced on February 8, 1887 by the Dawes Act

1889: May 27, 1889, California Governor pardoned four Washoe and two Diggers for digging up a Washoe friend from a Colfax California cemetery and spent thirty days in jail before being pardoned under ignorance of the law. (Most likely for a proper burial)

1890: December 17, 1890 the Stewart Indian School opened in the south end of Carson City. Named after Nevada's first Senator William Stewart. Washo children were forced to live at the school which was under the authority of the War Department.



Handcuffs used on children deported to Stewart Indian School

In 1887, the Nevada State Legislature established an Indian School Commission to develop a school for Native Americans in Ormsby (now Carson) County. The School was named after Senator William M. Stewart who promoted the concept in the U.S. Congress. In 1889, a large Colonial Revival dormitory and school building were erected and the School was officially opened on December 17, 1890. Stewart Indian School thus became "the only education facility in the United States created for non-citizens of the Federal Government by use of the State funds. Furthermore,. Stewart became the only Federal Indian School to be created by an act of a State Legislature." (1982 Stewart Campus NRHP Nomination Package)

1891: Dick Bender, Washoe Johnny-Peace Maker, Captain Jim, chief met with Jim Torison a Lawyer of Carson City to help develop a petition to the US President. Dick Bender was selected as the interpreter

1891: The Placerville Democrat says; "The wanton destruction of fish in this county, tributary to Lake Tahoe, by Indians who roam from their reservation [sic] in Nevada, is exciting complaint among the residents of Lake Valley and will likely, ere long, require the attention of the District Attorney. This being the spawning season of the lake trout, immense numbers make their way for that purpose to the headwaters of the streams that flow into the lake. While swarming there the Indians dam the streams below them and then begin the work of destruction by means of baskets and spears. A special statute now in force makes it a misdemeanor to catch or kill any fish in the waters of Lake Bigler, or in any stream leading into or from the lake, by any other means other than that of a hook and line. It is not known that any person outside of the Indian tribes have violated the provisions of the statute applying in these particular waters, [!] and in all likelihood a punishment inflicted upon one bad Indian will make good ones of the rest." (Ibid. p.2)

1891: About 150 Washoe Indians [were] assembled near Bijou a short time ago and were addressed by Captain Jim, the highest authority of the tribe. The meeting was the outgrowth of the conviction of an Indian for spearing a fish... He stated that they were the only tribe left without a reservation and that the old Indians who were unable to work for a living thought it pretty hard to be prohibited from spearing fish to live on... The speaker held that the Government should provide a reservation for the Washoes... (Genoa Weekly Courier, July 3, 1891:6).

1892: Congressman Bartine of Nevada, US Senator Stewart of Nevada, Jim Torison lawyer of Carson City, Judge Mack of Virginia City, Captain Jim Chief of Washoe Indians in Nevada in 1891, Captain Joe, Washoe Johnny Peace Maker, Pete Duncan, Si-sa Minkey and Dick Bender interpreter developed the petition for the Washoe Indian Allotments

1892: The same delegation along with Si-sa Minkey and Pete Duncan had a meeting and raised \$180.00 for two men to go to Washington DC

1892: Captain Jim and Dick Bender went to Washington DC and supposedly met with President Harrison and stayed there for thirteen days and heard a Bill was passed entitling the Washoe to allotments in the Pine Nut Range, Nevada. But after twenty-four years wait, no allotments were given (*questionable*)

1892: The same delegation met again to discuss timber, pine nut lands

1892: The Washoe were told they could be relocated to the Humboldt Valley Nevada for a reservation but the Washoe rejected that idea

1893: George Possuk built roundhouse (loshma-angal) at Woodfords, sometimes 160 Washo and 40 whites would be in there. Possible locations at county yard or electrical station.

1893: The Washoe Pine Nut Allotments in Nevada totaling 64,000 acres and Sacramento Allotments in California totaling 2,600 acres was established and completed in 1910. Any water source within the Pine Nut Allotments was set aside as State Selection for the purposes of non-Indian uses. Wrongfully designated as Public Domain.

1894: The Commission will maintain an efficient patrol of the streams and promptly arrest any Indian detected in violation of the law... The warning to the Indians is published in the Carson Appeal, and that paper says: "Anything the aborigines see in the Appeal is regarded as 'good medicine'" (Genoa Weekly Courier, October 26).

1899: Carson Indian Agency presented deeds to 528 Washo for 62,713 acres of allotments

1901: Captain Pete asked for 200 acres in Carson Valley, but no action taken

1910: Early 1900's Indian Ben James opened his pack trips to Desolation Valley, Lake Tahoe. Chief George also began running mule pack trains for hunting parties

1912: Nevada Governor and Lt. Governor petition congressional delegate for legislation to secure lands for Washoe

1913: Captain Pete and Captain Pete Mayo made another petition asking for better lands for homestead and water

1913: Washoe receive payment for leasing allotment lands

1914: Captain Pete, Captain Pete Mayo and Sara Mayo took a special gift basket to President Woodrow Wilson with a petition and grievances for the protection of Washoe territory, received a thank you but received no action for better conditions from the president.

1914: The Washo pledged their allegiance to the American flag on April 25, 1914 in a ceremony in Gardnerville, Nevada

1914-1918: Washo were forced to join the military or be considered as Pro-German. Many Washo joined the US Military but many Washo did not join on grounds they were not considered American citizens but expected to fight for a country that despised them

1916: Colonel L.A. Dorrington Special Indian Agent took a trip to examine the Washoe Indian Allotments

1916: Washoe caught many horses in the Pine Nut Hills

1916: In May an Indian appropriations bill authorizes the purchase of lands explicitly for Washoe Indians and other landless Indians of Nevada now Reno Sparks Indian Colony, ICC Docket 288 states, 61. The first purchase of lands explicitly for Washoe Indians was authorized by the Act of May 18, 1916, 39 Stat. 123,143. \$10,000 was authorized for the purpose. In February, the secretary of the interior supports land acquisition for homeless Nevada Indians "as an experiment," recommending an appropriation of \$15,000 (Rusco 1989).

In March, Senator Pittman's request for funds to pay O'Sullivan back rent for land occupied by Non-reservation Indians in the vicinity of Sparks, Nevada, since 1905 is refused. The secretary of the interior and another senator identify these Indians as Washoe "camping on the old camp grounds that their ancestors camped on hundreds of years ago, and the town has come in there, and they do not desert their camp ground any further than they have to" (Senator Harry Lane quoted in Rusco 1989:17). (But see the entries for 1870s and 1905; "at least some of the Indians living on O'Sullivan's were Washoes" [Rusco 1989:17]).

In May, an Indian appropriations bill authorizes the purchase of lands explicitly for Washoe Indians (U.S. ICC 1979: Docket 288:118) and for nonreservation Nevada Indians (Dressler 1974; Rusco 1987, 1989).

At this time, Indians are living in the Reno area. "A lot of them" are Washoe people living on ranches out in Truckee Meadows, in Idlewild Park, and beyond East Fourth Street, below the brewery, by the river. There are also camps at Manogue School by Vaughn Mill, but Indians are forced out when this property is sold. They move to the Sparks camp, where "Indians that came from Wadsworth" have settled. Senator Pittman asks for an appropriation to lease land at Sparks (see entry for 1915); "there was no place where they could go so the government leased this land . . . up until the time when Reno-Sparks Indian Colony was bought for them" (Dewey Sampson quoted in ITCN 1974a:25).

Lorenzo D. Creel returns to Nevada as a special supervisor for the Indian Service and special disbursing agent for Nevada Indians (Rusco 1989).

Fred Crosby, a commercial fisherman operating at Sutcliffe (see entry for 1912), and reports an Indian with a Pyramid Lake cutthroat trout weighing 62 pounds, the largest reported in the Truckee River system. (The largest recorded catch, at 41.5 pounds, will be made by a Paiute, Johnny Skimmerhorn, in 1925) (NDWR 1997).

1917: ICC docket-288, defendant also purchased in June, 1917, 20 acres, and January, 1927, 8.38 acres for \$10,160. This was known as the Reno-Sparks Colony. Defendant claims as an offset \$5,080, representing half of the total sum expended, claiming that the colony was established on the basis that half of it was to be used for the Washoes.

1917: April 5, 1917 Douglas County Nevada passed an ordinance that ordered all Indians out of Gardnerville and Minden by 6:30 PM every day or go to jail for ten days or pay a fine of \$25.00 or both. (Repealed 1974) As a reminder a siren goes off every day at 6:00PM

1917: World War I - When the U.S. entered the war, about 17,000 Indians served in the armed forces. Some Indians, however, specifically resisted the draft because they were not citizens and could not vote or because they felt it would be an infringement of their tribal sovereignty. In 1919, Indian veterans of the war were granted citizenship.

1917: Ben James rode a wagon to the various ranches in Carson Valley to ask for a place the Washoe can call their own and they all refused accept William Dressler who donated 40 acres of land what became known as Dresslerville. Federal Agent Lorenzo Creek later paid William Dressler 10 gold dollar pieces for the land. At first all the Washoe criticized Ben for the land but then they all moved in and eventually kicked Ben James out of Dresslerville. As told by Margie George, granddaughter of Ben James). Ben James is one of a few Washoe people that contributed to the tribe. He served as an interpreter, he had a business in Lake Tahoe

1917: 156 acres of Carson Colony was established, 40 acres of Dresslerville Colony established, 20 acres of Reno Sparks Colony established through an act of congress

1917-1920: Many Washoe in Long Valley California sell their allotments, sometimes unwittingly

1918: Douglas County Nevada issued work permits that demanded all Washo men work in the hay fields or face prosecution

1918: Native American Church - This Indian church was organized in Oklahoma to combine an ancient Indian practice - the use of peyote - with Christian beliefs of morality and self-respect. The Church prohibits alcohol, requires monogamy and family responsibility, and promotes hard work. By 1923, 14 states had outlawed the use of peyote and in 1940, the Navajo tribal council banned it from the reservation. In 1944, the Native American Church of the United States was incorporated. Today, the Church continues to play an important role in the lives of many Indian people

1922: The superintendent of the Reno Agency attempts to eliminate many traditional practices including Girls Dance, Hand games and traditional doctoring

1924: Indian Citizenship Act - This Congressional Act extended citizenship and voting rights to all American Indians. Some Indians, however, did not want to become U.S. citizens, preferring to maintain only their tribal membership.

1929: The Dresslerville Public School was built in Dresslerville

1930: August 1, 1930 -Gardnerville Record-Courier-TWO INDIANS JAILED - Acting on a tip Sheriff Park went to Horseshoe Bend last Sunday...Two Indians, Robert and Mervin Wyatt...thirteen whitefish and seven trout...pleaded guilty...\$50 each and in lieu of the cash the Indians are now serving time in the county jail at Minden.

1930's: A school house at Woodfords California was dedicated for Washo children. It was segregated due to Trachoma an infectious eye disease

1931: First tunnel was blasted through de-ek wadapush and the second tunnel was in 1957

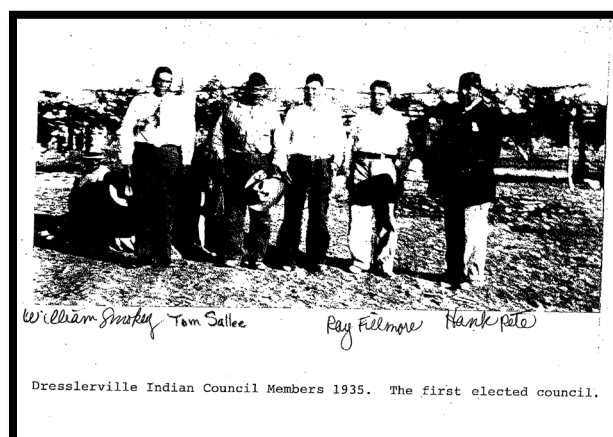
1932: Peyotism was introduced to Washo by a Ute shaman Lone Bear
Ben Lancaster, (Grayhorse) a Washo brought Peyote to Washoe, by the Comanche style

1934: The Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 was enacted

1935: One thousand Washoe and Paiute Indians hired as extras for the filming of Rose Marie starring Jeanette McDonald and Nelson Eddy, along with 125 "Hollywood Indians." They were quartered at Camp Richardson and food was managed by "Pop" Bechdolt of Tahoe Inn--stewed hogs "from head to tail" and watermelon. Everything was cooked in washtubs that were used for laundry during the day. Beds were of straw (Stollery 1969:90-94).

1935: The Washoe of Alpine County California, under the Sacramento Jurisdiction was transferred over to the Carson jurisdiction of Indian Affairs on January 1, 1935

1935: First Tribal Council, Photo L-R: William Smokey, Tom Sallee (VC), Roma James (ST), Ray Fillmore (C), Hank Pete



1936: January 24, 1936, the Constitution and By-laws of the Washoe Tribe was approved by the Department of Interior, Indian Affairs

1936: The Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California is organized under a constitution and by-laws approved on January 24, 1936

1937: February 27, 1937 the Washo was given a Corporate Charter and designated a Federally Recognized Tribe status

1938: The tribe acquired 795 acres of ranchland in Carson Valley, the Heidtman Purchase

1939: March 14, 1939 the Washoe's are proclaimed to be a reservation (dville)

1939: The Washoe Ranch (Dresslerville ranch) was acquired totaling 95 acres

1940: Electric power line was extended to Dresslerville

1940: Ben Lancaster (Greyhorse) began holding Peyote meetings at his roundhouse in Coleville, California. The meetings were attended by Washo. Later called the Peyote Way and it is now called the Native American Church (NAC). NAC had to use terms like "church" and other terms and names to be recognized and accepted by the federal government.

1945: Lake Tahoe became the official name of the lake named after the Washoe name Da.Ow.

1947: Christmas Eve Fire at Dresslerville, 14 Washo people died in fire at Gambling House. Other casualties were taken to Gardnerville for treatment. Some were taken to Reno and were turned away because they were Indian and were taken to Schurz Indian Hospital over a hundred miles away.

1951: August 10, 1951, Washo filed petition with the Indian Claims Commission (ICC) known as Docket-288. October 31, 1969 almost twenty years later, the Washo was awarded their claim against the United States for the illegal taking of Washoe lands. The settlement was drastically reduced from the original amount to \$5,053,350 (\$5,523,536) with 70% per capita, 20% Investment, 10% properties investment. The Indian Claims Commission recognized and in their own words stated the Washoe Tribe has Aboriginal Title to those lands in the claims case.

Tribal informants for the ICC case: Richard Barrington (Sierra Valley, CA), Frank Morgan (Chicago Park, CA), Roy James (Woodfords), Hank Pete (Welmelti), Ray Cornbread (Woodfords), Bertha & Mike Holbrook, Poker Charley, Will James, George Snooks, Roma James, Clara Frank

1951: Chief Hank Pete...now sixty-nine years of age...says his one desire is to have a small piece of land at Lake Tahoe... It is today that Indians have no right to make campfire around the Lake. Can't even look for herbs for medicine. Can't go for wild berries. Property owners do not permit... Some place for a Washoe campground could be found, where Washoe's could come at least during the summer months (Lake Tahoe Journal, May 11, 1951:1).

1953: Public Law 280 - This Congressional law transferred jurisdiction over most tribal lands to state governments in California, Oregon, Nebraska, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Alaska was

added in 1958. Additionally, it provided that any other state could assume such jurisdiction by passing a law or amending the state's constitution.

1956: Washoe Reclamation Project, creating two reservoirs at Stampede and Watasheamu for downstream users on the Truckee River

1959: Douglas County fire engine responded to house fire in Dresslerville. Howard Mack set his house on fire following tradition of burning dwelling after death in family

1960: Charter for Native American Religion through Sacramento, California

1965-1973 Vietnam War: At least 43,000 American Indians fought in the Vietnam War

1965: A chimpanzee named Washoe was the first non-human to learn to communicate using American Sign Language, she was originally captured for the United States Space Program

1967: Carson Colony Council was approved in an election held on May 27, 1967 in which 41 of 55 eligible voters of Carson Colony voted 30 for and 11 against. Approved by the Washoe Tribal Council by Resolution 68-W-1, adopted June 16, 1967 becoming a Washoe community.

1969: Dresslerville Colony Council adopted by eligible voters of the Dresslerville Community in an election on October 21, 1969. Approved by the Washoe Tribal Council by resolution no. 70-W-7 adopted November 14, 1969

1969: A study of attitudes towards Washoe placed them above Blacks, the same as Chinese and below Mexicans, Basques and Jews

1970: The Woodfords Colony in Alpine County, California, was created by an Act of Congress from BLM lands totaling 80 acres and housing development started in 1978

1973: First annual tribal picnic started. The purpose of the first Washoe picnic was meant as a tribal meeting to discuss how the money from the Indian Claims Commission settlement was going to be used. It is now an annual picnic.

1975: Per capita payments from the ICC case began distribution. 70% of the award went to Per Capita, 20% went to Investment and 10% went to properties investment.

1978: The Washoe Hunting and Fishing Commission was established

1980: Richard Barrington establishes the Richard and Jessie Barrington Education Grant for Washoe people

1980: Washoe Tribe won the court case to regulate their own hunting and fishing. The court ruled Nevada does not have the authority over Indian lands

1982: Site of Washo Cultural Center at Taylor Creek, Lake Tahoe California designated by the US Forest Service

1982: Lands acquired from the Stewart Indian School include, Stewart Ranch, Upper/Lower Clear Creek, Silverado and Stewart Colony

1989: Stewart colony was established with housing development

1990: Stewart Colony Council approved in an election held on September 1, 1990, in which 19 of the 34 eligible voters of Stewart Community voted 19 for. Approved by the Washoe Tribal Council a special meeting held September 5, 1990, by Resolution #90-W-34.

1990: Woodfords Colony Council was voted on by the eligible voters of the Woodfords Indian Community with Amendments on October 20, 1990. Accepted by the Washoe Tribal Council October 21, 1990

1998: The Washoe Tribe was awarded a 20 year special use permit by the U.S. Forest Service to operate Meeks Bay Resort on the west shore of Lake Tahoe California. The goal of Tribal Chairman A. Brian Wallace was to have access to Lake Tahoe for the Washoe people and to be a visible part of Tahoe. Meeks Bay is located on an ancient Washoe village site call Mayala Watah.

2002: November 2002, Rock climbing was banned at Cave Rock by the US Forest Service and permanently banned in 2004.

2003: Tribal Chairman A. Brian Wallace secured the Native TANF (Tribal Assistance for Needy Families) program for the Washoe Tribe. The federally funded program has helped not just Washoe families but any native family within the service area.

2006: Tribal Chairman A. Brian Wallace established secured the Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) for the Washoe tribe.

2007: August 27, 2007, the United States, 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the U.S. Forest Service-imposed ban on climbing Lake Tahoe's Cave Rock.

2008: The Washoe Tribal Historic Preservation Office through tribal resolution 2008-WTC-209 created a tribal hunting law and order code (28-30-50) that allows special privilege to any Washoe that make traditional bows and arrows to promote preservation of traditional cultural hunting. *Despite the Washoe Hunting and Fishing Commission (HFC) opposition to the traditional cultural hunting the new ordinance passed. The HFC if successful would have demoralized and threaten the eradication of Washoe culture.*

2009: Cave Rock rehabilitation completed; repair and restore the rock. Climbing gear driven into the rock face was removed and the holes were plugged to reduce effects of freeze thaw

erosion and hide the holes in the rock. The illegal development of a concrete floor in the cave by rock climbers was removed along with their graffiti that was scribbled on the rock.

2009: Skunk Harbor Lake Tahoe was conveyed to the tribe totaling 23 acres with lake access. In 2010 the tribe renamed the parcel “Dehiw-dee-ish-to-gahmmum” (trees looking in the water) and “ootzalli-wata” (chipmunk stream) for the no-named stream.

2011: The Tribal Historic Preservation Office in coordination with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife established a traditional fishing day using traditional fishing practices allowing for the use of harpoons, spears, nets and traps made the traditional cultural way.

2011: The Tribal Historic Preservation Office working with the Washoe Zulsish Goomtahnu and Washoe Cultural Resources Advisory Council brought the Tagum Goomsabyi (Pine Nut Ceremony) back from extinction and it is now an annual ceremony as it should be. The Hungalelti is the only tribal community still practicing the traditional cultural ceremony.

2014: A proposal to name a cove on the east shore of Lake Tahoe called Samuel Clemens Cove (Mark Twain) was met with opposition from the Washoe THPO/Cultural Resources Office. Mark Twain despised the name Lake Tahoe because its Washoe name origin. The Board on Geographic Names did not pass the name Samuel Clemens Cove based on the testimony from the Washoe Tribe. The Washoe THPO/CRO stated how we can honor a person with a place name that has such vile and derogatory words for the native people of Lake Tahoe.

2016: The Tribal Historic Preservation Office listed Dance Hill (It-goom-mum teh-weh-weh ush-shah-ish) to the National Register of Historic Places as a Traditional Cultural Property, Carson Valley, Nevada.

2017: The Tribal Historic Preservation Office listed Cave Rock (De-ek Wadapush) to the National Register of Historic Places as a Traditional Cultural Property, Lake Tahoe, Nevada.

2018: The Tribal Historic Preservation Office and Washoe Cultural Resources Advisory Council working with federal, state and local agencies installed a Historic Marker placed at the Cave Rock State Park commemorating de-ek wadapush (Cave Rock) as a Traditional Cultural Property and memorializing the sacredness of Cave Rock to the Washoe in perpetuity.

Frank Parcel, Lady’s Canyon, Babbit Peak, Uhalde Parcel, Wade Parcels, Olympic Valley, Incline Parcel, Upper and Lower Clear Creek Parcels. Some of the lands

<u>Parcel</u>	<u>Date Acquired</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Method</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Total Acres</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Pre-1990						
Dresslerville Indian Colony	1917 [40] 1936-1940 [755]	William Dressler Washoe Ranch	Deed PL73-383	Trust	793.32	Article 1.1.(a)*
Carson Indian Colony	1917 [156.15] 1968 [3.85]	Blackie and Little Ranches John Rupert	Purchase Purchase	Trust	160	Article 1.1.(b)*
Washoe Ranches	1960 [80] TBD TBD	Heidtman (in Pinenut Mountains) Faletti Judd	Purchase Purchase Purchase	Trust	TBD	Article 1.1.(c)*
Woodfords Indian Community	1970	DOI – BLM or USDA – USFS	PL91-362	Trust	80	Article 1.1.(d)*

Stewart Indian Community	1982	DOI/BIA Stewart Indian School	PL97-288	Trust	242	Article I.1.(e)*
Lower Clear Creek	1982	DOI/BIA Stewart Indian School	PL97-288	Trust	229.03	Article I.1.(e)*
Upper Clear Creek	1982	DOI/BIA Stewart Indian School	PL97-288	Trust	157.14	Article I.1.(e)*
Stewart Ranch	1982	DOI/BIA Stewart Indian School	PL97-288	Trust	2,098	Article I.1.(e)*
Silverado	1982	DOI/BIA Stewart Indian School	PL97-288	Trust	160	Article I.1.(e)*
Wade Parcels [Upper/Lower]	1976	Donald Wade	Transfer	Trust	320 [160 each]	
Pine Nut Allotments				Trust	~ 65,000	
Sacramento Allotments				Trust	8,433→400	
Other						

Post-1990

Frank Parcel	1994	Garfield Frank	Purchase	Trust	11-12.23	
Ladies Canyon	1996	Nevada Marts, NLP	Donation	Fee	145.45	
Uhalde	1997	Luetta Bergiven (Dressler)	Purchase	Fee	38,948	
Mica	2001	Indian Hills Station LTD Pship	Purchase	Trust	0.91	
Babbitt Peak	2001	The Nature Conservancy	Transfer (Purchase?)	Fee	480	
Incline Village	2006	Multiple landowners	Tax donation	Fee	2,445	
Allotment #231	2006	L. Mark Kizer	Purchase	Fee	160	
Olympic Valley	TBD (post-1995)	Placer County	Transfer from County	Fee	2.79	
Skunk Harbor	2009	USDA – USFS	PL111-11	Trust	23+	
Carson Indian Colony	2009	USDA – USFS	PL111-11	Trust	292	
Stewart Indian Community	2009	USDA – USFS	PL111-11	Trust	5	
Hung A Le Ti Cemetery	2014+	Alpine County	Transfer	Fee	~ 5	
Parcels in Washoe County	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	
Washoe Allotments	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	
Other						

*Article I Section 1 of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, 1990.
updated December 6, 2016

Rob – Working Draft 1.4 –