Tejon Reservation: Chronology

John M. Anderson Research File

2000

1851 Tejon treaty signed, guaranteeing federal protection to a large homeland for the Mountain Chumash and their numerous allies.

1864 Beale bought Fort Tejon in a sweetheart deal in which the army abandoned the facility and allowing a very low bid by Beale.

1865 *Kastac* (Castac) lake massacre by Bishop, voiding the *Kastac* lands of native residents, aiding Beale's Spanish landgrant claim to the *Kastacs*' land. This year American census data showed 489 residents remaining on the reservation. The population of *Tinlew* was 231 [mostly Yokuts], Chumash population was 162, and the Kitanemuk population was 96.

1875 The Tejon ranch razed *Tinlew*, forcing the Yokuts into exile to the Tule River reservation. No compensation to the Yokuts for their homesteads or land.

1878 Fremont left California, bankrupt from his failed land speculations. He got an appointment as governor of the Arizona territory. *Tashlipun* landtitle was not returned to the Chumash but remained in the hands of a settler.

1898 The last Kitanemuk residents of *Munumpe* were forcibly relocated.

1905 The Kelsey census reported a Tejon native population of 56. Fifty-one full-bloods were in the *Kutsi* community, plus the Wahkats family of five (half-bloods) at the Kootsetahovie sink.

1912 Truxtun Beale sold the Tejon ranch to a syndicate of investors headed by Harry Chandler and land developer Moses Sherman.

1916 Tejon native residents down to 50.

1921 Water crisis at Tejon, Clotts report confirmed that the Tejon ranch was poisoning and diverting water from the native homesteads in *Kutsi*.

1922 Harrington census of 79 Tejon natives, living in seventeen homesteads.

1923 Teapot Dome Scandal implicates the federal administration in theft of oil from the Elk Hills naval oil reserve (located within the 1851 treaty lands claimed by the Tejon. Beale's grandson (Ned McLean) was dragged into the federal courts, charges of corruption involving the naval reserve oil.

1934 Tejon became a registered state landmark, citing the Sebastian reservation and the Tejon ranch. Harry Chandler discouraged publicity (not wanting the true story of reservation theft told). No mention was made of the remaining native homesteads with a population of 38 (22 males and 16 females).

Tejon Ranch company became a public company, with controlling interest kept in the hands of the Chandler/Sherman investors.

First Tejon Ranch oil well hits oil, after a long era of failure.

Ned Mclean died in an insane asylum, age only 55.

The native governor, of the surviving Tejon homesteaders Juan Lozada, died. He left behind only nine family homestead [all in the *Kootsetahovie* drainage].

The mass exodus from Tejon by the last of the native homesteaders. They left their *Kutsi* homes, scattering to Bakersfield and beyond.

The Times Mirror company sold its stake in the Tejon ranch.

The Times Mirror company was acquired by the Tribune company, headquartered in Chicago. This media corporation owned Tribune Broadcasting, so that the acquisition of Times Mirror made it one of the largest American media companies with TV stations all across the United States.