

The Hohokam thrive in the Tempe area, building large settlements with platform mounds and miles of irrigation canals.

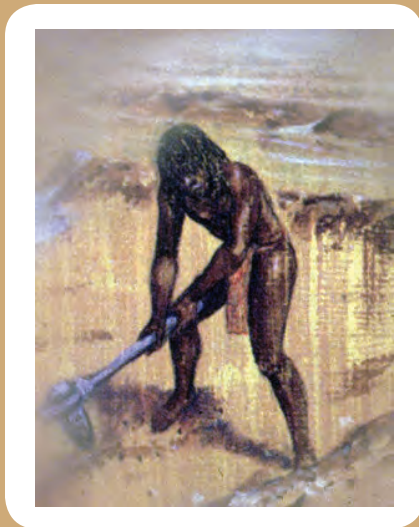
# HOHOKAM

1

Arizona

1450

Arizona



## HOHOKAM

Pull here ↓ Discover more



Spanish missionary Eusebio Francisco Kino names and maps the Rio de Salado (Salt River).

The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ends the Mexican-American War and gives all of present-day Arizona, north of the Gila River, to the United States.



# AGE OF

1700

Arizona

1821

Arizona

1846

U.S.A.

1848

U.S.A.

# EXPLORATION

Mexico controls the Arizona region after Mexico's War of Independence with Spain.



Lieutenant W. H. Emory maps the route from Fort Leavenworth to California, passing through Arizona along the Gila River. He creates the first accurate map of the Southwest.

## AGE OF EXPLORATION

Pull here



Discover more



The Compromise Act establishes the Territory of New Mexico, which includes Arizona north of the Gila River.



American residents of Arizona petition Congress for separation from the New Mexico Territory.

1850

U.S.A.

1854

U.S.A.

1856

Arizona



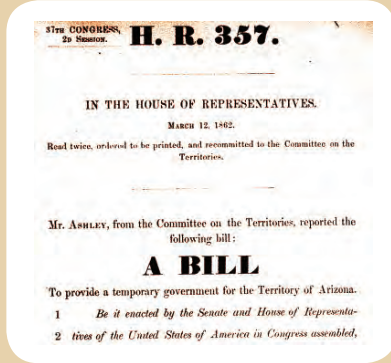
With ratification of the Gadsden Purchase, land south of the Gila River becomes part of the United States.

# 1850s

Pull here

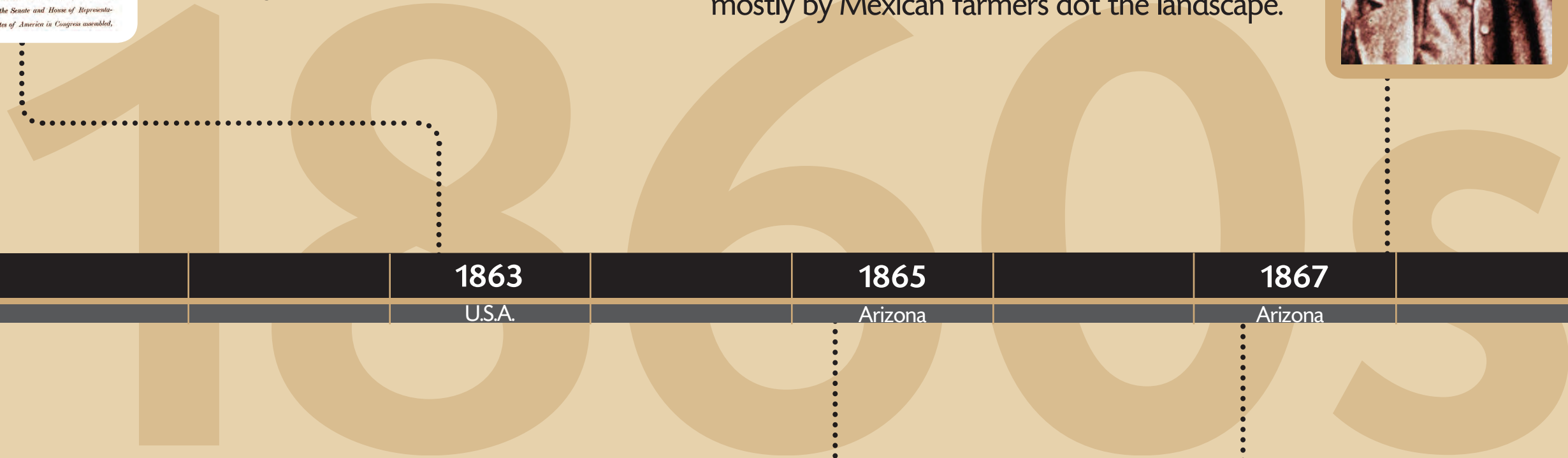
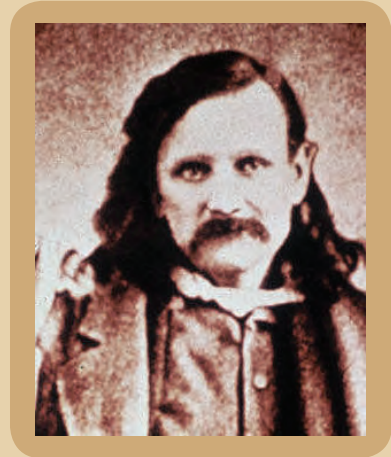


Discover more



President Lincoln signs the Arizona Organic Act, creating Arizona as a separate territory.

The Swilling Irrigation and Canal Company excavates the first canal connecting to the Salt River. Within a year, small farms operated mostly by Mexican farmers dot the landscape.



Fort McDowell is established on the lower Verde River. It provides settlers in the Salt River Valley protection from raiding Apaches and Yavapai.

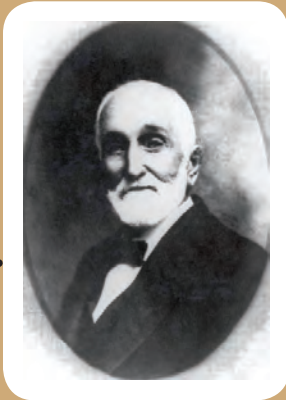


John Y. T. Smith, under Army contract to supply feed for soldiers' horses and mules, establishes a hay camp on the Salt River. It is the first settlement in the Salt River Valley.

# 1860s

Pull here ↓ Discover more





Charles Trumbull Hayden files a homestead claim on the land that will later become Tempe.



Charles Trumbull Hayden establishes businesses on the south side of the Salt River and opens his flour mill using water from the Tempe Irrigating Canal. The settlement is known as Hayden's Ferry.

1870

1872

1873

1879

Tempe

Tempe

Tempe

Tempe



Mexican settlers build the village called San Pablo, southeast of Hayden Butte.

Hayden's Ferry, also known as Butte City, is renamed Tempe. Darrell Duppa thought of the name after comparing the area with the Vale of Tempe in Greece.



# 1870s

Pull here



Discover more



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church is dedicated.

The new Phoenix and Maricopa Railroad links Tempe with Phoenix and the mainline at Maricopa, providing access to goods and markets for agricultural products.



1881

Tempe

1886

Tempe

1887

Arizona

The Territorial Normal School (now known as Arizona State University) opens in Tempe.



The *Tempe News* becomes the town's official newspaper.

# 1880s

Pull here ↓ Discover more



The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors incorporates the town of Tempe. Dr. Fenn J. Hart is named the first mayor.

The Territorial Normal School's football team defeats the University of Arizona for the first time.



University Archives Photographs  
Arizona State University Libraries

1894

Tempe

1896

Tempe

1898

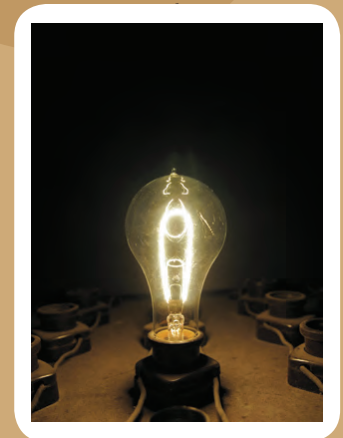
Tempe

1899

Arizona

Tempe holds its first municipal election.

Electric lights are installed in downtown Tempe.



# 1890s

Pull here



Discover more



The Sunset Telephone Company brings the first phone service to Tempe.

Volunteers organize the first fire department in Tempe.

The Tempe Union High School District is formed and constructs Tempe's first high school.



1900

Tempe

1902

Arizona

1909

Tempe



Flooding causes the Maricopa, Phoenix and Salt River Railroad bridge to collapse.

# 1900s

Pull here



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Former President Theodore Roosevelt speaks on the steps of Old Main at the Tempe Normal School. He is visiting Arizona to dedicate the Roosevelt Dam.



Construction on the Ash Avenue Bridge, which began in 1911, is completed.



Mill Avenue becomes the first paved street in Tempe.

1911

Arizona

1912

U.S.A.

1913

Tempe

1915

Tempe

1919

Tempe

Arizona becomes the 48th state. Tempean Carl Hayden is elected Arizona's first representative to the United States Congress.



Tempe schools segregate Mexican-American children in the first three grades.

# 1910s

Pull here



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The price of cotton plummets, leading to financial disaster for cotton farmers. Tempe, home of the local cotton growers association, is hit particularly hard.



The Olympic-sized swimming pool at Tempe Beach Park opens. It is one of the largest pools in the Southwest.

A resolution is passed changing Tempe from a town to a city.

1920

U.S.A.

1923

Tempe

1925

Tempe

1929

Tempe



The Tempe Irrigating Canal Company becomes part of the Salt River Project.



Adolpho Romo brings a suit against the Trustees of the Tempe Elementary School District in Maricopa County Superior Court, challenging the district's segregation of Mexican-American children.

# 1920s

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The Mill Avenue Bridge is completed. It replaces the Ash Avenue Bridge as the auto crossing.

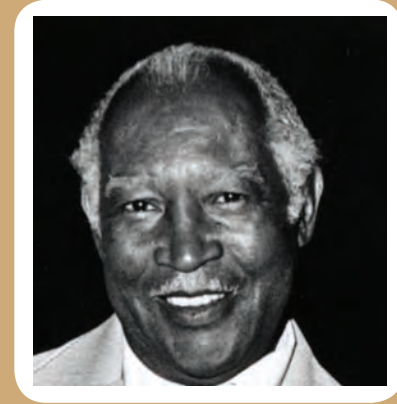
1931

Tempe

1932

Arizona

Tempe Beach hosts the Women's National Swimming and Diving Championships a month after the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics.

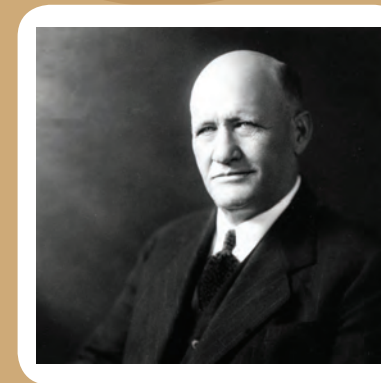


Emerson Harvey becomes the first African American football player at Arizona State Teachers College.

1937

Tempe

Tempe physician Benjamin Baker Moeur is elected Governor of Arizona. He remains in office until 1937.



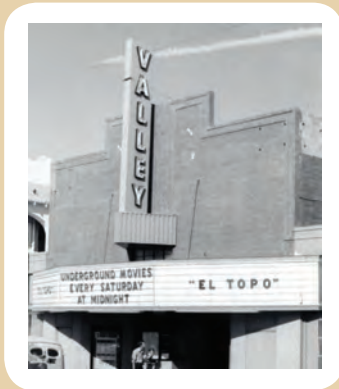
# 1930s

Pull here



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Dwight "Red" Harkins opens the College (Valley Art) Theater on Mill Avenue.

The Tempe Beach Pool segregation policy is ended, due in large part to the efforts of Hispanic veterans from Tempe.



1940

Tempe

1944

U.S.A.

1946

Tempe

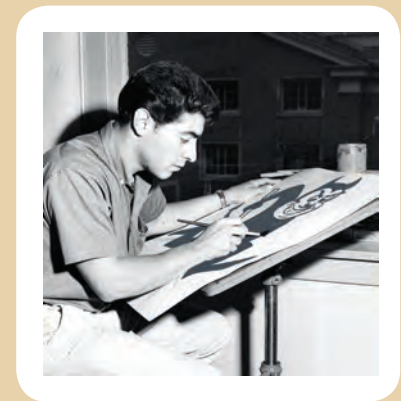
1947

Arizona



As a result of the G.I. Bill, World War II veterans arrive in Tempe to attend Arizona State College. Tempe's population grows as a result.

The Arizona State College mascot is changed from the Bulldogs to the Sun Devils. Sparky becomes the signature logo.



# 1940s

Pull here



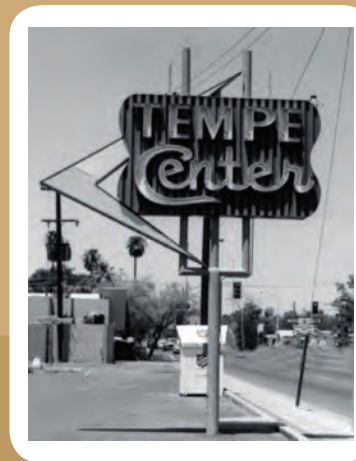
Discover more





Tempean Howard Pyle is elected Governor of Arizona.

Tempe Center, the city's first strip mall, opens at the southeast corner of Mill and University.



Sun Devil Stadium is built. Frank Kush becomes Arizona State University's head football coach.

1950

Arizona

1955

Tempe

1956

Tempe

1958

Arizona



Tempe Union High School burns to the ground.



Arizona voters change the name of Arizona State College at Tempe to Arizona State University.

# 1950s

Pull here



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Martin Luther King, Jr. speaks at Arizona State University.



University Archives Photographs  
Arizona State University Libraries



Carl Hayden retires from the United States Senate after a record-setting 56 years in Congress.

The first Mill Avenue arts and crafts fair is held.

1964

Arizona

1968

U.S.A.

1969

Tempe

Rudy Campbell becomes the first directly-elected mayor of Tempe. Previous mayors were appointed from the ranks of the City Council.

Tempe Diablo Stadium is built and becomes the spring training home of the Seattle Mariners.



# 1960s

Pull here ↓ Discover more



A new City Hall complex is completed, including the iconic upside down pyramid.



The first Tempe Public Library building is completed at Southern Avenue and Rural Road. Today this building houses the Tempe History Museum.

The City of Chandler annexes land along Ray Road, south of Tempe. Tempe becomes landlocked.

1970

Tempe

1971

Arizona

1974

Tempe

Arizona State University defeats Florida State University in the first Fiesta Bowl at Sun Devil Stadium.



# 1970s

Pull here ↓ Discover more



Arizona State University Law School graduate Cecil Patterson becomes the first African American judge in the Arizona Superior Court, later serving on the Appellate Court.



Pope John Paul II holds mass at Sun Devil Stadium.

The Tempe City Council approves the Rio Salado Project, making Tempe Town Lake possible.

1980

Arizona

1984

Tempe

1987

U.S.A.

1988

U.S.A.

1989

Tempe



The Islamic Community Center opens in Tempe.



The St. Louis Cardinals become the Phoenix Cardinals and begin playing at Sun Devil Stadium.

# 1980s

Pull here



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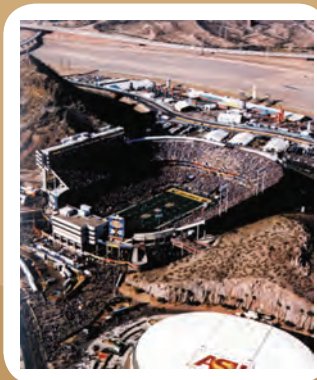




The Tempe Historical Museum reopens in the former Tempe Public Library.

1991

Tempe



Super Bowl XXX is played in Sun Devil Stadium.

1992

U.S.A.

Tempe Town Lake is completed and Tempe Beach Park is renovated.



1996

U.S.A.

1999

Tempe



Tempe band, The Gin Blossoms, release their album *New Miserable Experience*, which goes multi-platinum.



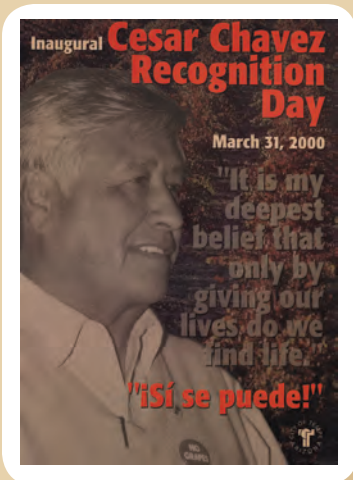
Tempe's Human Relations Commission establishes the Diversity Award to recognize Tempeans who have supported diversity.

# 1990s

Pull here



Discover more



The first Cesar Chavez Recognition Day is celebrated in Tempe.



The Tempe Center for the Arts opens by Town Lake.



ASU Photos

President Barack Obama speaks at Arizona State University's commencement.

2000

Tempe

2004

U.S.A.

2007

Tempe

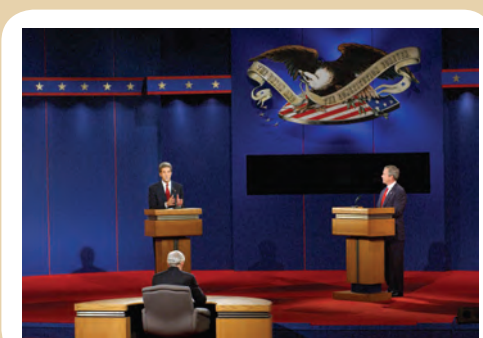
2008

Arizona

2009

U.S.A.

Corey Woods is the first African American to be elected to the Tempe City Council.



ASU Photos

The final Presidential Debate between Senator John Kerry and President George W. Bush is held at Gammage Auditorium.



ASU Photos

The light rail transit system begins operation in Phoenix, Tempe and Mesa.

# 2000s

Pull here



Discover more

The Tempe History Museum  
reopens after renovation.



2010s

2010

Tempe

2010s

Pull here ↓ Discover more

Will ASU still be the  
*New American University*?



Which areas of Tempe  
will continue to grow?



2023  
Tempe

2024  
Tempe

2026  
Tempe

2027  
Tempe

Will Tempe's quality of  
life be sustainable?



Will diversity help shape  
Tempe's sense of place?

# 2020s

Pull here ↓ Discover more