

Cultural Resources at the Nevada National Security Site



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Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board
Educational Session
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American Indian Program Drivers

- National Historic Preservation Act
 - Section 101 (d) (6)
- American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA)
- Executive Order 13007
 - Indian Sacred Sites
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA)
- Presidential Memorandums – Affirm tribal sovereignty and government-to-government relationship
- DOE Order 144.1 DOE American Indian Tribal Government Interactions and Policy (January 2009)



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American Indian Consultation Program

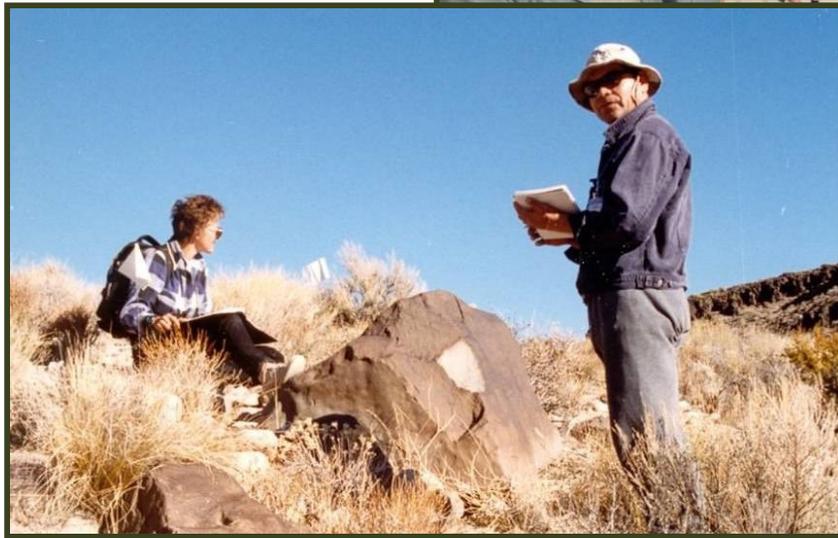
- Consultation Program Established – 1991
- Three ethnic Groups
 - Southern Paiute
 - Western Shoshone
 - Owens Valley – Paiute/Shoshone
- Consolidated Group of Tribes and Organizations (CGTO) recognized – 1994
 - Sixteen tribes and one Indian organization
 - Three subgroups established
 - American Indian Writers
 - American Indian Museum Planning
 - Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act



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American Indian Consultation



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American Indians at the Nevada National Security Site



From more than 10,000 years ago...

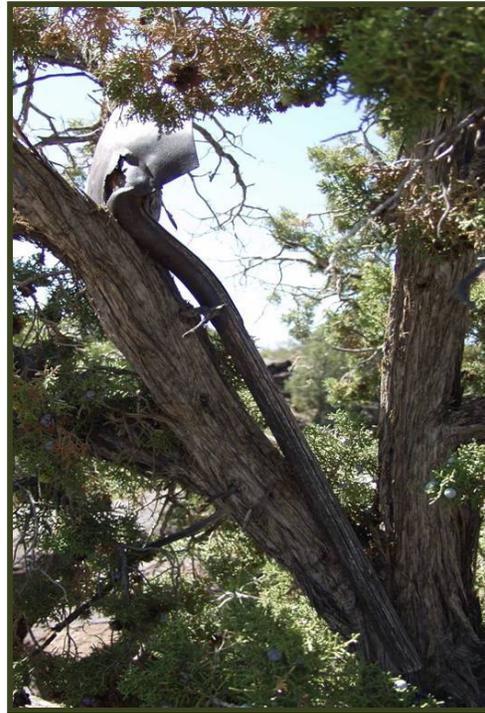


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...into the 1940s, American Indians lived on the Nevada National Security Site

Jim Wilson Camp
Rock Structure



Cached
Tools



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American Indian Landscape



Scrugham Peak and
Buckboard Mesa

Yucca Flat – location of
annual rabbit drives



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The land provides.....



Indian Tea

Rice Grass



Residences



Rockshelters

Wooden lodge on
Pahute Mesa



Water Features



Cane Spring



“Tinajas” or “Poh” bedrock water catchments



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Raw Material Sources

Obsidian toolstone source
near Shoshone Mountain



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Rock Features



Markers

Caches



Rock Features

(continued)

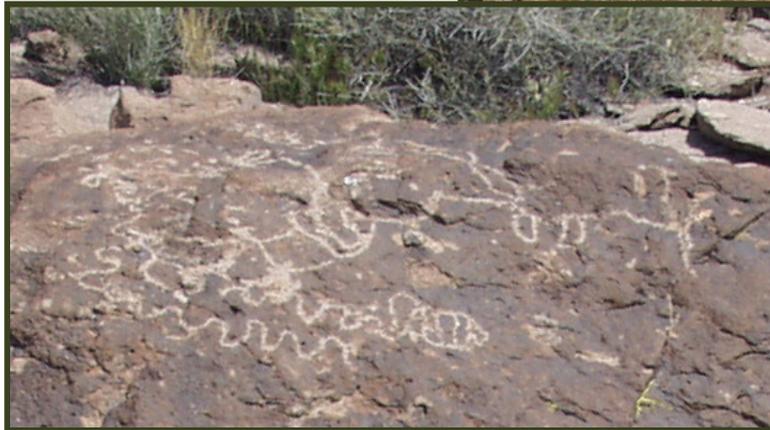


Geoglyphs

Rock circle



Storied Rocks



Recording petroglyphs on the Nevada National Security Site



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Traditional Cultural Properties

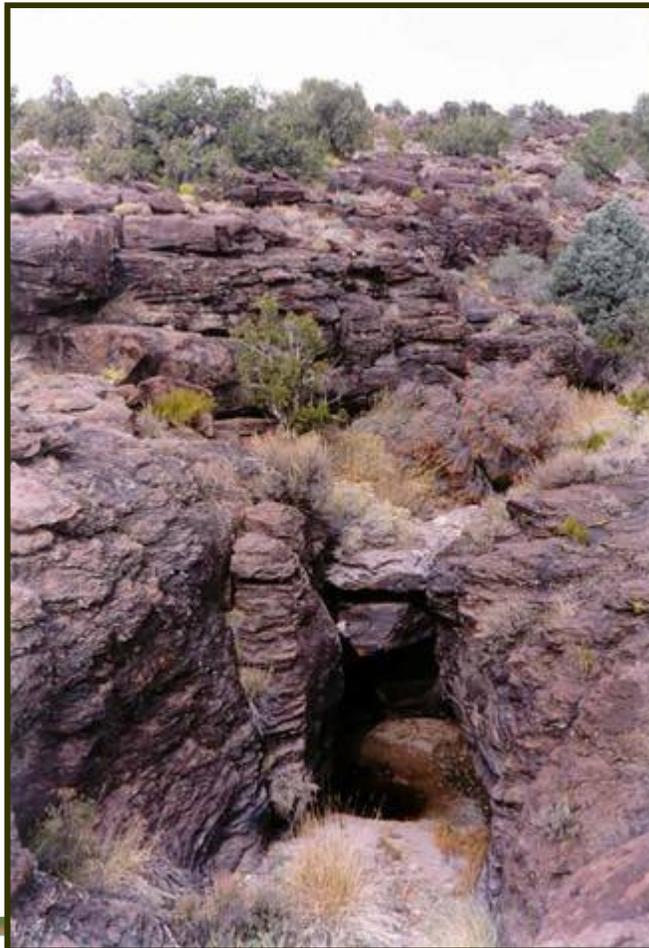
- Identified through archaeological studies and ethnographic interviews
- Places of cultural significance
 - Ceremonial sites
 - Storied rocks
 - Pinyon groves
 - Vision quest and healing locales
 - Landscapes/landforms



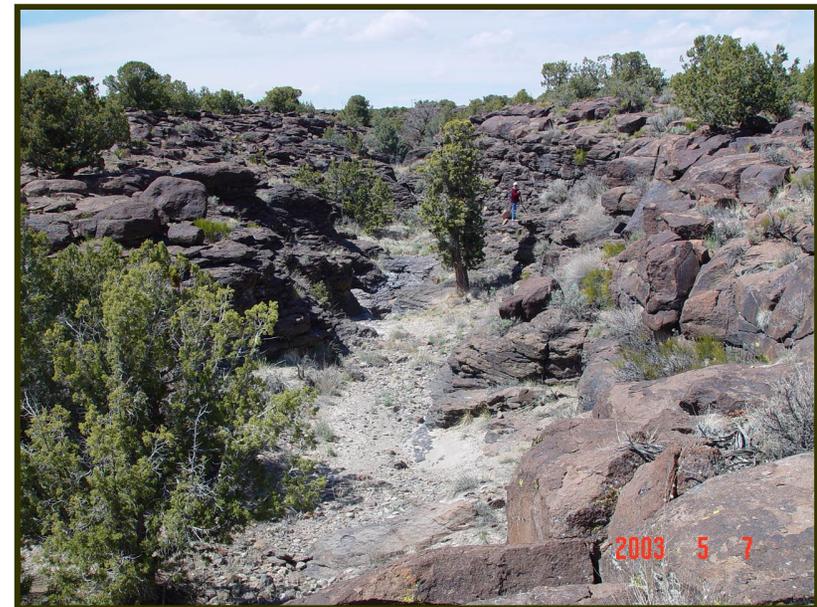
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Traditional Cultural Property Study



“Wunjiakuda”
Water Bottle Canyon



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Archaeological Survey



Sites with stone tools and pottery



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Tribal Elders Camping at the Nevada National Security Site



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Preservation in Place



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“Basket and Cane” site

White Rock Spring



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Major Program Accomplishments

- American Indian Resource Document (Appendix C) of the Nevada National Security Site, Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement
- Under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Program, Nevada National Security Site Collection has been reviewed by Elders with two repatriation ceremonies conducted at the Nevada National Security Site
- Published book
“American Indians & the Nevada Test Site – A Model of Research and Consultation”
- Special Studies
 - Rock Art Study
 - Ethnobotany Study



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The Future of the NNSS American Indian Consultation Program

- Continue study of Wunjiakuda as a Traditional Cultural Property
- Expand Nevada Field Office model of American Indian participation in the development of Departmental National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents
- Publish an Indian history book to capture the words of the elders and their stories for future generations



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DISCUSSION



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