Arizona
A story of how the state and counties were established (1848-Current)

1848 July- Mexican Cession


1853 December- Gadsden Purchase

Gadsden Purchase settled the boundary dispute between the United States and Mexico and established the international line at its present location. DOÑA ANA (N.M) gained entire area acquired from Mexico in the Gadsden Purchase.

1853 January- New Mexico Territory Counties

The part of present Arizona south of the boundary defined in the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo was part of Mexico. Faulty geographic knowledge led to an area of dispute between the United States and Mexico over the international boundary.

1855 December- PAH-UTE County Created

The part of present Arizona south of the boundary defined in the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo was part of Mexico. Faulty geographic knowledge led to an area of dispute between the United States and Mexico over the international boundary.

1856 October- Arizona Present Boundary

Gadsden Purchase settled the boundary dispute between the United States and Mexico and established the international line at its present location. DOÑA ANA (N.M) gained entire area acquired from Mexico in the Gadsden Purchase.

1857 February- MARICOPA Created. PAH-UTE Repealed

Arizona Territory created by the United States from the western portion of New Mexico Territory and part of present Nevada. All New Mexico Territory counties eliminated from Arizona.

1858 March- PAH-UTE Repealed

The United States created Nevada Territory from the western portion of New Mexico Territory and part of present Nevada. All New Mexico Territory counties eliminated from Arizona.

1864 November- Four Original Counties

The four original counties; included part of present Nevada.

1865 December- PAH-UTE County Created

The part of present Arizona south of the boundary defined in the Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo was part of Mexico. Faulty geographic knowledge led to an area of dispute between the United States and Mexico over the international boundary.

1866 October- Arizona Present Boundary

Gadsden Purchase settled the boundary dispute between the United States and Mexico and established the international line at its present location. DOÑA ANA (N.M) gained entire area acquired from Mexico in the Gadsden Purchase.

1868 February- ARIZONA Territory Created

Arizona Territory created by the United States from the western portion of New Mexico Territory and part of present Nevada. All New Mexico Territory counties eliminated from Arizona.

1874 December- APACHE Created

APACHE created by Arizona Territory from YAVAPAI. MOHAVE gained all of PAH-UTE (extinct) when the law creating PAH-UTE was repealed.

1875 February- PINAL Created

PINAL created by Arizona Territory from MARICOPA and PIMA. PIMA lost to creation of PINAL and was divided into two parts until 18 Feb 1871.

1877 February- Boundary Changes

MARICOPA gained from YAVAPAI. Lost a small area along the Gila River to PIMA. PIMA gained a small area along the Gila River from MARICOPA. PINAL gained from PIMA. Area gained was the part of PIMA that had been separated from main body.

1879 February- APACHE Created

APACHE created by Arizona Territory from YAVAPAI.

1881 February- COCHISE, GILA, and GRAHAM Created

COCHISE created by Arizona Territory from PINAL. GILA created by Arizona Territory from MARICOPA and PINAL. GRAHAM created by Arizona Territory from APACHE and PINAL.

1883 March- YAVAPAI and MoHAVE Exchange

YAVAPAI exchanged with MOHAVE.

1885 March- GILA and GRAHAM Exchange

GILA exchanged with GRAHAM.

1885 March- SANTA CRUZ Created

SANTA CRUZ created by Arizona Territory from PINAL.

1886 March- SANTA CRUZ Created

SANTA CRUZ created by Arizona Territory from PINAL.

1889 March- YAVAPAI and GILA Changes

GILA gained from YAVAPAI.

1891 February- COCONINO Created

COCONINO created by Arizona Territory from YAVAPAI. GILA gained from YAVAPAI.

1895 March- NAUJAD Created

NAUJAD created by Arizona Territory from APACHE.

1898 March- GREENLEE Created

GREENLEE created by Arizona Territory from GRAHAM.

1903 April- LA PAZ Created

LA PAZ created from YUMA.