

Parallel Journeys: US History Within the Context of Ho-Chunk History

In his book, Facing East from Indian Country: A Native History of Early America, historian Daniel Richter asserts the following: “. . . if we shift our perspective to try to view the past in a way that faces east from Indian country, history takes on a very different appearance. Native Americans appear in the foreground, and Europeans enter from distance shores.” The following timeline places Ho-Chunk history and the story of the United States in parallel tracks and provides that “facing east” perspective.

The Hochungra Journey		The United States Journey	
1634	Oral history tradition tells of the Frenchman Nicolet encountering Ho-chunk people near Green Bay – this is the first contact between the Ho-Chunk and people from Europe.	1607-1630s	The first established settlements by the English occur in Jamestown (Virginia) and in the New England region.
Late 1630s	A small pox epidemic hit the Ho-Chunk very hard – estimated that the population was reduced by 2/3.	1630s-40s	Large scale slave labor system is established in the West Indies. Slavery is coming into the tobacco culture of the southern colonies.
1639-1640	The Illini attack the Ho-Chunk on Doty Island in Lake Winnebago, again causing significant population losses.		
1640-1701	The Beaver Wars A series of brutal conflicts between the Iroquois Confederacy and the French (and native allies of the French including the Huron, Algonquins, and Mohicans). Eventually these wars spilled into the Great Lakes region and refugees came into Wisconsin causing warfare between the Algonquin tribes and the Ho-Chunk. Eventually, however, Ho-Chunk people began intermarrying with the Algonquin refugees in Wisconsin and this helped them recover from huge population losses.	1607-1733	The 13 original British colonies are established in North America. The colonies exist within the economic system known as mercantilism and essentially exist for the benefit of the mother country. At the same time, the colonies are granted a fair amount of autonomy over their political affairs.
1660s	The Ho-Chunk begin actively trading with the French via the fur trade and will continue that practice for more than a century.		
1712-1733	The First and Second Fox Wars These wars pitted the Fox Indians against the French and lasted off and on for over 20 years. The Ho-Chunk became involved, as did other Wisconsin tribes. Generally, the Ho-Chunk were supportive of the French against the Fox and the fighting was primarily over control of the Fox		

	River, vital link between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River.		
1728	A split in the Ho-Chunk tribe occurs and results in the movement of one group south to the Rock River area (Rock River Band).		
1755	Ho-Chunk warriors fight alongside other tribes (and the French) against the British in “Braddock’s Defeat” in the Monongahela Valley in Pennsylvania (part of the French and Indian War).	1754-1763	The French and Indian War is fought (called the “Seven Years War” in Europe) between England and France for control of North America.
1763	The Ho-Chunk join with Chief Pontiac and also befriend the English at Green Bay. “Pontiac’s Rebellion” is an attempt by the Ottawa Chief to expel the British from the Ohio Country. The rebellion ultimately failed, but convinced the British that they needed to stabilize the western frontier region.		The end of the French and Indian War results in British control of all territory from the east coast to the Mississippi River. At the conclusion of the war, the British government begins to tax the colonials more heavily, in part to pay for frontier protection. The colonial people eventually revolt.
1775-1783	The Ho-Chunk side with the British during the American Revolution. The American Revolution causes division among various tribes – some fought for the British and other for the colonials.	1775-1783	The colonials fight for their independence from Great Britain and ultimately are successful.
1783	Inter-tribal warfare develops due to fur trade competition – fighting erupts between the Ho-Chunk and the Chippewa.	1781-1789	Sometimes called the “Critical Period,” the fledgling government of the US attempts to establish itself under the Articles of Confederation, a government that eventually proved to be very weak. It was replaced by the US Constitution. The Land Ordinance of 1785 and the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 promote westward expansion. The area we live in is referred to as the “Northwest Territory” at the time and there are provisions within the Ordinance that ban slavery from this region and indicate that Native people will not be removed.
1793	Spoon Decorah, eldest son of Glory of the Morning and Savrevoir Dekaury, establishes a settlement on the Wisconsin River (near Portage).	1790s	The US Government is established with George Washington chosen as the first President of the United States. Under the new Constitution, Indian Nations are viewed as sovereign, although they continually face pressure from the US Government to “assimilate” or leave their land.
1794	Ho-Chunk warriors are among those defeated at the “Battle of Fallen Timbers” in Ohio.		

1806	Over 300 native people representing the Ho-chunk, Fox, and Sioux, participate in a LaCrosse tournament at Prairie du Chien.	Early 1800s	<p>Thomas Jefferson is America's 3rd President and he commissions Lewis and Clark to explore from Missouri to the west coast. Jefferson is fascinated by the native people, but essentially carries out the removal policies that were initiated under George Washington. Expansion into the west is viewed as central to the nation's future.</p> <p>There is also a growing tension between the young United States and Britain during this period. It primarily involves trade and shipping, but also involves the perception by Americans that the British are inciting the native people against American settlers in the west.</p>
Early 1800s	The fur trade begins to decrease with more and more Euro-Americans moving into Wisconsin. The Ho-Chunk begin to feel more pressure concerning their land. At this time there were 30 or more Ho-Chunk villages extending down the Rock River almost to its mouth on the Mississippi, along the Fox and up the Wisconsin, and on over to the Black River and then on down the Mississippi.		
1809-1811	The Shawnee Tecumseh travels west from Prophetstown and meets with Ho-chunk and Sac people along the Rock and Mississippi Rivers. 50 Ho-Chunk warriors eventually join Tecumseh and his brother the Prophet, in Tippecanoe (Indiana). They are attempting to unify the various tribes to hold off white incursion into the region. The Ho-chunk established a village near Tippecanoe in Indiana (Village du Puant).	1809-1814	<p>James Madison becomes President and takes the nation to war against Britain (the War of 1812). The War is largely a maritime war, but there are battles in the frontier as well. Eventually, the two nations fight to a draw, even though the Americans view the war as a victory. Andrew Jackson becomes the great hero from the war for his actions in the Battle of New Orleans. Jackson leaves his mark on American history as an "Indian fighter" and becomes popular with many different groups of people.</p>
November 1811	The Battle of Tippecanoe takes place in Ohio and hundreds of Ho-Chunk warriors are involved.		
1812-1814	During the War of 1812, the Ho-Chunk side with the British against the United States. They are involved in a number of battles during the war, including the capture of Fort Mackinac on Mackinac Island and battles in the Prairie du Chien area.		
1814	The Treaty of Ghent is signed ending the War of 1812. The fate of the Woodland tribes is now in the hands of the US Government. At the time of the Treaty, Ho-Chunk territory is a triangle shaped region with Green Bay, north central Illinois, and LaCrosse as the three points.	1814-1816	<p>The post-war period is called the "Era of Good Feeling" in American history, owing to the fact that there was very little political division in the country from roughly 1816-1824.</p>
1816	A Treaty of Peace and Friendship is signed between the Ho-Chunk and		

	the Federal Government. This is the first of 11 such treaties, the last one signed in 1865.		
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The Hochungra Journey		The United States Journey	
1816	Tribal organization is in disarray as the Ho-Chunk are scattered into nearly 40 settlements. Generally speaking, there is a division in the tribe going back to the mid-1700s with a significant settlement in the Green Bay-Lake Winnebago area, with another portion of the tribe in the Rock River drainage area in the southwestern region of Wisconsin.	1816	James Monroe is elected as America's 5 th President and serves during the so-called "Era of Good Feeling," so named because of the apparent unity of the period. This unity held until 1824.
1816-1825	The US Government begins the actual exercise of sovereignty acquired from Great Britain under the Treaty of Paris in 1783. Colonel John Miller arrives in Green Bay with four companies of the 3 rd US Infantry and constructs Fort Howard. The Ho-Chunk people oppose this action by the Americans, who they refer to as "Long Knives." A Ho-Chunk Chief, Natawipindawqua (also known as the "Smoker") gives a speech in August of 1816 voicing Ho-chunk suspicion of the Americans, but also suggesting allegiance.	1817-1825	This is a period of great development for the young United States Government. Henry Clay's "American System" promotes a national approach to economic development, westward expansion increases dramatically, and the US begins to carve out its borders both north and south through various agreements (The Treaty of 1818 and the Adams-Onis Treaty of 1819). Andrew Jackson leads military forces against the Seminole Indians in Florida and the forces of the Spanish Government, leading to the US acquiring Florida. The Monroe Doctrine is enunciated, indicating US interest in keeping other European powers of the the Western Hemisphere.
1822	The US Government begins leasing lands in southwestern Wisconsin to lead miners, thus creating a rush of Euro-American speculators and prospectors into Ho-Chunk territory.	1819	Missouri's application for statehood leads to a bitter debate over the extension of slavery into the west. The Missouri Compromise settles the issue for a time, but the debate foreshadows the sectional division that will lead to Civil War.
1823	In the case of Johnson v. McIntosh the Supreme Court rules that only the US Government held the right to negotiate and purchase land from Indian tribes. This meant Indian people, in fact, possessed the land they were living on, but also paved the way for future dispossession through treaties.	1823	The Adams Administration issues the Monroe Doctrine aimed at European nations (including Russia) warning them to "stay out" of the Western Hemisphere. Though unable to enforce the Doctrine at the time, this signaled the US desire to be the dominant power in the hemisphere and eventually gained in importance.
1825	The Treaty of Prairie du Chien establishes clear land boundaries	1824	John Quincy Adams (son of John Adams) becomes 6 th President of the

	between the tribes in Wisconsin and also enables the Federal Government to negotiate with individual tribes.		US in the disputed “Favorite Son” Election of 1824.
1827	The Winnebago War (also sometimes called the Redbird War) results from conflicts between white lead miners and Ho-Chunk people in southeastern Wisconsin. Red Bird eventually dies in prison.		
1829	The Treaty of 1829 is signed – the first of several land cessions for the Ho-Chunk. This opened the lead mining region to further white settlement. The conflict over access to the lead mines is a good example of the battle over resources and land.	1828	Andrew Jackson is elected President and represents a changing American political environment. “Old Hickory” first became famous as an Indian fighter and war hero from the Battle of New Orleans. His rise coincides with the extension of voting rights to non-property owners and the rise of blue collar workers.
1830	Under President Andrew Jackson, Federal Indian Policy underwent massive change. The goal of Indian Removal became official policy through the passage of the Indian Removal Act in May of 1830. There were vigorous debates among whites in the Congress, but over the next 8 years, removal occurred at a staggering rate especially in the American southeast.	Early 1830s	<p>Jackson battles hard over two domestic issues. He is an outspoken opponent of the National Bank (and crushes it), and navigates the nation through the Nullification Crisis brought on by southern opposition to the tariff. The Nullification Debate foreshadows the great debates that will emerge concerning slavery prior to the Civil War.</p> <p>The Second Great Awakening, a spiritual revival, is beginning to energize a variety of reform movements.</p> <p>William Lloyd Garrison begins publishing “The Liberator,” an anti-slavery newspaper. The debate over slavery begins to consume American politics.</p>
1832	Chief Black Hawk, leader of a band of Sac and Fox Indians (Illinois) attempted to return to lost territory on the east side of the Mississippi River. The Ho-Chunk do not participate in the conflict in a unified way, partly due to previous conflicts with the Sac and Fox. The War creates more tension between native people and white settlers and provides the backdrop for the second Ho-Chunk land cession.	Mid-1830s	<p>The northern Mexican province of Texas becomes a hot topic during this period. American settlers (such as Sam Houston) eventually want to be independent of Mexican control and by 1836 have achieved independence. Texas is an independent Republic from 1836-1845.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a series of Supreme Court decisions, John Marshall enunciates the following

	<p>The Treaty of 1832 finalizes a second land cession for the Ho-Chunk – all lands south and east of the Wisconsin River and for the first time called for the removal of the Ho-Chunk people west of the Mississippi. The Treaty also calls for establishing “neutral ground” in Iowa that will be a buffer between the Sioux and the Sac and Fox. This led to the first removal of Ho-Chunk people (to neutral territory).</p>		<p>principles regarding Native Americans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aboriginal land claims: Aboriginal people had land use rights of occupancy and only the United States government can settle those claims. • Tribal Sovereignty: Tribes are similar to sovereign nations with the authority to govern themselves. The source of their authority to govern is ‘inherent,’ meaning that it comes from tribes being self-governing long before explorers and settlers came to the New World. • Federal Trust Responsibility: The Federal Government has a responsibility to protect Indian lands and resources, and to provide essential services to Indian people. This comes from the fact that the federal government took away the vast majority of Indian lands, and in return promised to provide these things
1837	<p>The most controversial treaty of the period, the Treaty of 1837 was signed under questionable circumstances in Washington D.C. between representatives of the Ho-Chunk and the Van Buren Administration. The Treaty is a land cession of the area north of the Wisconsin River (including the Black River Valley) and called for the removal of the Ho-chunk people within 8 months (the Treaty signers believed that removal would not happen for 8 years). The Treaty ultimately divided the Ho-chunk people into “Abiding” and “Non-Abiding” factions. Yellow Thunder and Dandy lead the resistance to removal, and for the next 37 years, non-abiding factions resist one removal after another.</p>		<p>Martin Van Buren becomes America’s 8th President and serves for 1 term. He inherits an unstable economic situation (the Panic of 1837) which makes for a difficult Presidency.</p> <p>The Seminole Indians are defeated and eventually removed from Florida.</p>
1838	<p>Jacob Spaulding and 18 other transplanted northeasterners, come</p>	1838	<p>The Cherokee Indians are removed from Georgia to Indian Territory</p>

	north from Illinois on the Mississippi to LaCrosse, then navigate up the Black River into the area of the falls. They are seeking wealth through harvesting of the White Pines. This group provides the nucleus for the settlement that will become Black River Falls.		(Oklahoma) on the so-called “Trail of Tears.”
1840	The first forced removal to Turkey River, Iowa occurs (so-called “neutral ground”).	1840	William Henry Harrison is elected President. He dies 4 weeks into office after taking the oath in March of 1841. He is succeeded by John Tyler.
1844		1844	James K. Polk is elected President. He is openly expansionist and his election signals a victory for the idea of Manifest Destiny. Texas is annexed to the United States in 1845.
1846	The Ho-Chunk cede the “Neutral Ground” in Iowa and 1300 people are removed to the Long Prairie area north of St. Cloud, Minnesota.	1848	In 1848 the Seneca Falls Women’s Rights Convention is held in New York. The US goes to war with Mexico from 1846-48. Mexico loses half its territory to the United States including the American southwest and California. Zachary Taylor is elected President.
1849		1849	The California Gold Rush begins in earnest interjecting a huge population into the west.
1850		1850	The question of the expansion of slavery nearly divides the Union when California applies for statehood in 1848. The Compromise of 1850 forestalls sectional divide for another 10 years.
1855	A new treaty prompts the removal of the Ho-Chunk from Long Prairie to a fertile farming area near Blue Earth, Minnesota (south central region of the state). Over the next 7 years, the Blue Earth situation is not good. Promised allotments by the government are not paid, white settlers in the region are hostile to the Indian presence, and the health and well-being of the Ho-Chunk people reaches a dire situation.	1854	The Kansas-Nebraska Act repeals the Missouri Compromise and blows the expansion of slavery issue into the open. The idea of “popular sovereignty” is imbedded in the new law, meaning that the settlers in Kansas and Nebraska will decide the slavery issue. War ensues in what is remembered as “bleeding Kansas.” The Republican Party is formed in response. Ripon, Wisconsin claims to be the birthplace of the party.
1857		1857	The Dred Scott Decision by the US Supreme Court affirms the idea that slaves are property and have no rights under the US Constitution. The US suffers a financial panic.

1860		1860	Abraham Lincoln is elected President and between his election and inauguration, 7 southern states secede from the Union to form the Confederate States of America.
1861		1861	The Civil War rages for 4 years. Ultimately the South is defeated and the Union preserved. The War comes at great cost to the nation and is followed by a very difficult period of Reconstruction.
1862	The “Sioux Uprising” frightens white settlers in Minnesota (and Wisconsin) and calls for removal of all native people from the region are made. By 1863, hostilities are at a high pitch and groups such as the “Knights of the Forest” in Mankato push for the removal of the Ho-Chunk people from Minnesota. Fears of Native violence spread into Wisconsin and the Black River region and negatively impact attitudes toward Ho-Chunk people who were resisting removal throughout this period.	1862	<p>The Battle of Antietam proves to be a turning point for Union forces in the Civil War.</p> <p>Lincoln issues the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation as a response, changing the war into a war for abolition of slavery.</p> <p>The Homestead Act is passed paving the way for tens of thousands of settlers moving into the west.</p> <p>During the summer of 1862, Indian warfare broke out in southern Minnesota that left between 400 and 800 settlers and soldiers dead, and provoked military action against the Sioux in the Dakota Territory. The causes of the “Sioux Uprising” (also known as the Dakota Conflict) were complex and included hunger, official corruption, and delayed annuity payments. Ultimately, over 1000 Dakota people were imprisoned and over 300 were tried and found guilty. Lincoln commuted 264 sentences. In the end, 38 Native people were executed in a mass hanging in Mankato, the largest such execution in US History.</p>
1863	A special act of Congress is passed approving the removal of the Wisconsin Ho-Chunk to Crow Creek Reserve in South Dakota. In the same year, discussions begin concerning removing the Ho-Chunk people to the Omaha Reserve in Nebraska.	1863	<p>The Battle of Gettysburg rages for 3 days in Pennsylvania. Along with the fall of Vicksburg on the Mississippi, Gettysburg proves to be the fatal blow to the Southern cause.</p> <p>Lincoln is re-elected in 1864.</p>
1864		1864	The Sand Creek Massacre occurs in Colorado. US Army personnel kill and

			mutilate over 100 Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians, 2/3 of which are women and children.
1865	The Winnebago people of Wisconsin (roughly speaking, those that had been the “treaty-abiding” faction officially relocate to the Omaha Reserve in Nebraska (the basis for the Winnebago population there today).	1865	Robert E. Lee surrenders to U.S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia officially ending the American Civil War. Lincoln is shot and killed 5 days later. Andrew Johnson succeeds Lincoln and ultimately is impeached due to his conflicts with Northern Republicans over Reconstruction policies in the South.
Late 1860s	Ho-Chunk people continue to resist removal but tensions rise in Wisconsin over the issue.	1868	<p>U.S. Grant, war hero, is elected President. His administration will prove to be one of the most corrupt in US History.</p> <p>Grant initiates the “Peace Policy” regarding Native American tribes. At the time he became president of the United States in 1868, approximately 250,000 American Indians all across the nation were under the jurisdiction of a federal Indian policy. The Bureau of Indian Affairs was notoriously corrupt and reformers called for a change that would result in positive accomplishments, such as civilizing American Indians through education, Christianity, and teaching methods of self-support. One year earlier, in response to continuing hostilities with Indians on the Plains, the government had created a Peace Commission which prepared the foundation of what would become known as Grant's Peace Policy.</p> <p>A major hallmark of the Peace Policy was a desire to abandon the old treaty system, a patronizing arrangement that had never worked well and that had caused, at best, innumerable frustrations and disagreements among the Indian nations. The Peace Policy was a sincere effort to “change the game” by US officials, but was based on the old idea of assimilating Native people into white culture.</p>

1872-74	The last attempt to remove the Ho-Chunk people from Wisconsin takes place during the winter. The removal battle carries on for 2 years with Ho-Chunk people being hunted as outlaws.	1872-74	The Credit Mobilier Scandal is exposed and US Grant is re-elected for a second term. The Panic of 1873 plunges the US economy into depression.
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The Hochungra Journey		The United States Journey	
Early 1875	<p>The Wisconsin Ho-Chunk petition the government to allow them to become US Citizens.</p> <p>Congress extends the Homestead Act of 1862 to Native people stating “that any Indian born in the United States, who is the head of a family, or who has arrived at the age of twenty-one years, and who has abandoned, or may hereafter abandon, his tribal relations, shall, on making satisfactory proof of such abandonment, under rules to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, be entitled to the benefits of the act entitled “An act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain . . .” The law has implications for the Ho-Chunk people of Wisconsin. Jacob Spaulding, one of the founders of Black River Falls, is working to secure homesteads for the Ho-chunk people of the area in the years preceding his death in 1876.</p>	<p>1875-1900: HIGHLIGHTS</p> <p>PRESIDENTS OF THE PERIOD Rutherford B. Hayes 1877-1881 James Garfield 1881 (d. 1881) Chester Arthur 1881-1885 Grover Cleveland 1885-1889 Benjamin Harrison 1889-1893 Grover Cleveland 1893-1897 William McKinley 1897-1901 (d. 1901)</p> <p>The post-Civil War period of American history to 1890 was a time of great change for the nation. Here are some highlights from those years:</p> <p>The American South was experiencing RECONSTRUCTION – the rebuilding of the southern economy, along with the reorientation to the changes brought by the Civil War. The Election of 1876, a hotly contested election won by Rutherford B. Hayes, is often viewed as the “end” of Reconstruction due to the fact that HOME RULE was restored in the South. As part of the election victory, Hayes and followers agreed to withdraw federal troops from the South, meaning that local control would be reestablished. Thus began the era of JIM CROW – the nickname given to the series of laws which firmly entrenched SEGREGATION laws in the South for the next two generations. Though the 13th Amendment had formally abolished slavery, former slaves were relegated to a lowly status and political rights guaranteed in the Civil War Amendments (the right to due process of law, equal protection of the laws, and the right to vote – Amendments 14 and 15) were denied.</p> <p>The Battle of the Little Bighorn takes place in Montana (1876). George Armstrong Custer, Civil</p>	
1876	<p>Short Wing and Black Hawk ask John St. Cyr to help them obtain the right to homestead land for 80 Ho-Chunk families near Black River Falls.</p> <p>Jacob Spaulding dies and over 1000 people attend his funeral, including 40 Ho-chunk men and interpreter John St. Cyr who are seated at the very front of the church. The 40 men also lead the funeral process to the cemetery for his burial (cemetery is located just west of where the current</p>		

	Administrative Offices are for the School District).	War veteran, was defeated by combined forces of the Lakota, Northern Cheyenne, and Arapaho.
1878-1921	First "Mission" School Missionary Jacob Stucki establishes the first school at the Mission east of Black River Falls. In 1921 the school is moved to Neillville.	This national politics of this period was dominated by the Republican Party (the victorious party coming out of the Civil War) and tended to be one of the more corrupt periods in our history. The Presidents of the period (Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Arthur, Cleveland, and Harrison) are not considered strong.
1880	The Wisconsin Ho-Chunk are once again able to share in annuities -- they had been barred from receiving them because they were viewed as "renegade bands" and therefore outside the agreement of the treaties.	The period after the War is an "economic take-off" period with a dramatic growth in industry. Men like Andrew Carnegie, John D. Rockefeller, and J.P. Morgan, among others, dominate the national economy and there is a dramatic growth in MONOPOLIES which brought forth the call for greater regulation by the government.
1881	Separate censuses are taken of the Ho-Chunk in Wisconsin and the Winnebago people in Nebraska. Special legislation is passed permitting the Wisconsin Ho-Chunk 40 acre homesteads. Approximately 1200 Ho-Chunk people are living in Wisconsin at this time.	The period after the War also saw an acceleration of movement by the US Government into the American West. The Homestead Act of 1862 and the dramatic increases in immigration during this period meant that more and more Euro-Americans would be moving into areas west of the Mississippi. This naturally created conflicts with the indigenous people of the west.
1884	A Norwegian Lutheran Mission and school is established near Wittenberg, Wisconsin. The school will go back and forth between government and church control during its history. Boarding schools are a natural extension of the Peace Policy of U. S. Grant with the goal of educating and assimilating native children. The boarding school era becomes one of the most controversial aspects of First Nations history.	Reformers such as Helen Hunt Jackson were speaking out against government policies toward Native people during these years. Her book, <u>A Century of Dishonor</u> (1881) was considered a landmark publication and documented the dramatic losses that American Indians had experienced.
1887	Reuben Gold Thwaites of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin comes to Tomah to gather information about the Ho-Chunk people. He concludes that the homesteads granted them were mostly on barren hillsides or swamps. Ho-Chunk population is at about 1400. Congressman Henry Dawes of Massachusetts sponsored a landmark piece of legislation, the General Allotment Act (aka The Dawes Severalty Act), designed to encourage the break-up of the tribes and	The Federal Government outlawed the Sun Dance (1884), a practice begun by the Plains Indians as a revival of Native spirituality in the face of tragedy. A wave of Populist Protest sweeps the upper Midwest and Great Plains region. Populism was an agrarian revolt (farm related) against policies of the Federal Government that hurt small farmers. Several territories reach STATEHOOD during this period: North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, and Oklahoma.

	<p>promote the assimilation of Indians into American society. Assimilation will be the major Indian policy until the 1930s.</p> <p>Spoon Decorah participates in a wide-ranging interview prior to his death recounting a long and eventful life.</p>	
1890	Black Ash Basketry is introduced to the Ho-Chunk people and they soon become noted for this product.	
1893	The Tomah Industrial School opens with 7 employees and 7 students.	
c. 1900	The use of Peyote is introduced to Wisconsin Indians. Ho-Chunk people introduced it to the Forest Potawatomi, the Sauk and Fox, and to a lesser extent, the Menominee and the Ojibwe. The Ho-Chunk introduced certain Christian elements to it early and by 1918 had established the Native American Church (NAC).	<p>The Federal Census of 1890 declares that the “frontier is closed” – the advancing line of settlement that had been present from the beginning of American history no longer exists.</p> <p>The Battle of Wounded Knee (1891) tragically symbolizes the brutality of the US Government’s approach to Native people. Over 150 Lakota men, women, and children were massacred by the US 7th</p> <p>William McKinley is elected President in 1896 and his victory signals the end of the Populist Movement and foreshadows the further urbanization of American culture.</p> <p>The US goes to war with Spain in 1898 with fighting in both Cuba and the Philippines. The War signals the expanding role of the US on the world stage.</p>
1901	<p>The first commencement takes place at the Tomah Indian Industrial School with 5 children graduating.</p> <p>A government boarding school opens on the Winnebago reserve in Nebraska.</p>	<p>1900-1932: HIGHLIGHTS</p> <p>The period from 1898-1917 is referred to as the PROGRESSIVE ERA. This is a reference to the politics of the period in which government began to play an increasing role in the lives of the people. Progressivism was a response to many societal problems that emerged during the post-Civil War period. Progressives challenged the Government to become more active in fighting the abuses of Capitalism (i.e. monopolies), the plight of the growing class of urban poor, and the corruption of government officials. All Presidents during this period were impacted by these demands.</p> <p>Presidents:</p>
1907	Commissioner of Indian Affairs C.F. Larabee determines that the Ho-Chunk are owed more than \$800,000 based on treaties signed earlier.	
1911-1923	The Society of American Indians is in operation during these years. This is the first such organization emphasizing Pan-Indianism and becomes an influential voice for Native people on the national level.	

	Citizenship for Native people and the establishment of some type of body for pursuing legal remedies for territorial loss are two major goals of the organization. Henry Roe Cloud (Nebraska Winnebago) is one of the leading voice within the organization.	Teddy Roosevelt (1901-1909) Republican William H. Taft (1909-1913) Republican Woodrow Wilson (1913-1921) Democrat Warren G. Harding (1921-1923) Republican Calvin Coolidge (1923-1929) Republican Herbert Hoover (1929-1933) Republican
1917-18	As in every other war in American history, Ho-Chunk people serve the nation during World War I.	The US becomes embroiled in the European Conflict known initially as the “Great War” (later called World War 1). The war started in 1914, but the US stayed out until 1917. Americans, for the most part, enthusiastically supported US involvement in the war against Germany, but the post-War period proved to be very difficult.
1924	Congress passes the Indian Citizenship Act in part as a response to American Indian service during World War I, but also as a logical extension of the assimilation policies of the late 19 th Century. The law asserts that “all non-citizen Indians born within the territorial limits of the United States be, and they are hereby, declared to be citizens of the United States.”	The economic policies of the Government during the 1920s were a reaction to the Progressivism of the preceding years. The Republican call for less government regulation on businesses and lower taxes seemed to coincide with growing prosperity for the American people. Farmers, however, were sunk in economic depression early after the War ended and eventually the US experienced the greatest economic collapse in its history signaled by the crash of the Stock Market in 1929.
1928	The ‘Meriam Report’ published in 1928 was a government study which described the poverty and poor living conditions on the reservations, terrible disease and death rates, grossly inadequate care of the Indian children in the boarding schools, and destructive effects of the erosion of Indian land caused by the General Allotment Act. The Great Depression began shortly after this report was issued, causing living conditions and employment opportunities to fall everywhere in the country.	
1933-1963	By the middle 1930s the Hochunkgra school had been established at the Mission with Federal funds and operated within the Public Schools of Jackson County. This school was in operation from late 1933 to the end of the 1963 school year.	1933-1963: HIGHLIGHTS The dominant events of this period were the Depression (1929-1941) and World War 2 (1941-1945). Much of our modern world still lives in the shadow of those events. Presidents During This Period: Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933-1945): Democrat Harry S Truman (1945-1953): Democrat Dwight D. Eisenhower (1953-1961): Republican John F. Kennedy (1961-1963): Democrat
1934	Congress passes the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA), also known as the Wheeler-Howard Act or the Indian New Deal. The IRA began a new era of federal government and tribal relations. The most important thing the IRA accomplished is the promotion of the	

	exercise of tribal self-governing powers. Tribes were influenced by the IRA to formalize their governmental authorities in new ways including adopting tribal constitutions. Among other things the Wheeler-Howard Act stopped the erosion of the tribal land base by ending the allotment of tribal land, extended the trust period for existing allotments, prohibited lands to be taken away from tribes without their consent, and authorized the Secretary of the Interior to accept additional tribal lands in trust and to proclaim new reservations on those lands, recognized tribal governments and sought to promote tribal self-government, and set up specific tribal business charters under Section 17 of the Act.	Roosevelt's election in 1933 signaled a major shift in American politics. FDR's formative influences came during the Progressive Era and he applied Progressive principles as he fought the Great Depression. His policies came to be known as the New Deal and changed the role of government forever.
1934	The Johnson-O'Malley Act is passed by Congress. The original purpose of JOM was to confer upon the Secretary of the Interior the authority to contract with state-supported schools, colleges, and universities for Indian education services. The legislation noted that "it becomes advisable to fit them into the general public school scheme rather than to provide separate schools for them." JOM is still functioning today.	<p>Growing tensions in Europe during the 1930s culminated in war breaking out in 1939 when Germany invaded Poland. US citizens and many in leadership positions advocated ISOLATIONISM from the events of Europe, in part based on the notion that our involvement in World War 1 had been a major mistake. When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in December of 1941, isolationist sentiment quickly evaporated and the US plunged into the second great war of a generation. Fighting as part of the Allied Cause in both Europe and the Far East, the dramatic power of US industrial might helped bring victory by 1945.</p> <p>The post-War period produced an economic "take-off" in the United States.</p> <p>By 1946 the US is locked into an ideological struggle with the Soviet Union that came to be known as the</p>
1935	The Tomah Industrial School closes in June. Many of the children are placed in foster care.	
Late 1930s	Cranberry Harvest Festivals are important part of Ho-Chunk social life during these years.	
1941-45	Again, many Ho-Chunk people serve in the Armed Forces during World War II. Notably, Mitchell RedCloud, Jr. serves in the South Pacific as a US Marine, leaves the service after his discharge, but later rejoins the Army and dies valiantly in North Korea during the Korean Conflict. He is awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously by President Truman.	
1945	The title of the Tomah Indian Industrial School is transferred to the	

	Veteran's Administration (VA) for hospital use.	Cold War (1945-1991). Though they had been allies during the war, the US and USSR distrusted each other and began to engage in proxy wars in various parts of the world, most notably right away in Korea. Mitchell RedCloud, Jr., a young Ho-chunk man who lived in the Hatfield area (and graduate of Black River High School), fought valiantly in both World War 2 and the Korean Conflict eventually being killed near the Yalu River in 1950. He was awarded the Medal of Honor after his death.
1946	The Indian Claims Commission Act is passed into law. The ICCA was the culmination of 16 years of effort by Congress to create a new mechanism to resolve ancient tribal claims against the United States. The Act was essentially remedial in nature and constituted a broad waiver of the United States' sovereign immunity. The United States Supreme Court, quoting from the legislative history of the ICCA, has stated: "The 'chief purpose of the [Act was] to dispose of the Indian claims problem with finality.' The Claims Commission was one of the original goals of the Society of American Indians.	By the late 1940s, US society begins to plunge into a period of "Red Scare." Driven by Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin, many in American society and government became convinced that the Soviet Union, along with the global forces of Communism, were attempting to undermine the American government from within.
1947	Reverend Mitchell Whiterabbit, World War II veteran, accepts the call as pastor for the UCC parish at the Mission.	The TERMINATION ACT is signed into law in 1953. From 1953-1964, the government terminated recognition of a total of 109 tribes and bands as sovereign dependent nations. The population of Native Americans who gave up tribal affiliation totaled over 12,000 Native Americans or 3% of the total Native American population. Approximately 2,500,000 acres (10,000 km ²) of trust land was removed from protected status during these years. Much was sold by individuals to non-Natives.
1949	Tribal reorganization begins when the Nebraska Winnebago and Wisconsin Ho-Chunk agree to bring a common claim before the Indian Claims Commission. The Ho-Chunk Veteran's Organization is organized.	The termination of these tribes ended federal government relations with and recognition of those tribal governments and ended federal recognition of tribal jurisdiction over their lands. In addition to ending the tribal rights as sovereign nations, the policy terminated federal support of most of the health care and education programs, police and fire fighting departments available to Indians on reservations. Given the considerable geographic isolation of many reservations and inherent economic problems, not many tribes had the funds to continue such services after termination was implemented. The tribes initially selected for termination had been considered groups who were the most successful in the United States, in some cases, because of natural resources controlled by their reservations. The Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin was one of the tribes that experience termination. The Termination Policy was reversed in 1973.
1950s	By the middle 1950s, the Hochunkgra School went to a K-6 configuration and Ho-chunk children began to attend the Junior High School in Black River. As part of the District's "consolidation" of country schools during the 50s and 60s, the Hochunkgra School was closed after the 1962-63 school year. This came within the context of the Civil Rights Movement and calls for the INTEGRATION of public schools (post 1954). Beginning in the fall of 1963, most of the Ho-Chunk students were bussed to Gebhardt Elementary in Brockway for K-6 and then attended Junior High and High School in BRF.	

1962	The Wisconsin Winnebago Tribal Constitution is written under guidelines established by the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA), part of the “Indian New Deal” of the 1930s. This ultimately led to federal recognition of the tribe.	During the 1950s, US society underwent major changes including dramatic increases in consumerism and a changing American lifestyle, the advent of suburban expansion, as well as the early stirrings of the Civil Rights Movement. The Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 dramatically confronts Soviet and American leaders with the dangers of the nuclear world.
1963	A referendum is taken regarding the reorganization of the tribe, the first officers are elected, and the first General Council election is held.	The assassination of John Kennedy in 1963 marks a dramatic moment in modern American history. The school district of Black River Falls builds a new high school located in the west side of the community.

Due to the significant changes that have occurred in Indian Country since 1963, I am configuring the last portion of this timeline with three columns as noted.

	The Hochungra Journey	Indian Country Highlights	The United States Journey
1964-1969	The early years of the newly reorganized governing structure saw the development of the Pow-wow grounds, Indian Mission property, and the Indian Heights Housing site.	The middle to late 1960s brought important changes to Indian Country. The Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 extended many Bill of Rights protections to tribal citizens. The American Indian Movement (A.I.M.) was founded in Minneapolis in large part as a response to the treatment of Native people in the face of the law. In 1969 Vine Deloria, Jr. published <u>Custer Died for Your Sins</u> , an Indian Manifesto that gave voice to the various struggles Native people were experiencing and signaled the rise of the “Red Power” movement. Deloria’s work also increasingly reached a non-native audience. In 1969 Indian activists took over the island of Alcatraz to raise awareness of injustices. In that same year a Senate report was issued titled, “Indian Education: A National Tragedy – A National	The period from 1964-1969 brought many changes to the American landscape. Increasing involvement in the Vietnam War led to a surging anti-war movement on the nation’s college campuses. In addition, major changes came through the so-called “Great Society” legislation of the period. Notably, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 signaled the most far-reaching changes related to people of color since the Civil War. 1968 was a particularly tumultuous year in America with the assassination of both Martin Luther King, Jr. (April) and Presidential candidate Robert Kennedy (June). Richard Nixon defeated Hubert Humphrey for the Presidency in an extremely close election. The Nixon Administration proved to be progressive in its

		Challenge.” Robert Kennedy had initiated the study and was involved until his untimely death in 1968. His brother Edward continued the work.	approach to American Indian people.
1970-75	<p>The Indian Claims Commission approves a Winnebago claim for \$4.6 million. This was for lost lands due to fraudulent treaties.</p> <p>In 1971 Blue Wing Village was built near Wyeville (32 acres of land).</p>	<p>1970: President Nixon calls for a new era of SELF-DETERMINATION for Native people.</p> <p>1972: The “Trail of Broken Treaties” march on Washington, D.C.</p> <p>1972: The Indian Education Act is passed.</p> <p>1973: The Menominee Restoration Act is passed.</p> <p>1973: The Siege at Wounded Knee, South Dakota takes place.</p> <p>1974: Women of All Red Nations (WARN) is founded.</p> <p>1974: The “Boldt Decision” finds in favor of Indian fishing rights in the Pacific Northwest.’</p> <p>1975: The Indian Self-Determination and Educational Assistance Act is passed.</p>	<p>The period from 1970-75 was dominated by the Vietnam War and the Watergate Crisis. Richard Nixon was re-elected by a landslide in 1972 and ultimately initiated significant changes in the US relationship with both the Soviet Union and China.</p> <p>The last US combat troops are withdrawn from Vietnam in 1973.</p> <p>The Arab Oil Embargo of 1973 signals the beginning of major changes in the US related to energy use and an ever-increasing involvement in the Middle East.</p> <p>Richard Nixon was forced to resign in August of 1974 due to his role in the Watergate Affair and Gerald Ford became President.</p> <p>The Fall of Saigon in April of 1975 signals the victory of the North Vietnamese and reunification of Vietnam under a Communist government.</p>
1976-1980	<p>1976: The Sand Pillow Housing site is developed east of Black River Falls.</p> <p>1980: Continued development of tribal properties east of Black River Falls (future site of Ho-chunk Casino and C-Store.</p>	<p>1976: The Indian Health Care Improvement Act is passed.</p> <p>1977: Leonard Peltier is convicted of shooting two FBI agents on Pine Ridge Reservation. His case draws international attention (he remains in prison in 2015).</p> <p>1978: The “Longest Walk” from Alcatraz to Washington, D.C.</p>	<p>Jimmy Carter is elected President in 1976, in large measure, as a reaction to the events of Watergate.</p> <p>The US enters a period of neo-isolationism as a reaction to the Vietnam War.</p> <p>The nation enters a period of détente with the Soviet Union leading to the SALT Agreement. This relaxation</p>



		<p>1978: The Indian Child Welfare Act is passed.</p> <p>1978: The American Indian Religious Freedom Act is passed.</p> <p>1978: In the case of Oliphant v. Suquamish, the Supreme Court denies tribes the power of criminal jurisdiction over non-Indian people on reservations.</p> <p>1979: The Archaeological Resources Protection Act is passed.</p>	<p>in tension survives until December of 1979 when the Soviets invade Afghanistan. Ultimately, the US will support the Mujahadin (aka Freedom Fighters) in Afghanistan.</p> <p>The US economy slides into a recessionary period with high inflation and high unemployment.</p> <p>52 Americans are taken hostage by revolutionaries in Iran and held for 444 days. The Hostage Crisis signals the start of a generation of conflict with Iran that is currently being played out in a dispute over nuclear weapons. The Crisis also brings an increasing awareness in the United States of Islamic Fundamentalism. Our conflict with Iran also leads to US support for Iraq (and Sadaam Hussein) during the Iran-Iraq War.</p> <p>Republican Ronald Reagan is elected President in 1980.</p>
1980-1990	<p>Continued economic development in the Baraboo and the Lake Delton area.</p> <p>The Tomah and Black River Falls Smoke Shops are opened in 1983.</p> <p>The Sands Bingo Hall is opened in 1987. This ultimately evolves into the larger gaming enterprises of the Ho-Chunk Nation.</p> <p>The property that ultimately will be the site of the Executive Building</p>	<p>1980: The US Supreme Court finds in favor of the Sioux in the Black Hills Case.</p> <p>1981: The Reagan Administration initiates severe cutbacks in Indian social program funding.</p> <p>1982: The Indian Mineral Development Act is passed.</p> <p>Treaty-rights related to fishing became a focal point in Wisconsin beginning in the mid-1970s. In 1983, the US Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit ruled in favor of the Lac Courte Oreilles Band</p>	<p>During the 1980s, the United States sees a revival of the Cold War followed by a significant thaw in the relationship due to internal changes within the Soviet Union and the diplomacy of Reagan and his Soviet counter-part, Mikhail Gorbachev.</p> <p>The US becomes deeply embroiled in the internal struggles going on in both El Salvador and Nicaragua.</p> <p>The Reagan Administration passes the largest tax cut in American history, followed by</p>

	<p>and the Tribal Courts is secured in 1989.</p> <p>The Language Division property in Mauston is secured.</p>	<p>in a ruling known as the Voigt Decision. The ruling was further supported when the US Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal. The Voigt Decision has been upheld in subsequent challenges.</p> <p>1984: Angry protests began when the Ojibwe began spearing fish in off-reservation lakes. Groups such as Stop Treaty Abuse (STA) and Protect American Rights and Resources (PARR) used various forms of political pressure to prevent spear-fishing by tribal members. By the late 1980s, protests had become violent.</p> <p>1985: Wilma Mankiller becomes the principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation.</p> <p>1988: The Cabazon Decision opens the door to tribal gaming in the United States and signals a major change that currently impacts roughly 1/3 of the tribal nations.</p> <p>1989/90: Act 31 was passed by the Wisconsin Legislature mandating curriculum changes aimed at increasing awareness of Wisconsin Indians, issues of sovereignty, and civil rights.</p> <p>1990: The Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act is passed.</p>	<p>dramatic tax increases that support the largest peacetime build-up of the American military in history. Ultimately the nation climbs out of recession but much public debate centers on the debt and deficit issue.</p> <p>In 1984 Reagan is re-elected in a landslide.</p> <p>During his second term, the Administration becomes entangled in the Iran-Contra Scandal.</p> <p>George Bush is elected President in 1988 and will serve for one term.</p> <p>The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 signals major changes for eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.</p> <p>The invasion of Kuwait by Iraq (under the leadership of Sadaam Hussein) prompts the US action in the Gulf War.</p>
1991-2000	<p>1992: The Ho-Chunk Nation signs its first gaming compact with the state of Wisconsin.</p> <p>1993: Majestic Pines, Rainbow Bingo and Casino,</p>	<p>1993: Ada Deer (Menominee) is the first woman appointed as Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs.</p>	<p>The fall of the Soviet Union in 1991 and the establishment of the Commonwealth of Independent States (Russian Federation) ushers in the "Post-Cold War world."</p>

	<p>and Ho-Chunk Casino hold grand openings.</p> <p>1994: On November 1st, the Wisconsin Winnebago officially adopt their new constitution. They change their name to the Ho-Chunk Sovereign Nation, derived from “Hochungra,” the name they always called themselves. The BIA recognizes the new constitution.</p> <p>1995: The Tribal Executive Building is opened in Black River Falls, the seat of tribal government.</p> <p>With increasing revenues, the Ho-Chunk Nation initiates major economic development activities throughout their land-holdings. By the early 21st Century, HCN becomes the largest employer in Jackson County.</p>	<p>1994: Native American Free Exercise of Religion Act is passed.</p> <p>1998: President Clinton signs Executive Order on American Indian and Alaska Native Education.</p>	<p>Bill Clinton is elected President in 1992.</p> <p>Throughout the 1990s, the US will consistently confront the growing threat of terrorism.</p> <p>The US economy will experience the so-called “Dot-Com” bubble in the latter 1990s ushering in a period of economic prosperity and deficit reduction.</p> <p>Clinton is elected for a second term in 1996. The majority of his second term is clouded by the Lewinsky scandal and ultimately Clinton is impeached by the US House. The Senate fails to convict him and he completes his term.</p>
2001-Present	<p>The current period is witnessing dramatic changes in all aspects of the Ho-Chunk Nation’s activities. Economic and political developments are ongoing. Language and cultural preservation, always important, continue to challenge the Nation.</p> <p>The relationship between the HCN and the BRF School District continues to evolve. Beyond the full integration that occurred in 1963, a significant change came in 2006 with the advent of “Grade Centers” in the district elementary schools. Grade Centers meant more mixing of all students beginning in</p>	<p>2002: President George W. Bush reaffirms the federal government’s commitment to tribal colleges and universities.</p> <p>2004: US v. Lara reaffirms the power of Indian tribes to prosecute non-member Indians for crimes on reservations.</p> <p>2006: The Canadian Government pays \$8 billion in reparation to 80,000 former students of Indian Boarding Schools.</p>	<p>George W. Bush assumes the Presidency after the dramatic and disputed election of 2000.</p> <p>In September of 2001, the US is attacked by terrorists and nearly 3000 people are killed. “9-11” signals the start of an ongoing and dramatic confrontation between the US and its allies and the forces of terrorism, primarily located in the Middle East.</p> <p>In February of 2002 the US invades Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom) in response to the 9-11 attacks. The war will continue through December of 2014.</p>

	<p>Kindergarten, a subtle though dramatic change.</p> <p>In 2010, the BRF District and HCN signed a “Memorandum of Understanding,” signaling a more systematic and thorough ongoing dialogue than had occurred previously.</p> <p>Beginning in 2011, Ho-Chunk Language classes have been offered at BRFHS and in the fall of 2014 a new dual-credit class was initiated in the History/Social Studies Department in affiliation with the First Nations Study Department of UW-Green Bay. The class is one of two such offerings in Wisconsin high schools (Prescott is the other).</p>		<p>In March of 2003 the US invades Iraq in response to ongoing conflicts with Sadaam Hussein. The war will continue through 2010.</p> <p>George Bush is re-elected in 2004. In the final year of his second term, the US sinks into the “Great Recession” of 2008. Senator Barack Obama will be elected in 2008, in part, due to his opposition to the Iraq War. His election initiates much discussion in the nation concerning issues of race. He is re-elected in 2012.</p>
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