

P. Malone
A Chronology for Wounded Knee

Chronology From Wounded Knee: The Museum

DATE EVENT

- 1851 Fort Laramie Treaty
1863 “Red Cloud’s War”
1868 Treaty of 1868
1874 Lt. Col. George A. Custer leads a party into the Black Hills. Gold is Discovered.
1875 Gold rush begins in the Black Hills.
1876 Battle of the Little Big Horn.
1877 Sitting Bull flees to Canada. Crazy Horse surrenders and is killed at Fort Robinson, Nebraska.
1883 Sitting Bull returns to Standing Rock Agency.
1887 The Dawes Act is created.
1889 Wovoka, a prophet and visionary of the Paiute, has his great vision.
1890 April/May: A delegation of Lakota representatives returns from meeting Wovoka and begins to teach the Spirit Dance.
August/September: Newspaper reporters begin coverage of the “Ghost Dance”, presenting it as a focal point for an Indian uprising. White settlers are alarmed.
October: The Spirit Dance is introduced at Standing Rock Agency.
November: President Benjamin Harrison orders the military to take control of the Lakota reservations.
December 15: The Agent at Standing Rock Agency, James McLaughlin, sends Indian police to arrest Sitting Bull. Sitting Bull is killed.
December 16: Big Foot, leader of a Minneconjou band on the Cheyenne River Reservation, is ordered arrested as a troublemaker.
December 21: Big Foot learns of the death of Sitting Bull.
December 23: Big Foot’s band begins a flight to Pine Ridge Agency.
December 28: The band is intercepted by Maj. Samuel Whiteside and the 7th Cavalry. The band is escorted to a camp site on Wounded Knee Creek.
December 29: Forsyth decides to disarm the Lakota. A shot is fired, and the massacre begins. Up to 300 Lakota men, women, and children are killed.
1891 January 1: A burial party returns to the site of the massacre. They bury 146 Lakota bodies in a mass grave.

Knack, Robert. “Basic Chronology.” Wounded Knee: The Museum. 14 Apr. 2006<http://www.woundedkneemuseum.org/main_menu.html>.