A TIMELINE OF THE UNITED STATES, SAMOA & POLYNESIA SINCE 1776

1776 13 British Colonies declare Independence from Britain's King and wage the American Revolutionary War. In Samoa, the traditional Tupua and Tuimanu'a Chiefdoms rule and are aware of Dutch, French and British Explorers. British Captain James Cook visits the Tuitonga Islands after returnng Mai, a Tahitian who had travelled to London in 1774-76

July 4, 1776 Independence Declaration ceremony

Mai of Tahiti Island

1777 " "

1778 " "

1779 British Explorer Captain James Cook is killed at Hawaii Island during an argument.

1780 " "

1781 American Revolutionaries & French allies defeat the British at Virginia, ending war.

1782 " "

1783 An American, British & French Treaty of Paris formally ends the American Revolution and recognizes an Independent United States Nation.

1784 " "

1785 " "

1786 " "

1787 French Explorer Adm. J. F. de La Perouse anchors at Fagasa, Tutuila for six weeks of exploring before losing 12 men during a sudden rock fight that kills 29 Samoans. The Samoan Navigator Islands are afterwards avoided by Explorers until the 1820s.

1968 stamp recalling 1868 French visit

French painting depiction of 1787 L'Perouse visit

1788 The U.S. Constitution is discussed and adopted by 11 of 13 State Conventions. Great Britain begins exiling it's prisoners to Port Jackson, Australia.

1789 The First American President George Washington begins his administration. At Tahiti, British mutineers cast Capt Bligh adrift and burn the HMS Bounty at Pitcairn Island.

1790 " "

1791 North Carolina & Rhode Island finally approve the Constitution after the Bill or Rights (the first 10 Amendments) passes Congress. British Capt Edwards searches for Bounty Mutineers at Samoa during rule of Paramount Chieftains Tupua and Tuimanu'a.

The Bill of Rights

Ratified December 15, 1791

Article I

Congress may make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Article II

A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Article III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Article IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Article V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any Criminal case to be a witness against himself; nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Article VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the assistance of Counsel for his defence.

Article VII

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Article VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Article IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Article X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

A drawing of the American Congress and 1791 Bill of Rights Amendments

1792 " "

1793 Spanish Explorer Malaspina anchors several wks at Vava'u, Tonga, southeast of Samoa.

1794 US Constitution 11th Amendment restricts out of state lawsuits ie. sovereign immunity

1795 " "

1796 First President George Washington cordially resigns the first American Presidency.

1797 Constitutional State Electors choose John Adams as the second President of the United States. Several London Missionary Society Missionaries reach Tahiti to settle and preach Protestant Christianity to the Tahitians.

1798 " "

1799 George Washington dies at his Mount Vernon Potomac River estate in Virginia.

1800 " "

1801 The 25TH Anniversary of the United States has 16 States. The new American Navy fights Tripoli Barbary Coast pirates in the Mediterranean demanding tribute.

1802 Internal Samoan warfare develops among Paramount Chiefs after Tupua Iamafana dies. Belligerants are aided by escaped Australian convicts, runaway sailors and castaways.

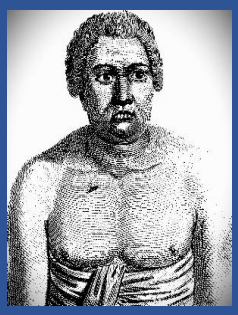
1803 US Constitution 12fth Amendment has President's Vice elected, not a runnerup Vice.

" "

1804 " "

1805 " "

1806 Vava'u Island Tongans ambush a British vessel and capture young teenager William Mariner. After 1810 rescue, his experiences of Tongan Culture are published in England



Literary Portraitures of William Mariner and Finau of Tonga

1807 " "

1808 " "

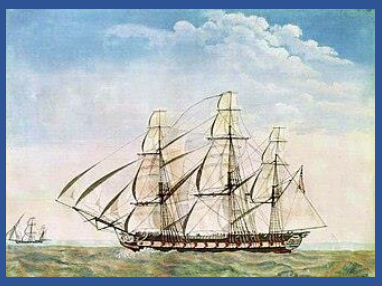
1809 " "

1810 After many battles over power, Kamehameha I finally unifies all of the Hawaiian Islands

" "

1811 " "

1812 The USS Essex docks at Marquesas for several months during War of 1812 to counter British ships. They build Fort Madison & fight Marquesans until retreating in 1813.



The USS Essex menanced British Pacific trade.

1813 " "

1814 " "

1815 " "

1816 " "

1817 " "

1818 " "

1819 " "

1820 A violent and tyrannical European castaway named Irish Tom of Manono harasses the people of Samoa until waylaid by Samoan men wielding sacred ironwood clubs.

1821 The United States Pacific Squadron is established to protect commercial shipping in the Pacific. It was replaced by the US Pacific Fleet in 1907.

1822 Whalers begin to frequent South Pacific waters killing whales to render valuable oil.

1823 " "

1824 The American Popular Vote begins to elect Presidents via Constitutional Electors. At Samoa, Russian Explorer Adm. Von Kotzbue meets Tupua Tama Aiga Fa or Tama'aiga, who speaks broken English and is knowledgeable about gold coins, rifles and cannons. Later missionaries record Tama Fa Aiga as Tamafaiga, a cruel war priest savage demigod.

1825 " "

1826 The 50TH Anniversary of the United States has grown to 24 States.

1827 " "

1828 " "

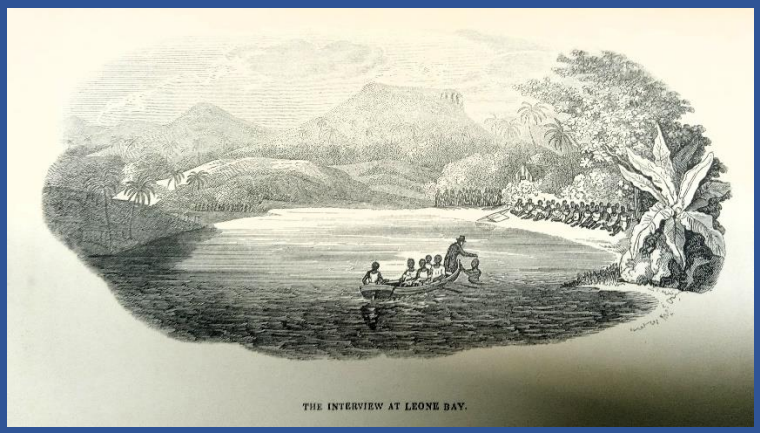
1829 The Samoan Siovili visits Tonga & Tahiti aboard Capt. Henry's trading vessel and sees the anti-LDS Mamaia Culture. He returns to Samoa and begins a similar Siovili Culture that sanctified books and prophesized the arrival of Christ. His cult lasted until the 1860s.

" "

1830 LDS Missionary John Williams reaches Savaii with Rarotonga Convert laymen to preach Christianity to the Samoan Islanders. He writes of warfare between Samoan parties avenging the killing of Tamafaiga. The opponents of this war are Malietoa Vaiinupo, Tuiatua Mataafa Filisonu'u and Tuiaana Nofoasaefa. Warfare eventually empowers the Malietoa Chiefs for the rest of the 19th & 20th Centuries.

1831 " "

1832 Rev. John Williams visits Tutuila at Leone Bay with additional Tahitian laymen who soon convert and appoint Samoan laymen to spread the Gospel. Written histories begin.



LMS depiction of Rev. John Williams 1832 Leone, Tutuila arrival

1833 Samoan Islanders begin to learn Christianity and to construct Village Churches of burnt coral walls and thatch. The LMS is translated by the Samoans as the "Loku Kahiki".

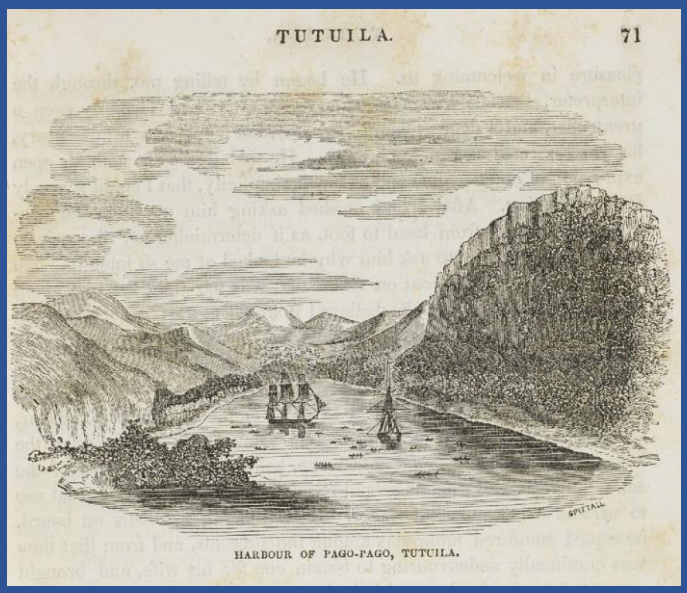
1834 " "

1835 LMS missionaries form a Samoan alphabet and also translate Bible excerpts and Hymns into Samoan for publication by the LMS Printing Press at Huahine, Tahiti.

1836 LMS Missionary families arrive at Fagasa, Tutuila Island to teach and preach.

1837 A British warship the HMS Conway visits Samoa, the first since the L'Perouse warships.

1838 " "



Some of Wilke's ships at anchor in Pago Pago Bay

1839 The US Exploring Expedition led by Com. Charles Wilkes' fleet, anchors between Sept-Nov, mapping the Samoan Islands, and making the first Commercial Regulations Treaty with Chief Malietoa Vainupo. First US Commercial Agent is established at Apia: James

Chaucer Williams, son of LMS Rev. John Williams, who sadly dies soon afterwards at Tanna, Vanuatu after being mistaken for a slave raider. Wilkes' scientists also collect specimens that form the basis of the 1857 US Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC. Samoa's official relationship with America begins.

Malietoa Vainupo Tavita. 1839.

Malietoa Tamalelagi Pe'a. 1842.

1840 " "

1841 The USS Peacock & Flying Fish bombard the north coast Upolu Island villages of Saluafata in Feb, 1841 and then land forces after the reported murder of an American merchant trader. Their villages and canoes are punitively burned and destroyed.

1842 " "

1843 " "

1844 " "

1845 " "

1846 Herman Melville visits Marquesas' and afterwards writes the popular best seller Typee

1847 " "

1848 Rarotongan Minister Ta'unga settles in Tau, Manu'a until 1878, leaving a legacy of letters describing Samoa, including the 1866 Volcanic Eruption between Olosega and Tau Islands

1849 " "

1850 US Commercial Consul John Chaucer Williams nears the end of his service since 1839. British Consuls George Pritchard and William Pritchard also served during the 1840s-50s

1851 The 75TH Anniversary of the United States has 31 States. A whaling ship log describes a Tuimanu'a Kava ceremony and a tidal wave at Tau Island, Manu'a.

1852 US Commercial Consul V.P. Chapin arrives to replace Acting US Consul George Pritchard.

1853 " "

1854 US Consul Dr. Aaron Van Camp succeeds Consul V.P. Chapin.

1855 US Consul Dr. Van Camp has disputes with seamen, ship masters & merchants. German trader J.C. Godeffroy & Sohn arrive and begin coconut, cacao and rubber plantations.

1856 Samoan Chiefs petition the American Pacific Squadron ship USS Independence to remove US Consul Aaron Van Camp in April. Another petition to President Franklin Pierce regarding same follows. US Consul Judge Jonathan S. Jenkins arrives in 1856 and resigns in 1857 after former Consul Van Camp commences litigation.

1857 Acting Vice US Consul Robert S. Swanston serves, leaving voluminous records and together with British Consuls Pritchard and Williams and Samoan Chiefs draft Court Rules for Civil and Criminal Cases between Samoans & Foreigners. He is replaced by Esq. James C. Dirickson.

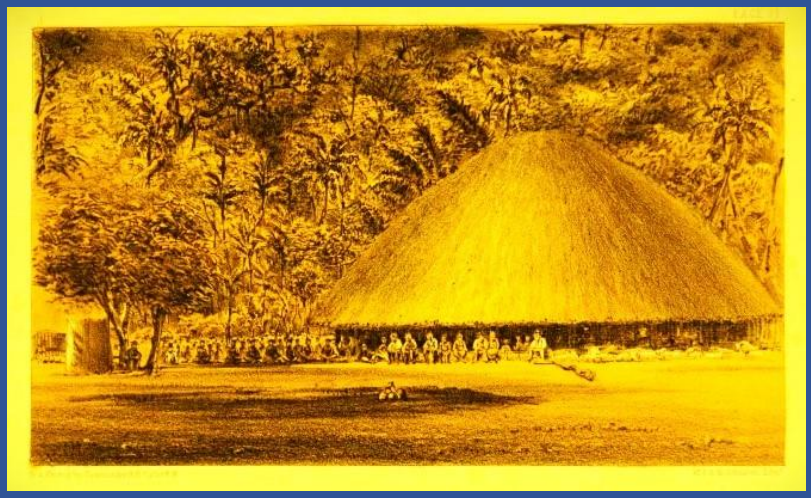
1858 " "

1859 " "

1860 US Consul Dirickson's term witnesses a Samoan war over Upolu Island land and the start of land sales to foreigners for guns and cannons. Methodist Reverend George Brown serves at Savaii, Samoa 1860-74 and eventually prints a memoir in 1910.

1861 Start of American Civil War. US Consul James M. Wolfe serves.

1862 Capt. T.H. Hood visits Tutuila & Manu'a and takes the first photographs in Samoa, later publishing etchings of the photographs in his book, Notes of a Cruise, 1863. US Consul E.W. Gardner in office.



Faleasau, Manu'a. One of several T.H. Hood photo etchings c1861.

1863 British Consul J.C. Williams becomes Acting U.S. Consul

1864 U.S. Consul Jonas Coe begins a term that lasts until 1872.

1865 End of the American Civil War. US Constitution 13th Amendment abolishes slavery.

1866 A subsurface volcanic eruption occurs between the Olosega & Tau Islands of Manu'a, lasting for about a month between Sept and Nov. US Constituion 14th Amendment defines Citizenship, Immunities, Due Process and Equal Protection.

1867 " "

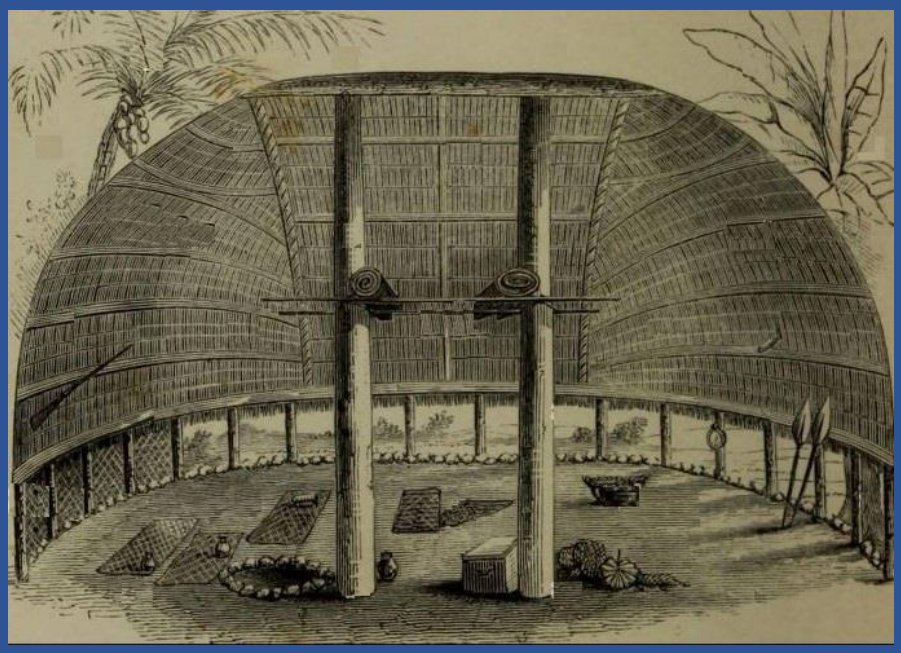
1868 " "

1869 US Constitution prohibits denial of right to vote due to race, color or previous servitude.

1870 " "

1871 " "

1872 Captain Richard Meade visits Tutuila Island and makes a Treaty with High Chiefs Mauga Manuma, Soliai, Leiato & Tuitele for a U.S. Naval Station in Pago Pago Bay.



Drawing of a Gagamoi, Pago Pago residence of High Chief Mauga Manuma. 1872.

1873 Tupua Chiefs reject Tutuila Treaty and instead enact a Declaration of Rights and the First Samoan Constitution written by Col. Albert Steinberger, a US agent sent by President Ulyssess S. Grant. The Declaration of Rights and the First Samoan Constitution comprises all of the Samoan Islands in Manu'a, Tutuila, Upolu & Savaii.

1874 U.S. Consul Samuel Stratton Foster is appointed.

1875 Samoa's First Western Style Government consists of a King and Parliament called Taimua & Faipule. It appoints Col. Albert Steinberger as it's Premier.

1876 The 100TH Anniversary of the United States has 37 States. Apia missionaries & traders & Consuls arrest Col. Steinberger and deport him to Fiji. Taimua & Faipule arrest their King.

1877 A Samoan Civil War between Puletua Party of King Malietoa and Taimua & Faipule starts

1878 Taimua & Faipule send M.K. Le Mamea to Washington DC to negotiate a US Protectorate Instead, an 1878 US Treaty of Friendship was made and approved by the Samoa Govt.

1879 Germany obtains a similar treaty to establish a Coaling Station at Saluafata Harbor. Britain negotiates a neutral Apia Municipality zone governed by foreign consul laws.

1880 Disputes arise between Samoan Govt. parties and foreigners over trade and land.

1881 The USS Lackawanna helps establish a peaceful dual Kingship Samoan Government.
1882 Internal disputes continue however and cause increased German Govt interventions.
1883 German interests pressure the Samoan Government promote an alternate Govt.
1884 Alternate German Government of Tupua Tamasese develops against dual Kingship Govt.

An 1884 photograph of Fagatogo Bay and Village canoes approaching a ship.

1885 German Military and Commercial interests advance changes via restrictions and fines.
1886 American and British Govts protest German political, military activities.
1887 Hawaiian Delegation of King Kalakaua visits Samoa and establishes a Hawaii Samoa Political Confederation Treaty. German Military and Commercial interests exile King M. Laupepa and install King T. Tamasese. Mauga, Asi and other Chiefs exiled to Jaluit Atoll.
1888 Samoans rebel and install King I. Mataafa. Civil War results. Battles of Apia, Matautu, Mulinu'u, Lauli'i, Vailele, Matautu; Germans shell Manono; British & US Warships arrive.
1889 A Hurricane devastates Apia Harbor, wrecking 6 German & US Warships and ~150 sailors
1890 The March 15, 1889 Apia Hurricane results in diplomacy. A Berlin Act Treaty creates a Samoan Govt under a British, German and American Tripartite administration. King M. Laupepa is returned/reinstated; a Samoan Lands Commission & Supreme Ct. are made; Taxes and laws are created;
1891 US Adm. Kimberly surveys Tutuila Pago Pago Bay shore lands for a Naval Station.
1892 Famed author Robert Louis Stevenson writes The Beach of Falesa and A Footnote to History while dwelling at Vailima. Samoan parties are divided over the Tripartite Govt. Tutuila Chiefs parties fight and object to Tripartite taxation and are arrested.
1893 Tripartite Govt of M. Laupepa exiles Mataafa and Chief dissenters to Jaluit Island.

1894 Robert Louis Stevenson dies in Samoa and is buried by Samoan Chiefs atop Mt. Vaea. Tripartite Govt of M. Laupepa fights with T. Tamasese II parties.

1895 Tripartite Govt of Britain, Germany and America and Samoan Govt of M. Laupepa.

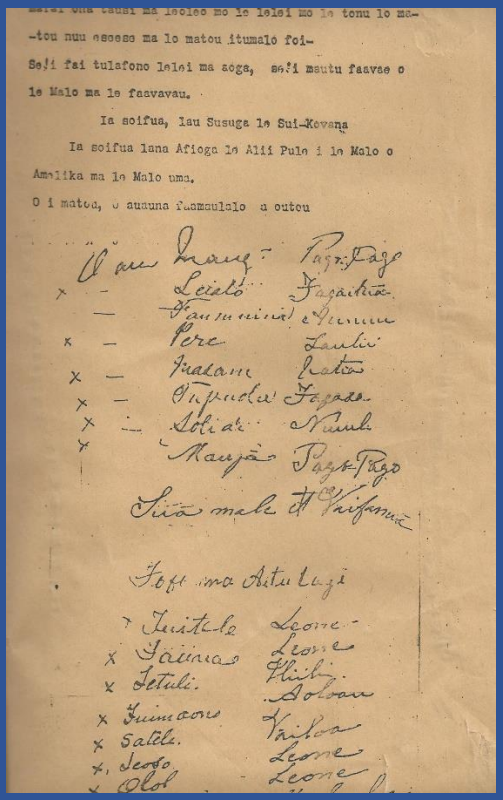
1896 " "

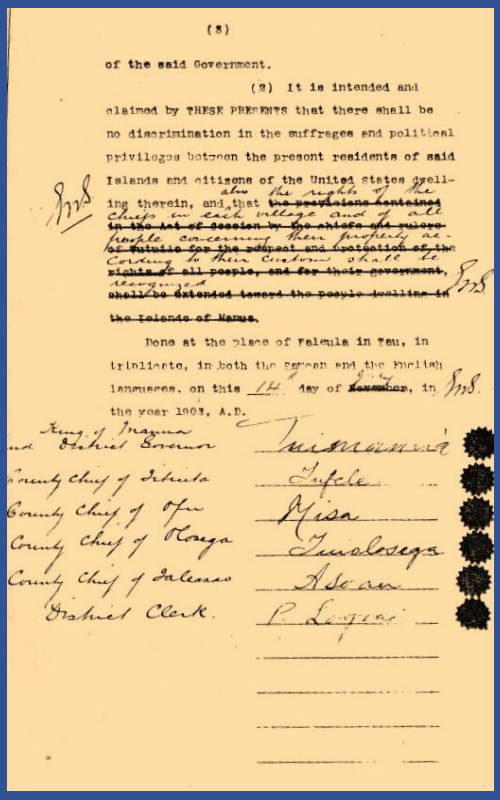
1897 " "

1898 Aug: Death of King M. Laupepa. Tripartite Govt returns Mataafa from Jaluit Island. Dec: Mataafa party rebels against Tripartite Court selection of M. Tanu I with a revolution.

1899 Jan-May: US, Britain & Malietoa Party v Germany & Mataafa Party. Tripartite infantry and Warships wage war. June-Aug: A Tripartite Commission negotiates peace and a revised Berlin Act. Nov: Tripartite powers instead divide and annex Samoa to Germany and the United States. Western German Samoa and Eastern American Samoa created.

1900 President McKinley places Eastern Samoa under the US Navy on Feb 19, 1900. A Tutuila Deed of Cession was afterwards made and signed by Tutuila Chiefs on April 17, 1900. US Naval Commandant Benjamin Franklin Tilley appointed. Tilley meets with Chiefs and begins regulations, such as April 30, 1900 Reg. 4 prohibiting Alienation of Native Land; and May 1, 1900 Reg. 5 establishing a Form of Government of Commandant and District Governors, High Ct, District Cts and Village Cts and a Secretary of Native Affairs.





Signature pages of April 2nd 1900 Tutuila Chiefs draft Deed; and final revised 1903-1904 July 16th Manu'a Deed

1901 The 125TH Anniversary of the United States has 45 States and 4 Island Territories. Fita Fita Guard established. Fita Fita Band established. Registration of Deeds Ordinance 4 establishes Registrar of Titles Office (Territorial Registrar)

1902 Coaling Station Wharf completed (1898-1902 project). A Volcanic eruption begins at Savaii Island in German Samoa and lasts until 1911.

1903 Commandant's Mansion completed. Office of Secretary of Native Affairs created.

1904 Manu'a Deed of Cession accepted, signed July 16, 1904.
The American Samoa Government House (modern day Courthouse) completed.

1905 USN Commandant leadership changed to a USN Governor leadership.

1906 Lt. Gov House Quarters completed. US Navy. Matai Registrations begin at Territorial Registrar Office.

1907 Fita Fita Barracks completed 1907 (modern day Police Station).

1908 Author, writer Jack London visits Tuimanu'a Elisara at Tau Village. A September statistical census found the population of Tutuila and Manu'a to be 6,780.

1909 J.W. Dwyer replaced Edwin Gurr as the Secretary of Native Affairs in c1909. The US Navy "Great White Fleet" of battleships and destroyers stops at American Samoa. US Constitution 16th Amendment establishes a national, federal income tax.

1910 Village Taxpayer lists were being prepared for each Tutuila & Manu'a village during 1910. Leone & Manu'a Village Co-Ops build sailing/kerosene schooners.

1911 USS Princeton Station Ship?... list of station ships.... A May 20, 1911 notice regarding Regulation 3-1911 Amended the Temporary Customs Regulation of 1900, establishing cargo storage and processing fees. USS Annapolis takes Tutuila & Manu'a Chiefs to observe Savaii Volcano eruption.

1912 Oceanic Steamship company offers service between San Francisco, Honolulu and Sydney, Australia. US Constitution 17th Amendment creates direct election of Senators.

1913 Am. Samoa Depts of Treasury, Customs, Public Health and Agriculure established.

1914 The codification of regulations is started to create an American Samoa Code of Laws. American Samoa remains neutral at start of World War I. Bank of Am. Samoa created.

1915 The USS Fortune is stationed as the Tutuila Naval Station ship during World War I.

1916 Dec: Am. Samoa inspires visitor Somerset Maugham to write the Sadie Thompson "Rain" story.

1917 American Samoa enters World War I. America, Europe & Japan allied against Germany.

1918 Tutuila U.S. Navy Radio Station established. Am. Samoa Spanish Influenza quarantine. 18th Amendment prohibits manufacture, sale and transport of alcohol.

1919 Dept. of Public Works established. First truck, cars, buses arrive?

1920 Public School System started. 19th Amendment provides women the right to vote.

1921 "The Faleniu 17" anti Navy protests results in the Tutuila Mau movement.

1922 Civil unrest develops over taxes and laws.

1923 First twin steel radio antenna towers erected, 450 ft tall.

1924 Navy bus service established to Leone Village. First private Driver Licenses issued.

1925 March 4, 1925 Swains Island Annexed. 25th Flag Day. Flag Raised on May 13, 1925.

1926 The 150TH Anniversary of the United States has 48 States and 5 Island Territories. Anthropologist author Margaret Mead visits Tutuila & Manua to study adolescence.

1927 American Samoa Mau is established.

1928 Margaret Mead publishes her controversial "Coming of Age in Samoa" study.

1929 Tutuila, Manu'a Deeds of Cession recognized by Senate, Congress and President.

1930 A U.S. Congressmen commission visits American Samoa First US Navy airplane flight over Tutuila

1931 Office of Attorney General established.

1932 USS Omaha station ship.

1933 An Attorney General is established for American Samoa to perform legal, personnel, archives, legislature, passports, taxation and vital statistics duties. 20th Amendment changes Presidential and Congressional start dates. The 21st Amendment repeals the 18th Amendment regarding illegality of alcohol.

1934 Feleti Barstow Commission visits to plan a cultural school for Am. Samoa at Taputimu.

1935 Apprx. 40 miles of roads; 27 skirting the southern coast and 13 village roads. Samoan Institute for Teachers established at Poyer School in Atu'u.

1936 New Zealand sends a Goodwill Mission to Western British Samoa to reconcile with Mau.

1937 United Artists movie The Hurricane filmed at Tutuila. Pioneer Female Aviator Amelia Earhart disappears in the Pacific northwest of Samoa.

1938 Pan Am Clipper plane lost at Fagasa.

1939 Roads and bridges completed to Amanave in the west and Tula in the east.

1940 The 1940 Census of American Samoa is conducted.

1941 American Samoa becomes part of World War II.

1942 Tutuila Naval Station shelled by Japanese submarine during WWII. Jan 11, 1942. Tafuna Airfield opens March 17, 1942. Thousands of Marine and Army soldiers sent to Samoa. First Samoan Marines Battalion formed.

1943 Wartime military activities in Am. Samoa. South Pacific Theater.

1944 Wartime activities in Am. Samoa, ie. Roll ups begin as troops advance.

1945 Chiefs of Tutuila and Manu'a create a representative Legislature at Gagamoe, Pago Pago

1946 Chiefs establish Samoana High School

1947 Chiefs petition for a Legislature

1948 First Bicameral Legislature of Am. Samoa established. Approved by Congress & President.

1949 Tutuila & Manu'a Chiefs reject US Navy and Congressional Organic Act Bills.

1950 Fiftieth Anniversary Flag Day

1951 The 175TH Anniversary of the United States has 48 States and 5 Island Territories Pres. Ex Order changes military administration of American Samoa from Navy to civilian Dept. of Interior administration. First DOI Governor Phelps Phelps 2/23/51-6/20/52. 16 months.

1952 Dept. of Public Safety police established. Fita Fita and Samoan Marines Exodus. Village Courts abolished and jurisdiction moved to District Courts. Second DOI Governor John C. Elliot. 7/16/52-11/23/52. 4 months. Third DOI Governor James A. Ewing. 11/28/52-3/4/53. 4 months. The 22nd Constitutional Amendment limits Presidents to 2 terms.

1953. Fourth DOI Governor Lawrence M. Judd 3/4/53-8/5/53. 5 months.
Fifth DOI Governor Richard Barrett Lowe. 8/5/53-10/15/56. 3 yrs. 2 months.
First legislative elections with universal suffrage. First women legislators elected.

1954 Democratic Voters win Hawaiian Statehood.

1955 Inter-Samoan Consultative Committee made to improve British & Am. Samoa relations.

1956 Samoan Governor Peter Tali Coleman first term. 4 yrs. 7 months.

1957 Dept. of Labor regulations reach American Samoa. British Samoa holds it's first general election using secret ballots to create a Legislative Assembly.

1958 Am. Samoa Tuna Canneries thrive and G.B. Milner

1959 Alaska and Hawaii become the 49th and 50th American States.

1960 Tafuna Jet Airport completed. American Samoa Constitution adopted. The 1960 Census of American Samoa is conducted.

1961 Seventh DOI Governor H. Rex Lee. 5/24/61-7/31/67. 6 yrs. 2 months. 23rd Amendment allows Washington District of Columbia an electoral vote.

1962 Western Samoa regains Independence after 61 years of German, New Zealand and United Nations administration. The first Independent Nation of the South Pacific.

1963 American Samoa Income Tax established via law.

1964 First TV. TV Education introduced and Govt School System consolidated. 24th Amendment bans poll taxes in federal elections.

1965 Consolidation of village schools into Dept. of Education schools.

1966 President LBJ & Ladybird visit and dedicate Manulele Elementary School and had Kava.
1966 Constitutional Convention revises 1960 Constitution

1967 Apollo 10 Astronauts splashdown near Samoa and welcomed by Gov & Mrs. Aspinall.
1967 (1966) Revised Constitution takes effect. 25th Amendment defines succession & disability regarding President and Vice President.

1968 Democratic Congressman Spark Matsunaga hosts a ball in American Samoa resulting in the creation of a local Democratic Party, an American Samoa Party and later, a Republican Party that debated issues of citizenship, the constitution and an organic act.

1969 July moon landing Astronauts of Apollo 11 splashdown near Honolulu. Nov: Apollo 12.

1970 Ill fated Apollo 13 Moon Astronauts visit after emergency splashdown during Flag Day

1971 Apollo 14 & 15 Moon Astronauts. ASCC Community College established at Utulei. The

26th Amendment guarantees 18 yr olds the right to vote.

1972 Apollo 16 & 17 Last Moon Astronauts splashdown and visit Samoa. ASCC Mapusaga

1973 " "

1974 " "

1975 " "

1976 The 200TH Anniversary of the United States has 48 States and 5 Island Territories.First microwave Satellite Station ASTECA 1976 Manua airstrip crash SPIA

1977 First Truman Scholarships established at ASCC.

1978 First Electorate Inauguration/Government Coleman-Tufele Li'amatua. 1/1/78 – 1/1/81

1979 " "

1980 1980 Census of American Samoa is conducted. A Navy plane crash mars 1980 Flag Day

1981 First 4yr electorate 1/1/81-84. Gov. Peter T. Coleman & Lt. Gov. Tufele Li'a administration

1982 " "

1983 " "

1984 " "

1985 2nd 4 yr electorate 1985-88. Gov. Aifili Paulo Lutali & Lt. Gov Eni Faleomavaega.1st live TV

1986 " "

1987 " "

1988 " "

1989 3rd 4 yr electorate 1989-92. Gov. Peter T. Coleman and Lt. Gov. Galea'i Peni Poumele.

1990 The 1990 Census of American Samoa is conducted. Hurricane Val.

1991 Hurricane Ofa.

1992 The 27th Constitutional Amendment prescribes the effective date of laws implementing Congressional salary changes. Lt. Gov Poumele dies in office. Mrs Gaioi T. Poumele is appointed to complete his term.

1993 4th 4 yr electorate 1993-1996. Gov. A.P. Lutali & Lt. Gov. Faoa Aitofele Sunia.

1994 " "

1995 First Internet company 1996

1997 5th 4 yr electorate of Governor Pita Sunia Tauese & Lt. Gov. Togiola Tulafono.

1998 " "

1999 " "

2000 Am. Samoa celebrates Jan-1-2000 2nd Millenium Date. The 2000 Census of Am. Samoa is conducted. 2001: The 225TH Anniversary of the United States has 48 States and 5 Island Territories. 6th 4 yr electorate.

2001 Gov Tauese administration reelected. Dies in office 2003.

2002 The United States is attacked by Middle East extremists on Sept 9, 2001. 9-11.

2003 Lt. Gov. Togiola Tulafono continues Governorship administration of Gov. Tauese.

2004 Hurricane Heta.

2005 7th 4 yr electorate. Gov. Togiola Tulafono and Lt. Gov. Faoa Sunia administration begins.
2006 " "
2007 " "
2008 " "
2009 8th 4 yr electorate Gov. Togiola (First 8 yr administration). An 8.8 seaquake causes a tidal wave Tsunami in the Tonga and Samoan Islands. 34 American Samoan lives lost.
2010 " "
2011 " "
2012 " "
2013 9th 4 yr electorate Gov. Lolo Matalasi Moliga & Lt. Gov. Lemanu Mauga administration.
2014 " "
2015 " "
2016 " "
2017 10th 4 yr electorate Gov. Lolo & Lt. Gov. Mauga (Second 8 yr administration)
2018 Hurricane Gita. " "
2019 " "
2020 " "
2021 11th 4 yr electorate Gov. Lemanu Mauga & Lt. Gov Eleasalo Ale La'apui.
2022 An enormous volcanic eruption occurs in the Tonga Islands and reverberates worldwide.
2023 " "
2024 " "
2025 12th 4 yr electorate of Gov. Pulaali'i Nikolau Pula & Lt. Gov. Pulu Ae Ae begins. 100TH Swains Island Olohega commemoration celebrated. 125th Tutuila Flag Day.
2026 Tutuila Flag Day 126, Swains Day 101, Manu'a Day 122 & US Independence Day 250!

This publication is a work in progress and will be updated periodically until Dec. 31st, 2026. Some content is interpretive of traditional historical interpretations, translations and literature about Samoan history, language and culture and the author accepts all responsibility for any errors or scholarly contention of historical accuracy.

Information sources for this document are printed and online historical literatures of Samoa and public archives information from the American Samoa Office of Archives & Records Management and various other National, State, Territorial and International Archives, Libraries, Museums and Universities.

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