

A History of Native CA Lunch Series

Chapter 8: Becoming the Indians of California: Reorganization and Justice, 1928-1954

July 17, 2026

Takeaways and Resources

The following resource(s) were shared during the webinar:

- [Register here](#) for the next lunch session on August 21: Chapter 9: Reoccupying California: Resistance and Reclaiming Land, 1953-1985.
- For more information on the unratified 18 treaties, see the "[California Unratified Treaties Map](#)", and "1851-1852 - Eighteen Unratified Treaties between California Indians and the United States," [here](#).
- For our [discussion](#) on the 18 unratified treaties, see [Chapter 5 Takeaways and Resources](#).
- Read the California Indians Jurisdictional Act (1928) [here](#).
- For more on [Professor Whiteley's](#) article on the California Land Claims, see "In the Grand Scheme of Things" in *California History*, University of California Press, [here](#).
- For more on the history of Owens Valley, see "Water & Land Injustices," Owens Valley Indian Water Commission, [here](#).
- See also the movie [Chinatown](#).
- For the Owens Valley Indian Water Commission's website, see [here](#).
- Read the Indian Reorganization Act (1934) [here](#).
- For more on the boarding schools, see the Department of the Interior's investigative report on the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative, [here](#).
- For more on the Indian Reorganization Act, see Graham D. Taylor's *The New Deal and American Indian Tribalism*, University of Nebraska Press, [here](#).

Selected resources relating to this chapter for additional reading:

- For more on the Indian Reorganization Act, see, *The Indian Reorganization Act: Congresses and Bills (2002)*, by Vine Deloria.
- For more on the claims case of the Indians of California vs The United States, read Robert Heizer and Alfred Kroeber's "For Sale: California at 47 Cents Per Acre," [here](#).
- Read more about weaver Mabel McKay in *Mabel McKay: Weaving the Dream (1997)*, by Greg Sarris [here](#).
- For more on tribal community responses to the Indian New Deal, check out Heather Marie Daly's doctoral dissertation "American Indian Freedom Controversy: Political and Social Activism by Southern California Mission Indians, 1934-1958", [here](#).
- For more on Public Law 280, see *Captured Justice: Native Nations and Public Law 280* [here](#).

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- To learn more about the term “Spanish fantasy past”, and its manifestation in California State Parks in Southern California, [watch this](#).