

GLOSSARY TERMS



Adaptation—A change in a living thing which helps it to adjust to its natural surroundings.



Archaeologist—A person who studies the people, customs, and life of ancient times.



Artifact—Any human-made object.



Cactus—A desert plant with fleshy stems and branches. It is usually covered with prickly spines.



Conservation—The official care and protection of natural and cultural resources.



Desert—A region receiving less than 10 inches of rain a year.



Environment—All the conditions and influences which affect the development of an organism.



Geology—The study of the Earth's history through soil and rocks.



Limestone—A rock type formed from the remains of shells or coral.



Mano—Spanish for hand; referring to a hand-sized stone used by Native Americans for grinding meal.



Metate—Spanish word which refers to a large flat stone used to grind seeds into meal.

Oasis—A green, fertile area in a desert where a supply of water allows trees and plants to grow.

Paiute—The group of Native Americans who lived in southern Nevada, southern Utah, and southeastern California from

approximately 900 years ago to historic times. These were principally nomadic hunter/gatherers.

Petroglyph—Rock carvings made by Native Americans.

Pictograph—Paintings on rocks by Native Americans using vegetable or mineral dyes. Their meaning has not been verified.

Pioneers—This refers to people who settled in the western United States during the mid-1800s to mid-1900s.

Quarry—A place where stones are excavated for building purposes.

Ranger—A government official in charge of patrolling and protecting public land and those people visiting it.

Sandstone—A type of rock made of sand grains cemented together. The type of rock the Calico Hills are made of.

Tinaja—Spanish word which refers to large water holes created by water erosion in the rocks.

Wash—Low ground which is flooded part of the year and dry the rest of the time and distinguished by a channel cut into the ground.

Wickiup—A small, cone-shaped Native American dwelling covered with brushwood or with mats.

Wildlife—Wild animals which live in their natural surroundings.

Yucca—A desert plant with stiff narrow pointed leaves much like swords.



CREDITS



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