

utah utes logo history

Utah Utes Logo History: A Visual Journey of Tradition and Identity

utah utes logo history is a fascinating story that traces the evolution of a symbol deeply connected to the University of Utah's sports teams and their rich cultural heritage. For decades, the Utah Utes logo has represented not just athletic prowess but also a unique blend of Native American heritage and modern collegiate spirit. If you've ever wondered how the Utah Utes' emblem came to be or what it signifies, you're in for an engaging exploration of design changes, symbolism, and branding efforts that have shaped this iconic logo.

The Origins of the Utah Utes Logo

The Utah Utes nickname and logo are rooted in the university's close association with the Ute tribe, a Native American tribe indigenous to the region. This connection was established to honor the tribe's legacy and the area's history, with the university officially adopting the "Utes" nickname in the early 20th century.

Early Representations and Symbols

Before the logo took its current form, the University of Utah's athletic teams used various symbols and mascots that reflected both the university's identity and the Native American influence. Early depictions included generic Native American imagery, which was common in collegiate sports branding during that period. However, these early designs were often simplistic and lacked a unified, recognizable emblem.

The Introduction of the Block U

One of the earliest and most enduring symbols associated with the university is the "Block U." Introduced in the mid-1900s, this stylized letter "U" became a staple of the university's branding. The Block U was prominently featured on uniforms, merchandise, and promotional materials. While not a logo in the traditional sense, the Block U served as a visual anchor for the university's identity during much of the 20th century.

Evolution of the Utah Utes Logo Over Time

The Utah Utes logo history is marked by several key redesigns and refinements that reflect changing attitudes toward cultural representation, branding trends, and the university's athletic ambitions.

The “Circle U” and Early Mascot Logos

In the 1970s and 1980s, the university experimented with the “Circle U” logo, which featured a bold “U” encased in a circle. This design was used to unify branding across various sports teams and merchandise. Around this period, the university also began to incorporate a more defined mascot logo—a caricatured Native American figure—that was both popular and controversial.

Modernization and Cultural Sensitivity

As awareness around cultural appropriation and sensitivity grew in the 1990s and 2000s, the University of Utah became more deliberate in how it portrayed its logos and mascots. The athletic department worked closely with the Ute Tribe to ensure respectful representation. This collaboration led to the creation of logos that honored the tribe without resorting to stereotypes.

One of the most significant changes was the refinement of the “Block U” and the adoption of a cleaner, more modern typeface and color scheme. The university’s official colors—red and white—were emphasized to create a bold and instantly recognizable brand identity.

The Current Utah Utes Logo

Today’s Utah Utes logo combines tradition with a modern aesthetic. The primary emblem features a bold Block U in red with white and black accents, often paired with the word “UTES” in a strong, angular font. This streamlined design reflects the university’s commitment to honoring its heritage while appealing to contemporary sports fans and students.

Additionally, the logo is used alongside the image of “Swoop,” the university’s official mascot, a red-tailed hawk, which was introduced to represent strength, agility, and a connection to the region’s wildlife rather than relying solely on Native American imagery.

Understanding the Symbolism Behind the Utah Utes Logo

The Utah Utes logo is more than just a graphic; it embodies a story of respect, identity, and pride. Understanding its symbolism can deepen appreciation for what the logo represents today.

The Significance of the Block U

The Block U is a powerful visual shorthand for the University of Utah. Its bold, angular lines convey strength and stability, qualities that resonate with the university’s athletic teams. Beyond aesthetics, the Block U connects generations of students, alumni, and fans, serving as a unifying emblem.

Colors and Their Meaning

Red and white are the university's official colors, with red symbolizing energy, passion, and determination—traits essential to competitive sports. White provides contrast and clarity, ensuring the logo stands out on uniforms, merchandise, and media.

Respecting Native American Heritage

Integral to the Utah Utes logo history is the ongoing relationship with the Ute Tribe. Rather than appropriating Native American imagery, the university emphasizes partnership and education. The name "Utes" is used with permission from the tribe, and the university collaborates to ensure cultural sensitivity in all branding efforts. This respectful approach sets the Utah Utes apart from many other collegiate programs.

Impact of the Utah Utes Logo on Branding and Fan Identity

A logo is a critical element of any sports team's brand, and the Utah Utes are no exception. Their logo history reveals a journey toward creating a symbol that fans and athletes alike can rally behind.

Building a Strong Athletic Brand

The evolution of the Utah Utes logo reflects the university's broader efforts to increase visibility and appeal in collegiate athletics. By adopting a clean, modern logo that balances tradition with contemporary design principles, the university has strengthened its brand recognition on both regional and national stages.

Merchandising and Fan Engagement

The Utah Utes logo appears on countless items—from jerseys and hats to mugs and banners. Its bold design makes it highly marketable, helping to boost merchandise sales and fan enthusiasm. For many supporters, wearing the Block U or the Utes logo is a way to express pride and connection to the university community.

Digital Presence and Media Usage

In today's digital age, the Utah Utes logo is a key component of the university's online presence. Whether on social media, live broadcasts, or digital advertising, the logo's clarity and distinctiveness ensure it stands out. The university's commitment to maintaining a consistent visual identity across platforms has helped solidify its reputation.

Lessons from the Utah Utes Logo History

Looking back at the Utah Utes logo history offers valuable insights for anyone interested in sports branding, cultural representation, or design evolution.

- **Respecting Cultural Origins:** The university's close collaboration with the Ute Tribe highlights the importance of respect and partnership when using cultural symbols in branding.
- **Adapting to Change:** The logo's evolution demonstrates how institutions can modernize their image while honoring tradition.
- **Consistency Matters:** Maintaining certain key elements, like the Block U and color scheme, helps preserve brand recognition over decades.
- **Fan Connection:** Successful logos create emotional ties with their audience, fostering loyalty and pride.

Exploring the Utah Utes logo history reveals much about how symbols can carry deep meaning, evolve with time, and unite communities. Whether you're a longtime fan, a design enthusiast, or curious about collegiate sports branding, the story of the Utah Utes logo offers a compelling example of how identity is visually crafted and cherished.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the origin of the Utah Utes logo?

The Utah Utes logo originated from the University of Utah's association with the Ute tribe, the indigenous people native to the region. The logo has evolved over time to respectfully represent the university's connection to the tribe.

How has the Utah Utes logo changed over the years?

The Utah Utes logo has undergone several changes, starting from simple block letters to incorporating Native American imagery. Over time, the design has been modernized to be more stylized and respectful, including the current block 'U' with a feather.

Why does the Utah Utes logo feature a feather?

The feather in the Utah Utes logo symbolizes the university's bond with the Ute tribe and honors Native American heritage. It is a respectful nod to the tribe's culture and traditions.

When was the current Utah Utes logo adopted?

The current Utah Utes logo, featuring the stylized red block 'U' with a feather, was adopted in the

early 2000s as part of a rebranding effort to modernize the university's athletic identity.

How does the University of Utah ensure cultural respect in its logo design?

The University of Utah collaborates with the Ute tribe to ensure that the logo and its usage are culturally respectful and appropriate. This partnership helps maintain a positive relationship and honors the tribe's heritage.

Additional Resources

Utah Utes Logo History: Evolution and Symbolism of a Collegiate Icon

utah utes logo history presents a fascinating journey through the visual identity of one of the most storied athletic programs in NCAA history. The Utah Utes, representing the University of Utah, have cultivated a brand that resonates deeply with both the university community and college sports enthusiasts nationwide. The evolution of their logo reflects broader trends in sports branding, cultural sensitivity, and institutional pride. Understanding this history offers valuable insight into how collegiate logos develop alongside changing social contexts and competitive landscapes.

The Origins of the Utah Utes Logo

The University of Utah's athletic teams have long been known as the "Utes," a name that pays homage to the Ute tribe, the indigenous people native to the region. This connection imbues the logo and mascot with profound cultural significance. However, the visual representation of the Utes has undergone substantial changes since its inception.

In the early 20th century, the Utah Utes did not have a standardized logo. Athletic teams often used simple block lettering or variations of the letter "U" to represent the university in competition. The color scheme was firmly established as crimson and white, aligning with the school colors adopted in 1905. These early marks were straightforward and lacked the intricate symbolism that would characterize later designs.

Introduction of the Ute Warrior Imagery

By the mid-20th century, the university began incorporating Native American imagery explicitly into its athletic branding. This included depictions of Ute warriors and indigenous motifs. While intended as a tribute, these early logos and mascots often reflected the era's limited understanding of cultural representation, sometimes veering into caricature.

The use of Native American imagery in sports logos during this period was widespread across the United States, but it also sparked controversy. The Utah Utes logo history during this phase is marked by a tension between honoring the Ute tribe and the risk of cultural appropriation or misrepresentation. The university took care to maintain a respectful relationship with the tribe, including obtaining approval to use the name and associated imagery.

Modernization and Refinement of the Logo

As collegiate sports branding became more sophisticated in the late 20th and early 21st centuries, the Utah Utes logo underwent significant modernization. The need for a logo that would work across various media platforms—print, television, merchandise, and digital—prompted a cleaner, more versatile design.

The Block "U" and Feather Design

One of the most recognizable elements introduced in recent decades is the red block "U," often accompanied by a feather graphic. This design emphasizes simplicity and boldness, aligning with trends in sports branding that favor strong, easily identifiable marks. The block "U" serves as a shorthand for the university and its athletic teams, enabling quick recognition.

The feather, a subtle nod to the Ute tribe, is carefully designed to avoid stereotypical imagery. It reflects a more nuanced approach to cultural symbolism in sports logos. Together, these elements create a logo that balances tradition with contemporary branding needs.

Introduction of the Drum and Circle of Feathers

Another prominent logo used by the Utah Utes athletic department incorporates a traditional Native American drum encircled by feathers. This symbol is rich in cultural meaning, representing unity, strength, and the university's connection to the Ute tribe. The drum logo is often used in conjunction with the block "U" and other branding elements to create a cohesive identity.

This logo iteration reflects a deeper collaboration between the university and the Ute tribe, ensuring that cultural symbols are portrayed respectfully and meaningfully. It also differentiates the Utah Utes from other collegiate programs by highlighting their unique heritage.

Comparative Analysis of Utah Utes Logo Evolution

When compared to other NCAA logos, the Utah Utes' branding journey is notable for its integration of indigenous representation with modern design principles. Unlike some programs that have completely abandoned Native American imagery due to cultural sensitivity concerns, the University of Utah has taken a collaborative approach with the Ute tribe to maintain respectful symbolism.

- **Early logos:** Simple, typographic, and color-based without explicit cultural imagery.
- **Mid-century designs:** Introduced Native American warrior motifs, reflecting common trends but sometimes problematic portrayals.
- **Modern logos:** Emphasize bold typography (block "U"), culturally respectful feather and drum symbols, and versatility for multi-platform use.

This evolution underscores the challenges and responsibilities inherent in using indigenous symbols in sports branding. The Utah Utes logo history serves as a case study in balancing tradition, respect, and marketing effectiveness.

Visual Features and Branding Impact

The current Utah Utes logos are characterized by their strong use of crimson red, a color that conveys energy, passion, and competitive spirit. The block "U" is rendered in a bold, sans-serif style that enhances visibility, especially important for merchandise and broadcast media.

The feather and drum elements introduce texture and cultural depth, adding layers of meaning beyond mere team identification. From a branding perspective, these features help the university stand out in the crowded landscape of college athletics logos.

Controversies and Cultural Sensitivities

The use of Native American imagery in sports logos has been the subject of considerable debate nationwide. The Utah Utes logo history is not without its controversies, particularly in earlier depictions that lacked nuanced cultural understanding.

The University of Utah has engaged in ongoing dialogue with the Ute tribe to ensure that all representations are culturally appropriate and respectful. This partnership has resulted in logos and mascots that honor the tribe's heritage without resorting to stereotypes or offensive imagery.

This proactive approach highlights the importance of community involvement in logo development, especially when cultural identity is a central theme.

Role of the Ute Tribe in Logo Development

One of the most significant aspects of the Utah Utes logo history is the collaborative relationship with the Ute Indian Tribe. The tribe has granted permission for the university to use the "Utes" name and associated imagery, provided it is done with respect and accuracy.

This collaboration has influenced the design of the feather and drum logos and continues to shape the university's branding strategy. It exemplifies how sports organizations can work with indigenous communities to create logos that honor heritage while supporting athletic identity.

Future Directions and Branding Trends

As the landscape of collegiate sports branding evolves, the Utah Utes logo history suggests an ongoing commitment to balancing tradition with modern design trends. Future iterations may incorporate more dynamic digital elements or adapt to new media formats while preserving the

cultural symbolism that defines the Utes identity.

Emerging trends in sports branding include greater emphasis on minimalism, adaptability across platforms, and authentic representation. The Utah Utes logos are well-positioned to evolve in this context, given their strong foundation of cultural collaboration and bold visual identity.

In summary, the Utah Utes logo history is a rich tapestry of cultural respect, visual evolution, and strategic branding. From humble typographic beginnings to complex symbols of heritage, the logos tell a story that mirrors the university's growth and its enduring connection to the Ute tribe. This journey continues to shape how the Utah Utes are recognized and celebrated in the world of collegiate athletics.

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utah utes logo history: History of Utah Hubert Howe Bancroft, 1889

utah utes logo history: **A History of Utah's American Indians** Forrest Cuch, 2018-12-14 A comprehensive history of the six Native American tribes of Utah, from an Indigenous perspective. The valleys, mountains, and deserts of Utah have been home to native peoples for thousands of years. Like peoples around the world, Utah's native inhabitants organized themselves in family units, groups, bands, clans, and tribes. Today, six Indian tribes in Utah are recognized as official entities. They include the Northwestern Shoshone, the Goshutes, the Paiutes, the Utes, the White Mesa or Southern Utes, and the Navajos (Dineh). Each tribe has its own government. Tribe members are citizens of Utah and the United States; however, lines of distinction both within the tribes and with the greater society at large have not always been clear. Migration, interaction, war, trade, intermarriage, common threats, and other challenges have made relationships and affiliations more fluid than might be expected. In this volume, the editor and contributors endeavor to write the history of Utah's first residents from an Indian perspective. An introductory chapter provides an overview of Utah's American Indians and a concluding chapter summarizes the issues and concerns of contemporary Indians and their leaders. Chapters on each of the six tribes look at origin stories, religion, politics, education, folkways, family life, social activities, economic issues, and important events. They provide an introduction to the rich heritage of Utah's native peoples. This book includes chapters by David Begay, Dennis Defa, Clifford Duncan, Ronald Holt, Nancy Maryboy, Robert McPherson, Mae Parry, Gary Tom, and Mary Jane Yazzie. This book is a joint project of the Utah Division of Indian Affairs and the Utah State Historical Society. It is distributed to the book trade by Utah State University Press.

utah utes logo history: Utah's History Richard Douglas Poll, Thomas G. Alexander, Eugene E. Campbell, David E. Miller, 1978

utah utes logo history: **Explorer's Guide Salt Lake City, Park City, Provo & Utah's High Country Resorts: A Great Destination (Second Edition) (Explorer's Great Destinations)** Christine Balaz, 2010-11-01 An updated edition of the most comprehensive guide to the area, full of spectacular scenery and ripe for outdoor adventure. In this definitive guide to Utah's Wasatch Region, entertainment abounds, from the ski slopes of Park City to the theaters of Salt Lake. Set against the stunning backdrop of the Rockies' impressive peaks, this region offers the perfect pairing of outdoor escapes and urban options—with convenience, accessibility, and affordability.

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and a celebration of state history for residents, former residents, and visitors.

utah utes logo history: 100 Things Utes Fans Should Know & Do Before They Die Patrick Sheltra, 2011-09 All sports fans want to see their team win the championship but being a fan is about more than watching your team win the big game. As part of an ongoing best selling series, 100 Things Utes helps Utah lovers get the most out of being a fan. Get ready to enjoy your team on a new, more involved, level.

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utah utes logo history: *History of the State of Colorado, Embracing Accounts of the Pre-historic Races and Their Remains* Frank Hall, 1890

utah utes logo history: Journeys West Virginia Kerns, 2010-03-01 Journeys West traces journeys made during seven months of fieldwork in 1935 and 1936 by Julian Steward, a young anthropologist, and his wife, Jane. Virginia Kerns identifies the scores of Native elders whom they met throughout the Western desert, men and women previously known in print only by initials, and thus largely invisible as primary sources of Steward's classic ethnography. Besides humanizing Steward's cultural informants revealing them as distinct individuals and also as first-generation survivors of an ecological crisis caused by American settlement of their lands Kerns shows how the elders worked with Steward. Each helped to construct an ethnographic portrait of life in a particular place in the high desert of the Great Basin. The elders' memories of how they and their ancestors had lived by hunting and gathering a sustainable way of life that endured for generations richly illustrated what Steward termed cultural adaptation. It later became a key concept in anthropology and remains relevant today in an age of global environmental crisis. Based on meticulous research, this book draws on an impressive array of evidence from interviews and observations to census data, correspondence, and the field journal of the Stewards. Journeys West illuminates not only on the elders who were Steward's guides, but also the practice of ethnographic fieldwork: a research method that is both a journey and a distinctive way of looking, listening, and learning.

utah utes logo history: A State-by-State History of Race and Racism in the United States Patricia Reid-Merritt, 2018-12-07 Providing chronologies of important events, historical narratives from the first settlement to the present, and biographies of major figures, this work offers readers an unseen look at the history of racism from the perspective of individual states. From the initial impact of European settlement on indigenous populations to the racial divides caused by immigration and police shootings in the 21st century, each American state has imposed some form of racial restriction on its residents. The United States proclaims a belief in freedom and justice for all, but members of various minority racial groups have often faced a different reality, as seen in such examples as the forcible dispossession of indigenous peoples during the Trail of Tears, Jim Crow laws' crushing discrimination of blacks, and the manifest unfairness of the Chinese Exclusion Act. Including the District of Columbia, the 51 entries in these two volumes cover the state-specific histories of all of the major minority and immigrant groups in the United States, including African Americans, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Native Americans. Every state has had a unique experience in attempting to build a community comprising multiple racial groups, and the chronologies, narratives, and biographies that compose the entries in this collection explore the consequences of racism from states' perspectives, revealing distinct new insights into their respective racial histories.

utah utes logo history: Travels with Frances Densmore Joan M. Jensen, Michelle Wick Patterson, 2015-06-01 Over the first half of the twentieth century, scientist and scholar Frances Densmore (1867-1957) visited thirty-five Native American tribes, recorded more than twenty-five hundred songs, amassed hundreds of artifacts and Native-crafted objects, and transcribed information about Native cultures. Her visits to indigenous groups included meetings with the Ojibwes, Lakotas, Dakotas, Northern Utes, Ho-chunks, Seminoles, and Makahs. A "New Woman" and

a self-trained anthropologist, she not only influenced government attitudes toward indigenous cultures but also helped mold the field of anthropology. Densmore remains an intriguing historical figure. Although researchers use her vast collections at the Smithsonian and Minnesota Historical Society, as well as her many publications, some scholars critique her methods of “salvage anthropology” and concepts of the “vanishing” Native American. *Travels with Frances Densmore* is the first detailed study of her life and work. Through narrative descriptions of her life paired with critical essays about her work, this book is an essential guide for understanding how Densmore formed her collections and the lasting importance they have had for researchers in a variety of fields.

utah utes logo history: Touchdown Gerald R. Gems, Gertrud Pfister, 2017-09-30 American football is the most popular, and controversial, sport in the United States, and a massive industry. The NFL’s revenues are over \$13 billion annually. The Super Bowl is watched by half of US television households and is televised in over 150 countries. *Touchdown: An American Obsession* is the first comprehensive guide to the history and culture of the sport, covering US college football as well as professional football worldwide. The editors and authors are among the world’s leading sports scholars. They cover race, ethnicity, religion, gender, social class, and globalization, as well as recent scandals and controversies, the importance of television, and the art and aesthetics of the game. *Touchdown: An American Obsession* is a readable, authoritative guide for Americans as well as an introduction for people around the world.

utah utes logo history: The History of Emigration Canyon: Gateway to Salt Lake Valley Cynthia Furse, Jeffrey Carlstrom, 2019-11-28 Emigration Canyon is well known in Utah as the route by which pioneers, in 1847, reached Great Salt Lake Valley to establish the state's first lasting Euro-American settlements. Before and after 1847 the canyon had an interesting history, which included the Donner-Reed party, the Pony Express and Overland Stage, mining and sheep herding, a narrow-gauge railroad, a major resort, a brewery, and the transformation of recreation areas and cabin sites into year-round residential neighborhoods. This well-illustrated, detailed history tells the story of a unique place, but its counterparts can be found across the West and America wherever the development of wild and scenic areas has been shaped by the growth and needs of neighboring cities. In this second edition, new illustrations and maps, new information and stories, a significantly expanded chapter on the Emigration Canyon Railroad, and a new chapter on the modern history, bring to life the story of a place and its people.

utah utes logo history: Illinois Volleyball Media Guide , 2002

utah utes logo history: Mapping the Four Corners Robert S. McPherson, Susan Rhoades Neel, 2016-08-04 In 1875, a team of cartographers, geologists, and scientists under the direction of Ferdinand V. Hayden entered the Four Corners area for what they thought would be a calm summer’s work completing a previous survey. Their accomplishments would go down in history as one of the great American surveying expeditions of the nineteenth century. By skillfully weaving the surveyors’ diary entries, field notes, and correspondence with newspaper accounts, historians Robert S. McPherson and Susan Rhoades Neel bring the Hayden Survey to life. *Mapping the Four Corners* provides an entertaining, engaging narrative of the team’s experiences, contextualized with a thoughtful introduction and conclusion. Accompanied by the great photographer William Henry Jackson, Hayden’s team quickly found their trip to be more challenging than expected. The travelers describe wrangling half-wild pack mules, trying to sleep in rain-soaked blankets, and making tea from muddy, alkaline water. Along the way, they encountered diverse peoples, evidence of prehistoric civilizations, and spectacular scenery—Hispanic villages in Colorado and New Mexico; Mesa Verde, Hovenweep, and other Anasazi sites; and the Hopi mesas. Not everyone they met was glad to see them: in southeastern Utah surveyors fought and escaped a band of Utes and Paiutes who recognized that the survey meant dispossession from their homeland. Hayden saw his expedition as a scientific endeavor focused on geology, geographic description, cartographic accuracy, and even ethnography, but the search for economic potential was a significant underlying motive. As this book shows, these pragmatic scientists were on the lookout for gold beneath every

rock, grazing lands in every valley, and economic opportunity around each bend in the trail. The Hayden Survey ultimately shaped the American imagination in contradictory ways, solidifying the idea of “progress”—and government funding of its pursuit—while also revealing, via Jackson’s photographs, a landscape with a beauty hitherto unknown and unimagined.

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Presents an encyclopedic look at the flags and histories of 183 Native American tribes throughout the United States.

utah utes logo history: American Indian Reservations and Trust Areas Veronica E. Velarde Tiller, 1996

utah utes logo history: Neither Wolf Nor Dog David Rich Lewis, 1994 During the nineteenth century, Americans looked to the eventual civilization and assimilation of Native Americans through a process of removal, reservation, and directed culture change. Underlying American Indian policy was a belief in a developmental stage theory of human societies in which agriculture marked the passage between barbarism and civilization. Solving the Indian Problem appeared as simple as teaching Indians to settle down and farm and then disappear into mainstream American society. Such policies for directed subsistence change and incorporation had far-reaching social and environmental consequences for native peoples and native lands. This study explores the experiences of three groups - Northern Utes, Hupas, and Tohono O'odhams - with settled reservation and allotted agriculture in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Each group inhabited a different environment, and their cultural traditions reflected distinct subsistence adaptations to life in the western United States. Each experienced the full weight of federal agrarian policy yet responded differently, in culturally consistent ways, to subsistence change and the resulting social and environmental consequences. Attempts to establish successful agricultural economies ultimately failed as each group reproduced its own cultural values in a diminished and rapidly changing environment. In the end, such policies and agrarian experiences left Indian farmers economically dependent and on the periphery of American society.

utah utes logo history: *The Whites Want Every Thing* Will Bagley, 2019-10-17 American Indians have been at the center of Mormon doctrine from its very beginnings, recast as among the Children of Israel and thereby destined to play a central role in the earthly triumph of the new faith. The settling of the Mormons among the Indians of what became Utah Territory presented a different story—a story that, as told by the settlers, robbed the Native people of their voices along with their homelands. *The Whites Want Everything* restores those Native voices to the history of colonization of the American Southwest. Collecting a wealth of documents from varied and often-suppressed sources, this volume allows both Indians and Latter-day Saints to tell their stories as they struggled to determine who would control the land and resources of North America’s Great Basin. Journals, letters, reports, and recollections, many from firsthand participants, reveal the complexities of cooperation and conflict between Native Americans and Mormon Anglo-Americans. The documents offer extraordinarily wide-ranging and detailed perspectives on the fight to survive in one of Earth’s most challenging environments. Editor Will Bagley, a scholar of Mormon history and the American West, provides cultural, historical, and environmental context for the documents, which include the Indians’ own eloquent voices as preserved in the region’s remarkable archives. In all these accounts, we see how some of western North America’s most colorful historical characters recorded their adventures and regarded their painful stories—and how, in doing so, they bring light to a dark chapter in American history. Ranging from initial encounters through the 1850-1872 war against Native tribes, to recitations of Mormon millennial dreams continued long after Brigham Young’s death in 1877, this is history as it happened, not as some might wish it had, at long last returning the original owners of today’s Utah, Nevada, and Colorado to their rightful place in history.

utah utes logo history: Monumental Mobility Lisa Blee, Jean M. O'Brien, 2019-02-07
Installed at Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1921 to commemorate the tercentenary of the landing of the Pilgrims, Cyrus Dallin’s statue Massasoit was intended to memorialize the Pokanoket Massasoit (leader) as a welcoming diplomat and participant in the mythical first Thanksgiving. But after the

statue's unveiling, Massasoit began to move and proliferate in ways one would not expect of generally stationary monuments tethered to place. The plaster model was donated to the artist's home state of Utah and prominently displayed in the state capitol; half a century later, it was caught up in a surprising case of fraud in the fine arts market. Versions of the statue now stand on Brigham Young University's campus; at an urban intersection in Kansas City, Missouri; and in countless homes around the world in the form of souvenir statuettes. As Lisa Blee and Jean M. O'Brien show in this thought-provoking book, the surprising story of this monumental statue reveals much about the process of creating, commodifying, and reinforcing the historical memory of Indigenous people. Dallin's statue, set alongside the historical memory of the actual Massasoit and his mythic collaboration with the Pilgrims, shows otherwise hidden dimensions of American memorial culture: an elasticity of historical imagination, a tight-knit relationship between consumption and commemoration, and the twin impulses to sanitize and grapple with the meaning of settler-colonialism.

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