

Historic Route 66 Corridor Management Plan (CMP)

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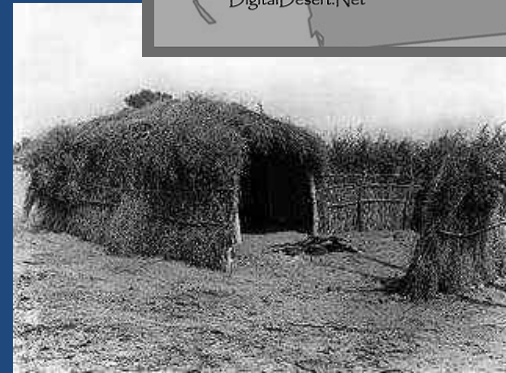


Historic Route 66 CMP

- Developed with extensive collaboration, coordination and outreach with San Bernardino County, local, city, county and state officials, private citizens, land owners, non-government stakeholders
- CMP provides management recommendations how state and federal agencies, San Bernardino County and local communities can work together as a network to protect and preserve historic Route 66 and adjacent BLM-managed public lands
- Promote sustainable heritage tourism and economic development
- Utilize adjacent BLM National Conservation Lands/public lands to further enhance potential economic development opportunities
- Revitalize the legacy and nostalgia of America's Mother Road
- Inspire generations of Americans to preserve its iconic history

Mojave Desert American Indians

- Lived adjacent to the Colorado River for more than 10,000 years
 - Chemehuevi
 - Southern Paiute
 - Mojave, the most predominant
- The Mohave were agriculturalists
- Planted the flooded plain of the Colorado River
- Generated food surpluses that supported a population numbering in the thousands



- Using game trails, they developed a network of routes from one spring to another across the Mojave Desert to trade with tribes on the Pacific Coast
- They exchanged surplus crops for goods they desired valued, such as shells



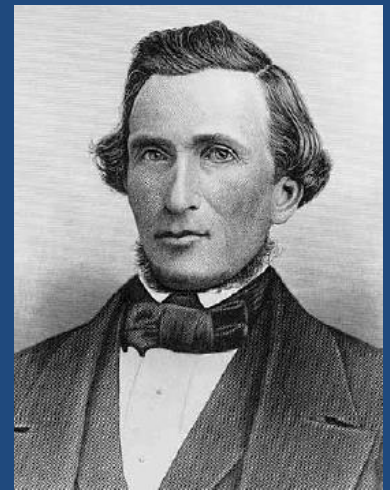
Guided First Euro/American Travelers

1604, Juan de Onate: Spanish conquistador and explorer; established the colony of New Mexico for Spain; explored much of the southwestern U.S. vainly searching for mythical treasures



1776, Spanish friar and missionary Francisco Hermenegildo Tomás Garcés, who explored much of the southwest region of the U.S.: present day Sonora (Tucson), and Baja California in Mexico, Arizona and California

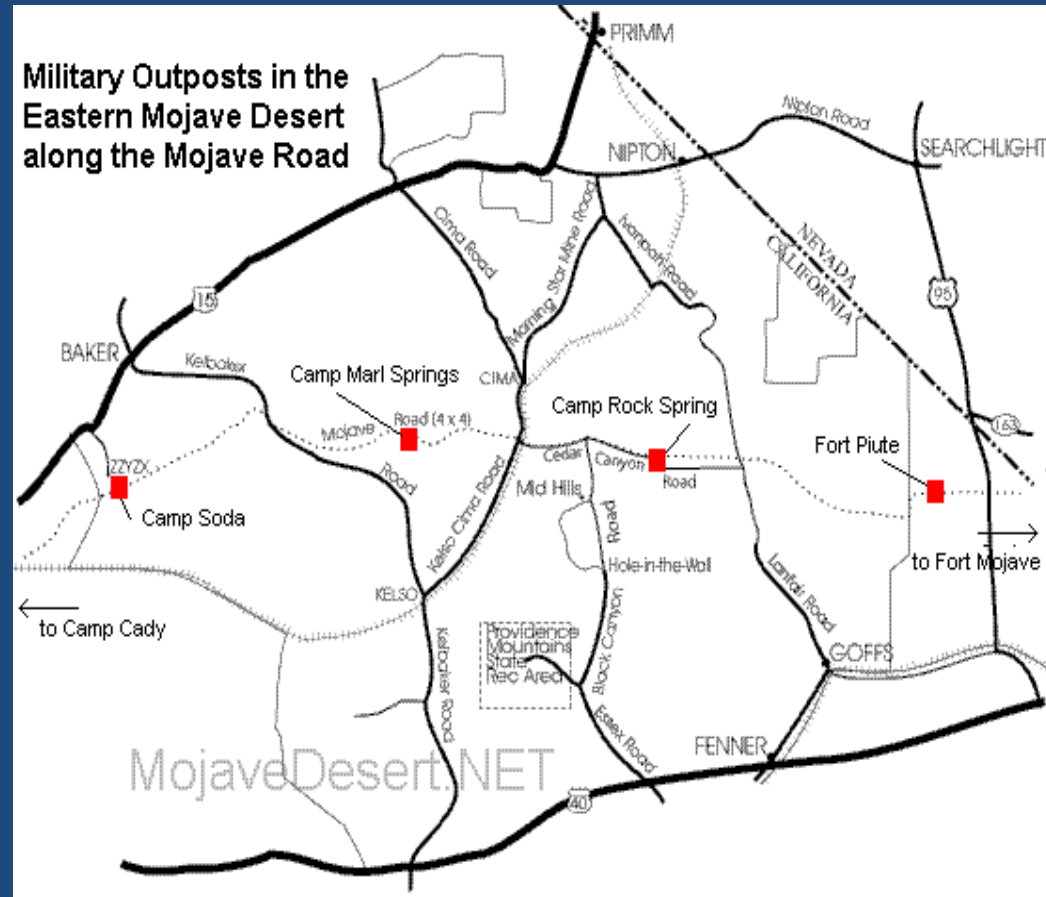
1826 and 1827, Jedediah Strong Smith's party became the first white Americans to cross the Mojave Desert into California





- Settlers and explorers used their trails to migrate west
- The Mojave Trail was the best known trail
- Wagon roads followed the trails because the trails led to water
- The lack of water was more of a concern to wagon trains than steepness of the land
- It was faster and easier to travel through mountain ranges than around them

- By 1859 the Mojave Trail was a military wagon road
- Became a critical corridor across the *Mojave Desert*
- Conflicts between settlers and river tribes escalated
- In 1859, the Army built Fort Mojave to protect pioneers
- Late 1860s established series of outposts along the trail
- Army also surveying Mojave Desert for best railroad route



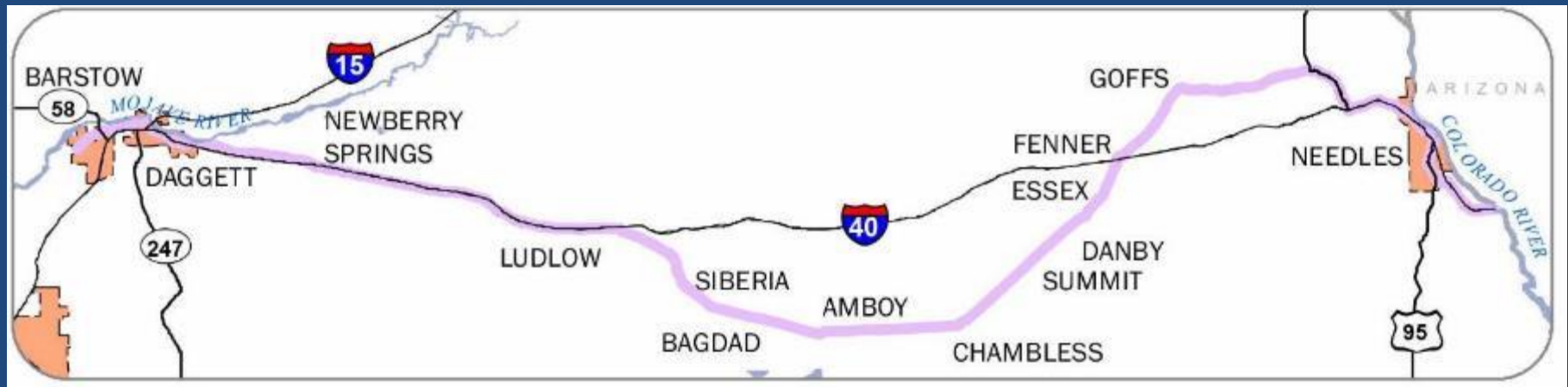
Key Moments in American History

- 1803, the Louisiana Purchase doubled the size of the original 13 colonies
- Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo Received almost all of the territory that is now the American Southwest
- Homestead Act Signed into law by President Lincoln May 20, 1862
- Government gave land and money as incentives to railroads to build transcontinental railroads to facilitate westward expansion and settlement



First Railroad Across the Desert

- Southern Pacific built first rail line across the Mojave desert from Barstow to Needles, California in 1882-83
- Southern Pacific established sidings or waysides every 15 miles across the Mojave Desert due to lack of water
- Wagon roads were built to supply waysides crews – 10 to 20
- Some wagon roads became routes for automobiles



National Old Trails Road

- Construction began in 1912
- Los Angeles to New York
- Preferred transcontinental automobile route by 1918
- Road conditions were dangerous



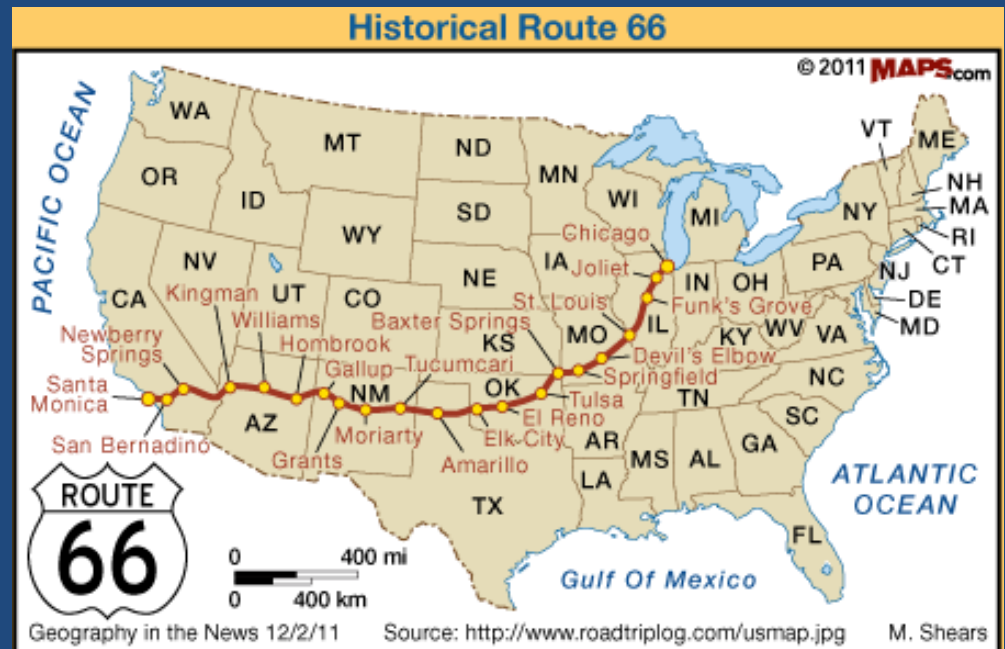
Evolution of the Automobile

- Between 1910 and 1920, vehicle ownership in the U.S. grew from 500,000 to almost 10 million
- A national highway system was needed to replace America's disjointed network of badly maintained roads and trails
- In 1925, Congress authorized construction of a National Highway System



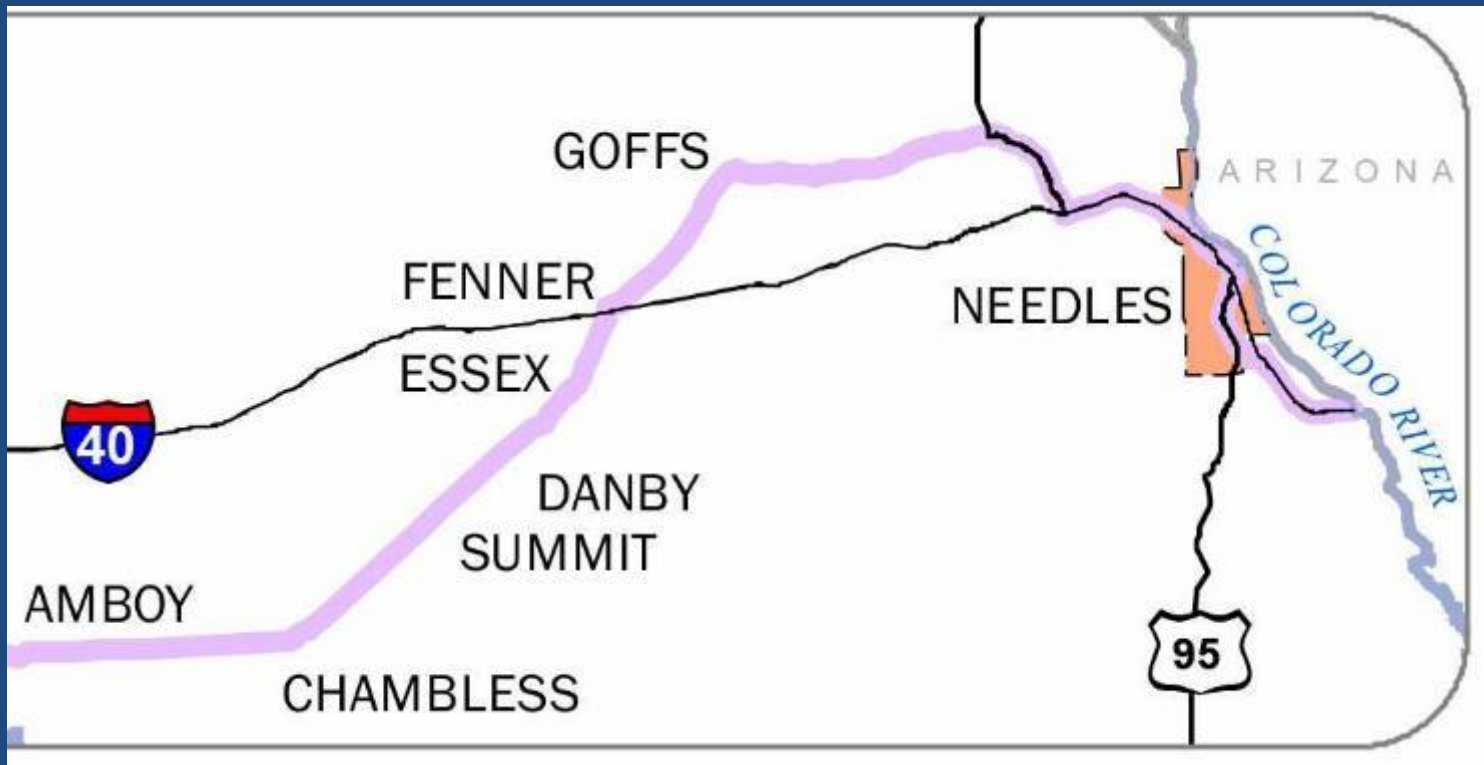
Birth of Route 66

- November 11, 1926, the Chicago-to-Los Angeles route was officially designated U.S. Highway 66
- More popularly known as Route 66
- Extends 2,448 miles across 8 states
 - Illinois
 - Missouri
 - Kansas
 - Oklahoma
 - Texas
 - New Mexico
 - Arizona
 - California



Significance of Route 66

- From the outset Route 66 was intended to connect the main streets of rural waysides and urban communities
- Ongoing improvements from 1926 to 1937 to realign and straighten the Route

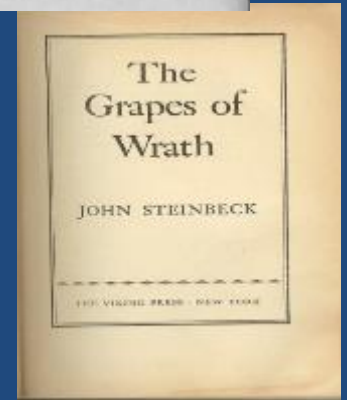


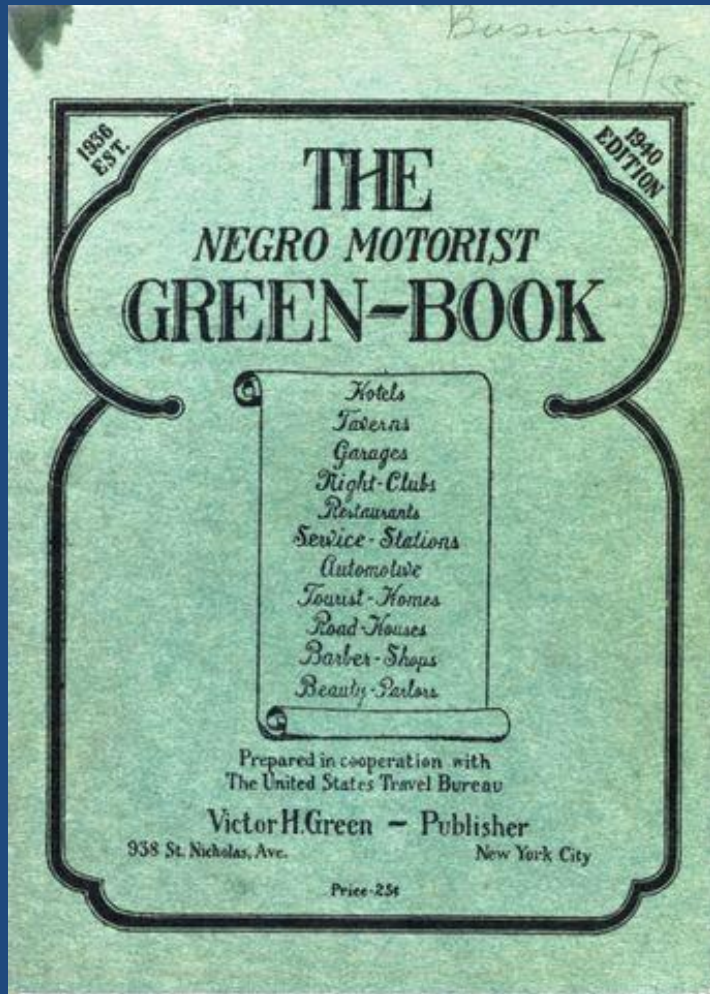
Significance of Route 66

- Fully paved by 1938
- Transformed from interconnecting segments of paved, gravel and dirt roads into one contiguous paved highway
- Became one of the nation's principal east-west arteries
- First all-weather highway
- Represents America's transition from dirt track to super highway

Journey through 20th Century History

- Route 66 became the “Road of Flight” during the Dust Bowl and the Great Depression of the 1930s
- John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* nicknamed Route 66 the “Mother Road”
- The families of some listening today may have made that journey
- Provided some relief to wayside communities along the highway
- Growing traffic created the rise of mon-and-pop businesses
- Service stations, restaurants, hotels, motels and motor courts





- Published by Victor H. Green, New York City mailman, 1936 – 1966
- Provided African-American information to keep them safe
- Open discrimination against non-whites was widespread
- Many white-owned businesses refused hotel accommodations, to serve them food or repair their vehicles
- Threats of physical violence and forcible expulsion from whites-only "sundown towns"

The World at War

- By fall of 1941, the world had been at war for two years
- Nazi forces occupied most of Europe
- German troops threatened to capture the Suez Canal
- December 7, 1941, Japanese pilots attacked Pearl Harbor
- Congress declared war on Japan
- British Prime Minister Churchill urged President Franklin D. Roosevelt send U.S. Army to support Allied troops in North Africa

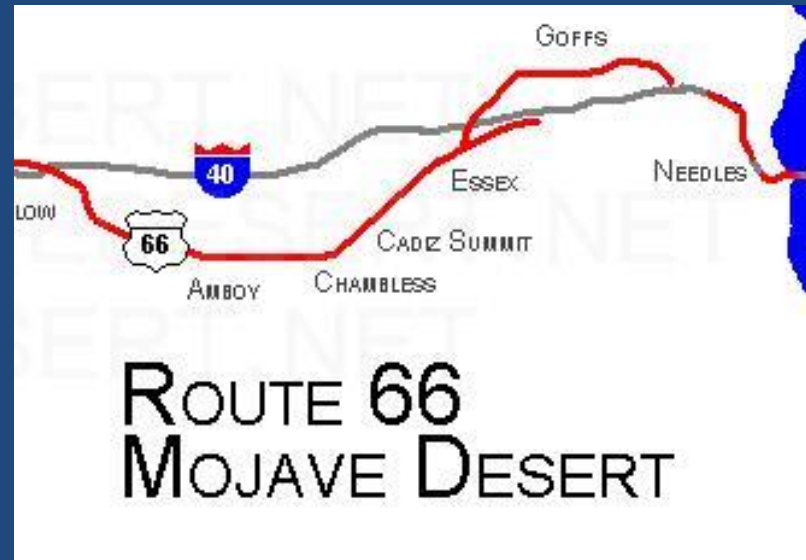
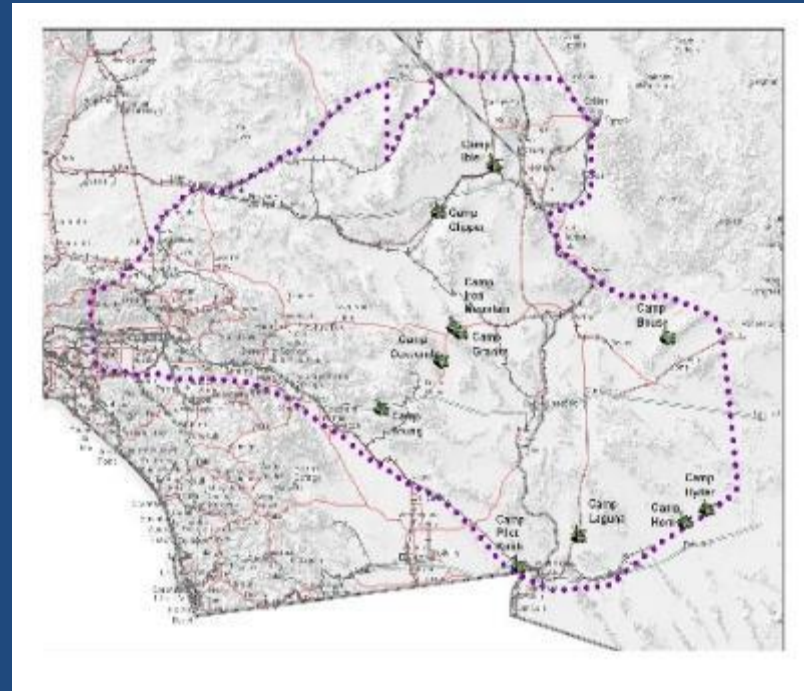
Desert Training Center (DTC)

- American soldiers not trained for desert warfare
- Congress directed General George S. Patton, Jr. to establish the DTC in February 1942
- Encompassed 18,000 square miles of desolate desert in California, Arizona and southern Nevada
- Train American soldiers in tank warfare under harsh desert conditions for combat in North Africa
- Fully paved, Route 66 became a critical highway to move equipment, troops and supplies to support military training operations and war-related industries in California



DTC Divisional Camps

- 12 camps within the DTC
 - 8 in California:
 - 4 in Arizona:
- Located camps near major roads such as Route 66 and railroad communities such as Goffs and Essex to transport troops and supplies
- Near Metropolitan Water District aqueduct where possible
- Two camps located adjacent to Route 66: Essex and Ibis



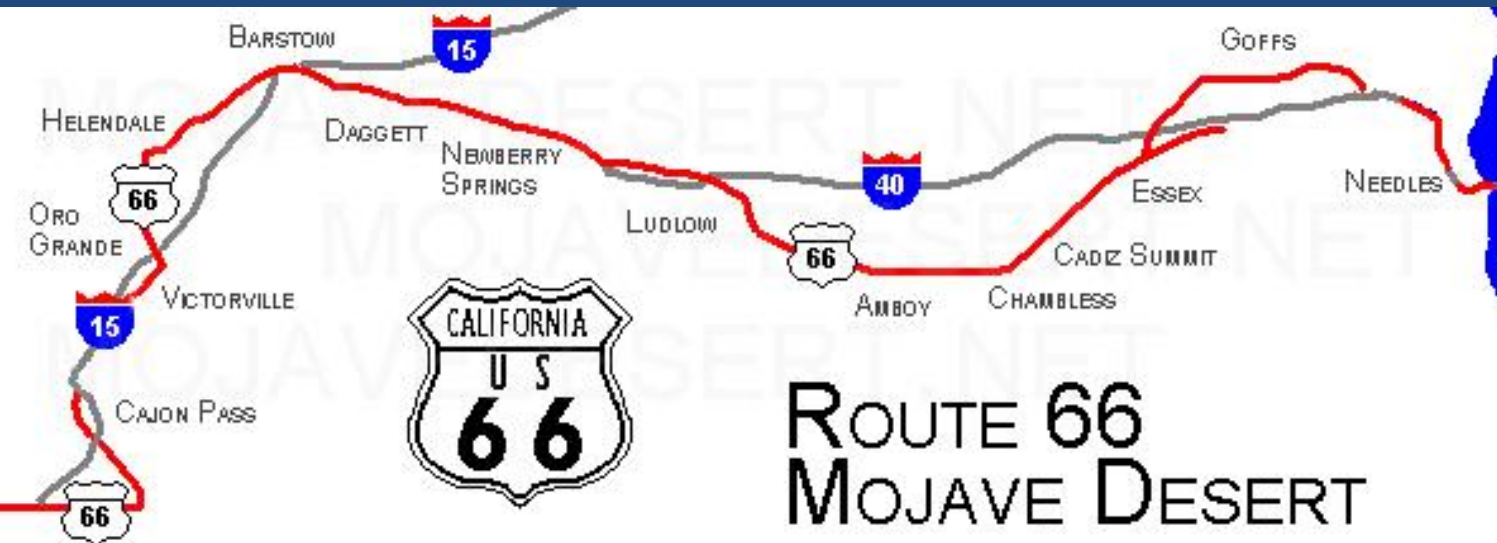
Camp Ibis

- Few miles northeast of Goffs
- Located away from aqueduct, Army built a 500,000 gallon reservoir
- Each camp had an air field



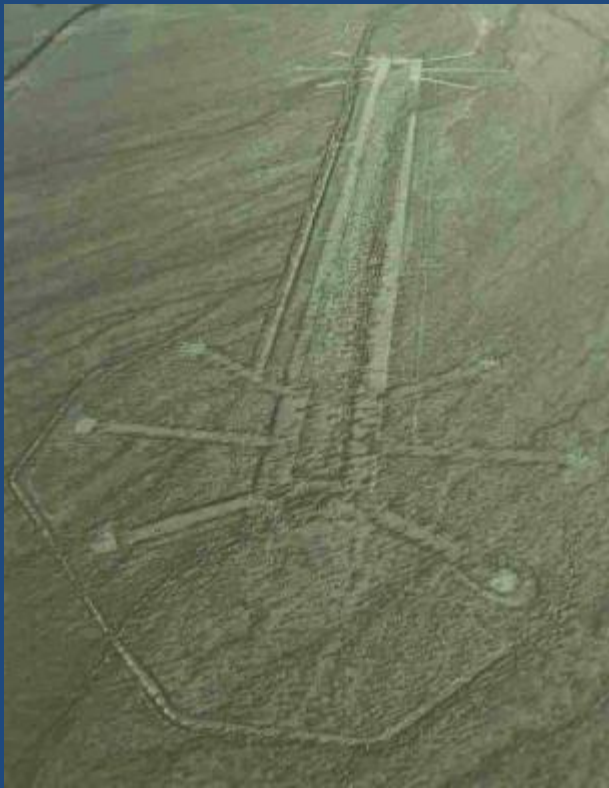
Camps Clipper/Essex

- 3 miles northeast of Essex
- Located away from aqueduct
- Army Built 500,000 gallon reservoir



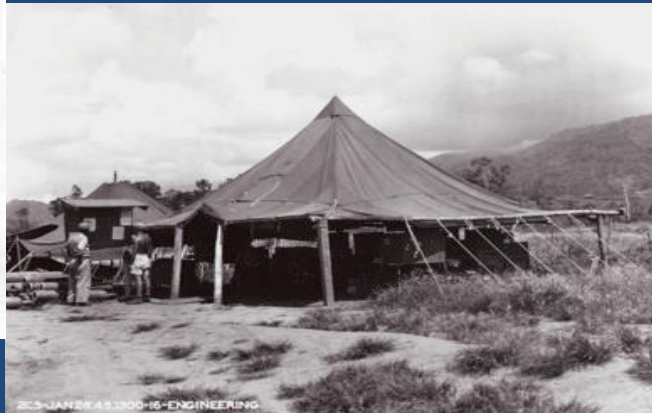
Essex Camp Airfield

- Unique configuration unlike other DTC landing strips
- Two parallel 4,500-foot long runways - compacted sand
- Six concrete dispersal pads surrounding each end of runway
- Designed to handle B-17 and B-24 heavy bombers, and A-20 Havocs, an American attack, light bomber.
- Execute mass take-offs



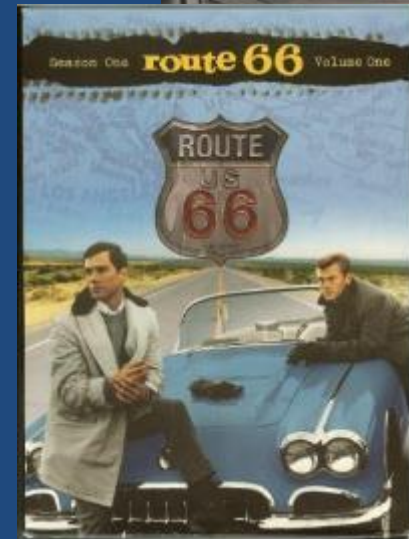
World's Largest Military Training Area

More than one million soldiers trained at the DTC from April 1942 to April 1944



Evolution of an American Icon

- Route 66 experienced its greatest post-war popularity during the 1950s and 1960s
- Became the main highway for vacationers headed to California
- The romance and nostalgia of Route 66 was immortalized in popular culture in literature, movies, songs such as Bobby Troup's 1946 hit "Get Your Kicks on Route 66: CBS – 1960 - 1964
- The 1960s' *Route 66* television show



Art Deco and Neon



- Waysides evolved into towns/cities
- Became hubs for motels, hotels, restaurants, diners and trading posts
- Established 24-hour garage and roadside service and gas stations
- Promoted quirky roadside attractions
- People and communities doing business along Route 66 prospered



Birth of Fast Food Industry

- It been said that Route 66 led to the invention of the motel and fast food
- First drive-through restaurant, Springfield, Missouri
- First McDonald's San Bernardino, CA
- Reflects America's new automobile culture





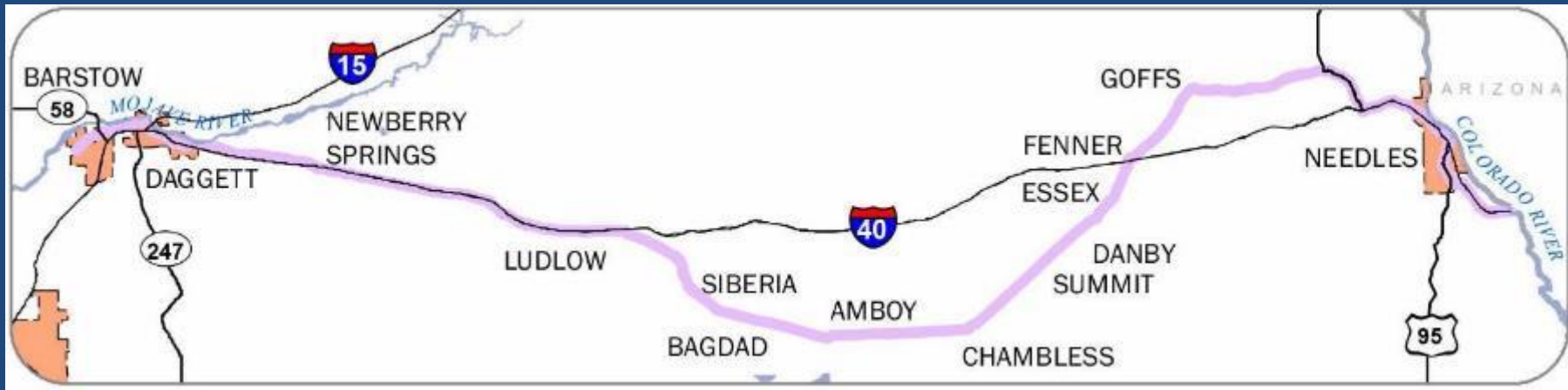
End of an Era



- In 1956, President Eisenhower approved construction of a national interstate system to modernize the nation's highways
- I-40 was completed in 1979
- Bypassed and severely impacted many Route 66 wayside rural towns
- Route 66 officially removed from U.S. Highway System June 27, 1985
- 100s of sites abandoned/destroyed

Bagdad Café: 1883-1968 - Gone

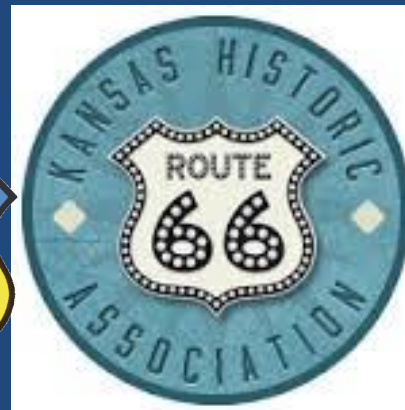
- One of original waysides built to support railroad expansion across the Mojave Desert
- By 1888 Bagdad had more than 600 residents
- With its juke box and dance floor, the Café became the entertainment capital between Needles and Barstow during the 1940's and 1950's
- Abandoned in the 1960s
- Remaining buildings demolished 1991
- Area was used as a staging area for the construction for a gas pipeline



Iconic Hotel Torn Down – August 2015



All eight states formed Route 66 Associations



Congress Weighs In

- In 1990, U.S. Congress passed Public Law 101-400, the Route 66 Study Act of 1990
- Recognized Route 66 "as a symbol of America's travel heritage and legacy
- Passed Public Law 106-45 in August 1999
- Created the NPS Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program
- Appropriated \$10 million dollars for the preservation-interpretation of the Route 66 corridor
- President Obama reauthorized the Act on March 30, 2009, for ten more years

Cost Share Grant Programs

- NPS Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- Main street America Program
- Reinvigorate economic health of historic Main Street downtown commercial business districts
- Support preservation of significant historic Route 66 features
 - Buildings, structures, road segments, and cultural landscapes
- Encourages collaboration with individuals, non-profits, private sector and government agencies

Cost Share Grant Achievements

- Illinois, Standard Oil Service Station, Odell, New Mexico



- Oklahoma,
 - Rock Café



New Mexico

- Neon sign
- restoration project





Texas

- Magnolia Gas Station, Vega



- Sixth Street Chevron Service Station, Amarillo

Arizona

- Rialto Theater, Winslow
- Wigwam Motel, neon sign



HISTORIC Sign Preservation Brochure



Vintage Photo of Albuquerque Neon

