

TONEY TILLOHASH DISCUSSES PAIUTE RELATIONS WITH MORMON SETTLERS

F: Were these people [Kanab-area cattle ranchers] pretty good to the Indians?

T: Oh yeah, they pretty good.

F: Did they help people along with food and everything?

T: Oh, they give them work on the farm. They little farms, and let them work there. They want to move. The government want 'um move all the Kaibabs. They move them over into San Juan out that way. They say they going to move over there in San Juan, Utah.

F: Over there around Blanding maybe?

T: Yeah, right there on the Colorado, on the Colorado River.

F: And did the Mormons favor this?

T: There was Dave Wooley, and he says he can't move 'um. He says they belong to us. This is the way they were raised. They gonna—we not going to send them away. Like that, they say that's our helper. They gonna stay right here. They told them, you know, that a government man they can't move 'um. So they leave us alone.

F: Is that when they established the reservation at Moccasin?

T: Yeah, that's when. Not him. This a different, different man. They was just a little school there. Day school was abolished over that, over into Shivwit. Then they move it to, oh, to Panguitch. The little—Panguitch below the Panguitch cities, towns.

F: Yes, in those early days did the Mormons try to get the Indians to follow their religion?

T: Who?

F: Did the Mormons try to get the Indians to become Mormons?

T: Oh yes, I'm a Mormon.

F: Yes.

T: Yeah, they baptize kids when they get, oh, eight years old. A lot of them got baptized.

F: Did they follow that religion, the Indian people, or did they keep their own?

T: Both the Indians and the Mormon people, too. Some of them are Indians. They go out to Mormon bishop. Bishop—that a bishop, Indian bishop.

F: A special Indian bishop?

T: Yeah, Mormon bishop. They call 'um 'bishop.' He's right there, farm, on the reservation, but he lives down in St. George now, right here, over on the left side.

F: You don't know his name?

T: Yes, Stewart Snow.

F: Oh.

T: You know him?

F: No, but I've heard his name.

T: But he belong to the Shivwit. He live with us. His house there.

Toney Tillohash, interview with Kay Fowler, June 16, 1967, St. George, Utah, Doris Duke American Indian Oral History Project, American West Center, University of Utah, t.s., 8–9, 12–13.