

TIMELINE HISTORY Of PARK CITY

1979 The Miners Hospital, threatened with demolition, is moved from its site near the base of the Park City Ski Area to City Park for historic preservation.

1980 KPCW, Summit County's public radio, goes on the air.

1981 Deer Valley Resort opens at the site of the old Snow Park area (which closed in 1969). The United States Film and Video Festival (which has since become the Sundance Film Festival), highlighting independent films, opens in January for the first season in Park City. In July, the Silver King Coalition Mines building, an iconic site on Park City's skyline, is completely destroyed by fire.

1982 After extensive renovation on the old Miners Hospital, a human chain forms a "book brigade" to move the thousands of books in the collection at the original public library on Main Street to its new location in the Hospital.

1987 TV45, Park City's television station, begins broadcasting.

1990 The estimated population of year-round residents is 4,500. Skier days for all three ski areas are over 850,000.

1993 Parkites witness the heaviest snowfall in 10 years. The public library moves from the Miners Hospital into the old high school at 1255 Park Ave. The Utah Winter Sports Park opens.

1995 Salt Lake City is awarded the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. More than 40 percent of the events will be held in Park City at the Utah Olympic Park, Deer Valley Resort and Park City Mountain Resort.

1997 Wolf Mountain, formerly Park West, is renamed The Canyons, and opens for its 28th season. Bear Hollow makes history with the Olympic bob and luge track opening at the Winter Sports Park.

1998 Park City Mountain Resort retires venerable gondola, replacing it with two high-speed chairlifts.

1999 President Bill Clinton visits Main Street while on a family ski holiday in Park City – his second visit to the city.

2002 Park City hosts multiple events for the XIX Winter Olympic Games. Deer Valley hosts slalom, freestyle moguls, and aerials; Utah Olympic Park holds bobsleigh, luge, skeleton, nordic combined and ski jumping events; Park City Mountain Resort hosts giant slalom, snowboard GS and half pipe events.

2006 Ted Ligety of Park City wins gold in the men's combined alpine skiing event at the 2006 Winter Olympics in Torino, Italy.

2009 After raising nearly \$9 million dollars, the Park City Museum is renovated and reopens to the public in an expanded space, with more exhibits, resources, and programs to offer the public.

2013 Park City is voted "Best Town in America" by *Outsider Magazine*.

2014 Vail Resorts acquires the Park City Mountain Resort from Powdr Corp., opening PCMR in November for the resort's 51st skiing season.

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and

park city™

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Utah before Park City

1600 A.D. Indian bands travel the high alpine valleys in search of game.

1847 Brigham Young and the Mormon settlers pass near the north end of this valley on their way to Salt Lake.

1850 Parley Pratt's toll road leads from Parley's Park (the present Park City) westerly into the Salt Lake Valley collecting \$1,500 from travelers en route to the California gold fields.

1862 Brigham Young's "City by the Salt Lake" is booming and Federal troops from California under Colonel Patrick Connor are sent to guard the U.S. Mail and watch over the "Saints," who might side with the Confederacy in the Civil War. Figuring that a strike (a find of valuable ore) would bring in outsiders and dilute the Mormon population, Col. Connor sends soldiers out prospecting.

Silver discovery draws a crowd

1868 In late October, soldiers climb over the mountains from Big Cottonwood Canyon to Park City area and find silver. As the snow is swirling and a storm brewing, they mark the outcropping with a bandanna and return in the spring. The first mine is named Flagstaff. Park City will become known not only for its silver, but for lead, zinc and gold. Flagstaff Mine is the first to ship ore from this area.

1869 The Transcontinental Railroad is completed at Promontory, Utah. Laid-off workers, including many Chinese, settle in Parley's Park.

1870 Parley's Park has a total population of 164.

1872 George and Rhoda Snyder name the area Parley's Park City, soon shortened to Park City. The discovery of exceedingly rich silver ore (400 ounces to the ton) leads to the opening of the Ontario Mine and starts a boom town atmosphere in Park City. George Hearst, the father of William Randolph Hearst, and partners buy the Ontario for \$27,000. It will produce over \$50 million in its lifetime.

1875 A free public school is established.

1880 The first issue of *The Park Record* comes off the press. It will be published continuously from this date forth, expanding from one day each week to every Wednesday and Saturday.

1881 Park City is the third city in Utah to receive telephone service. The Catholic Church builds a frame church and names it St. Mary's. Water in the mines is a continuing problem despite numerous underground pumps. The Cornish Pump, a machine 30-feet-high with a 70-ton flywheel, is imported from Philadelphia by freight wagon. It pumps water from 1,000 feet below the surface in the Ontario Mine, taking out over 4 million gallons of water a day. Later, drain tunnels will replace pumps.

1882 Other discoveries of silver occur and more mines are established. Among the larger ones are the Crescent, the Anchor and the Mayflower.

Park City becomes official

1884 Park City is incorporated, and City Hall is under construction (to be finished in 1885).

1889 The town's population is over 5,000. The city is one of the first in the state to have electric lights.

1892 Silver King Mine is incorporated. It will prove to be one of Park City's largest producers of silver.

1893 Because silver is no longer to be used to back currency, silver prices drop. Miners at the Silver King accept a pay cut from \$1 to 50-cents, allowing the mine to continue while others remained closed. First drilling contest occurs. In 15 minutes Frank Ward sinks his drill 17.5 inches into the rock. Yearly contests continue to this day as part of the Miners' Day (Labor Day) festivities.

1894 The Silver Queen, Susanna Bransford Emery, is making \$1,000 a day from her interest in the Silver King Mine.

1896 On statehood day, January 5, Park City has a population over 7,000.

Trial by Fire

1898 Park City approaches a population of 10,000. In June, 200 of the 350 structures, homes and businesses burn in the worst fire Park City has ever seen. Three-quarters of the town is gone, 500 are homeless, \$1 million in property is lost. Gone is the grand new opera house built at a cost of \$30,000 and open less than three months. The Spanish-American War forces the price of silver to rise and seventeen volunteers from Park City leave to serve as soldiers.

1899 The town is rebuilt in one and one-half years! Many new buildings are built of brick and stone to withstand fire. George Wanning's saloon is the first to be rebuilt.

1901 Silver King aerial tramway uses buckets to bring ore down to town, lowering transportation cost to 22-cents a-ton from \$1.50 per ton when hauled with horses and wagons.

1902 On July 15, 34 men from the Daly West Mine die in the explosion of a large underground store of dynamite. Considered the worst mine disaster in Park City history, the event prompts a state law which forbids the underground storage of large amounts of explosives.

1904 The Miners Hospital is built for the sum of \$5,000 raised by local businessmen and the Western Federation of Miners Local #144. Six thousand miners are treated for "Miner's Con," or silicosis, in the first year.

1906 One of the first skiers in the area, "Bud" Wright, spends the winter on skis, trouble shooting as a lineman for the telephone company between Alta, Brighton and Park City.

1907 Hard-times befall the town, with cave-ins and flooded tunnels making mining a poor enterprise. The panic of 1907 affects the whole United States, causing a general recession; however, the economy improves by the end of 1908.

1916 Heavy snows cause fatal snowslides and the collapse of the famed Dewey Theatre (where the Mary G. Steiner Egyptian Theatre now stands) just hours after 300 patrons had finished watching the evening movie.

The Great Experiment

1917 The prohibition of liquor called "the Great Experiment" begins in Utah, two years before the rest of the nation. Bootleggers abound; stills and home-brewing are popular.

1918 The great influenza epidemic prompts a law in Park City requiring anyone on the streets to wear a thick gauze mask or be arrested. Consequently, the impact of the disease is less severe in this area.

1919 Labor unrest and union disputes force a shut down as miners walk off the job in protest of wage cuts. Mine owners refused to negotiate their employees' demands and miners went back to work after six weeks on strike.

1921 There are 27 bars in Park City and, despite prohibition, a thirsty soul could buy a drink in all but one of them. Prohibition continues through 1932.

1929 The stock market crashes. Silver King stock plummets from \$12.87 to \$6.50 in one year; Park Consolidated from \$2 to 27 cents.

Skiing starts with a jump

1931 Alf Engen sets a world record at Ecker Hill, a ski jump built in 1928, by jumping 247 feet. In all, Engen sets five world records at Ecker Hill.

1936 The town's first Winter Carnival is a success, with more than 500 skiers arriving in (what is now) Deer Valley on the ski train – a four-hour journey from Salt Lake City.

1940 Frank Hauder and others carry mail over the mountains to Brighton and Alta using very long skis and usually only one pole to control speed.

1941 December 7th, Pearl Harbor is attacked. Gas rationing prohibits travel to the Ecker Hill site.

1947 The first lift goes in at Snow Park (now Deer Valley Resort). Mining prices drop lower.

Ghosts inhabit town

1949 By July 1, all mines have shut down, putting 1,100 miners out of work throughout Wasatch, Summit, and Daggett counties.

1951 Park City is increasingly referred to as a "ghost town" throughout Utah and the American West. There are 1,150 "ghosts" in town at this time.

1952 Some mines re-open as mineral prices rise, but Park City's population plummets and businesses close.

1955 The red light district is raided. By 1956, the days of the "giddy girls" are over and the last parlor has closed its doors.

Skiing gives town a lift

1958 United Park City Mines looks to diversify and starts a feasibility study to begin the Treasure Mountain Resort (now Park City Mountain Resort).

1963 Park City qualifies for a federal loan from the Area Redevelopment Agency. The government gives \$1.25 million for use in starting a ski area. A gondola, a chairlift and 2 J-bars are installed. A lift pass costs \$3.50 and there are almost 50,000 skier days that first year.

1965 A mine train takes skiers into a Silver King Mine tunnel, then up a shaft to the top of the mountain, but the trip proves too slow to be very popular. As word of the new ski area spreads, people start moving to Park City.

1968 Park West Ski Area (now The Canyons) opens.

Art hits Main Street

1970 First Park City Art Festival debuts on Main Street.

1976 Kimball Art Center, in the old Eley Garage at 638 Main St., opens its doors with two galleries, a gift shop and classrooms.

1978 On Valentine's Day, Park City is without a working mine for the first time in over 100 years. Despite a rally in the early 80's, mining will be over by 1982. A skeleton crew still performs routine maintenance, especially on the drain tunnels that now provide drinking water for Park City residents.