BY CONTRIBUTING TO THE STABILITY AND RESTORATION OF THE ORIGINAL PEOPLE OF THIS LAND WE CAN BEGIN TO TRANSFORM OUR COMMUNITY AND OUR CULTURE INTO ONE BASED ON INTEGRITY AND RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF ALL BEINGS.

Find out more! The Ancestral Homelands Reciprocity Program is a community-driven initiative to support the California Heritage: Indigenous Research Project which preserves, protects, and perpetuates Nisenan culture. Find out more and become a participant at ANCESTRALHOMELANDS.ORG

Ancestral Homelands Reciprocity Program

LIVING IN RIGHT RELATION WITH THE ORIGINAL PEOPLE OF THIS LAND: THE NEVADA CITY RANCHERIA NISENAN

Artwork: Jenny Hale

Photo credit: Aeron Miller
We are still here

This region was inhabited by over 11,000 Nisenan who built an ancient society with an economy, social structure, religion and deep connection to the earth. Nisenan survivors of the California gold rush and the subsequent genocide against Native people are still among us today, though largely invisible. We are working to change that.

The Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan Tribe was once Federally recognized, but the US government illegally terminated their status in 1964. Since then, the remaining 143 Tribal members have been working to restore recognition that would provide the Tribe with access to Federal programs, land and other resources, all of which will impact the wellbeing of this endangered Tribal community.

Did you know?

NISENAN TOWNS

The town of Nevada City is built on top of 'Ustomah. And the town of Grass Valley is built on top of Daspah

THE YUBA RIVER

The Yuba River was named 'uba which is the only Nisenan word to survive on the landscape into the 21st century

1849

Tens of thousands of immigrant gold seekers descended on Nisenan territory with a devastating effect. By 1852, Tribal numbers had plummeted by more than \( \frac{1}{2} \) due to disease, starvation and murder

NEVADA CITY RANCHERIA

There was a federally recognized reservation called the Nevada City Rancheria on Cement Hill Road just outside of town. The Rancheria was terminated in 1964 and the land sold at auction, leaving the Nisenan homeless in their own lands for the first time

RESTORE RECOGNITION

The Nevada City Rancheria is working to restore their Federal Recognition and stabilize their unique Culture and identity. This program helps fund these efforts