

Carrizo/Comecrudo Tribe of Texas are the oldest tribe in Texas that is still located in their original lands. Pre – Columbian History puts the Carrizo/Comecrudo here in Texas prior to Spanish interlopers coming into these lands.

The earliest documentation is around 1506 when Spanish boats forded the Rio Grande River. In 1509 they forded the River once again and were again turned away. Cabeza de Vaca also lived among the Carrizo/Comecrudo Bands and clans and erroneously documented that there were several tribes.

The Carrizo/Comecrudo use both in order to lessen the confusion as to number of Tribes that existed . Carrizo means ‘reeds’ a name given to most people that lived in the reed looking huts along the Rio Grande, Comecrudo is the name that the new People of Mexico called the tribe for their practice of eating raw or beef jerky, fish jerky, mussels, cactus, etc. Esto’k gna’x is what the C/C call themselves which means the Human People.

The Kiowa called the Esto’k gna the barefoot people because they wore sandals made of Lechugilla grass. It was until later that the Esto’k gna became to use the moccasins. Esto’k gna were allies with many other Tribes in Texas and outside of what is now New Mexico and all the way up to Kansas and Arkansas. The Esto’k gna were nomadic hunter/gatherers who traded their bows, arrows and skins.

The Esto’k gna lived off the bison, deer, prickly pear, sotol, yucca, and rabbit. Esto’k gna were known for their awesome rabbit blankets, fish nets, netted bags, and cordage. Many of the paintings on the cliffs and cave walls in Texas were done by the Esto’k gna.

For 200 years between 1509 to 1799 all Texas people fought the oppressive colonization of the Spanish, French, Texans, and Americans in maintaining their lifeways. In 1801 a Massacre occurred on the Devil’s River in Val Verde that is documented in the Texas Railroad Commission. The event documents the Carrizo still living in 1881 when the sole survivor was identified himself as Carrizo and told the story in Mission, Texas.

1852 300 Esto’k gna fight and save the Texans in the battle of Mier for the Republic of the Rio Grande.

1859 the Karankawa remnants came to live with the Esto’k gna.

1884 Juan Ramirez Mancias and Jovita Faustina and Benito Reyes and Martina Leal were born and these people brought the Esto’k gna into the 20th Century.

1886 a proportion of Esto’k gna language was recorded by the linguist A.S. Gatschett in Camargo. The largest remaining band of the Esto’k gna the Cotoname are located from Mission, Texas to Rio Grande City.

In 1932, the Clan Mother of the the Fire Clan is recorded in the paper in Mission, Texas

In 1942 12 of the remaining clans moved into North Texas following a long tradition of visiting the Canyons as if in the pre-columbian History. As matter of fact two clans were called Canyon Clans the Cano and the Ocana.

There was one Tribe with 30 bands and each band had at least 20 clans. That made for at least 500 esto'k gna groups. Knowing your family were always an important point.