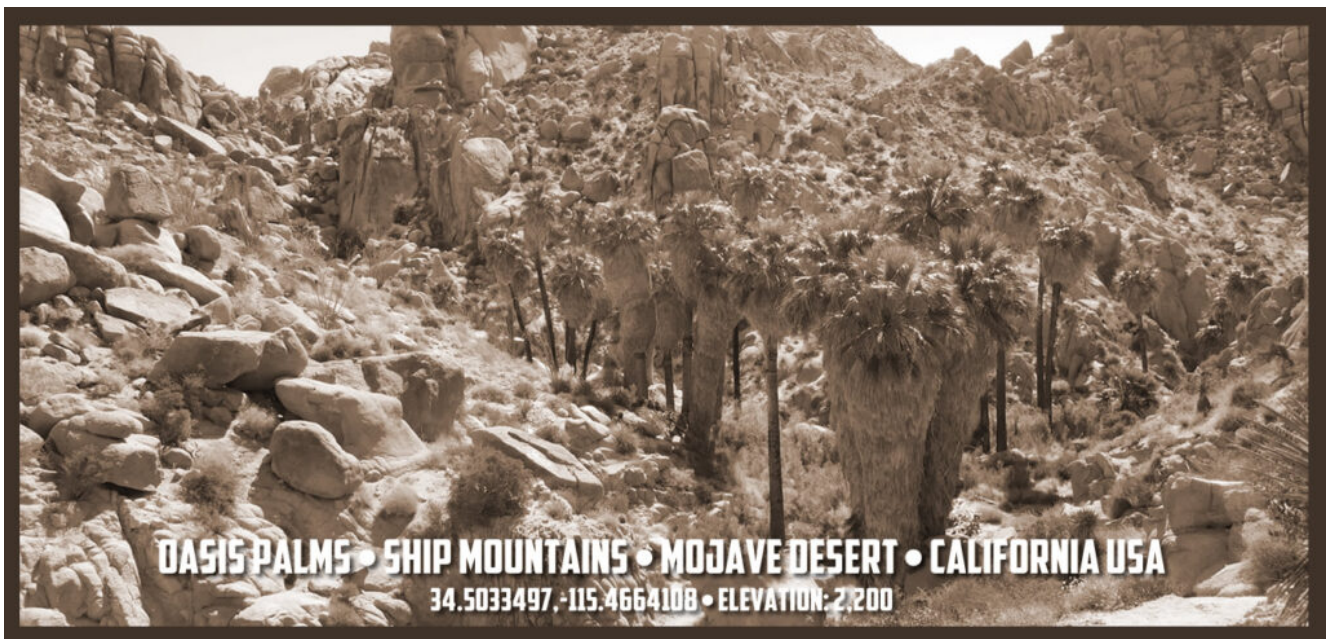


# History

The Mojave Desert, often referred to as the “High Desert,” stands as the smallest among North America’s deserts, nestled between the bustling cities of Los Angeles and Las Vegas. Long before Oasis Palms was founded, this land had been cherished by [Native American tribes of the Mojave](#) for centuries. It was one of the precious few natural oases in this arid expanse.



Oasis Palms is in the Ship Mountains in the Mojave Desert in California

While the majority of the Mojave Desert was characterized by coyotes, jackrabbits, hardy greasewood, and iconic Joshua trees, the plateau within the Ship Mountains concealed a natural spring fed by the [Fenner Basin aquifer](#), providing precious water and shade in an otherwise desolate wilderness. The surrounding mountains acted as a natural shield, cloaking the oasis from the prying eyes of Spanish and English explorers for generations. Until the mid-1800s, this oasis remained known only to the indigenous people of the Mojave Desert.

[1838 – Cameron Smith Heads West in Search of Adventure – Next](#)

