

1851	
September	The Virginia House (Hotel) is listed as the property of P.G. Womack. Hamlet Davis built a two-story building at the corner of Broad and Pine Street which started as a grocery store on the base floor and a reading room of Eastern Newspapers on the upper floor. As demands for public entertainment increased, an addition was built on the end of the reading room to accomidate a stage and called it the Davis's Dramatic Hall.
June	Opening performance at the Davis's Dramatic Hall starred Dr. Robinson as Yankee story teller, Heseekiah Pickerell. An innate ability to improvise songs and color his anecdotes with local names and events made him one of the most popular troupers of the Gold Rush period.
November 20th	Inspired by Davis's Dramatic Hall, Main Street merchants combined their resources and built the Jenny Lind (theatre) which stood on the banks of Deer Creek where Nevada Street and the Main Street bridge intersect. Opened with The Chapman Family which was overwhelmingly successful.
1852	
March	A flood destroys the Jenny Lind
October 18th	Edwin Booth appeared for the first time in Nevada City in a minor role with the Wilmarth-Waller company at Davis's Dramatic Hall.
1853	
Spring	Famous Soprano Kate Hayes, known as the Swan of Erin, sang at Davis's Dramatic Hall.
July	Lola Montez performs a dance at Davis's Dramatic Hall.
1854	
June 6th	Frisbie's Promenade Concert Hall, which is soon after known as Frisbie's Theater, opens. Lyman P. Frisbie, owner of Frisbie's Restaurant and Saloon added the 800-seat structure to his holding at the corner of Main and Cyote Street a few doors above the Ott Assay Office.
1855	
February 20th	Fire started in the kitchen of the Virginia House destroying 2 Methodist Episcopal Churches and 16 houses.
1856	
July 19th	Virginia House is destroyed by a fire. Loss is under \$10,000.00. This fire also destroyed Frisbie's Theatre. Edwin Booth, had been playing an ill-timed week's engagement at Frisbie's and his troupe lost many of their costumes, theatrical props, and scenic effects in the fire. The fire also destroyed Hamlet Davis's Dramatic Hall.
December 1st	Frisbie in partnership with Charles Bain opened Brisbie's Nevada Theatre with H.A. Warwick's troupe in 'The Merchant of Venice'
1858	
May 23rd	Virginia House is seriously damaged in a fire. At this time the hotel belongs to Ozias Walker. Loss is at \$3,000. Also at this time the Brisbie's Nevada Theatre burnt to the ground. This fire was started in a Chinese wash house on Broad Street.
1860	
?	Virginia House is sold to Nat Bailey for \$1,250.00 by owner Francis Carter and wife. Uncertain if hotel was still in ruin from fire. Nat Bailey built a brick structure on the site, called the Bailey House within the same year.
1861	
January 17th	Lola Montez dies from Pneumonia in New York City, NY.

1863	
November 6th	Bailey House is destroyed in fire. Loss is \$25,000.00. The Metropolitan is also destroyed in this fire.
1865	
January	Nevada Theater Association is formed. Trustees are James Monroe and three others. James was the butcher, owning the City Market
February 18th	James Monroe bought the ruins of the Bailey House from Nat Bailey for \$1,000.00
May 6th	James Monroe sold the lot and ruins to the Nevada Theater Co. for \$1,000.00
September 11th	The Nevada Theatre's Official Grand Opening. 750 seats.
1866	
October 23rd	Mark Twain tells his stories on his trip to the Sandwich (Hawaiian) Islands at the Nevada Theatre. Estimated earnings for Twain at this time was up to \$100.00 a lecture. Admission was \$1.00.
March 4th	"The Minstrals; Yesterday morning by 11 o'clock about 80 seats were taken at the Theater. Local talent is bound to draw as was proved by the crowd in attendance last night. The performances continued to too late an hour for a notice of their merits this morning."
Spring	General Thom Thumb and wife, Commodore Nutt and Miss Minnie Warren appeared in the Nevada Theatre. They came after appearing in a command performance before Queen Victoria of England.
1867	
September 15th	Nevada Theatre was purchased by the Liberal Arts Commission for \$40,000.00. President was Del Pharis. The Commission worked to raise the money from the community for 2 years and was able to purchase on the last possible day before the deal fell through.
1868	
April 20th	Mark Twain visits Nevada Theatre to lecture on his overseas trips. He called it 'Pilgrim Life'. This is final time in Nevada City.
1869	
August 10th	Theatre sold to William Tisdale at a Sheriff's sale after a suit brought against the Nevada Theatre Co. Price was \$4,408.35
1871	
April 27th	Theatre sold to George F. Jacobs for \$3,000.00 by William Tisdale. Southerly portion was sold to John Allen (Foundary).
1891	
?	Nevada City welcomed home its Emma Nevada. She was greeted by the town and a band as she stepped from the Narrow Guage train. She was escorted to the National Hotel (room 11). The following evening she performed in the Nevada Theatre to a packed house. She closed the program with her favorite song 'The Last Rose of Summer'.
1902	
March 31st	Emma Nevada returns to Nevada City and performs at the Nevada Theatre. She was greeted at the Narrow Guage Railroad.
1908	
February	Motion pictures were shown in the Nevada Theatre for the first time. A month later the Crystal Theater (movie house) was ready to show films exclusively.
March 24th	Crystal Theater opens Each performance included an illustrated song for a vocalist or the audience. On this night the Supervisor Bennetts sang "Ben Bolt."

1909	
February	Crystal Theater closed and the chairs were moved to the Nevada Theatre. Films were now shown along with theatrical attractions.
?	The Broadway Theater movie house opens. Location was across the street from the National Hotel. W. J. Gribben (Manager of the Nevada Theatre) sold his interest in motion pictures to the Broadway group and then sold the Nevada Theatre then moved away.
1915	
?	Remodeling of the Nevada Theatre included a slanted floor and the addition of electric lights.
1941	
June	The Nevada Theatre is under the direction of T. and D. Jr. Enterprises, Inc. and the Resident Manager is W. L. Tamblyn. Showings are at 7pm and 9pm. Matinees are 2pm on Saturday and Sunday. Movies for June include: To the Shores of Tripoli, Jungle Book with Sabu, The Fleets In, 40,000 Horsemen, and Lady Be Good. Prices at this time: General Admission: \$0.40 Students (with card): \$0.30 Soldiers: \$0.30 Children: \$0.11
1948	
January 31st	This is the last day movie theater managers for theaters are told to close their weekly purchasing reports on a Sunday to be turned in by Monday. It is determined that this is the busiest day when their services are needed on the floor. From this day on the weekly purchasing reports are to be closed on Tuesday and turned in on Wednesday. The Alexandra, Coliseum, and Uptown theaters are exempt from this change.
1958	
?	State Theater Closes. For the first time since built, the theatre goes dark. Occasionally rented out by the owners as a warehouse.
1959 - 1962	
?	Nevada Theatre is rented out to various people by the United California Theater chain and used as a storage/warehouse.
1963	
?	The University of California at Davis held a workshop on community planning in Nevada City. The head of the university's drama department was a member of the workshop contingent. His remark that Nevada City would be an ideal place for the university to put on summer theatre interested a group of prominent citizens. No suitable building was to be found since the Nevada Theatre was considered too expensive.
1964	
September	Nevada City Women's Civic Club decided to try to regain interest in the UCD proposal. A committee was appointed to interview the people who were formerly interested. Over fifty residents, a cross section of the community attended and it was proposed to become a non-profit organization. The group elected officers and adopted a constitution. The organization voted to call itself The Liberal Arts Commission.
?	Liberal Arts Commission zeroed in on the Nevada Theatre and discussed purchasing it. They contacted The United California Theatre chain (the owners). The agreed selling price was \$40,000.00. The Liberal Arts Commission at this time only had \$46.00 in its treasury. The first patron contribution was for \$2,500.00 made by Mrs. Bernice Glasson Keegan.
1965	
July 9th	Power is restored to the Nevada Theatre

July 30th and 31st	Golden Days' is produced and directed by Marian Libbey in celebration of the centennial of the Nevada Theatre. The United California Theatres donated use of the Nevada theatre for 3 weeks negotiated by Mr. John E. Keegan. It was a smash hit. This event raised \$1,273.00
October	John Laure is voted in as president of the Liberal Arts Commission
December	The Liberal Arts Commission reiterates through the newspaper that they hope to encourage the University of California at Davis or some other college dramatic group to produce plays and hold summer workshops in the Nevada Theatre.
1966	
?	Dr. Harry Newstone, director of the Sacramento Symphony, toured the Nevada Theatre and reported that it could become a fine concert hall with such splendid acoustics that if could event accommodate Grand Opera.
1967	
August 29th	Del Pharis, liberal arts president signs the document papers reflecting The Liberal Arts Commission's purchase of the Nevada Theatre. People present are: Mrs. Leroy Geist, John Keegan, John LaRue, Willard Rose, Mrs. Leland Lewis, Mrs. Rita Downey, Mrs. Pharis and Fred Lock of Inter-County Title.
September 15th	Liberal Arts Commission purchased the theatre outright.
July 28th	First Annual Benefit Golf Tournament was put on by the Liberal Arts Commission. Entry fee was \$20.00 and you could reserve an electric cart for an additional \$7.50. There was no second annual Tournament.
1968	
?	Liberal Arts Commission purchased the property back of the theatre in hopes to use it for dressing rooms.
May 17th	The Official Re-Opening of the Nevada Theatre
August 8th	Sally Lewis is honored at a luncheon. Organizations represented included Friends of the Theater, Nevada County Community Theater and the Liberal Arts Commission. She was considered instrumental in the recent purchase and current restoration of the Nevada Theatre. Her tireless efforts have netted large sums of money for the theater through fund raising activities she chairmaned.
August	The Cedar Theatre sign is removed from the Nevada Theatre by a Sacramento sign firm. The project cost \$185.00 and took about 3 hours.
October 5th	Gold Rush (founded fraternity of E Clampus Vitus) placed a bronze plaque sketching the theatre's history on the front of the building (now found in the sidewalk). The neon signs (Cedar Sign) has been removed and 325 seats installed on the first floor.
November 30th and December 1st	The Liberal Arts Commission invites community members to come and hear a progress report on the first year's operation of the Nevada Theatre between 12:30pm - 5:00pm. They titled the event 'Living Theatre' and held the event in the Nevada Theatre. The program consists of part of scenes from shows already produced plus musical selections by the Nevada Theatre Light Opera Company (recently formed).
1969	
January 16th	The Liberal Arts Commission applied for a Economic Development Administration Grant (EDA) for \$250,000. To qualify for the grant the Commission needed to raise a minimum of \$50,000.00 to show that they were serious. This money was to go toward further restoration of the building. They did not get the grant.

March 26th	A report by Hirsch and Gray (structural engineers) discussed potential and existing structural deficiencies.
April 15th	Architect's drawing shows the Nevada Theatre ideal restoration to its original form. This includes restoring the outdoor balcony, the fly system inside and adding a new multi-purpose building and convention center behind the back wall. This is what is intended if they are able to raise the \$50,000.00 to qualify and if they receive the EDA grant.
1971	
February 12th	The 'seat plaque' will be on continual display in the theatre lobby for everyone's perusal.
February 22nd	President of the Liberal Arts Commission(Leroy Geist) is asked to resign after the commission voted his dismissal 7 to 5. Board members who got what they wanted told the press nothing where as some of the ones who didn't told the press everything that occurred. Based off of the newspaper article the combination of UCD drama department not being pleased with their last visit, and painting the interior, invitations for the plaques unveiling all without proper authority. Bottom line Geist was pushing for shows even though restoration was incomplete to help with funds. Struck a deal with UCD and allowed them to do their summer shows for 2 months while rebuilding was still in progress which caused the UCD complaints and the LAC was worried that having this deal with UCD would cause issue with local theatre groups.
March 15th	250 Liberal Arts Commission members signed a petition in hopes to overturn the boards vote to have Geist resign. Geist now has no plans to quit the president post until his two-year term ends in June
March 22nd	Liberal Arts Commission Closes the Nevada Theatre due to structural defects which directors believe could endanger the public. They moved the performance that was to happen that evening to the Odd Fellows Hall.
March 23rd	The Union released a newspaper article stating 'Nevada Theatre Closed Indefinitely: Suspected Structural Fault, Possible Danger'. The article talks about a report given in 1969 stating there is huge structural problem on the west facing wall. The Liberal Arts Commission claimed they were not made aware of this report. UCD architect indicates the theatre could be operating illegally because it fails to meet building codes. All contracts with theatre companies are voided until further notice.
1972	
March 15th	The disput over leadership of the Liberal Arts Commission is renewed at a 7:30pm meeting held at the Nevada Theatre.
August - Sept.	Old Theatre façade is restored. The bricks are too soft for sand blasting, so the plaster had to be removed by chisels and grinding tools.
October	The north wall of the Nevada Theatre is excavated to its foundation base, found to be in good condition. It was sealed and a French drain was installed. Gunite is applied on the walls.
1973	

January 17th	Liberal Arts Commission rents the facility for \$25.00 per day plus 15% of the paid admission. Fee schedule was set by general membership. Willard Rose (Chairman of the Finance Committee) that it cost \$52.00 a day to keep the building open so he recommended that the rent schedule change to \$45.00 per day plus 10% of the paid admission. Bill Lambert thought a cheaper rate for schools would be appropriate at \$20.00 per day and 5% of the paid admission. The rates remained at \$25.00 and 15% with the school rating proposed by Lambert.
1974	
April 27th	An event is held by the Liberal Arts Commission to celebrate the Dedication of the Nevada Theatre as a California Historical Landmark No. 862. The dedication was scheduled to start at 2pm in the Martin Luther Marsh House (254 Boulder Street) followed by a reception and supper (\$3.50 per person) at 5:30pm. Orchestrated by General Chairman, Sally Lewis. Liberal Arts Commission President at this time is James Abraham.
1975	
March 17th	Actress Olivia de Havilland visits Nevada City and tours the Nevada Theatre. She came to visit briefly with former high school instructors Margaret Camberlin and Dorothy Sanders. At this time she held 2 Academy Awards for the movies "To Each His Own" and "The Heiress".
1977	
October	Foothill Theatre Company is founded by Diane Fetterly along with Bruce and Leslie West. It was at this time known as The Company. First production was Shaw's comedy 'Pygmalion'
1979	
?	Foothill Theatre Company incorporated as a non-profit, public-benefit corporation with bylaws and a Board of Trustees.
1980	
?	The first annual Nevada City Film Festival is hosted at the Nevada Theatre. The festival was developed by Ross Woodbury. The main attraction for the festival was Frank Capra. Unfortunately he had to cancel a couple of days prior to the Festival because his wife became ill. A last minute scramble for a new speaker ended with Joseph Walker who was Capra's cinematographer for all his films at Columbus Studios. He did a wonderful job, but many people backed out of the event after hearing that Capra was no longer coming. Only about 100 people ended up being in attendance.
1981	
April 11th-12th	Second Nevada City Film Festival is hosted at the Nevada Theatre on April 11th and 12th. Vincente Minnelli was an invited guest speaker. He was invited by Ross Woodbury. Chuck Jones was also in attendance as an invited guest speaker. Attendance for all weekend was \$11.00 per person. To attend for Minnelli only (Saturday) cost \$6.00 per person and to attend for Jones only (Sunday) cost \$4.00 per person.
July 2nd	The Nevada Theatre announces the hiring of a new Theatre Manager who has a professional background in theatre. Robert (Bob) Irvin came from Eagle Theater in Sacramento.

September 12th	Liberal Arts Commission hosts 116th birthday party for the Nevada Theatre. This party is dedicated to Life Member Gene Chesley, the theatre's consultant, and to Life Members Maudie Shaw and Peggy Dowe, all of who died in 1981. Bob Irvin is introduced to the community as the new Theatre Manager. They show MGM movie 'That's Entertainment'. Tickets are \$5.00. Profits from this night is \$800.00
1982	
February	What the community sees as aocal artist groups include: Community Players, Foothill Theater, Liberal Arts Commission, KVMR, Foothill Fiber Guild, City Opera: Music in the Mountains, Twin Cities Concert Association, Primitive Arts Institute, Sierra Musical Arts Association, Pacific Library, Pioneer Arts, Nevada County Historical Society, American Victorian Museum and the Nevada City Film Festival.
September 11th	The Liberal Arts Commission throws a Gala Birthday Celecration called 'Say It With Music' which is a salue to the music of Irving Berlin. Curtain was 8:00pm. Seats were \$10.00 each.
1983	
January	Bob Irvin is fired by the Commission because of low funding. They no longer could pay him.
March 2nd	It is publically announced that the Liberal Arts Commission is looking to Lease the Nevada Theatre. Companies being asked to consider the deal include: Music in the Mountains, Foothill Theatre Company, and propietors of the American Victorian Museum. The idea is that the commission would retain ome control, most decisions about entertainment may be left to the leaseholder's judgement.. The leaseholder would pick up overhead costs and other expenses but would be free to operate the theatre for profit. The lease at this time is completely negotiable.
May 21st	Shizumi Shigeto Manale, a renowned Japanese performing artist, performs at the Nevada Theatre during her first tour in the United States. Show is organized by the Nevada County Arts Council
?	Foothill Theatre Company comes to a least agreement with the Liberal Arts Commission and takes up residence in the Nevada Theatre.
1984	
November 10th	119th Birthday Party. Cost \$6.50 per person.
1985	
Show Season	Foothill Theatre Company presents: The Beggar's Opera, ???, Alice in Wonderland, The Skin of our Teeth, Waiting for Godot, Dell' Arte Players, and Equus
1990	
?	Diane Fetterly resigned her position as Artistic Director with Foothill Theatre Company due to her husband's, Ralph Fetterly's illness. She is replaced by Sandra Rockman.
1991	
September 25th	Box Office Remodel begins and a display case is installed for the outter lobby. Total Bill is \$1,689.19
October 15th	The City Council decided to send out requests for proposals to 9 architects. The city received a \$30,000.00 state grant and contributed \$7,500.00 in city fund to direct toward assisting the Nevada Theatre and the Miners Foundary for future improvements. The primary focus for the Nevada Theatre was for building a theatre annex to help provide space for set construction, rehearsal, administrative offices and other related issues.
1992	

January 2nd	Demolation begins of the Nevada Theatre stage and is rebuilt. Foothill Theatre Company volunteers and workers from the Nevada County Detention Center assist with the demolition. The installation was installed by California Conservation Corps workers. The new stage was to be bigger and stronger and feature improved electrical utilities and trap doors for quick exits by actors. The project is expected to be complete by February 1. During this time carpets are replaced in the auditorium and lobby and the sheds behind the theatre are used for theatre storage.
February 28th	The new stage is complete and dedicated to Ralph Fetterly, the longtime Foothill Theatre Company set designer who died in 1991.
February 10th	Five proposals were submitted by architects in response to the City Council's proposal requests to make improvements to the Miners Foundary and the Nevada Theatre. The pool of candidates was reduced to Gold and Boyd and David Wright Associates of Nevada County, and Architectural Resources due to their previous experience with 'working around old buildings.'
March 12th	The box office is finished with its remodel for the needs of Foothill Theatre Company. Total cost is \$2,313.38.
?	Sandra Rockman departs from Foothill Theatre Company and is replaced by Philip Sneed.
1993	
January 13th	Repainting of the interior of the Nevada Theatre. Painting is expected to continue until Jan.22nd. The materials were donated by local building supply companies.
February 16th	The lobby counter area is redone to include cabinets and a full wrap around countertop. The project cost \$1,458.45
December	Arts supporters and city officials discussed a purposed two-story, multipurpose complex behind the Nevada Theatre that would cost \$1.1 million to \$2 million. The facility would house art organizations' offices, a gallery, multipurpose space and set-construction facility. It was said that the scene shop would be for Foothill Theatre Company and would ultimately free up the theater stage for rental an additional 11 weeks. There is a lot of push back on the idea because the sheds pre-dated WWII and was standing in the historic district.
1994	
?	Artistic Director Philip Sneed negotiates Foothill Theatre Company's first contract with Actors' Equity Association.
1995	
June 25th	Second Annual 'Bridge on Bridge' Tournament is a howling success. The Pine Street Marching Band is in attendance. Location of the event was at the Minor's Foundary. The Nevada Theatre President was Bill Prucha.
October 1st	Renovations of the former Nevada City Ice Company Depot is scheduled to be complete. The restoration costs twice as much as they were anticipating due to ADA requirements and commercial state standards.
1996	
?	Foothill Theatre Company is awarded a contract to produce at the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival.
2005	
January	Flyer is sent to many community members from the Nevada Theatre Commission in hopes to raise funds for an HVAC System, Fire Sprinklers and Balcony improvements.

2007	
October	The Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival announced that it would end its relationship with the Foothill Theatre Company to produce its annual Shakespeare Festival. It is claimed to be a loss of more than an annual income of \$300,000.00.
2008	
August 4th	Foothill Theatre Company announces that they are overbudget and must raise \$90,000.00 by August 22nd or they will be forced to close their doors. In order to complete a 2009 season the FTC Board President Lowell Robertson and Executive Director Karen Robertson says the company needs \$247,000.00.
2009	
August 27th	The Nevada Theatre Commission and Foothill Theatre Company reached an agreement that will keep the theatre company in the Nevada Theatre. The agreement is to extend through the completion of the FTC 2008 season which ends on December 28th. Both parties feel the agreement is a win-win and FTC Executive Director Karen Marinovich says she feels "the NTC board listened to our needs and they responded with compassion and generosity."
May 16th	Foothill Theatre Company closes after its performance 'Bad Dates'.
2013	
October	The Nevada Theatre Commission is working on an expansion plan that would see a new building being added in back of the theater that will not only expand the backstage area, but will also serve as the new home for local radio station, KVMR. Goal is to have the expansion project done by the 150th Celebration of the Nevada Theatre.
2015	
February 27th	KVMR officially moves into the new building behind the theatre. The event is called 'Passing the Mic'.