Nampeyo’s Life Timeline

**c. 1860**

Nampeyo with her mother, White Corn. Photo by James Mooney (1893). Smithsonian Institution #1875-B-1.

**1875**
Thomas Keam opens trading post at First Mesa, location called Peach Orchard Spring and later Keams Canyon.

First photograph of Nampeyo, as a young girl. Photo by William Henry Jackson (1875).

**c. 1878**
Nampeyo marries Lesso, of Cedarwood clan, Walpi.


**c. 1880**
Anthropologist Alexander Stephen arrives at Keams Canyon. He is official Post Master when post office is established in 1883.
Beginning of manufacture of Sikyatki Revival Pottery. Thomas Keam encourages potters to make pottery with designs inspired by pottery recovered from nearby protohistoric (c. 1400-1600) sites. Nampeyo among the potters to participate in this revival.

1882
Railroad completed through Winslow.

c. 1884
First daughter Annie (Healing) born (d. 1968).

1886
First Hemenway Expedition to Southwest, headed by Frank Hamilton Cushing.

1887
School established at Keams Canyon for Hopi children.

1891-1892
Second Hemenway Expedition to Hopi, headed by Jesse Walter Fewkes.

1892
Fewkes purchases collection of over 3000 Hopi ceramic pieces from trader Keams for $10,000.

c. 1893
Son William Lesso born (d. 1935).

The story is oft repeated that Nampeyo became aware of the designs when husband Lesso worked for Fewkes' 1895 excavation at Sikyatki. Yet, there is no record of Lesso ever having worked for Fewkes, and "revival" pottery production predates Fewkes' work by at least 10-15 years.
1893
Mennonite missionary H.R. Voth arrives at Hopi.

1896
Second daughter Nellie (Douma) born (d. 1978).

1899
Son Wesley Lesso born (d. 1985).

1900
Daughter Fannie born (d. 1987).

1900-1925
Photographer E.S. Curtis visits Hopi numerous times. Photographs Nampeyo, her mother and her daughter Nellie.

1901

1902
Thomas Keam sells trading post to Lorenzo Hubbell, Sr., his son, Lorenzo Jr. manages it.

**1905-1906**
Nampeyo demonstrates at "Hopi House" Grand Canyon.

**1910**
Nampeyo, Lesso, Nellie and Nellie's friend Ida Avayo go to Chicago United States Land and Irrigation Exposition so that Nampeyo can demonstrate her pottery-making techniques.

**1942**
Nampeyo dies at home of son, Wesley and his wife Cecilia Polocca.

Nampeyo & family members with pottery in front of "Hopi House" at the Grand Canyon. Photographer unknown (1905).

Nampeyo in her mid 70's, holding a pot she has just made. Photo by Tad Nichols (1935).