

USA TOP 250



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KEY MOMENTS THAT SHAPED
AMERICA'S NATIONAL CHARACTER



USATop250.org

SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL
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LIBERTYDEVILS PRESS



FOREWORD

As the United States celebrates its Semiquincentennial in 2026, Americans mark the 250th anniversary of the nation's founding, beginning with the signing of the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776.

Over the past five years, with the help of many friends, I have researched, discussed, debated, and ultimately assembled a list of 250 historical events that I believe have most shaped the American story. These are the moments that helped define our national identity, values, culture, character, and aspirations. They include triumphs and tragedies, acts of courage and innovation, and milestones that continue to influence the nation today.

Together, they tell the story of a nation that has continually reinvented itself while striving to fulfill the ideals upon which it was founded.

I began this project in 2020 and completed it just before Independence Day in 2026. Along the way, I was reminded that history is far more than a collection of dates and names. It is a record of the people, ideas, inventions, struggles, and achievements that have shaped the country we know today.

My hope is that readers will use these 250 events not only to learn about America's past, but also to reflect on how that past influences our present and future. Understanding these moments can deepen our appreciation for the freedoms we enjoy, the challenges we have overcome, and the responsibilities that come with citizenship.

Of course, limiting America's story to just 250 events is nearly impossible. A thousand worthy moments could have been included. Every reader will undoubtedly have a favorite event that is missing or one that they would rank differently. That is part of the fun—and part of the value—of studying history.

As you explore these pages, I invite you to revisit familiar stories, discover new ones, and consider which events you believe have most shaped the American experience. I hope this collection sparks conversations, inspires curiosity, and encourages a deeper appreciation for the remarkable story of the United States of America.



REVOLUTIONARY AMERICA

Key Moments:

- 1776 Declaration of Independence Signed
- 1776 Washington Crosses the Delaware
- 1776 Writings Of Thomas Paine
- 1777 Battle of Saratoga
- 1777 Winter Encampment at Valley Forge
- 1778 Ben Franklin Secures Alliances With France
- 1781 Articles of Confederation Ratified
- 1781 Cornwallis Surrender – Battle of Yorktown
- 1787 Constitutional Convention
- 1788 Federalist Papers Published
- 1789 Washington Elected As First President
- 1790 Whiskey Rebellion
- 1791 The 'Bill of Rights' Ratified



JULY 4, 1776 DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE



FREEDOM: On July 4, 1776, colonial leaders adopted the Declaration of Independence, asserting liberty, equality, and self-government. Its bold ideals shaped America's national character by inspiring resistance to tyranny, civic responsibility, democratic principles, and an enduring belief that freedom and individual rights define the nation's purpose.

DECEMBER 25, 1776 CROSSING THE DELAWARE



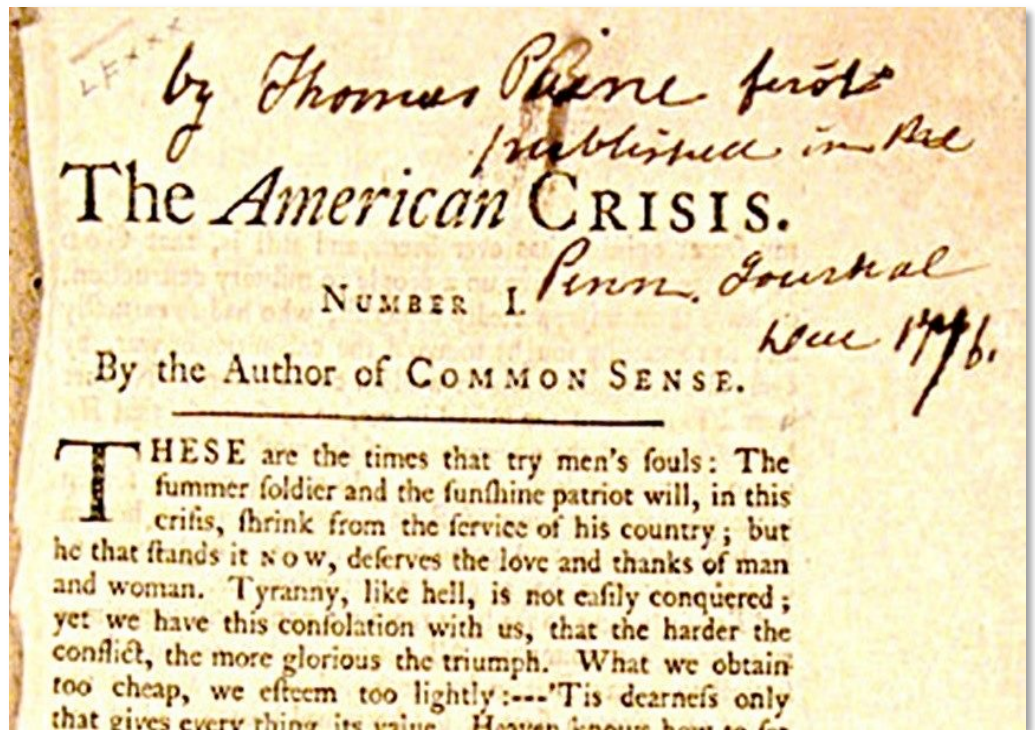
CHRISTMAS NIGHT: On December 25, 1776, George Washington crossed the icy Delaware River, surprising Hessian forces at Trenton. The daring victory revived American morale during the Revolutionary War and shaped the nation's character by celebrating perseverance, bold leadership, resilience, and the belief that Americans can overcome difficult odds.

OCTOBER 17, 1777 BATTLE OF SARATOGA



TURNING POINT: The Battle of Saratoga ended on October 17, 1777, when American forces under Horatio Gates accepted the surrender of British troops led by John Burgoyne. The decisive victory convinced France to support the American cause, greatly strengthening the fight for independence.

DECEMBER 19, 1776 WRITINGS OF THOMAS PAINE



TIMES THAT TRY MENS SOULS: On December 19, 1776, Thomas Paine published *The American Crisis* No. 1, inspiring Americans during a desperate phase of the Revolutionary War. Building on the earlier impact of *Common Sense*, Paine's writings strengthened support for independence and embodied enduring national values of liberty, perseverance, and self-government.

DECEMBER 19, 1777 WINTER AT VALLEY FORGE



M.Y. 227. PAINTING BY DUNSMORE. WASHINGTON AND LAFAYETTE AT VALLEY FORGE. COPYRIGHT, 1907, BY BROWN & BIGELOW, ST. PAUL AND TORONTO.

WINTER ENCAMPMENT: On December 19, 1777, the American Continental Army arrived at Valley Forge. Despite hunger, disease, and brutal weather, the army endured and emerged stronger through training and discipline. Valley Forge became a symbol of perseverance, sacrifice, and commitment to liberty, that remain central to the American character today.

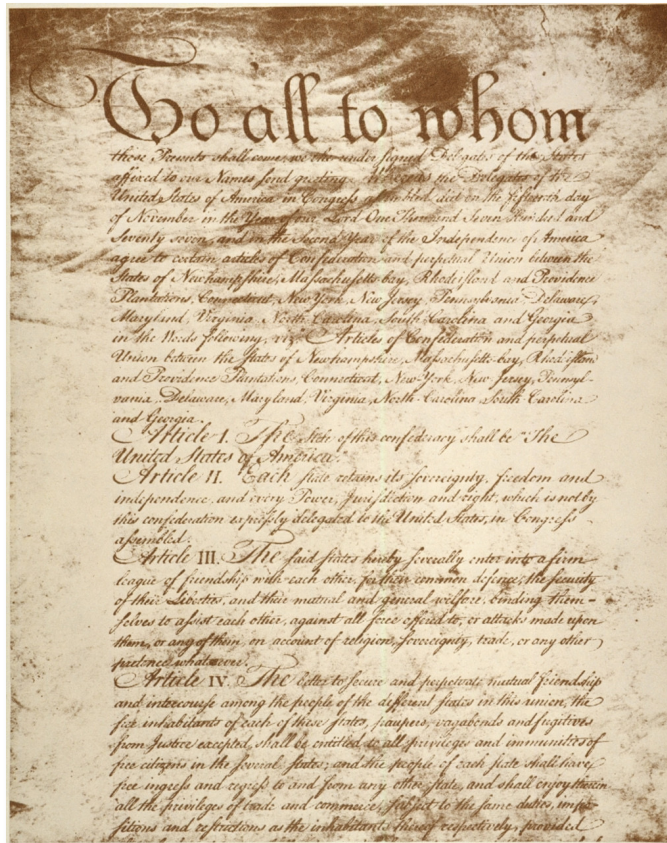
FEBRUARY 6, 1778 ALLIANCE WITH FRANCE



RECIPROCAL ADVANTAGE: Signed on February 6, 1778, the Treaty of Alliance, alongside the Treaty of Amity and Commerce, committed France to military support for the American colonies after Benjamin Franklin successfully negotiated for recognition of American independence at the court of Louis XVI.

MARCH 1, 1781

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION



UNITED: As the American military made progress on the battlefield, the Articles of Confederation were ratified on March 1, 1781 by the 13 colonies. A precursor to the Constitution, the Articles preserved the strong sovereignty of the States, ultimately leaving the Federal Government without the powers it would require to sustain the entire nation.

OCTOBER 19, 1781 SURRENDER AT YORKTOWN



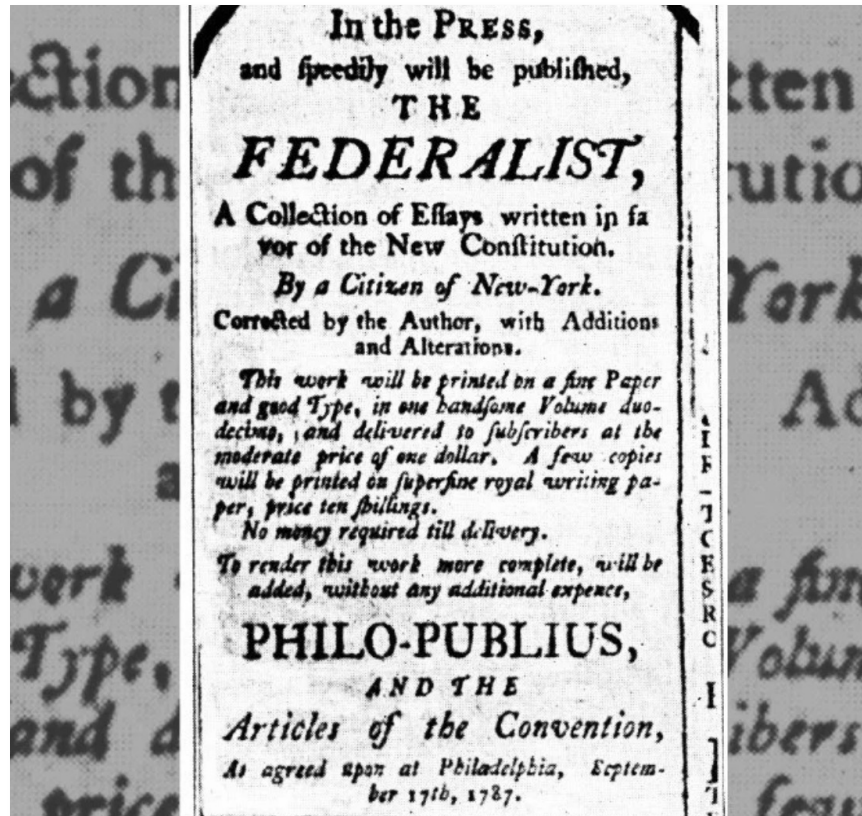
VICTORY: Trapped in Yorktown, Virginia, the highly-decorated British General Lord Cornwallis surrendered his 8,000 British troops to a larger American/French force on October 19, 1781. The victory for General George Washington effectively brought an end to the American Revolution and the start of the new independent nation.

MAY 25, 1787 CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION



WE THE PEOPLE: The Constitutional Convention began on May 25, 1787, in Philadelphia. It was a pivotal event in American history where delegates from twelve of the thirteen states came together for 4 months and resulted in the creation of a stronger central government, with the Constitution becoming the supreme law of the land. The Constitution was ratified by all 13 states by 1790.

OCTOBER 27, 1787 THE FEDERALIST PAPERS



SECURING LIBERTY: On October 27, 1787, the first of the Federalist Papers was published in New York under the pseudonym "Publius." Eighty-five of the papers were published to support ratification of the Constitution. They helped shape America's system of government and reinforced national values of constitutional rights, order, debate, and democracy.

APRIL 30, 1789 WASHINGTON ELECTED



COMMANDER IN CHIEF: In 1789, George Washington was inaugurated as the first President of the United States, marking a pivotal moment in American history. His leadership during the Revolutionary War and pivotal role in drafting the Constitution earned him the trust of the nation, setting the foundation for the presidency and shaping the fledgling republic.

DECEMBER 15, 1791 BILL OF RIGHTS RATIFIED



INDIVIDUAL FREEDOMS: Originally left out of the US Constitution, the Bill of Rights became the first ten amendments on December 15, 1791, after ratification by the states. Primarily authored by James Madison, they confirmed the fundamental of rights of citizens, including freedom of speech, the press, religion, to bear arms, and assembly.

AMERICAN ICONS

Key Moments:

- 1776 Liberty Bell Rings Independence
- 1777 Flag Act Establishes The Stars & Stripes
- 1782 Eagle & Great Seal Of United States Adopted
- 1782 Motto 'E Pluribus Unum' Minted On US Coins
- 1791 L'Enfant Plans District of Columbia
- 1793 US Capitol Building Begun
- 1813 'Uncle Sam' Becomes Caricature For US Government
- 1814 Francis Scott Key Pens 'Star Spangled Banner'
- 1886 Statue of Liberty Dedicated
- 1892 'Pledge Of Allegiance' Composed By Francis Bellamy
- 1895 Katherine Lee Bates Publishes 'America The Beautiful'
- 1897 Sousa's 'Stars & Stripes Forever' National March
- 1912 Boy Scouts of America Establish Eagle Scout Rank
- 1921 Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Consecrated
- 1940 Bald Eagle Given Federal Protection
- 1941 Mount Rushmore Dedicated
- 1956 Congress Adopts "In God We Trust" As National Motto

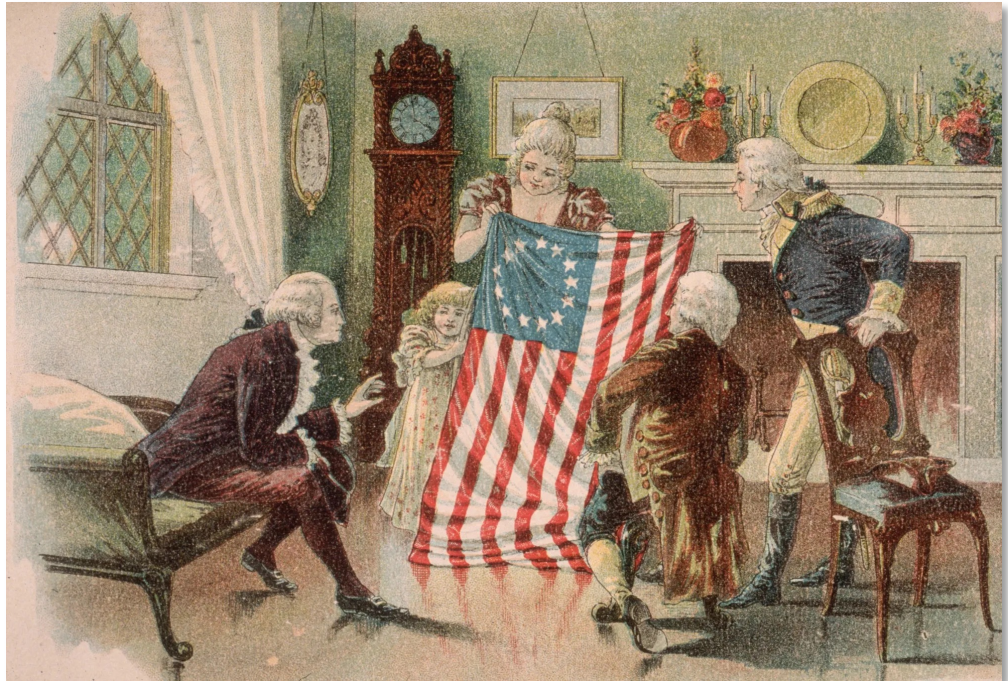


JULY 8, 1776 THE LIBERTY BELL



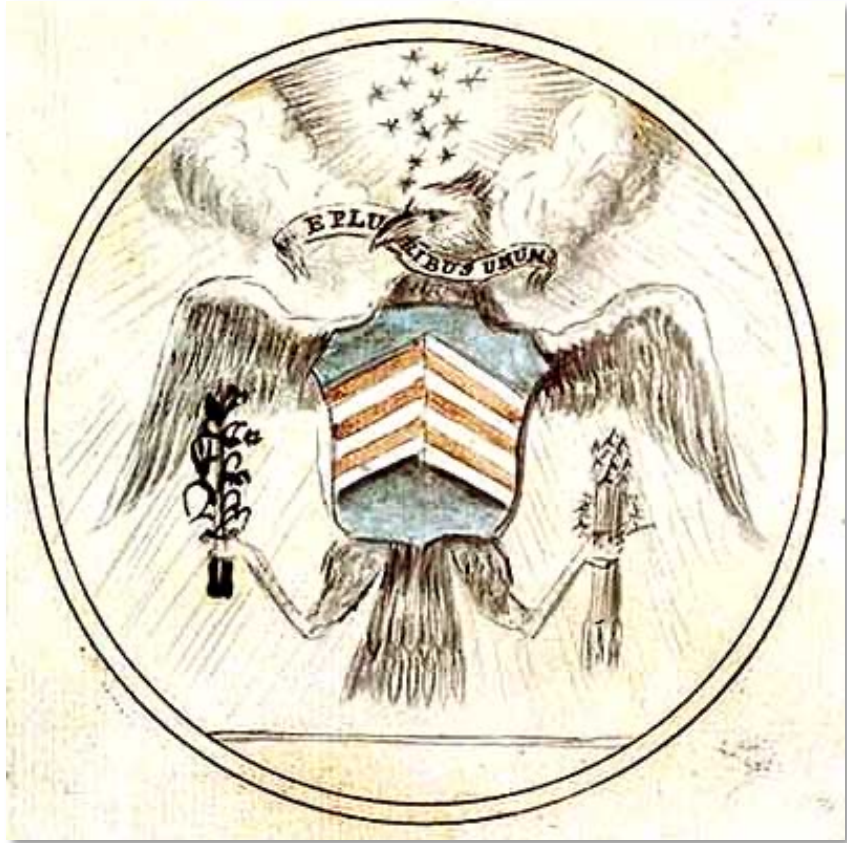
LET FREEDOM RING: On July 8, 1776, the Liberty Bell rang from Independence Hall in Philadelphia as citizens gathered to hear the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence. The bell became an enduring symbol of freedom, self-government, and the American commitment to liberty, equality, and independence.

1777 FLAG ACT THE STARS & STRIPES



OFFICIAL FLAG: The 1777 Flag Act of the Second Continental Congress established the Stars & Stripes - with 13 stars representing the colonies - as the Official Flag of the United States. Philadelphia seamstress, Betsy Ross, has traditionally been credited with sewing the first flag design.

JUNE 20, 1782 GREAT SEAL & EAGLE



APPROVED: William Barton, an American artist and designer, played a vital role in the development of the seal of the United States. Barton's design was approved by the Continental Congress, on June 20, 1782. It featured an American bald eagle as the central motif, symbolizing courage, strength, and freedom - a fitting emblem for the young nation.

1795

'E PLURIBUS UNUM' COINED



UNITED: E Pluribus Unum first appeared on U.S. coins in 1795, symbolizing “out of many, one.” The motto expressed national unity after independence, reinforcing a shared identity among diverse states and peoples. It became official with the Coinage Act of 1873. The motto was first proposed in 1776 by artist Pierre Eugène du Simitière for the Official Seal.

SEPTEMBER 14, 1814 STAR-SPANGLED BANNER



OLD GLORY: On September 14, 1814, Francis Scott Key penned “The Star-Spangled Banner” after witnessing the American flag still flying above Fort McHenry following a British bombardment. His words captured national resilience and patriotism, creating an enduring symbol of freedom, perseverance, and the American spirit in adversity.

OCTOBER 28, 1886 STATUE OF LIBERTY



NEW COLOSSUS: On October 28, 1886, the Statue of Liberty was dedicated in New York City as a gift from France to the United States. Designed by Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi, it became a symbol of freedom and opportunity. Later, Emma Lazarus's famous poem, "The New Colossus," added the enduring invitation: "Give me your tired, your poor."

SEPTEMBER 8, 1892 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



Pledge of Allegiance



"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

JUSTICE FOR ALL: The Pledge of Allegiance, composed by Francis Bellamy, was first published in "The Youth's Companion" on September 8, 1892. Originally written for the 400th anniversary of Columbus's arrival in the Americas, it aimed to instill patriotism among schoolchildren. The pledge underwent several revisions before its current form was adopted by the United States Congress in 1954.

SEPTEMBER 18, 1793 U.S. CAPITOL BUILDING



CAPITOL: On September 18, 1793, George Washington laid the cornerstone for the United States Capitol Building. The competition for its design was won by Dr. William Thornton, a gifted amateur architect. In 1814, British troops set fire to the Capitol as well as the White House and other District of Columbia buildings during the War of 1812, delaying its final completion to 1826.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1813 UNCLE SAM FIRST APPEARS



UNCLE SAM: On September 7, 1813, during the War of 1812, the nickname Uncle Sam entered popular use. The name was linked to Samuel Wilson, a New York meat packer whose Army supply barrels were stamped “U.S.” Soldiers jokingly said the initials stood for “Uncle Sam,” creating a lasting symbol of America.

APRIL 22, 1864 “IN GOD WE TRUST” COIN



NATIONAL MOTTO: On April 22, 1864, Congress authorized the two-cent piece, the first U.S. coin to bear the motto “In God We Trust.” Adopted during the Civil War, the inscription gradually spread to other coins and currency before becoming the official motto of the United States in 1956.

JULY 4, 1895 AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL



America, the Beautiful

Katherine Lee Bates B \flat F F 7 Samuel Ward

O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, For am - ber waves of
 O beau - ti - ful for pil - grim feet, Whose stern im - pas - sioned
 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved In li - ber - a - ting
 O beau - ti - ful for pat - riot dream That sees be - yond the

4 B \flat B \flat F

grain, For pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties A -
 stress, A thor - ough - fare for free - dom beat A -
 strife, Who more than self their coun - try loved, And
 years, Thine al - a - bas - ter ci - ties gleam, Un -

7 G 7 C 7 F F 7 B \flat

bove the frui - ted plain! A - mer - i - ca! A -
 cross the wil - der - ness! A - mer - i - ca! A -
 mer - cy more than life! A - mer - i - ca! A -
 dimmed by hu - man tears! A - mer - i - ca! A -

SEA TO SHINING SEA: English professor Katherine Lee Bates penned the words to ‘America The Beautiful’ after a train trip she took from the east coast to Colorado Springs, where she taught summer school. It was published as a poem in a weekly newspaper in 1895. Her lyrics were adapted to music by Samuel A. Ward and published in 1910.

MAY 14, 1897 STARS & STRIPES FOREVER



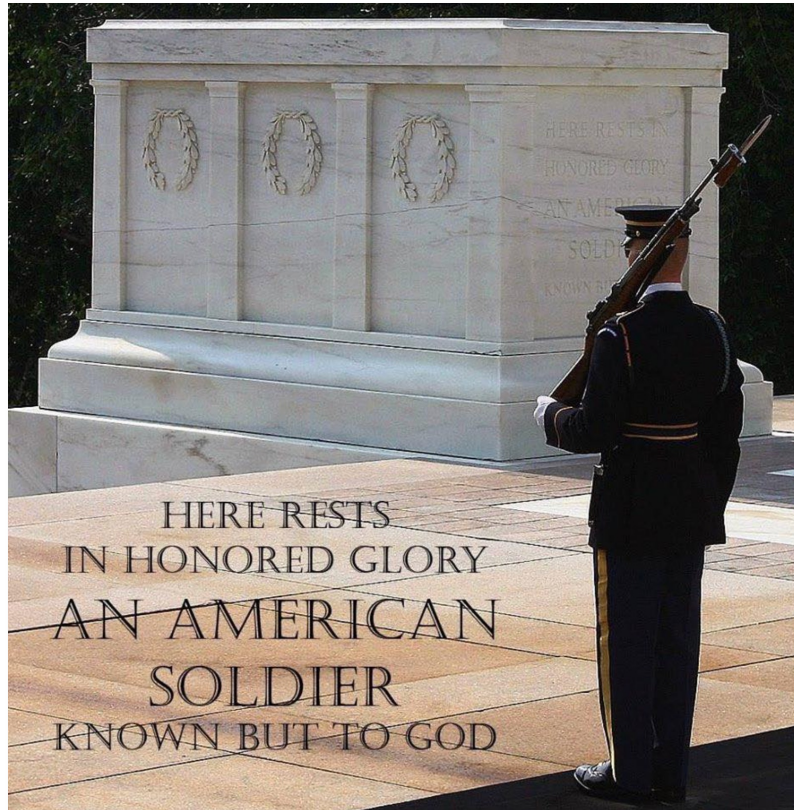
AMERICAN MARCH: First performed on May 14, 1897, the John Phillips Sousa March 'Stars & Stripes Forever' was an immediate success. The "March King" Sousa, said he wrote the piece on Christmas Day 1896 when he was returning from a trip to Europe. It became the official national march of the United States in an Official Act of Congress on its 100th Anniversary.

AUGUST 21, 1912 FIRST EAGLE SCOUT



GOOD TURN DAILY: On August 21, 1912, Arthur Rose Eldred became the first Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America. His achievement established Eagle Scout as the organization's highest rank, recognizing leadership, character, and service. The honor would later be earned by millions of Americans over the next century, including many future leaders.

NOVEMBER 11, 1921 TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER



MEMORIAL DAY: The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery was inaugurated on November 11, 1921, honoring unidentified American service members. Guarded continuously since 1937, the white marble monument symbolizes sacrifice, national unity, and enduring respect for soldiers whose names and stories vanished amid war.

JUNE 8, 1940 BALD EAGLE PROTECTION



NATIONAL BIRD: In 1940, the Bald Eagle received federal protection through the Bald Eagle Protection Act. This law prohibited killing, selling, or possessing the national bird. The act marked a critical step in wildlife conservation, helping to save the Bald Eagle from extinction and preserving a national symbol.

OCTOBER 31, 1941 MOUNT RUSHMORE DEDICATED



NATIONAL MONUMENT: South Dakota's Mount Rushmore was dedicated on October 31, 1941, after 14 years of carving. Featuring Presidents Washington, Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Lincoln, it symbolizes America's founding, expansion, preservation, and development. The monument reflects national ideals of democracy and unity, making it a powerful symbol of American history and pride.

THE YOUNG REPUBLIC

Key Moments:

- 1784 Daniel Boone Frontier Exploits Published
- 1792 Buttonwood Agreement Opens NY Stock Exchange
- 1794 Cotton Gin Invented by Eli Whitney
- 1796 Washington Resigns Presidency
- 1797 'Johnny Appleseed' Chapman Plants First Tree
- 1801 Barbary Coast War
- 1803 Louisiana Purchase Signed by Thomas Jefferson
- 1803 Marbury vs Madison – Supreme Court
- 1804 Lewis & Clark Expedition
- 1808 Transatlantic Slave Importation Banned
- 1814 Burning of Washington DC By British
- 1815 End of War of 1812 – Battle of New Orleans
- 1823 Monroe Doctrine Halts European Colonialism
- 1825 Opening Of The Erie Canal
- 1827 Davey Crockett Elected To Congress
- 1828 Democratic Party Formed
- 1831 Trail of Tears Begins for Native American Tribes
- 1831 Cyrus McCormick's Mechanical Reaper
- 1836 Defense Of The Alamo
- 1837 John Deere Plow Invented
- 1837 Horace Mann Leads 'Common School' Movement
- 1846 First Recorded Baseball Game, Hoboken NJ
- 1846 Smithsonian Institute Established
- 1850 Nathaniel Hawthorne's 'The Scarlet Letter'
- 1851 First Publication Of New York Times
- 1851 Herman Melville's 'Moby Dick'
- 1854 Republican Party Founded



OCTOBER 1, 1784 DANIEL BOONE EXPLOITS



FRONTIERSMAN: On October 1, 1784, John Filson's book *The Discovery, Settlement and Present State of Kentucky* was published, featuring Daniel Boone's adventures. The work popularized the frontier hero nationwide, encouraging westward expansion and reinforcing American values of independence, exploration, opportunity, and self-reliance.

AUGUST 7, 1794 WHISKEY REBELLION



FEDERAL AUTHORITY: On August 7, 1794, President George Washington issued a proclamation calling militia forces to suppress the Whiskey Rebellion. Western Pennsylvania farmers had violently resisted a federal tax on distilled spirits, attacking tax collectors and officials. The response affirmed constitutional authority, national unity, and the rule of law.

DECEMBER 13, 1791 DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PLAN



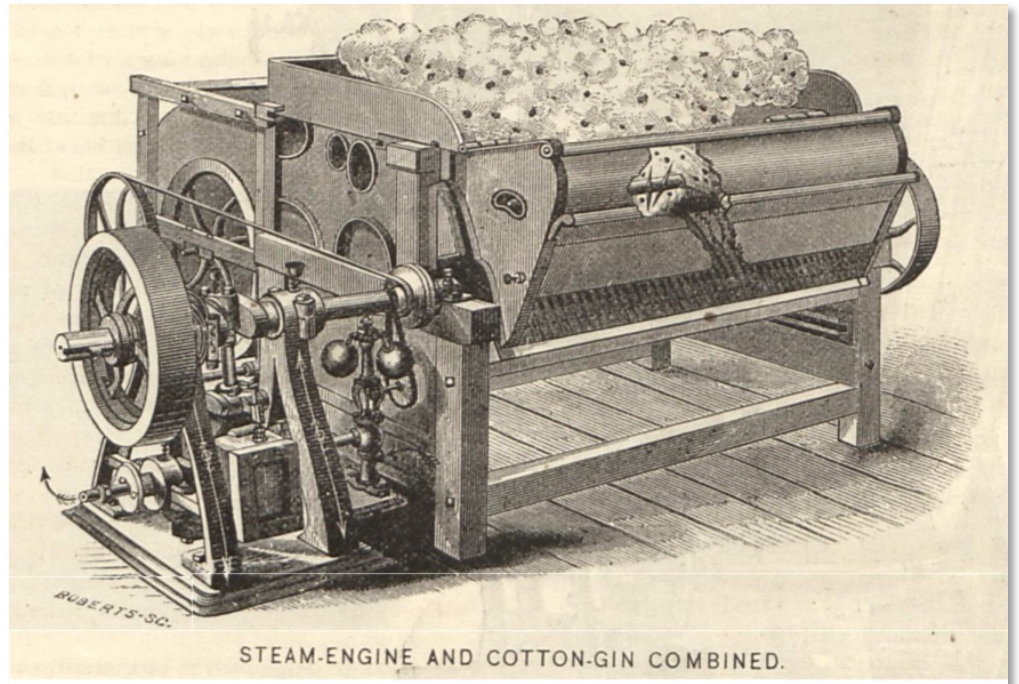
CAPITOL: Pierre Charles L'Enfant, a French-born American urban planner was tasked with designing the District of Columbia. His initial plan was sent to Congress on December 13, 1791. L'Enfant's vision was to create a grand, monumental city on a scale that would reflect the ideals of the new republic.- including a “President’s House” and Hall of Congress.

MAY 17, 1792 NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE



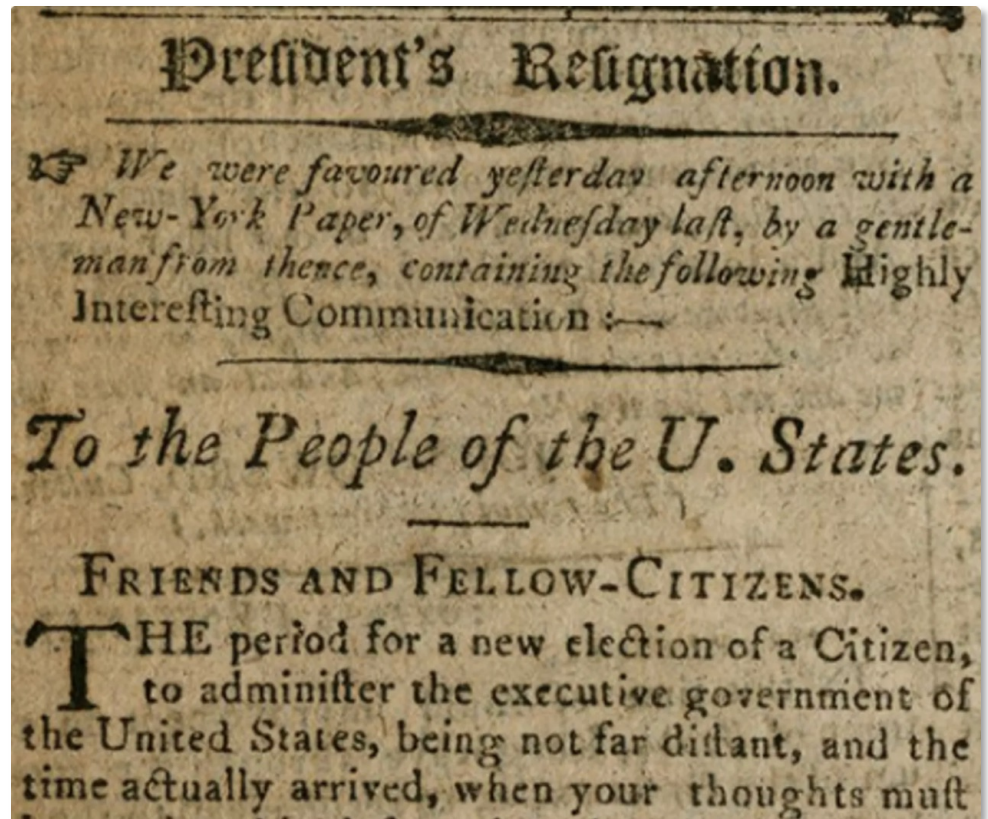
WALL STREET: The Buttonwood Agreement, signed under a Buttonwood tree on May 17, 1792, by 24 New York City stockbrokers, established the foundation for what would become the New York Stock Exchange on Wall Street. This agreement organized securities trading, ensuring a more structured and regulated financial market, which was essential for economic growth in the young United States.

MARCH 14, 1794 COTTON GIN INVENTED



KING COTTON: Eli Whitney's patent for the cotton gin in March of 1794 led to a revolution in the production of cotton, making it much more efficient to separate the seeds from the fibers. This led to a massive increase in cotton production in the South, advancing the Industrial Revolution and growth of the U.S. economy.

SEPTEMBER 19, 1796 WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL



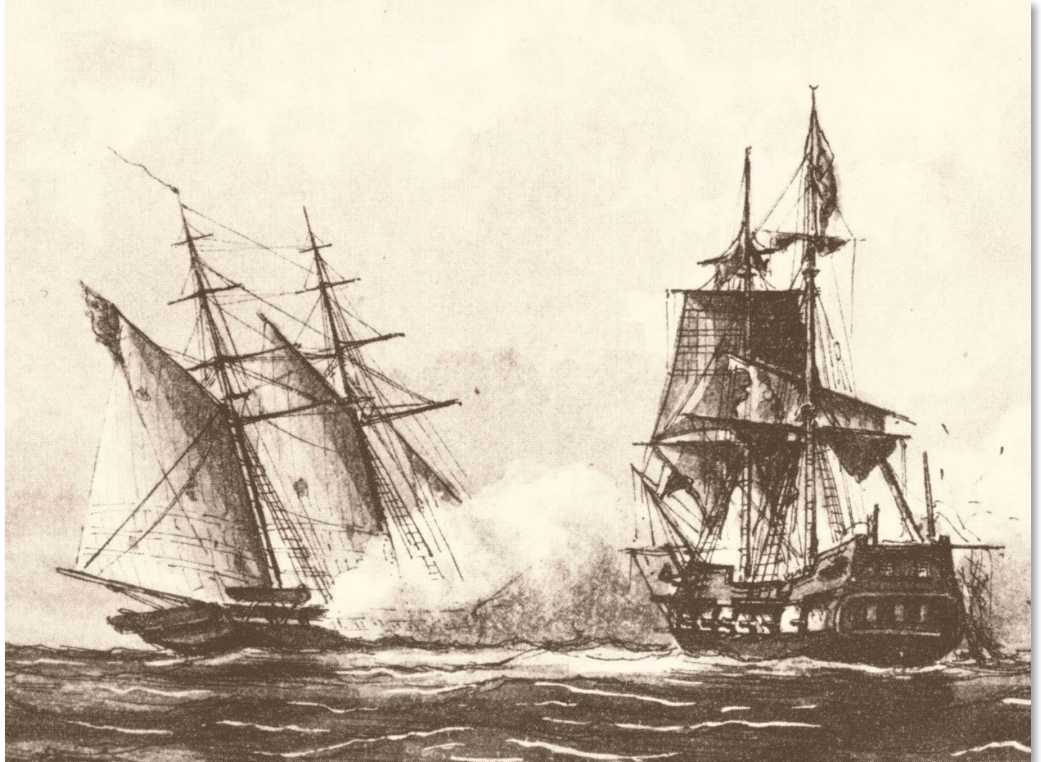
RETURN TO MOUNT VERNON: On September 19, 1796, George Washington's Farewell Address was published, announcing his decision not to seek a third term as president. He warned against excessive political division and foreign entanglements, helping establish traditions of peaceful leadership transitions, national unity, constitutional government, and civic responsibility.

SEPTEMBER 26, 1797 JOHNNY APPLESEED BEGINS



APPLESEED: Johnny Appleseed, born John Chapman, turned 23 years old on September 26, 1797, the year he began planting hundreds of apple nurseries across the frontier. His work shaped American culture by promoting agriculture, westward settlement, and enduring folklore celebrating generosity, simplicity, environmental stewardship, and the pioneer spirit.

MAY 13, 1801 BARBARY STATES WAR



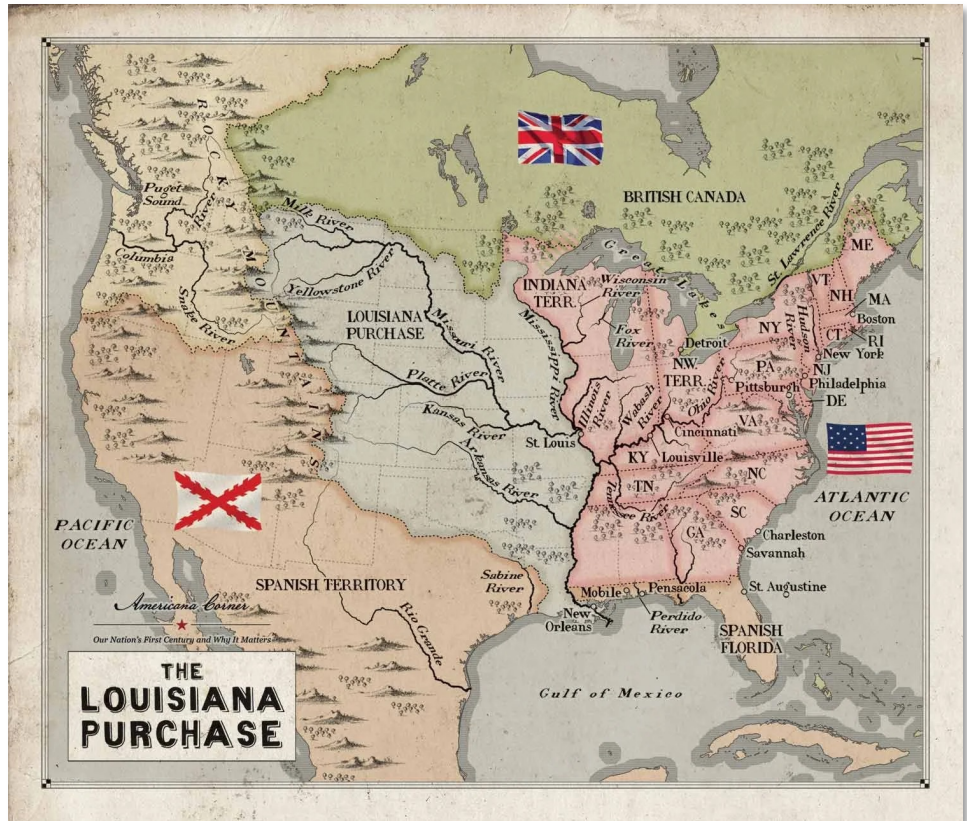
OVERSEAS CONFLICT: On May 13, 1801, President Thomas Jefferson unilaterally dispatched U.S. naval forces to the Mediterranean after government-backed Barbary pirates attacked American shipping. Although Congress had not declared war, Jefferson acted to protect U.S. commerce. The First Barbary War became America's first overseas military conflict.

FEBRUARY 24, 1803 MARBURY VS MADISON



JUDICIAL REVIEW: Decided on February 24, 1803, *Marbury v. Madison* established the principle of judicial review, allowing the Supreme Court to declare laws unconstitutional. This landmark decision significantly strengthened the judiciary, ensuring a vital check on legislative and executive power, shaping American constitutional law permanently.

APRIL 30, 1803 LOUISIANA PURCHASE



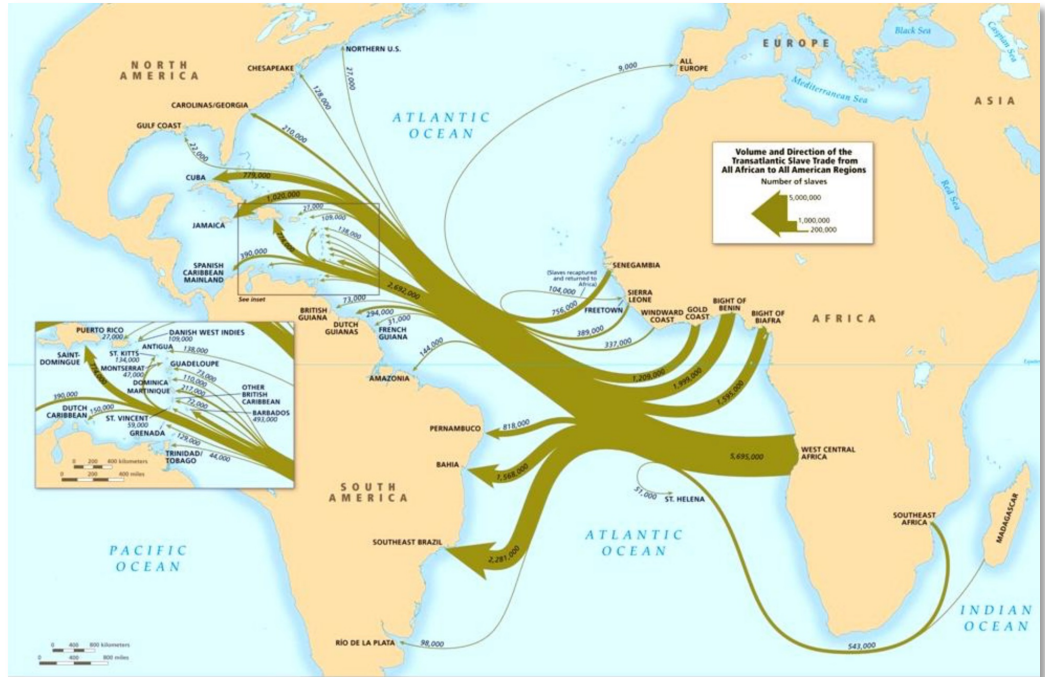
LAND DEAL: On April 30, 1803, the United States completed the Louisiana Purchase, acquiring vast French territory west of the Mississippi River. The acquisition doubled the nation's size, secured western trade routes, encouraged exploration and settlement, and permanently shaped America's expansion, economic growth, and continental identity forever.

MAY 14, 1804 LEWIS & CLARK EXPEDITION



CORPS OF DISCOVERY: On May 14, 1804, the Lewis and Clark Expedition departed from Camp Dubois near St. Louis to explore the Louisiana Purchase. Guided in crucial stages by Sacagawea, they gained geographic knowledge, strengthened American claims to western lands, and reflected national values of exploration, cooperation, and opportunity across a growing frontier.

JANUARY 1, 1808 TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE ACT



BANNED: The Transatlantic Slave Trade Act, signed into law on March 2, 1807, banned the importation of enslaved Africans into the United States beginning January 1, 1808. It immediately followed the expiration of a Constitutional provision protecting the trade for 20 years. The law marked America's first major federal action against slavery and reshaped Atlantic commerce.

AUGUST 24, 1814 BURNING OF WASHINGTON DC



FIRE: On August 24-25, 1814, British troops burned Washington, D.C., during the War of 1812, destroying the White House and Capitol. First Lady, Dolly Madison, saved paintings from the White House fire. This event exposed U.S. military weaknesses but also fostered a sense of resilience and unity, prompting efforts to rebuild and fortify the nation's capitol.

JANUARY 8, 1815 BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS



JACKSON'S TRIUMPH: The Battle of New Orleans took place on January 8, 1815 - ironically 18 days after a treaty to end the War of 1812 had been signed. Despite a large British advantage, the American forces, led by Andrew Jackson, defeated the redcoats in slightly more than 30 minutes. The 'Miracle of New Orleans' led to a surge in patriotism helped unify the young republic.

DECEMBER 2, 1823 MONROE DOCTRINE ISSUED



CONTINENTAL WARNING: On December 2, 1823, President James Monroe, with input from John Quincy Adams, issued the Monroe Doctrine, warning European powers against colonizing the Americas. It asserted U.S. influence in the Western Hemisphere, shaping foreign policy and fostering America's identity as a protector of regional independence.

OCTOBER 26, 1825 ERIE CANAL OPENS



CANAL OPENS: On October 26, 1825, the Opening of the Erie Canal was celebrated as the “Wedding of the Waters” in New York City. By linking the Great Lakes to the Atlantic Ocean, the canal slashed transportation costs, sped the movement of goods and settlers, transformed New York, and fueled the economic development of the Midwest.

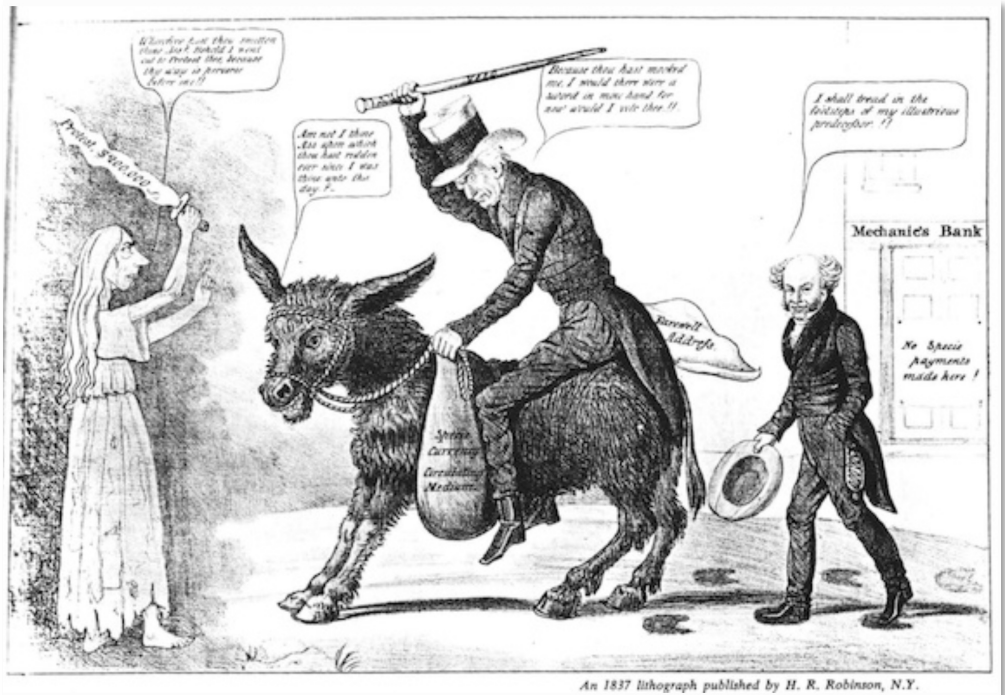
AUGUST 16, 1827 DAVEY CROCKETT ELECTED



KING OF THE WILD FRONTIER: Davy Crockett, frontiersman, soldier, and politician, rose to fame as a marksman and was elected to Congress in 1827. Opposing Andrew Jackson's Indian Removal Act, he later joined Texas independence fighters and died at the Battle of the Alamo in 1836, becoming an enduring American hero.

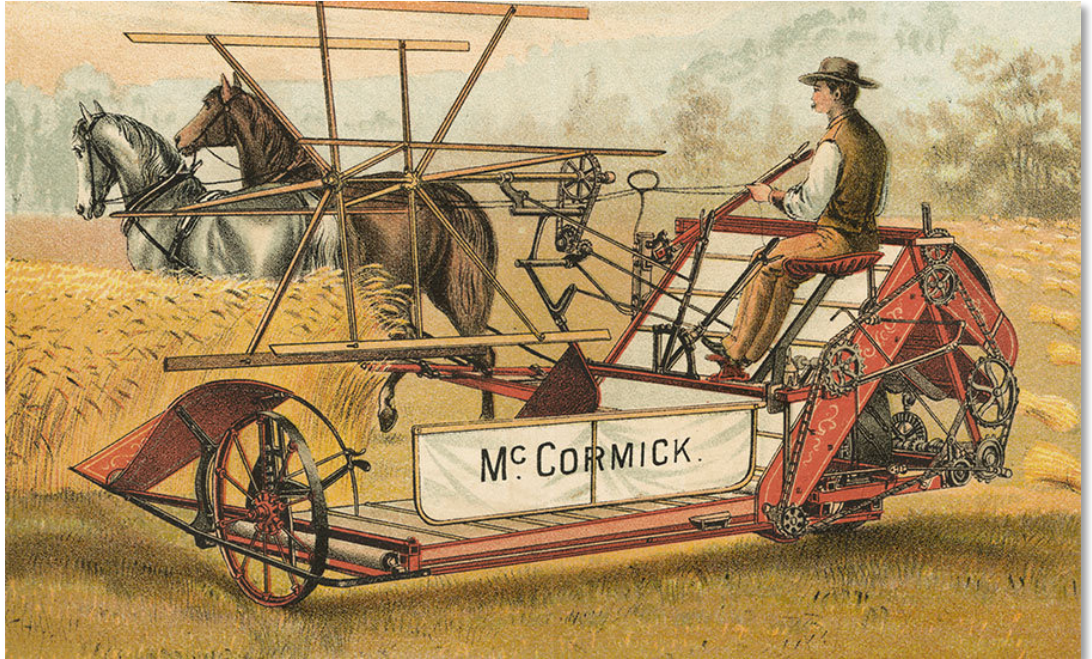
1828

DEMOCRATIC PARTY FOUNDED



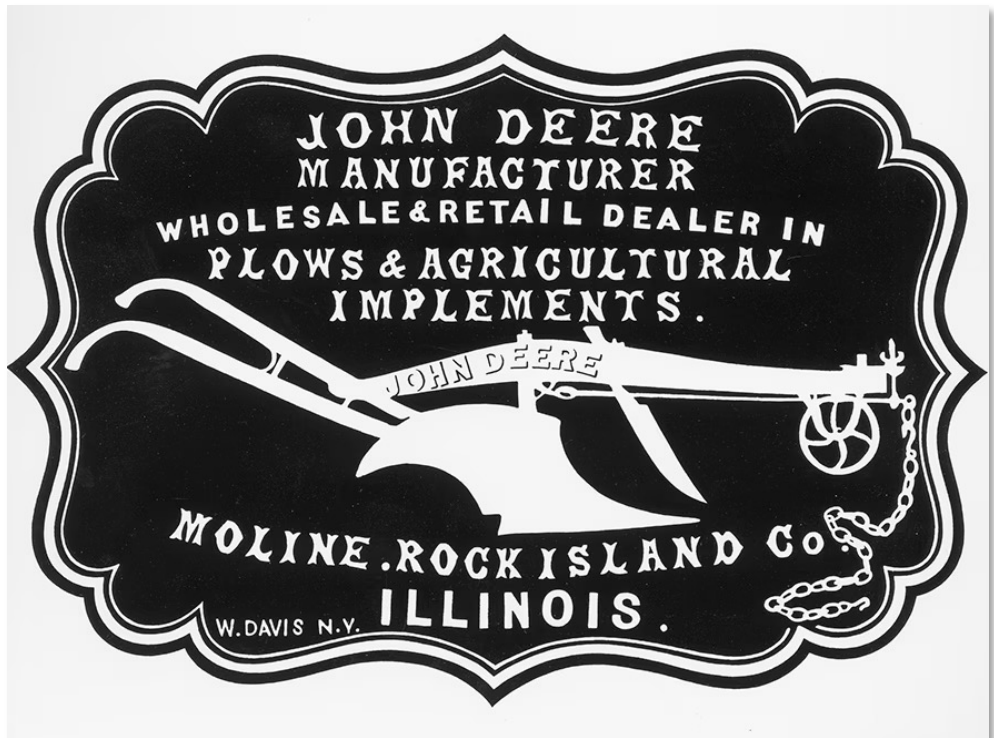
DONKEY PARTY: Founded in 1828 by Martin Van Buren behind the candidacy of Andrew Jackson, the Democratic Party quickly became one of the South's powerful political institutions. Jackson – called a jackass by opponents - was elected President in 1829 and the Party ruled American politics until their commitment to slavery brought on the Civil War in 1860.

JUNE 21, 1834 MCCORMICK REAPER PATENT



AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION: On June 21, 1834, Cyrus McCormick received a patent for his mechanical reaper, a horse-drawn machine that harvested grain up to ten times faster than hand labor. The invention revolutionized American agriculture, boosted farm productivity, and helped feed a rapidly growing nation.

1837 JOHN DEERE PLOW



OPENING UP NEW LAND: In 1837, John Deere built his first self-scouring steel plow, capable of cutting through the dense prairie soils of the Midwest. By allowing farmers to plow up to three times more land per day with fewer interruptions, it opened millions of acres to cultivation and helped transform America into an agricultural powerhouse.

JULY 5, 1837 COMMON SCHOOL MOVEMENT



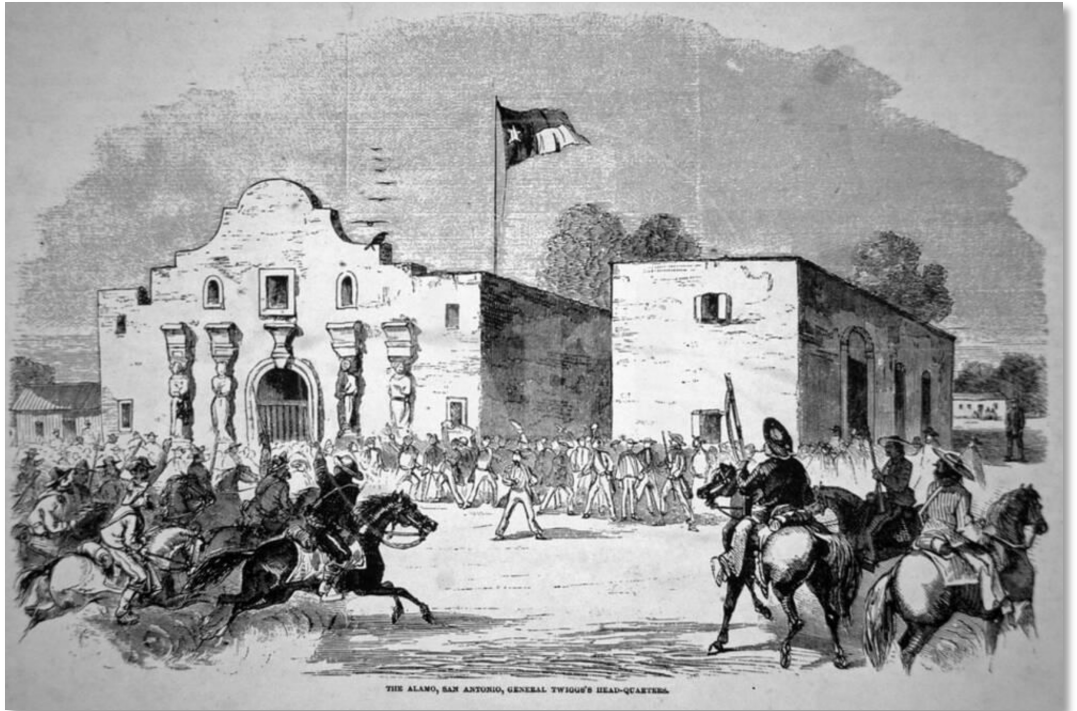
PUBLIC SCHOOLS: On July 5, 1837, Horace Mann became secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Education and launched a campaign for free, universal public schooling. As leader of the Common School Movement, he argued that education was essential to democracy, helping establish the foundation of America's national K-12 public school system.

MAY 23, 1838 TRAIL OF TEARS MARCH



LONG ROAD: The Cherokee Trail of Tears began in 1838, eight years following passage of Indian Removal Act of 1830, signed by President Andrew Jackson. This law forced 60,000 Native Americans, including the Cherokee, to relocate west of the Mississippi River. Thousands died during the journey, marking a tragic U.S. policy of displacement.

FEBRUARY 23, 1836 DEFENSE OF THE ALAMO



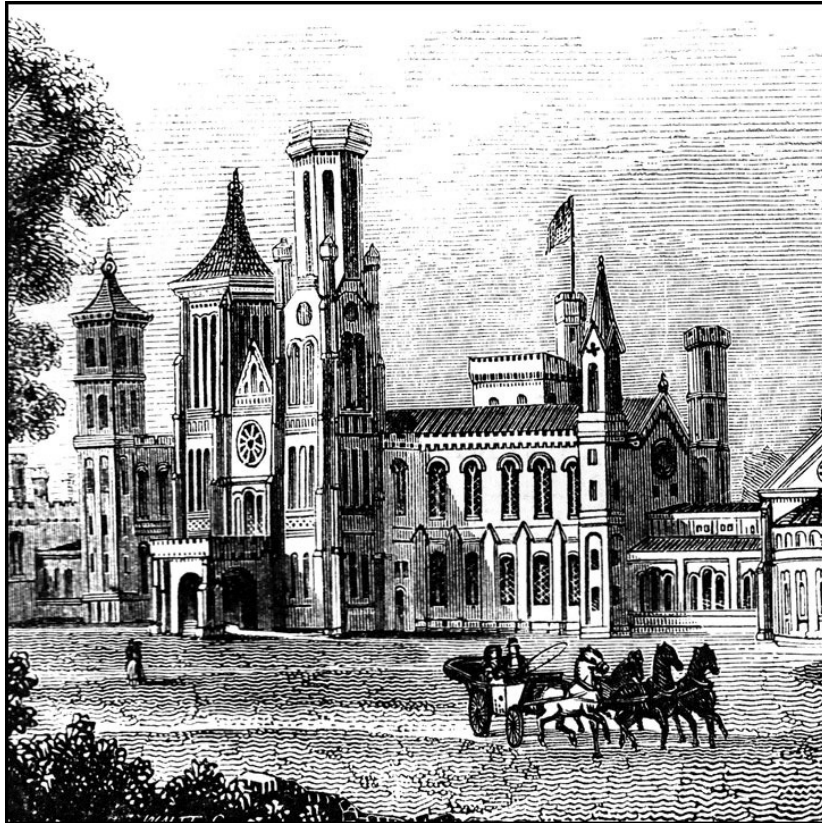
REMEMBER THE ALAMO: The defense of the Alamo, from February 23 to March 6, 1836, was a courageous stand by a small group of Texan defenders against overwhelming Mexican forces. Their sacrifice became a lasting symbol of bravery, independence, and perseverance, shaping American values of freedom, unity, and self-determination.

JUNE 19, 1846 FIRST BASEBALL GAME



ELYSIAN FIELDS: On June 19, 1846, the first recorded baseball game was played in Hoboken, New Jersey, between the Knickerbocker Club and New York Nine. Baseball grew to become America's pastime, fostering national unity, reflecting cultural values, and influencing American identity through generations of social and historical change.

AUGUST 10, 1846 SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION



AMERICA'S ATTIC: Established on August 10, 1846, the Smithsonian Institution, funded by the bequest of James Smithson, created a national center for research, museums, and public education. It reflected American commitments the democratic access to learning, scientific inquiry, and the preservation of culture and history. There are currently 21 Smithsonian museums.

MARCH 16, 1850 THE SCARLET LETTER



SIN & REDEMPTION: On March 16, 1850, Nathaniel Hawthorne published *The Scarlet Letter*, a landmark novel set in Puritan New England. Through the story of Hester Prynne, Hawthorne explored sin, guilt, redemption, and individual conscience, arguing that compassion and personal integrity are more important than public judgment and hypocrisy.

SEPTEMBER 18, 1851 NEW YORK TIMES PUBLISHED



THE NEW YORK DAILY TIMES, is the name of a new paper commenced in N. Y. City, and understood to be favorable to the election of Gen. Scott to the Presidency.— It will be edited by Henry J. Raymond, a vigorous writer, who for years past, has been *the intellect* that made luminous the voluminous columns of the N. Y. Courier and Enquirer. The Daily Times is published at four dollars per annum.

All payments for subscription or advertising must be made in advance,—and postage on all letters must be pre-paid.

Communications for the editorial department must be addressed to Henry J. Raymond, editor of the New York Times:— letters upon business or enclosing money, to Raymond, Jones & Co., Publishers.

GREY LADY: Founded as the New-York Daily Times, The New York Times published its first issue on September 18, 1851. It promoted anti-Slavery and its publisher was a friend of Abraham Lincoln. The paper promoted investigative journalism, rigorous standards, and national discourse, influencing public opinion, democracy, and the press's role as a watchdog.

OCTOBER 18, 1851 MELVILLE'S 'MOBY DICK'



MADNESS: Herman Melville's epic tome was published on October 18, 1851. It was a literary flop, at least during his lifetime. His character, "crazy Captain Ahab," was scarred by the travails of life and not a complete person. His story warns against "chaining ourselves to history" where people "go great distances on the sea [of life] and get nowhere".

MARCH 20, 1854 REPUBLICAN PARTY FORMED



GRAND OLD PARTY: On March 20, 1854, anti-slavery activists met in Ripon, Wisconsin, to organize opposition to the Kansas-Nebraska Act, an event often called the birth of the Republican Party. The movement quickly spread, and in 1856 Republicans nominated John C. Frémont as their first presidential candidate.

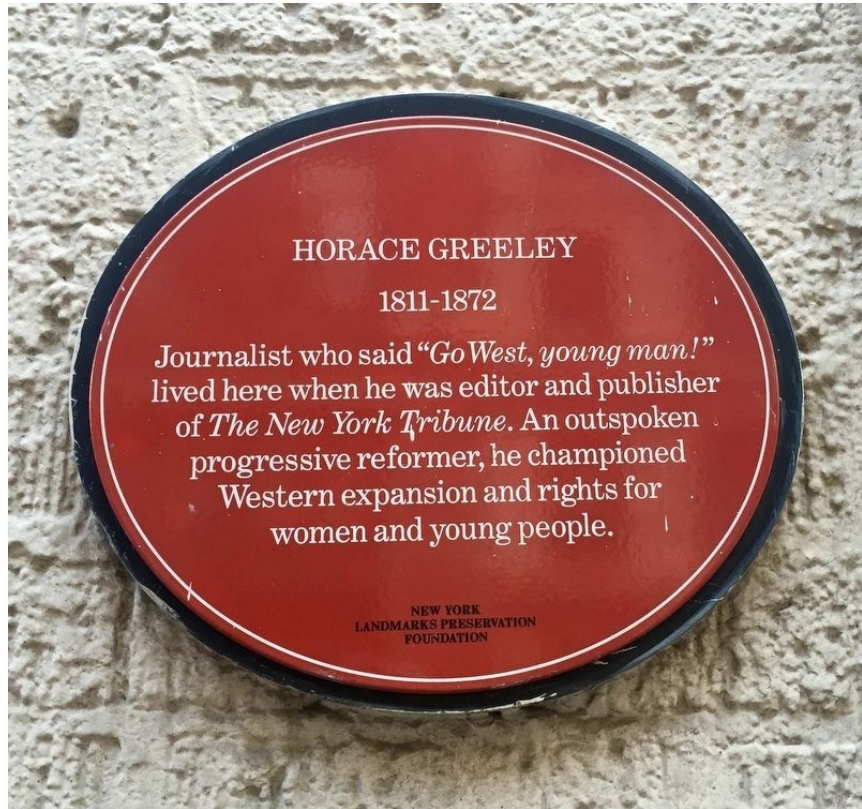
WESTWARD EXPANSION

Key Moments:

- 1841 Horace Greeley Says “Go West, Young Man”
- 1843 Great Migration Via Oregon Trail
- 1845 John L. O’Sullivan Coins Term ‘Manifest Destiny’
- 1845 Annexation Of Texas
- 1848 Mexican Cession
- 1849 California Gold Rush Peaks
- 1860 Pony Express Established
- 1862 Land Grant Colleges Established
- 1862 Lincoln Signs The Homestead Act
- 1867 Invention Of Barbed Wire
- 1867 Horatio Alger: ‘Rags To Riches’ Books
- 1871 The Great Chicago Fire
- 1873 Levi Strauss Develops Denim Jeans
- 1876 Wild Bill Hickok Killed In Deadwood
- 1876 Defeat of Jesse James Gang
- 1876 Custer’s Last Stand – Battle of Little Big Horn
- 1876 Annie Oakley Joins ‘Buffalo’ Bill Cody’s Wild West
- 1890 Battle Of Wounded Knee



APRIL 10, 1841 “GO WEST, YOUNG MAN”



GO WEST: Publisher Horace Greeley popularized the phrase “Go West, Young Man” through the New-York Tribune, first issued on April 10, 1841. The slogan encouraged westward expansion, individual opportunity, and self-reliance, shaping American culture by reinforcing Manifest Destiny, mobility, and the belief in progress through frontier settlement.

MAY 22, 1843 OREGON TRAIL MIGRATION



PIONEER MIGRATION: On May 22, 1843, nearly 1,000 pioneers departed Missouri in the first major wagon train along the Oregon Trail migration. Known as the “Great Migration of 1843,” the journey helped open the American West to settlement and embodied national values of opportunity, perseverance, self-reliance, and the pursuit of a better future.

JULY 1845 MANIFEST DESTINY



DIVINE EXPANSION: In 1845, journalist John O’Sullivan coined the term “Manifest Destiny,” expressing the belief that the United States was divinely destined to expand across North America. This idea fueled westward expansion, justified territorial acquisitions, and shaped American policies, profoundly influencing the nation’s 19th-century development.

DECEMBER 29, 1845 ANNEXATION OF TEXAS



LONE STAR: The Annexation of Texas occurred on December 29, 1845, when the independent Republic of Texas (1836-1845) joined the United States as the 28th state. This expansion intensified sectional tensions over slavery, accelerated westward growth, and helped provoke the Mexican-American War, reshaping American politics, borders, and national identity.

JANUARY 24, 1848 CALIFORNIA GOLD RUSH



A NEW AND MAGNIFICENT CLIPPER FOR SAN FRANCISCO.
MERCHANTS' EXPRESS LINE OF CLIPPER SHIPS!
Loading none but First-Class Vessels and Regularly Dispatching the greatest number.
THE SPLENDID NEW OUT-AND-OUT CLIPPER SHIP

An illustration showing a gold miner in a red shirt and blue pants standing on a rocky shore, holding a pickaxe and a hat. In the background, a large three-masted clipper ship is sailing on the ocean. To the left, other miners are shown working on a hillside with tools like pickaxes and a wheelbarrow.

CALIFORNIA
HENRY BARBER, Commander, AT PIER 13 EAST RIVER.

This elegant Clipper Ship was built expressly for this trade by Samuel Hall, Esq., of East Boston, the builder of the celebrated Clippers "SURPRISE," "GAMECOCK," "JOHN GILPIN," and others. **She will fully equal them in speed!** Unusually prompt dispatch and a very quick trip may be relied upon. Engagements should be completed at once.

Agents in San Francisco,
Messrs. DE WITT KITTLE & CO. }
RANDOLPH M. COOLEY, 88 Wall Street, Tontine Building.

NEBUT & CO., PRINTERS.

GOLD: The California Gold Rush sparked a massive migration westward, drawing over 300,000 people seeking fortune. It started with James Marshall discovering gold at John Sutter's Mill on January 24, 1848. The rush accelerated California's statehood, boosted the U.S. economy and significantly reshaped America's demographic, economic, and political landscape.

JULY 4, 1848 TREATY OF GUADALUPE HIDALGO



MEXICAN CESSION: Under the terms of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, the Mexican-American War ended in 1848. For \$15 million the nation of Mexico ceded an enormous part of its territory to the United States, fulfilling the goals of 'Manifest Destiny'. The land included much of the territory that became the states of California, Nevada, Utah, and Arizona.

APRIL 3, 1860 PONY EXPRESS SERVICE



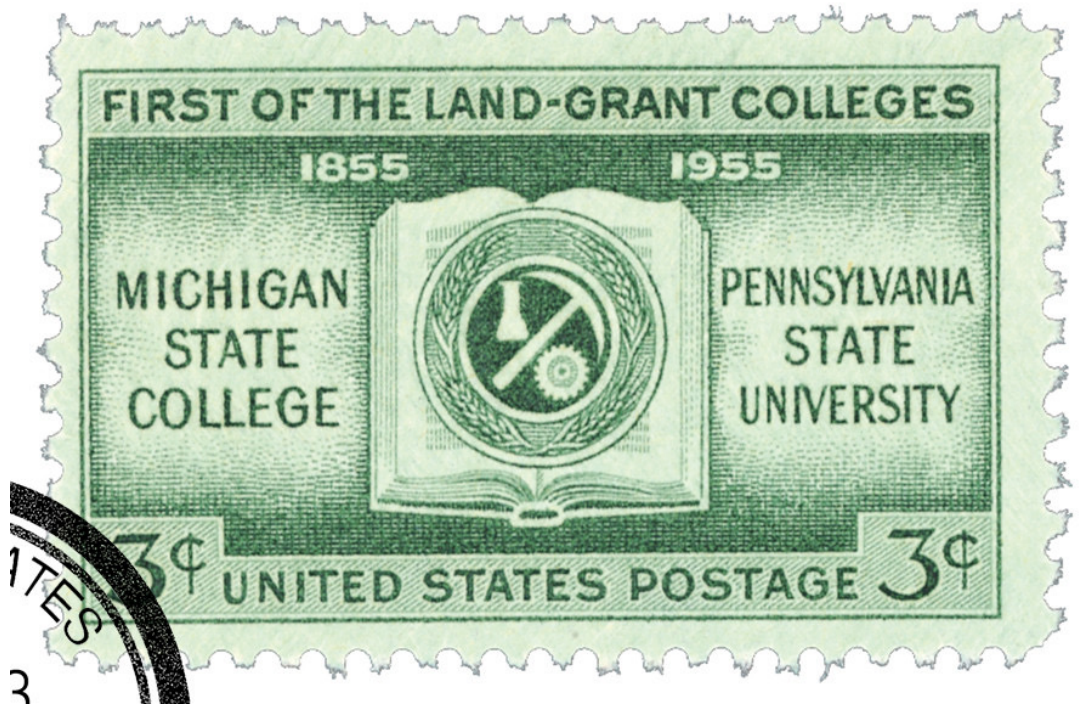
LIGHTNING MAIL: The Pony Express began on April 3, 1860, delivering mail rapidly across the western frontier. Though short lived, it strengthened national unity, accelerated communication, supported westward expansion, and symbolized American ingenuity during a transformative era of growth and resilience nationwide.

MAY 20, 1862 HOMESTEAD ACT SIGNED



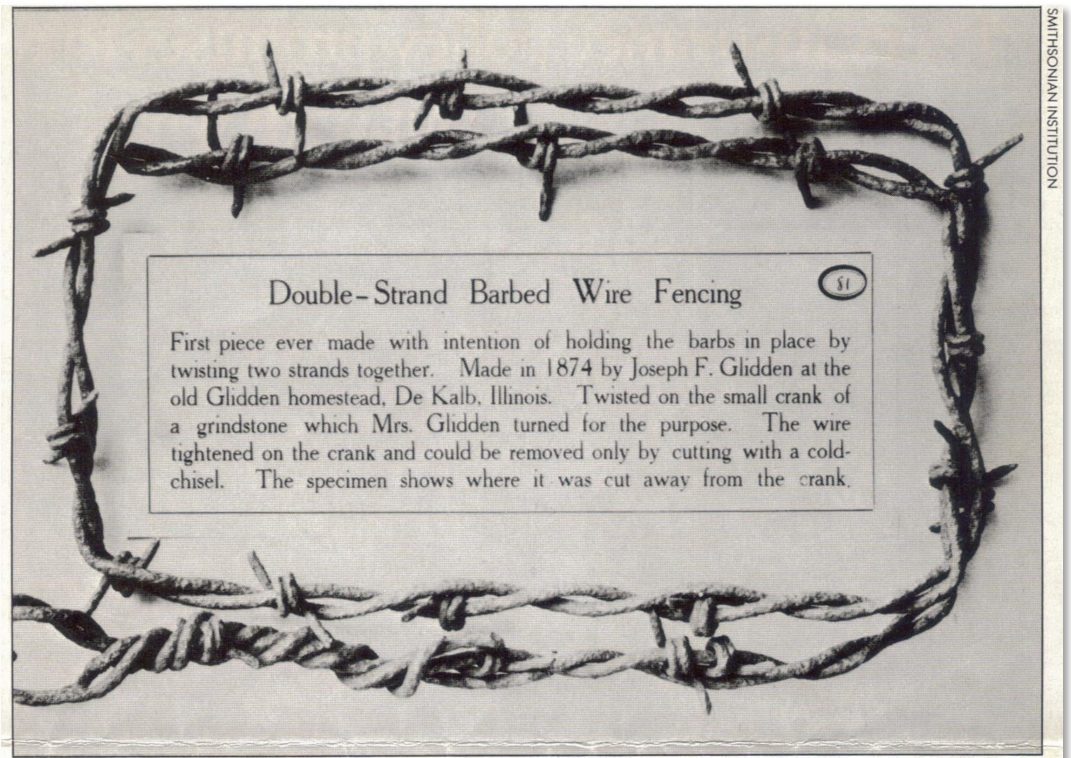
GO WEST: In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Homestead Act, granting settlers 160 acres of free land, and the Pacific Railroad Act, enabling a transcontinental railway. Together, they spurred westward expansion, economic growth, and shaped America's culture of opportunity, self-reliance, and frontier determination.

JULY 2, 1862 LAND GRANT COLLEGES ACT



STATE COLLEGES: Signed into law on July 2, 1862, the Morrill Land-Grant Act, approved by President Abraham Lincoln, granted federal lands to states to fund colleges teaching agriculture, science, and engineering. It democratized higher education, promoted practical learning, strengthened development, and advanced ideals of opportunity and innovation.

NOVEMBER 24, 1874 INVENTION OF BARBED WIRE



“THE WINNER”: On November 24, 1874, Joseph Glidden patented practical barbed wire, transforming the American West. Affordable fencing ended the open range, encouraged settlement and private land ownership, and reflected America’s growing spirit of innovation, expansion, self-reliance, and belief that technology could tame vast frontiers.

1867 HORATIO ALGER STORIES



SELF-MADE SUCCESS: Horatio Alger published his first “rags-to-riches” book, *Ragged Dick*, in 1867. His novels told stories of poor boys achieving success through hard work, clever thinking, and honesty. The books inspired values of perseverance and opportunity that deeply influenced U.S. culture during the 19th & 20th centuries.

MAY 20, 1873 LEVI'S DENIM BLUE JEANS



BLUE JEANS: On May 20, 1873, Levi Strauss and Jacob Davis patented riveted denim jeans. Designed for miners and laborers, they became durable symbols of American work, westward expansion, entrepreneurship, and later popular culture, shaping fashion, identity, and industry worldwide for generations.

AUGUST 2, 1876 WILD BILL HICKOK KILLED



ACES & EIGHTS: On August 2, 1876, legendary lawman and gunslinger Wild Bill Hickok was shot and killed while playing poker in Deadwood. According to frontier lore, he was holding a pair of aces and a pair of eights—forever remembered as the “Dead Man's Hand,” one of the most famous symbols of the American West.

JUNE 25, 1876 CUSTER'S LAST STAND



LAST STAND: On June 25, 1876, at the 'Battle of the Little Bighorn', Lieutenant Colonel George Armstrong Custer was killed and his troops were defeated by Lakota, Northern Cheyenne, and Arapaho warriors. The defeat shocked the public and became a symbol of frontier conflict, Native American resistance, and tragedy in American culture.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1876 DEFEAT OF THE JAMES GANG



OUTLAWS: Jesse James, his brother Frank and the Younger Brothers, robbed banks, stagecoaches, and trains in the 10+ years following the Civil War. On September 7, 1876, his gang was foiled in Northfield MN, attempting to rob a bank. The defeat to townsfolk left two gang members dead.

APRIL 1885

ANNIE OAKLEY JOINS WILD BILL



LITTLE SURE SHOT: In April 1885, Annie Oakley joined Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show, touring 40 cities nationwide. Her sharpshooting challenged gender norms, popularized frontier mythology, and helped shape America's cultural identity while elevating women's visibility in entertainment and public life.

DECEMBER 29, 1890 BATTLE OF WOUNDED KNEE



THE AWFUL SLAUGHTER AT WOUNDED KNEE CREEK, SOUTH DAKOTA, DECEMBER 29,
Where the Heroic Seventh Cavalry Lost 66 Killed and Wounded and the Indians Lost Over 200.

AWFUL SLAUGHTER: On December 29, 1890, U.S. Army troops clashed with Lakota Sioux near Wounded Knee Creek, resulting in the deaths of more than 250 Native Americans, many of them women and children. Often considered the last major armed conflict of the Indian Wars, the tragedy symbolized the devastating consequences of America's westward expansion.

SLAVERY & CIVIL WAR

Key Moments:

- 1777 Vermont Becomes First State To Abolish Slavery
- 1791 Robert Carter III Frees 500 Slaves
- 1807 US Passes Act to Ban Importation of Slaves
- 1820 Missouri Compromise – Divides North & South
- 1824 Rankin Anti-Slavery Letters Printed
- 1831 Abolitionist Paper ‘The Liberator’ First Published
- 1849 Harriet Tubman Joins Underground Railroad
- 1850 Compromise of 1850
- 1852 Harriet Beecher Stowe’s ‘Uncle Tom’s Cabin’
- 1857 Dred Scott Decision – Slaves Are Not Citizens
- 1860 Lincoln Wins Presidency in 4-Way Race
- 1861 Confederate Shots On Fort Sumter
- 1863 Battle of Gettysburg / Lincoln’s Address
- 1863 Emancipation Proclamation signed
- 1864 Sherman Burns Atlanta & Marches To The Sea
- 1865 Juneteenth / 13th Amendment Abolished Slavery
- 1865 President Lincoln Assassinated
- 1865 Appomattox Courthouse ‘Forgiveness’ Granted
- 1876 Mark Twain’s ‘Tom Sawyer’ & ‘Huckleberry Finn’



JULY 8, 1777 VERMONT BANS SLAVERY



FIRST STATE: On July 8, 1777, Vermont adopted a constitution that prohibited slavery, becoming the first state-level government in North America to take such action. The measure reflected emerging ideals of liberty and human equality, helping shape America's continuing pursuit of freedom, individual rights, and justice.

SEPTEMBER 5, 1791 CARTER III FREES SLAVES



No. 15.
 Corporation of Winchester
 Dennis Johnston a Male Negro aged about
 twenty seven years of a dark complexion five
 feet ten or eleven inches high, Stock and well
 made liberated by Benjamin Dawson trustee
 for Robert Carter by deed dated the 3rd day of
 November 1799. and duly recorded in the County
 Court of Henrico. Registered this 2nd day of
 February 1809. a Copy pasted Tho M Heenan Esq
 Attest
 A^m Miller
 an Alderman in the said
 Corporation of Winchester

EARLY EMANCIPATION: In 1791, Robert Carter III, a wealthy Virginia planter, took a bold step by manumitting over 500 enslaved people he owned. In a highly publicized series of legally recorded deeds, he granted freedom to all of his slaves, citing his moral objections to slavery and the influence of Enlightenment ideals.

MARCH 2, 1807 SLAVE IMPORATION ENDED



SLAVE TRADE BAN: On March 2, 1807, Congress passed the Act Prohibiting Importation of Slaves, authorized by the United States Constitution to take effect on January 1, 1808. Ending the transatlantic slave trade marked a moral turning point, limiting slavery's expansion and reflecting America's growing—though incomplete—commitment to liberty and human rights.

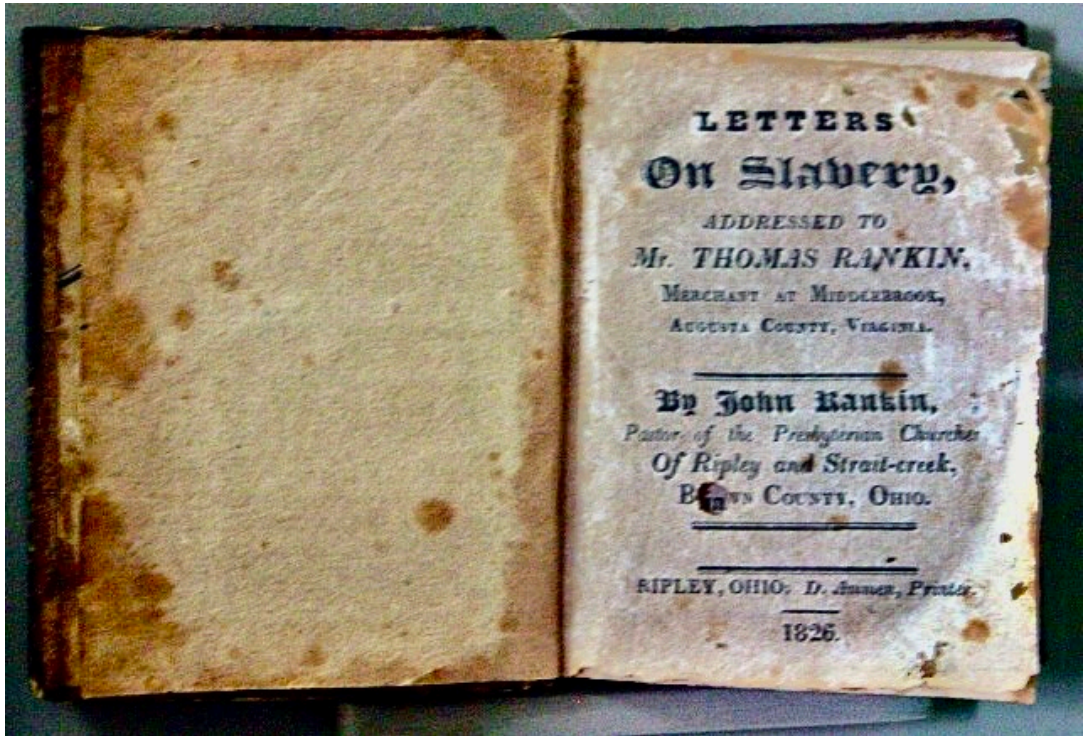
MARCH 3, 1820

THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE



SECTIONAL TRUCE: Passed on March 3, 1820, the Missouri Compromise sought to balance slave and free states by admitting Missouri and Maine together. Though it preserved sectional peace for three decades, it deepened North–South divisions over slavery, contributing to the coming of the Civil War.

1824 RANKIN LETTERS PRINTED



ABOLITION: John Rankin, a Presbyterian minister in Ripley, Ohio, wrote anti-slavery letters to his brother Thomas—first printed in 1824 and later published as *Letters on American Slavery*. Abolitionists widely circulated them, fueling the movement, shaping anti-slavery arguments, and influencing America's emerging culture of moral reform and justice.

JANUARY 1, 1831 THE LIBERATOR PUBLISHED



ANTI-SLAVERY VOICE: On January 1, 1831, abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison published the first issue of *The Liberator* in Boston. Demanding the immediate end of slavery, the newspaper became the leading voice of the abolitionist movement and helped shape the national debate that ultimately led to the Civil War and the emancipation of slaves.

1849

HARRIET TUBMAN JOINS UNDERGROUND RAILROAD



"If you hear the dogs, keep going.
If you see the torches in the
woods, keep going. If there's
shouting after you, keep going.
Don't ever stop. Keep going.
If you want a taste of
freedom, keep going."

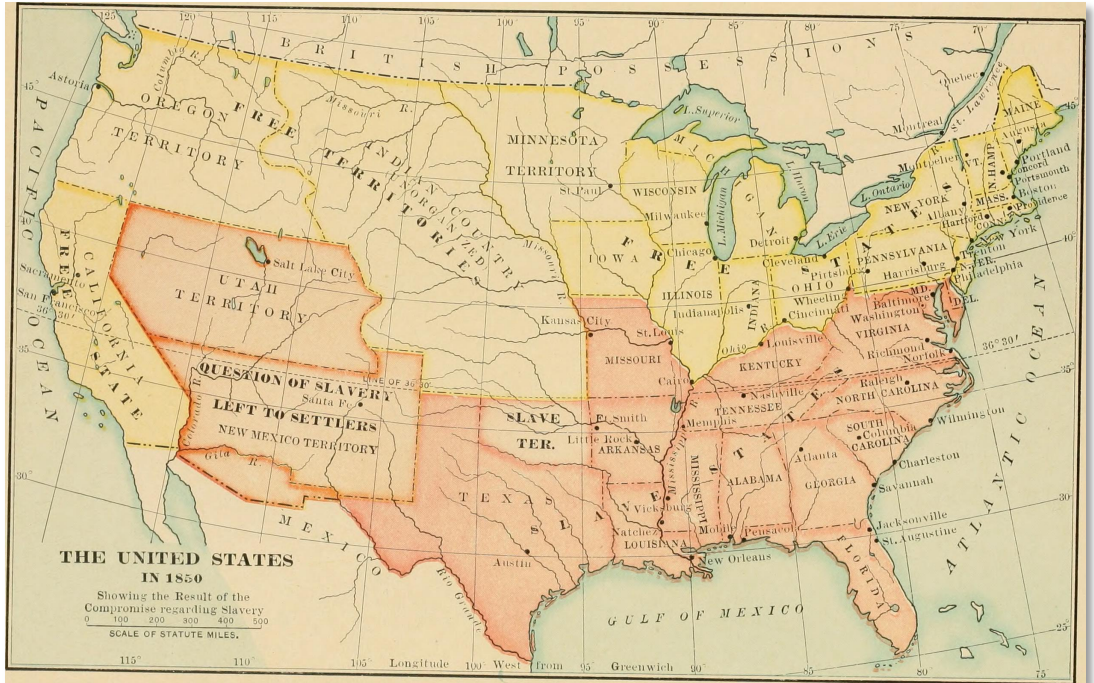


-Harriet Tubman

FREE AT LAST: In 1849, after escaping slavery in Maryland, Harriet Tubman joined the Underground Railroad as a conductor. Over the next decade, she led about thirteen rescue missions, guiding dozens to freedom. Her bravery strengthened abolitionist efforts and made her a powerful symbol of resistance before the Civil War.

SEPTEMBER 20, 1850

THE COMPROMISE OF 1850



DEEPENING DIVISIONS: Passed on September 20, 1850, the Compromise of 1850 admitted California as a free state, organized Utah and New Mexico territories, settled Texas's boundary, and strengthened the Fugitive Slave Act. Guided by Henry Clay, it temporarily balanced North and South while intensifying conflict and debate.

MARCH 20, 1852 UNCLE TOM'S CABIN



LIFE AMONG THE LOWLY: On March 20, 1852, Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe was published in book form. The popular novel exposed the human suffering caused by slavery and stirred public debate across the nation, strengthening antislavery sentiment and advancing American ideals of liberty, equality, and human dignity.

MARCH 6, 1857 DRED SCOTT DECISION



INFAMOUS RULING: The controversial Dred Scott decision, issued by the Supreme Court on March 6, 1857, ruled that African Americans were not U.S. citizens and had no legal rights. This Supreme Court case heightened tensions over slavery, pushing the nation closer to the Civil War and deepening sectional divisions.

NOVEMBER 6, 1860 LINCOLN ELECTED PRESIDENT



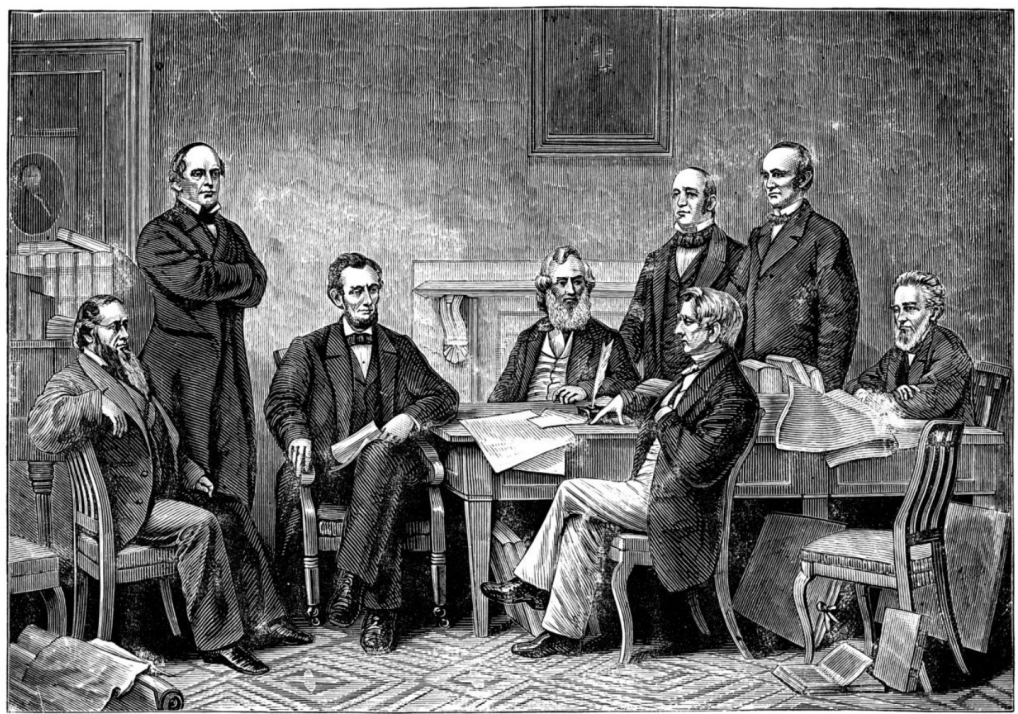
HONEST ABE: On November 6, 1860, Abraham Lincoln won the presidency in a four-way contest against Stephen Douglas, John Breckinridge, and John Bell. Running as a Republican, Lincoln pledged to halt slavery's expansion – balancing state sovereignty with preservation of the Union. He reshaped America's political values, with his election precipitating secession.

APRIL 12, 1861 SHOTS ON FORT SUMTER



OPENING SHOTS: On April 12, 1861, Confederate forces fired on Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor, beginning the American Civil War. The attack transformed a political crisis into armed conflict, testing the nation's commitment to union, self-government, and liberty while shaping the course of American history.

SEPTEMBER 22, 1862 EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION



SIGNING THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

FREE AT LAST: Abraham Lincoln issued the 'Emancipation Proclamation' in 1862. Although restricted as a "war measure" and impacting only "the States in armed rebellion," the proclamation was a symbolic step - toward freeing all slaves, which was accomplished with the 13th Amendment, passed by Congress the following year.

NOVEMBER 15, 1864 SHERMAN'S MARCH TO THE SEA



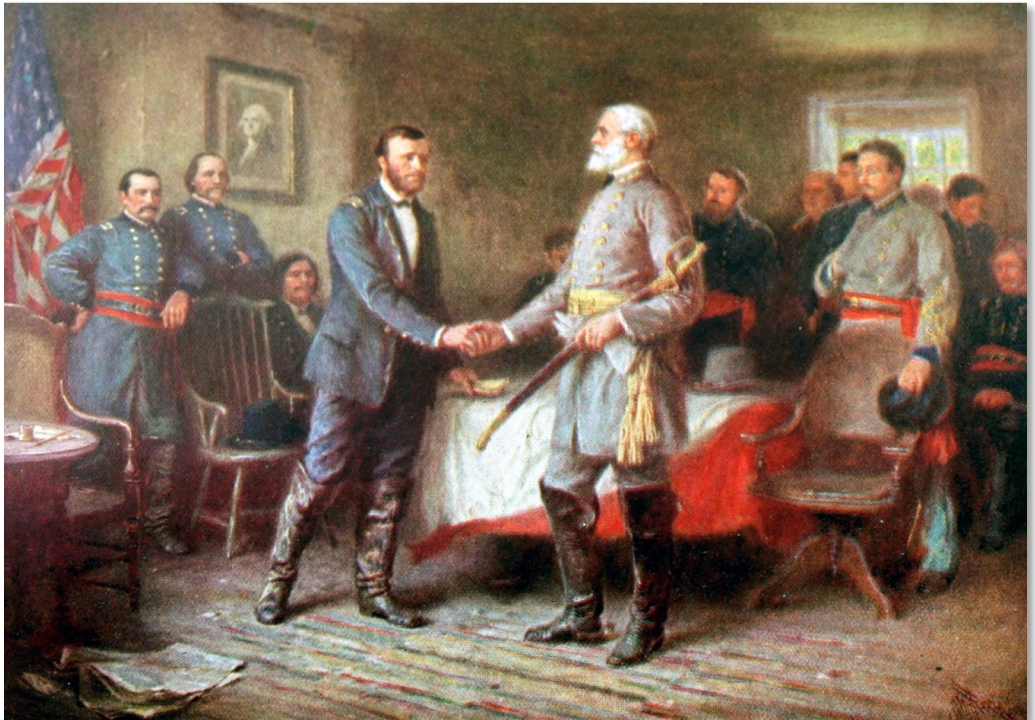
DIVIDE & CONQUER: On November 15, 1864, General William Tecumseh Sherman began his “March to the Sea”. After the burning of Atlanta, he led Union forces toward Savannah. The campaign disrupted Confederate infrastructure, industry, & morale. It hastened the Civil War's end by demonstrating the Union's bitter determination to end the rebellion.

NOVEMBER 19, 1863 GETTYSBURG ADDRESS



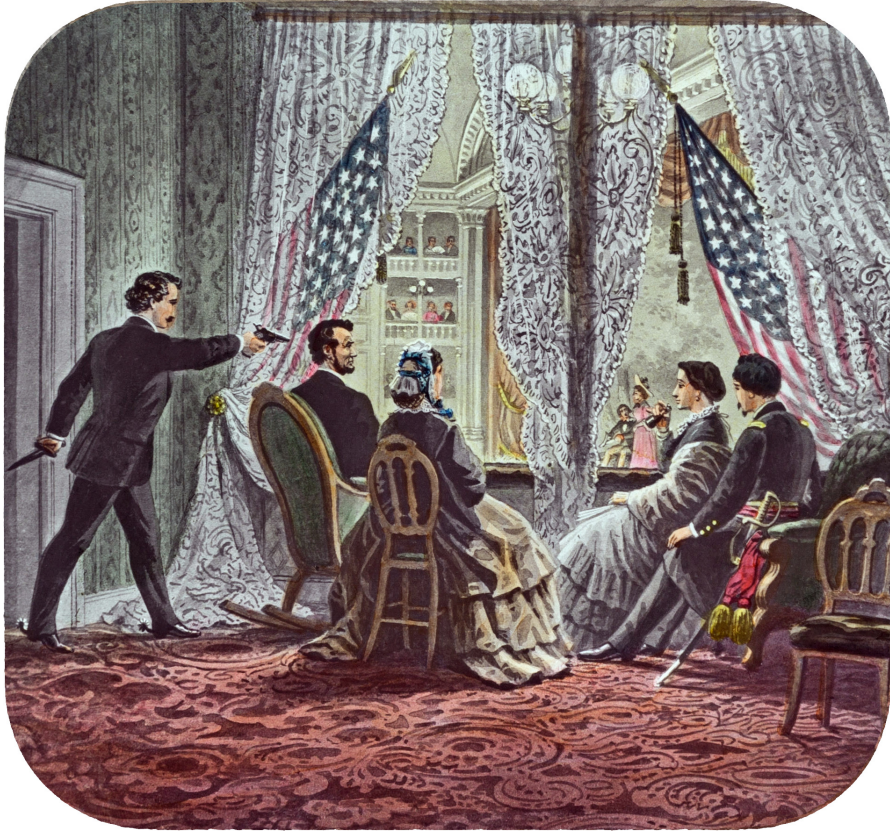
FOR THE PEOPLE: Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address holds historical significance as a concise yet powerful speech that encapsulates the essence of American ideals. Its enduring impact lies in its role as a call for a renewed commitment to the principles of equality, democracy, and reinforcing the idea that a government founded on liberty can endure.

APRIL 9, 1865 APPOMATTOX 'FORGIVENESS'



WAR'S END: On April 9, 1865, Confederate General Lee surrendered to Union General Grant at Appomattox Court House, ending the Civil War. Grant's compassionate terms—allowing soldiers to keep horses and arms—set a precedent for gracious victory and reconciliation, later echoed in WWII's VE and VJ Day surrenders.

APRIL 15, 1865 ASSASSINATION OF LINCOLN



CALAMITY: President Abraham Lincoln died on April 15, 1865, after being assassinated at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. Occurring just days after the Civil War ended, Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth in a plot involving others. Lincoln's death was mourned across the North, South, and world globally. Frederick Douglass called it "an unspeakable calamity".

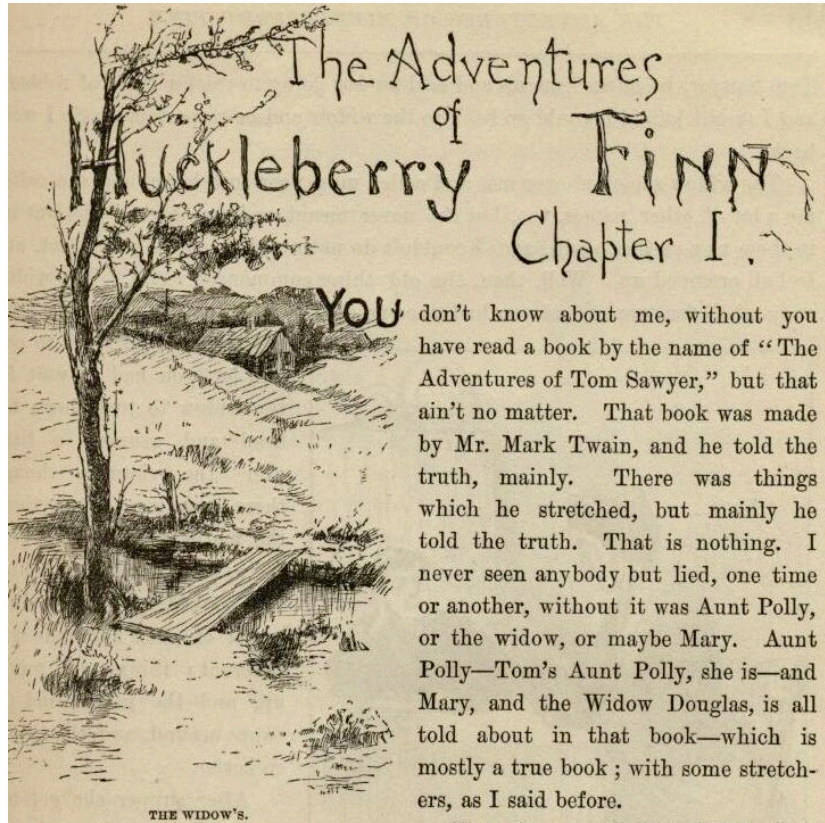
APRIL 15, 1865 13TH AMENDMENT FINAL



SLAVERY ENDED: On December 18, 1865, Secretary of State William Seward announced that the Thirteenth Amendment was finalized, permanently abolishing slavery in the United States. Earlier that year, the last slaves in Texas were freed. That date - now known as “Juneteenth” – has since become a Federal & State date of remembrance & celebration.

JUNE 9, 1876

'TOM SAWYER' & 'HUCK FINN'



SAMUEL CLEMENS: In 1876, Mark Twain's "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" captured the adventures of a mischievous boy in the antebellum South. Its sequel, "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn", followed in 1884, addressing deeper themes of race and morality. Both novels became classics of American literature, reflecting Twain's wit and social commentary.

PROGRESS & PROGRESSIVISM

Key Moments:

- 1871 The Great Chicago Fire
- 1872 Susan B. Anthony Voting Civil Disobedience
- 1881 Clara Barton Founds American Red Cross
- 1886 American Federation of Labor Union Founded
- 1889 First Carnegie Library Opened
- 1890 Plessy v Ferguson Ruling – Separate But Equal
- 1890 Sherman Anti-Trust Act Passed
- 1892 Ellis Island Opens
- 1902 Helen Keller: 'The Story Of My Life' Published
- 1903 Roosevelt & John Muir Trip Leads To National Parks
- 1906 Great San Francisco Earthquake
- 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire
- 1912 Titanic Sinks On Way to NYC
- 1913 Federal Income Tax Act & 16th Amendment
- 1919 Women's Right To Vote; 19th Amendment
- 1919 Black Sox World Series Scandal
- 1925 F. Scott Fitzgerald: The Great Gatsby
- 1925 Scopes Monkey Trial Decided
- 1926 Route 66 Highway Opened – 'The Mother Road'
- 1930 Grant Wood's Painting 'American Gothic'
- 1931 Al Capone Convicted Of Tax Fraud
- 1931 'The American Dream' By James Truslow Adams
- 1932 'Little House' Books by Laura Ingalls Wilder
- 1933 Alcohol Prohibition Lifted
- 1935 Dust Boal "Black Friday"
- 1936 Jesse Owens Wins Gold Medals In Berlin Olympics
- 1937 Amelia Earhart Lost In Flight



OCTOBER 8, 1871 GREAT CHICAGO FIRE STARTS



CONFLAGRATION: The Great Chicago Fire began on October 8, 1871. It lasted 3 days, killed 300 people, destroyed 17,000 structures, and left 90,000 residents homeless. A shed by the O'Leary barn at 137 DeKoven Street was the first building lost, although historians disagree on how it started. The city was quickly rebuilt and it became renowned for its architecture and design.

NOVEMBER 5, 1872 SUSAN B. ANTHONY VOTES

SUSAN B. ANTHONY

Arrested for Playing Man at the Polls.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Nov. 15.—Warrants have been issued by United States Commissioner Stores for the arrest of Susan B. Anthony and fourteen other females who voted at the late election. The parties will probably be brought into court next week.



MISS ANTHONY: On November 5, 1872, Susan B. Anthony cast a ballot in the presidential election in opposition to laws denying women the right to vote. Her arrest and trial drew national attention to the suffrage movement, advancing American ideals of equal citizenship, civil rights, democratic participation, and justice.

MAY 21, 1881 AMERICAN RED CROSS FOUNDED



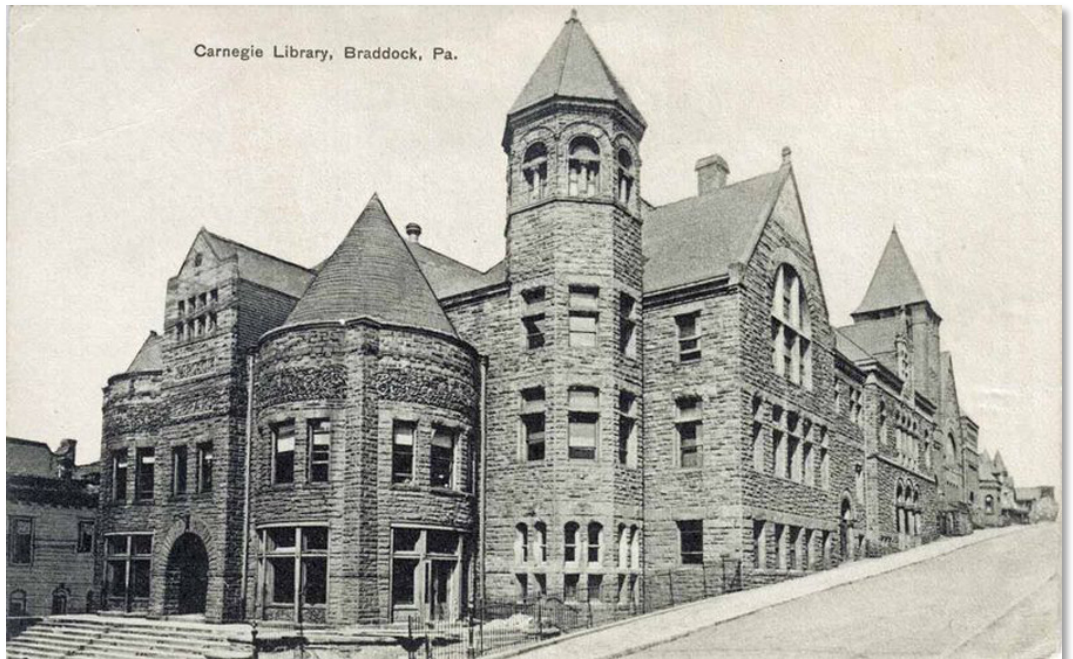
RED CROSS: Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross on May 21, 1881, bringing humanitarian relief to the nation. Its creation profoundly impacted American culture by institutionalizing organized disaster response, promoting volunteerism, and embedding compassion, civic duty, and community resilience into the country's social and moral fabric.

DECEMBER 8, 1886 AFL LABOR UNION FOUNDED



UNION LABEL: Samuel Gompers founded the American Federation of Labor (AFL) on December 8, 1886. This was pivotal in American labor history, as the AFL focused on skilled workers and advocated for better wages, hours, and working conditions. Gompers' leadership helped legitimize unions, significantly advancing workers' rights in the United States.

MARCH 18, 1889 FIRST CARNEGIE LIBRARY



LIBRARIES: Andrew Carnegie, a Scottish-American industrialist & philanthropist, donated more than \$40 million to build 1,679 libraries in the U.S. and around the world. The first Carnegie library opened in Braddock PA, in 1889. Carnegie libraries played a significant role in the American education system, providing free access to books and information to millions of people.

MAY 18, 1896 PLESSY VS FERGUSON RULING



DUBIOUS JUSTICE: On May 18, 1896, the Supreme Court decided *Plessy v. Ferguson*, upholding racial segregation under the doctrine of "separate but equal." The ruling legalized discrimination for decades, ultimately prompting later civil rights struggles that strengthened America's commitment to equality, justice, and constitutional rights.

JULY 2, 1890 SHERMAN ANTITRUST ACT



MONOPOLY BUSTER: Signed into law on July 2, 1890, the Sherman Antitrust Act, championed by Benjamin Harrison, became the first federal effort to curb monopolies and protect competition. It reinforced American values of fair opportunity, limited corporate power, and government responsibility to safeguard consumers and markets.

JANUARY 1, 1892 ELLIS ISLAND OPENS



GOLDEN DOOR: On January 1, 1892, Ellis Island opened as America's first federal immigration station. Over the next six decades, more than 12 million immigrants passed through its halls seeking new opportunities in the United States. Known as the "Golden Door," Ellis Island became one of the most important gateways in American history.

MAY 15, 1903 MUIR & ROOSEVELT PARK TRIP



NATIONAL PARKS: On May 15, 1903, naturalist John Muir took President Theodore Roosevelt on a three-day camping trip in Yosemite. Muir's passionate advocacy for wilderness helped persuade Roosevelt to expand conservation efforts, shape America's National Parks and reinforce values of stewardship, preservation, and appreciation of natural heritage.

NOVEMBER 1, 1902 HELEN KELLER STORY SHARED



LIMITLESS ABILITY: Helen Keller's *The Story of My Life*, first serialized in *Ladies' Home Journal* in its November 1902 issue. The story and follow-up book transformed American culture by challenging stereotypes of disability, inspiring educational reforms, and affirming the dignity, resilience, and limitless potential of individuals with sensory impairments.

APRIL 18, 1906 SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE



CATASTROPHE: On April 18, 1906, a massive earthquake struck San Francisco, followed by devastating fires that destroyed much of the city. Killing thousands and displacing over 200,000, it reshaped urban planning, emergency response, and American cultural perceptions of nature's power, symbolizing resilience and the capacity for rapid rebuilding.

MARCH 25, 1911 TRIANGLE SHIRTWAIST FIRE



Getty Images

GARMENT DISTRICT TRAGEDY: On March 25, 1911, the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire in New York City killed 146 workers, many of them young immigrant women trapped by locked exits and inadequate safety measures. The tragedy spurred major workplace labor reforms and reinforced American values of worker protection, justice, and human dignity.

APRIL 14, 1912 TITANIC STRIKES ICEBERG





INTERNATIONAL MERCANTILE MARINE LINES

ALL OUR STEAMERS HAVE WIRELESS TELEGRAPH AND SUBMARINE SIGNALS

The Largest Steamers in the World

New 45,000 Tons Each	OLYMPIC TITANIC	Sail from NEW YORK April 13 ³ P. M. MAY 4, 25, JUNE 15, JULY 6. APRIL 20 ¹² Noon May 11, June 1 June 22, July 13
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FRENCH A LA CARTE RESTAURANT, TURKISH & ELECTRIC BATHS,
 SWIMMING POOL, FOUR ELEVATORS, GYMNASIUM,
 VERANDAH CAFE, PALM COURT, SQUASH RACQUET COURT.

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">NEARBY SAILINGS</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; font-size: x-small;"> <tr><td>Baltic.....</td><td>April 11, 12:00 Noon</td></tr> <tr><td>Vaderland....</td><td>April 13, 10:00 A. M.</td></tr> <tr><td>Minnewaska..</td><td>April 14.</td></tr> <tr><td>Cedric.....</td><td>April 18, 12:00 Noon</td></tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">AMERICAN Pier 62, N. R. 9:30 A. M.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;"> Plymouth—Cherbourg—Southampton St. Paul..... May 4—St. Louis..... May 11 </p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">ATLANTIC TRANSPORT</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;"> New York—London Direct, Pier 58, N.R. Minnewaska..... Apr. 13 Minnehaha..... May 11 Minnetonka..... May 4, 10:30 AM Minnewaka..... May 18 </p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">RED STAR Pier 61, N. R. 10 A. M.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;"> London, Paris via Dover—Antwerp Vaderland..... Apr. 13 Kroonland..... Apr. 27 Lapland..... Apr. 29 Finland..... May 4 </p>	Baltic.....	April 11, 12:00 Noon	Vaderland....	April 13, 10:00 A. M.	Minnewaska..	April 14.	Cedric.....	April 18, 12:00 Noon	<p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">WHITE STAR Piers 59 & 60, N. R.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;"> Plymouth—Cherbourg—Southampton Olympic (new) Ap. 12, 3 PM Olympic (new)..... May 4 Titanic (new) Ap. 20, 11 A. Titanic (new)..... May 11 </p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">New York—Queenstown—Liverpool</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;"> Baltic..... Apr. 11, noon Celtic..... Apr. 25 Cedric..... Apr. 18, noon Adriatic..... May 3 </p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">FROM BOSTON To The MEDITERRANEAN</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;"> CANOPIC, Ap. 27, 5 P.M. GRETIC, May 18, 11 AM </p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">CANADIAN SERVICE.</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">LARGEST STEAMERS FROM CANADA</p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: small;">MONTREAL VIA QUEBEC TO LIVERPOOL.</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;"> *CANADA May 4, June 1, June 29 *MEGANTIC May 11, June 8, July 6 *TEUTONIC May 18, June 15, July 13 *LAURENTIC May 25, June 22, July 20 *Only One Class of Cabin (11) Passengers. </p>
Baltic.....	April 11, 12:00 Noon								
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Minnewaska..	April 14.								
Cedric.....	April 18, 12:00 Noon								

PASSENGER DEPARTMENT, 9 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

UNSINKABLE TITAN: On April 14, 1912, the RMS Titanic struck an iceberg in the North Atlantic while sailing toward New York. The disaster shocked Americans, exposed overconfidence in technology, and inspired reforms in maritime safety, emergency communication, and lifeboat regulations, shaping public attitudes toward risk, responsibility, and regulation.

FEBRUARY 3, 1913 FEDERAL INCOME TAX BEGINS



TAXES LEVIED: The passage of the Federal Income Tax came with ratification of the Sixteenth Amendment on February 3, 1913, allowing Congress to tax incomes directly. It transformed government, funding national programs, wars, and infrastructure, while reshaping debates over fairness, federal power, and citizens' responsibilities nationwide today.

OCTOBER 1, 1919 CHICAGO BLACK SOX SCANDAL



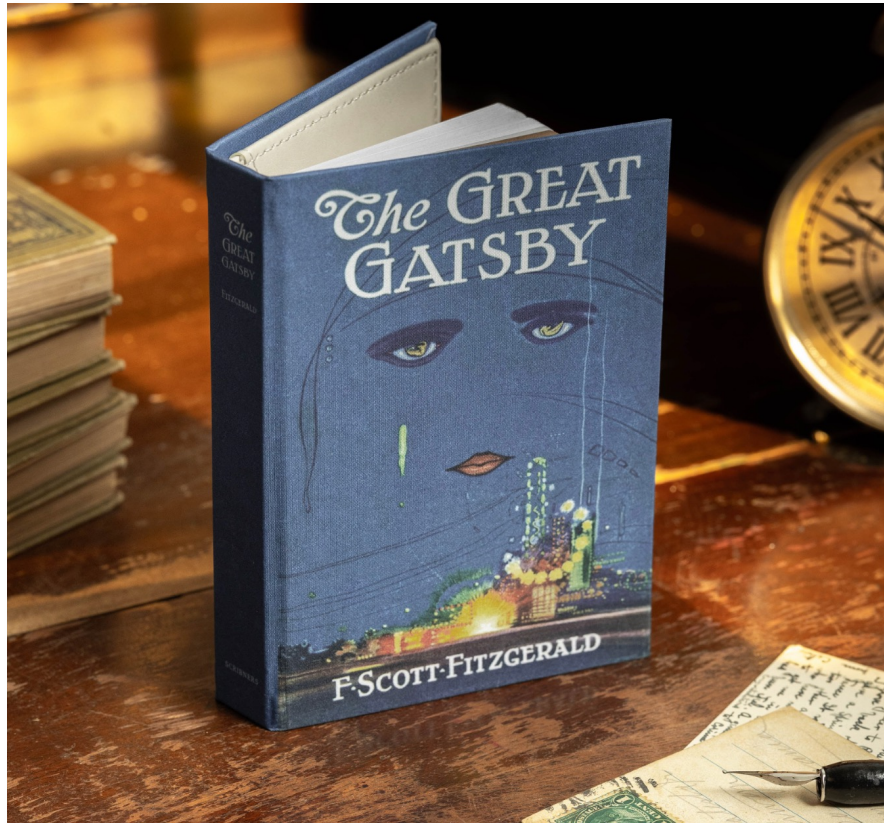
BLACK SOX: The 1919 World Series Scandal involved eight Chicago White Sox players who conspired to fix the Major League championship, which began on October 1st. Their actions tarnished baseball's integrity, leading to significant reforms and the appointment of the first baseball commissioner. The event shaped American opinions on gambling and fair play.

AUGUST 18, 1920 WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE



WOMEN'S VOTE: The Nineteenth Amendment was ratified on August 18, 1920, ending suffrage and granting women the right to vote nationwide. It transformed American democracy, expanded political participation, strengthened reform movements, and marked a major step toward gender equality in civic life and constitutional rights.

APRIL 10, 1925 THE GREAT GATSBY NOVEL



THE GREAT AMERICAN NOVEL: On April 10, 1925, *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald was published, capturing the glamour and excess of the Roaring Twenties. The jazz age novel became a lasting reflection on the American Dream, exploring themes of ambition, wealth, social mobility, and the gap between aspiration and reality.

JULY 21, 1925 SCOPES MONKEY TRIAL



MONKEY TRIAL: On July 21, 1925, the famous Scopes Trial ended with teacher John T. Scopes dubiously convicted of teaching evolution. Though supporters of Tennessee's law won the verdict, the nationally publicized trial left many Americans viewing science as ascendant and religious fundamentalism as increasingly on the defensive.

NOVEMBER 11, 1926 ROUTE 66 OPENED



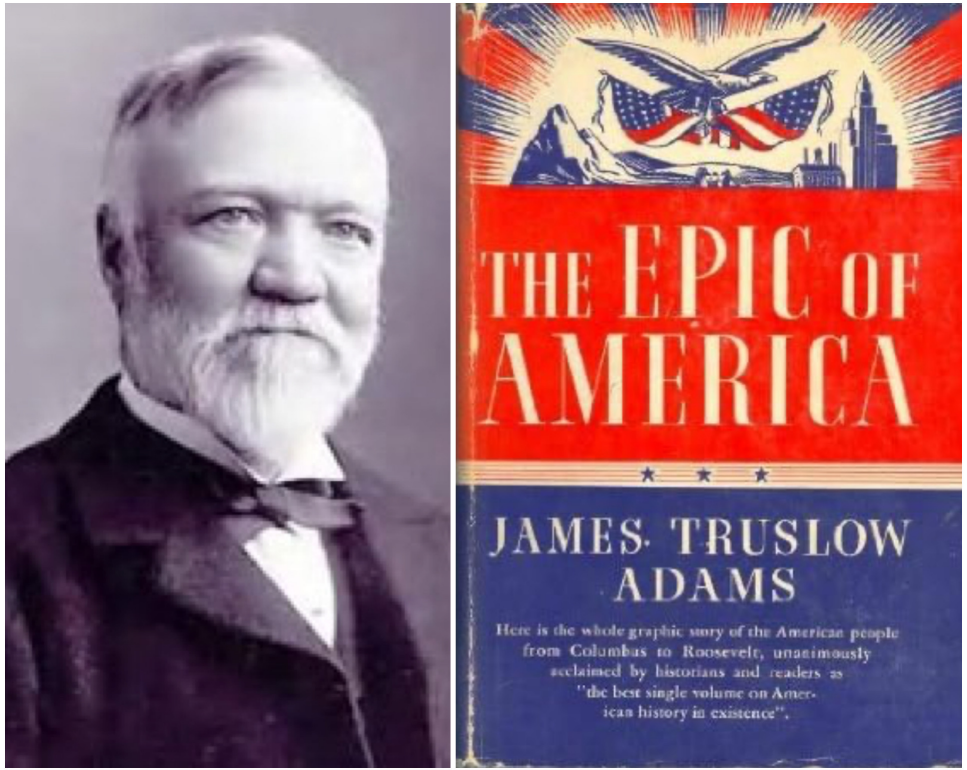
MOTHER ROAD: Route 66, also known as the "Main Street of America," opened in 1926. Stretching from Chicago IL to Santa Monica CA, it played a pivotal role in connecting the East and West coasts. This iconic highway served as a particularly vital route during the Dust Bowl & Great Depression, facilitating migration, tourism, and economic growth across the nation.

OCTOBER 30, 1930 GRANT WOOD AMERICAN GOTHIC



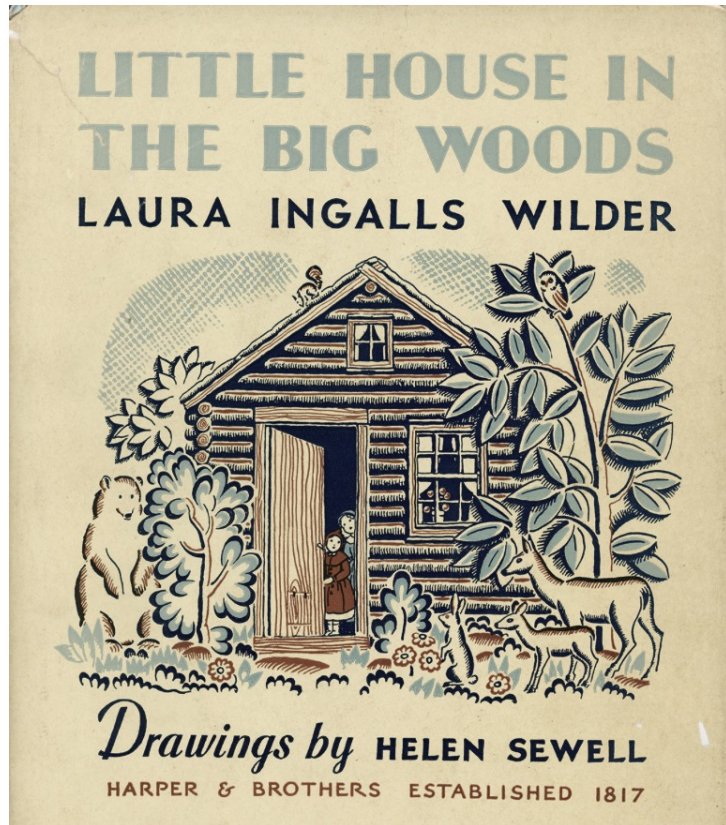
HEARTLAND MASTERPIECE: On October 30, 1930, artist Grant Wood unveiled *American Gothic* at the Art Institute of Chicago, where it won a \$300 prize. Depicting a stern Iowa farmer and his daughter, the painting became one of America's most recognizable images and a lasting symbol of rural America.

OCTOBER 1, 1931 'AMERICAN DREAM' COINED



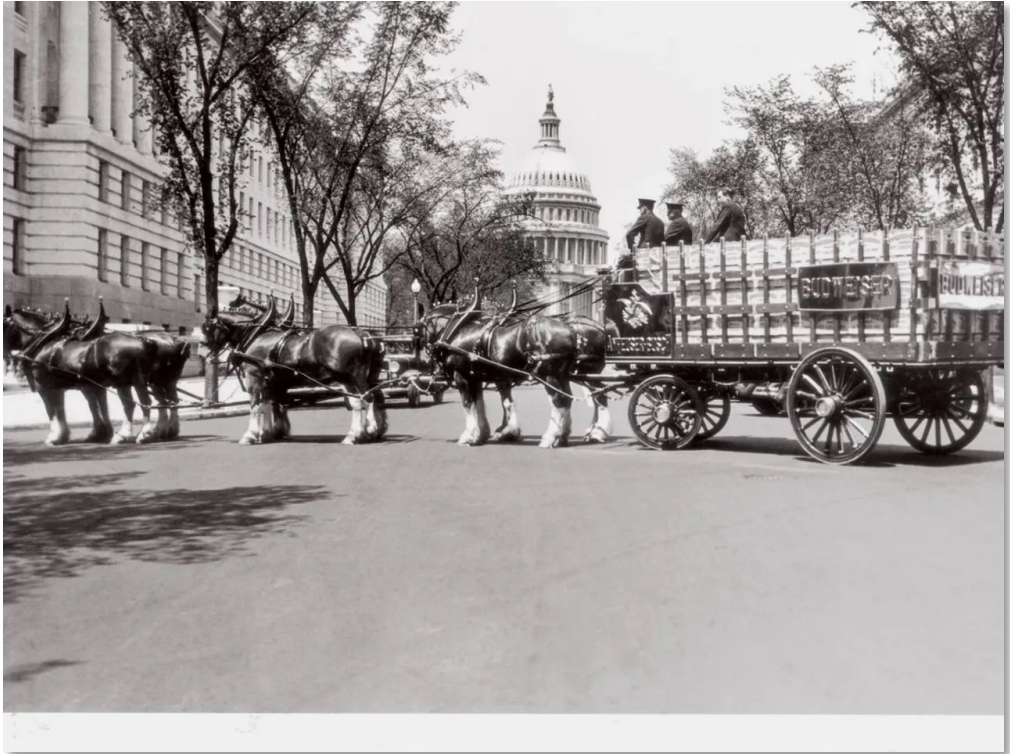
AMERICAN DREAM: This popular aspiration was first coined by historian James Truslow Adams in 1931 in his book *The Epic of America*. It symbolizes the belief that anyone, regardless of background, can achieve success through hard work, serving as an important national goal which profoundly shaped U.S. culture and identity.

JUNE 1, 1932 LITTLE HOUSE SERIES BEGINS



LITTLE HOUSE SERIES: On June 1, 1932, Laura Ingalls Wilder published *Little House in the Big Woods*, launching her beloved Little House series. Drawing on her pioneer childhood, Wilder brought America's frontier era to life, creating one of the nation's most enduring and influential collections of children's books.

DECEMBER 5, 1933 PROHIBITION REPEALED



CHEERS: On December 5, 1933, the Repeal of Prohibition ended America's 13-year ban on alcohol. The Twenty-first Amendment restored legal beer, wine, and liquor, sparking celebrations nationwide. Soon afterward, Budweiser's newly introduced Clydesdales carried beer through Washington DC make a delivery to FDR at the White House.

OCTOBER 17, 1931 AL CAPONE CONVICTED



TAX EVASION: On October 17, 1931, notorious Chicago gangster Al Capone was convicted of federal income tax evasion after years of evading prosecution for bootlegging, gambling, and other crimes. Sentenced to 11 years in prison, he was locked up at Alcatraz Penitentiary, where the once-powerful crime boss spent some of his final years behind bars.

1936 OLYMPICS JESSE OWENS OLYMPIC GOLD



SNUBBED: Jesse Owens dismantled Hitler's myth of Aryan supremacy with his four gold medal wins at the 1936 Olympic Games in Nazi Germany. Owens, who was known as "the fastest human being" set several world records. After the Games, Owens was snubbed by FDR who hosted white-only Olympic athletes at the White House to maintain the support of Southern Democrats.

JULY 2, 1937 AMEILA EARHART DISAPPEARS



LOST IN FLIGHT: On July 2, 1937, Amelia Earhart disappeared over the Pacific Ocean near Howland Island while attempting a round-the-world flight. Her vanishing stunned the nation, elevating her legacy as a pioneer for women in aviation and symbolizing American courage, ambition, and the relentless pursuit of exploration.

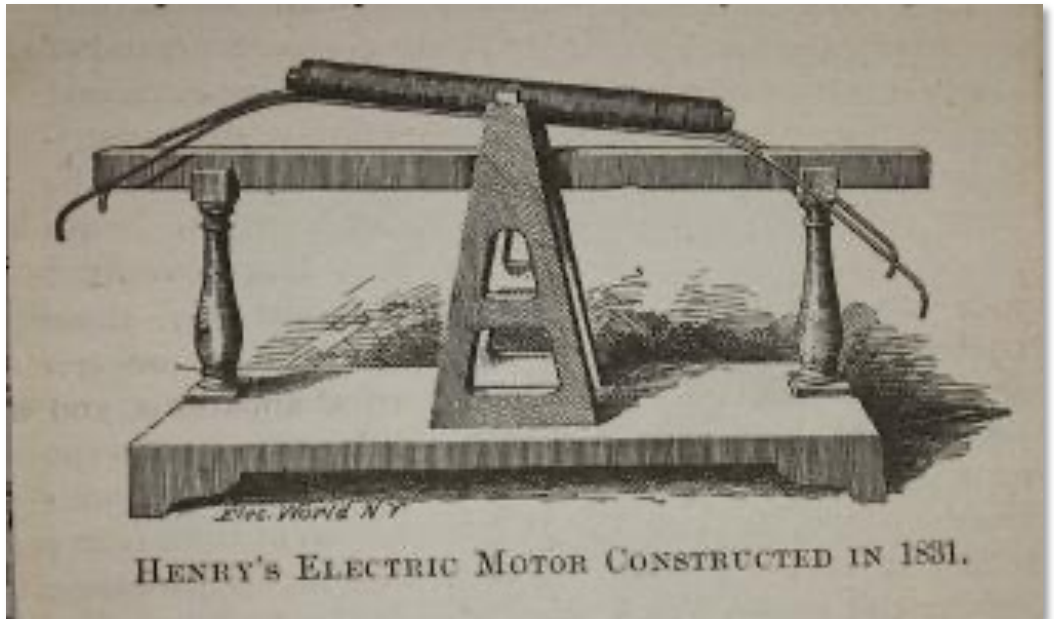
IMPORTANT INNOVATIONS

Key Moments:

- 1831 Invention of the Electric Motor
- 1844 Samuel Morse Sends First Telegraph Message
- 1851 Singer Sewing Machine Introduced
- 1869 Transcontinental Railroad Completed
- 1876 Alexander Graham Bell Introduces Telephone
- 1879 Thomas Edison Introduces Electric Light
- 1883 Brooklyn Bridge Opens
- 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago Opens
- 1903 Wright Brother's Motor-Powered Flight
- 1913 Ford Model T Moving Assembly Line
- 1916 George Washington Carver Peanut Research
- 1925 Bell Labs Incorporated in New York City
- 1927 Lindbergh Completes Solo Transatlantic Flight
- 1933 Mapping of Fruit Fly Genetic Code
- 1937 Golden Gate Bridge Opens
- 1939 Television Introduced

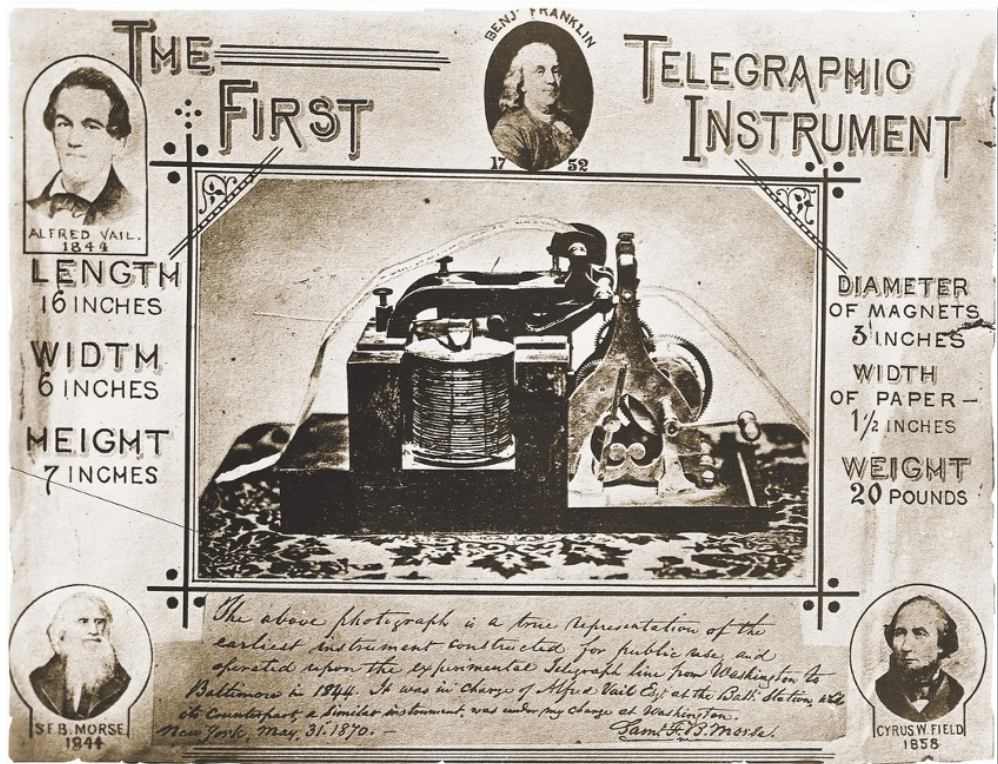


JULY 20, 1831 ELECTRIC MOTOR INVENTED



ROCKING BEAM: In 1831, American Joseph Henry invented the first practical electric motor, pioneering the use of electromagnetism to convert electrical energy into mechanical motion. This groundbreaking development laid the foundation for modern electrical engineering and the eventual widespread use of electric motors in American industry.

MAY 24, 1844 FIRST TELEGRAPH MESSAGE



MORSE CODE: On May 24, 1844, Samuel Morse sent the first long-distance telegraph message from Washington to Baltimore: "What hath God wrought." The successful transmission demonstrated the power of Morse's telegraph system and short-hand letter code. It launched a communications revolution across America.

AUGUST 12, 1851 SINGER SEWING MACHINE



HOUSEHOLD REVOLUTION: On August 12, 1851, Isaac Merritt Singer received a patent for his sewing machine. Faster, more reliable, and practical for everyday use, the Singer machine transformed clothing production, helped fuel America's industrial growth, and became one of the most successful consumer products of the nineteenth century.

MAY 10, 1869 TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD



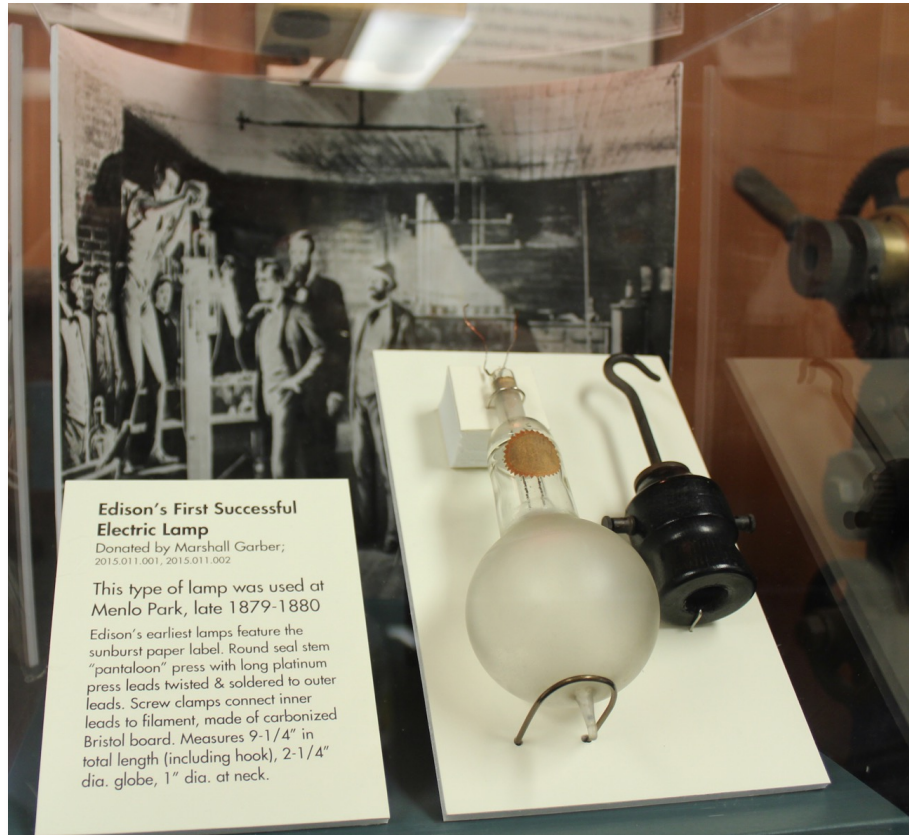
GOLDEN SPIKE: On May 10, 1869, the First Transcontinental Railroad was completed when the Union Pacific & Central Pacific Railroads met at Promontory Summit, Utah. The monumental engineering achievement linked the eastern and western United States, dramatically reducing travel time, and accelerating the nation's economic growth.

MAY 10, 1876 TELEPHONE INTRODUCED



LONG DISTANCE: On May 10, 1876, the Centennial Exposition opened in Philadelphia to celebrate America's 100th anniversary. There, Alexander Graham Bell introduced the telephone, astonishing visitors by transmitting the human voice over a wire. The invention heralded a new era of communication and helped connect a rapidly growing nation.

DECEMBER 31, 1879 EDISON'S ELECTRIC LIGHT



**Edison's First Successful
Electric Lamp**

Donated by Marshall Garber;
2015.011.001, 2015.011.002

This type of lamp was used at
Menlo Park, late 1879-1880

Edison's earliest lamps feature the
sunburst paper label. Round seal stem
"pantaloons" press leads twisted & soldered to outer
leads. Screw clamps connect inner
leads to filament, made of carbonized
Bristol board. Measures 9-1/4" in
total length (including hook), 2-1/4"
dia. globe, 1" dia. at neck.

ELECTRIC AGE: Thomas Edison opens his Menlo Park NJ laboratory on New Year's Eve 1879 to the public to see his system of 50 new carbonized filament light bulbs illuminate the lab and grounds. Trainloads of people arrive to witness 'Edison's Latest Marvel', turn light switches on and off, and congratulate the famous inventor.

MAY 24, 1883 BROOKLYN BRIDGE OPENS



THE GREAT BRIDGE: On May 24, 1883, the Brooklyn Bridge opened to great celebration, connecting Manhattan and Brooklyn across the East River. Designed by John A. Roebling and completed by his son Washington Roebling and daughter-in-law Emily Warren Roebling, it was the world's longest suspension bridge and a triumph of American engineering.

MAY 1, 1893 CHICAGO WORLD'S FAIR OPENS



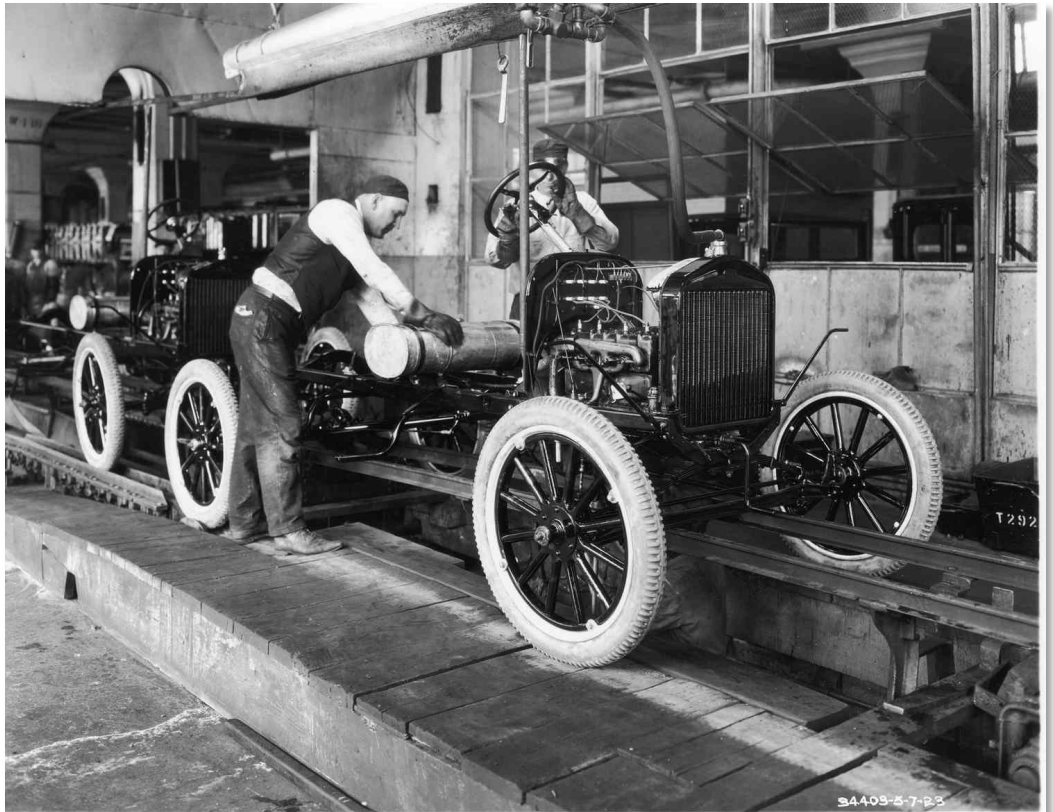
WORLD'S FAIR: The 1893 World's Columbian Exposition was held in Chicago to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Columbus' arrival in the Americas. It showcased the technological and cultural achievements of the USA during the late 1800s. This grand event introduced the Ferris Wheel and reflected the era's incredible optimism.

DECEMBER 17, 1903 WRIGHT BROTHERS FLIGHT



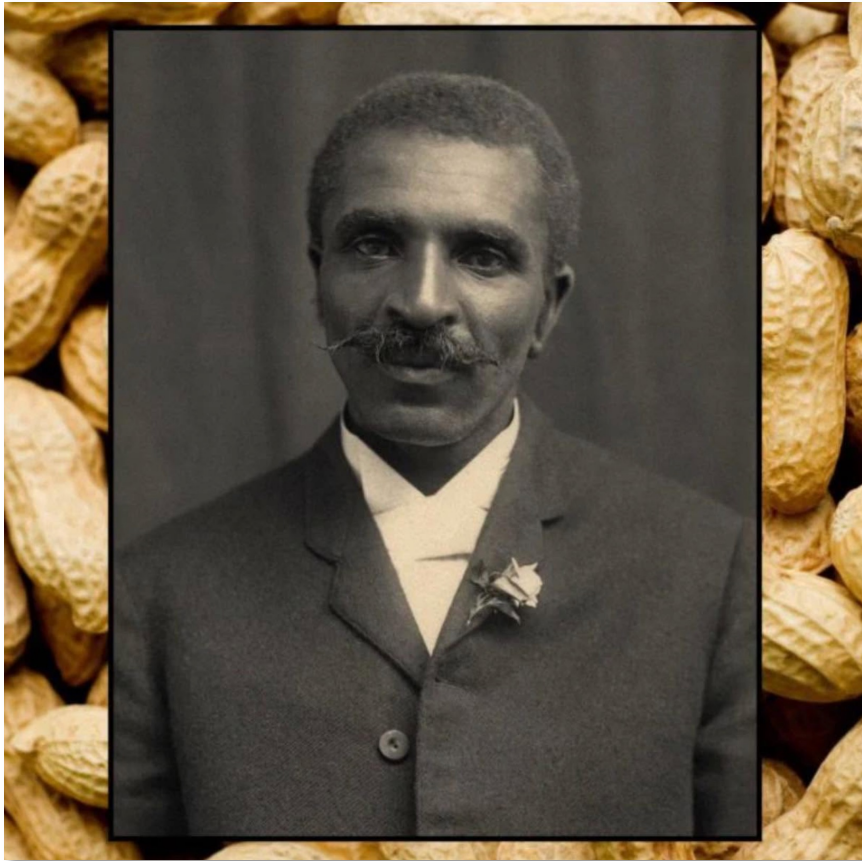
FLYING MACHINE: On December 17, 1903, the Wright brothers achieved the first successful powered airplane flight near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. Orville Wright flew 120 feet in 12 seconds, proving controlled flight was possible. Their breakthrough demonstrated American values of innovation, ingenuity, perseverance, and technological advancement.

DECEMBER 1, 1913 FORD MODEL T ASSEMBLY LINE



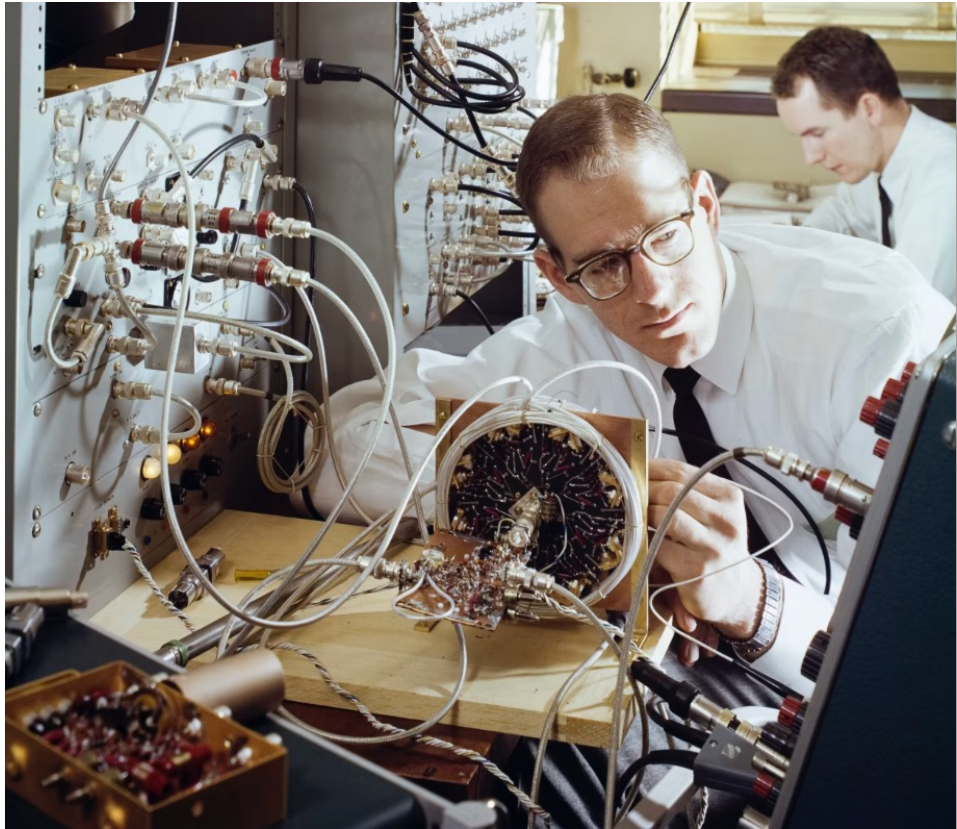
AMERICA ON WHEELS: On December 1, 1913, Henry Ford introduced the moving assembly line at the Highland Park plant in Michigan. The innovation dramatically reduced the time required to build a Model T, lowered costs, and deliver Ford's goal to "Democratize the automobile" by making automobile ownership affordable for millions of Americans.

MARCH 1, 1916 CARVER PEANUT RESEARCH



PEANUT RESEARCH: In 1916, George Washington Carver published his peanut research, revolutionizing Southern agriculture. By promoting crop rotation and developing over 300 peanut-based products, Carver economic opportunities for farmers. His innovations highlighted sustainable farming and advanced African American contributions to science and agriculture.

OCTOBER 1, 1925 BELL LABS INCORPORATED



IDEA FACTORY: Bell Laboratories, a joint-venture between AT&T & Western Electric was incorporated on October 1, 1925. Over the next 40 years, the lab became the world's most prestigious research facilities, winning 9 Nobel Prizes in Physics for world-changing innovations including the transistor, lasers, solar cells, radio astronomy, and satellite telecommunications.

MAY 21, 1927 LINDBERGH FLIES ATLANTIC



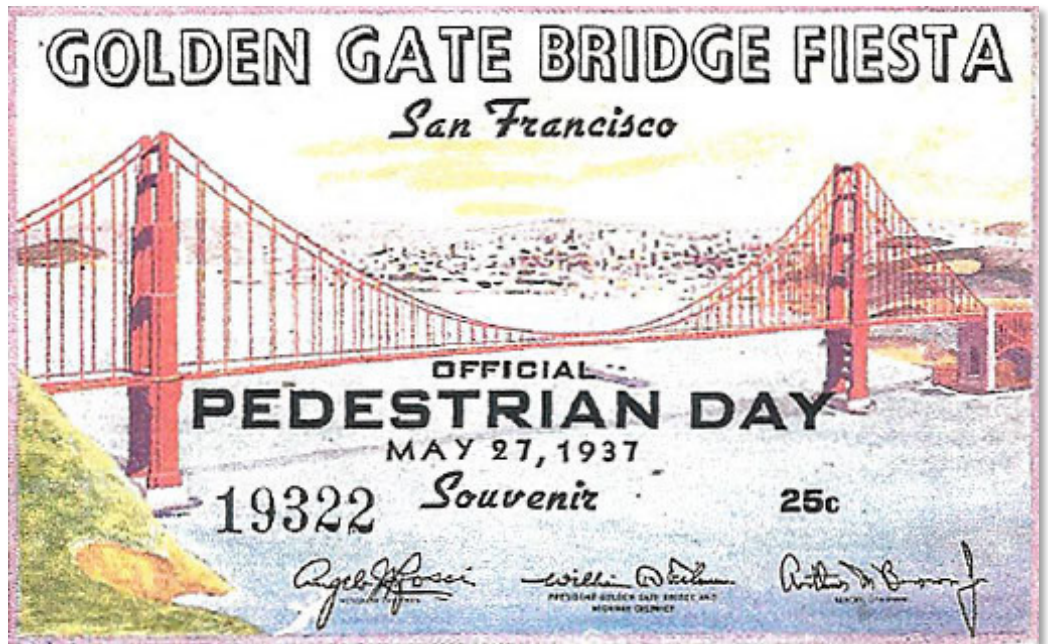
THE LONE EAGLE: Charles Lindbergh caused an international sensation on May 21, 1927 when he landed his plane, The Spirit of St. Louis, in Paris following a 4,000 mile, 33.5 hour solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean. "Well here we are. I am very happy." he said to the French crowds who greeted him.

OCTOBER 25, 1933 FIRST GENETIC MAPS



GENETIC BREAKTHROUGH: On October 25, 1933, Thomas Hunt Morgan was awarded the Nobel Prize for discoveries that revealed how genes are carried on chromosomes. Using fruit flies as a model organism, Morgan and his Columbia University “Fly Room” team helped create the first genetic maps, laying the foundation for modern genetics.

MAY 27, 1937 GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE OPEN



PACIFIC GATEWAY: On May 27, 1937, the Golden Gate Bridge opened to the public, spanning the entrance to San Francisco Bay. Designed by engineer Joseph Strauss, with major contributions from engineers Leon Moisseiff and Charles Alton Ellis, the bridge became an icon of American engineering and one of the world's most recognizable landmarks.

APRIL 30, 1939 TELEVISION INTRODUCED



TELEVISION FIRST: On April 30, 1939, television took a major step into the American mainstream when Franklin D. Roosevelt became the first U.S. president to appear on television during the opening of the 1939 New York World's Fair. Though only a few thousand sets could receive the signal, the broadcast demonstrated the potential of a new medium that would soon transform American culture, news, and entertainment.

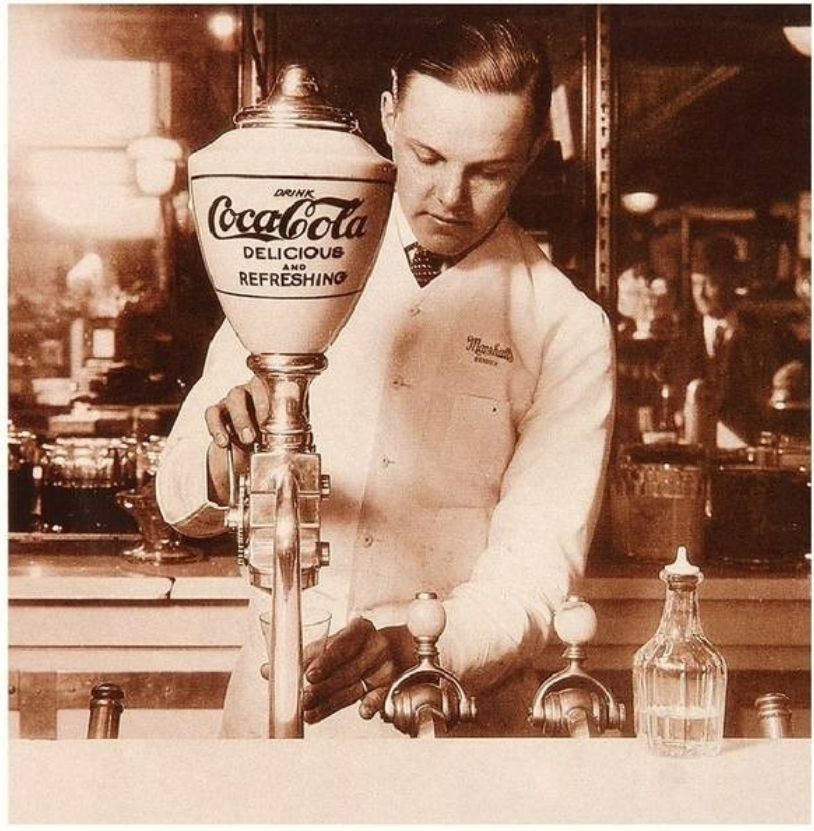
ENTERTAINMENT EXPLOSION

Key Moments:

- 1886 First 'Coca-Cola' Soft Drink Sold
- 1890 First Pasadena Rose Parade
- 1893 'Cracker Jack' First Sold At Chicago World's Fair
- 1900 Kodak 'Brownie' Camera Introduced
- 1900 Hershey Introduces 'Great American Chocolate Bar'
- 1911 First Indianapolis 500 Race
- 1912 Jim Thorpe Wins Olympic Decathlon
- 1919 Sir Barton is First Horse To Win Triple Crown
- 1920 First Commercial Radio Broadcast
- 1920 Babe Ruth Traded To New York Yankees
- 1923 HOLLYWOOD Sign Installed
- 1924 First Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade
- 1928 Mickey Mouse Debuts In 'Steamboat Willie'
- 1929 Louis Armstrong 'Ain't Misbehavin' Charts Nationally
- 1931 Charlie Chaplin's 'City Lights' Premieres
- 1936 First Daytona Beach Race
- 1937 Disney's 'Snow White' Premieres
- 1937 John Steinbeck: Of Mice And Men & Grapes of Wrath
- 1938 Superman Character Debuts in Action Comics #1
- 1939 'The Wizard of Oz' Movie Premiere
- 1941 'Citizen Kane' Premieres



MAY 8, 1886 FIRST COCA-COLA POURED



THE REAL THING: On May 8, 1886, pharmacist John Pemberton first sold Coca-Cola at a pharmacy in Atlanta, Georgia. What began as a local soft drink grew into one of the world's most recognized brands, becoming an informal ambassador of American culture, optimism, entrepreneurship, and consumer innovation across the globe.

JANUARY 1, 1890 FIRST PASADENA ROSE PARADE



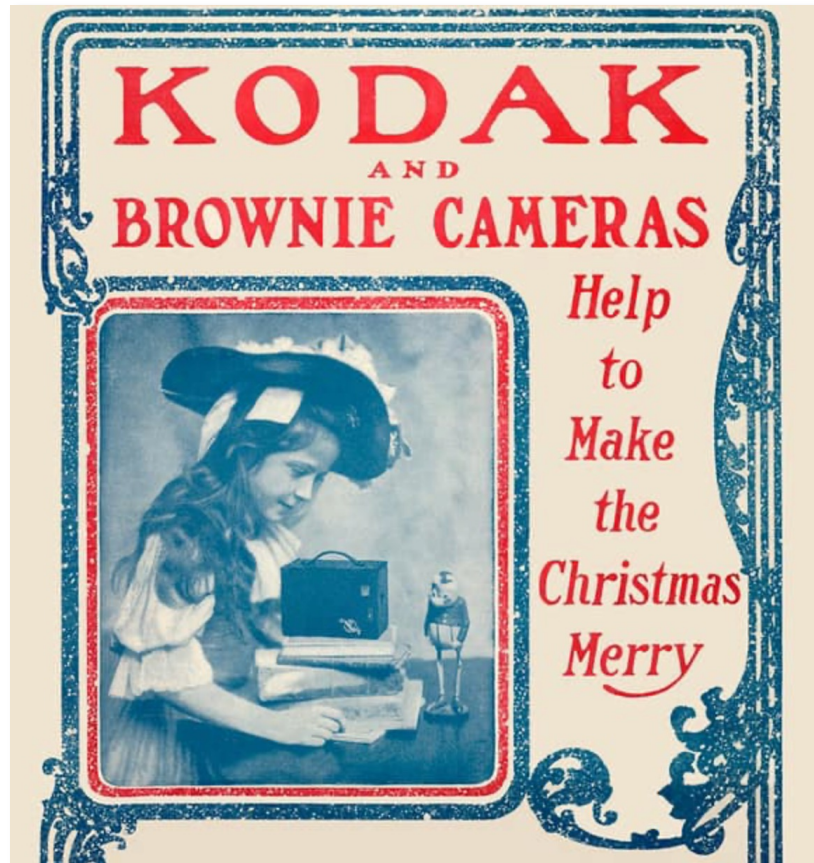
CITY OF ROSES: On January 1, 1890, Pasadena's Tournament of Roses staged its first parade in Pasadena. Decorated with flowers and celebrating Southern California's mild winter climate, the event featured horse-drawn carriages, music, and festive displays. Now in its third Century, the elaborate floral floats are watched by millions each New Year's Day.

SEPTEMBER 26, 1893 CRACKER JACK INTRODUCED



PRIZE INSIDE: On September 26, 1893, brothers Frederick and Louis Rueckheim introduced Cracker Jack at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The molasses-coated popcorn and peanuts became a national treat, symbolizing American entrepreneurship, mass marketing, and the growing culture of leisure and baseball.

FEBRUARY 1, 1900 BROWNIE CAMERA INTRODUCED



POINT & SHOOT: Introduced on February 1, 1900, the Kodak Brownie camera revolutionized photography by making it accessible to the masses. Its affordability and simplicity democratized image capturing, fostering a new era of visual documentation and transforming personal and social histories by allowing ordinary Americans to document their lives.

JUNE 1900 HERSHEY BAR INTRODUCED



HERSHEY'S MILK CHOCOLATE

HERSHEY'S

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

5¢ **MILK CHOCOLATE** 5¢

HERSHEY'S MILK CHOCOLATE

A FOOD —  — A DRINK

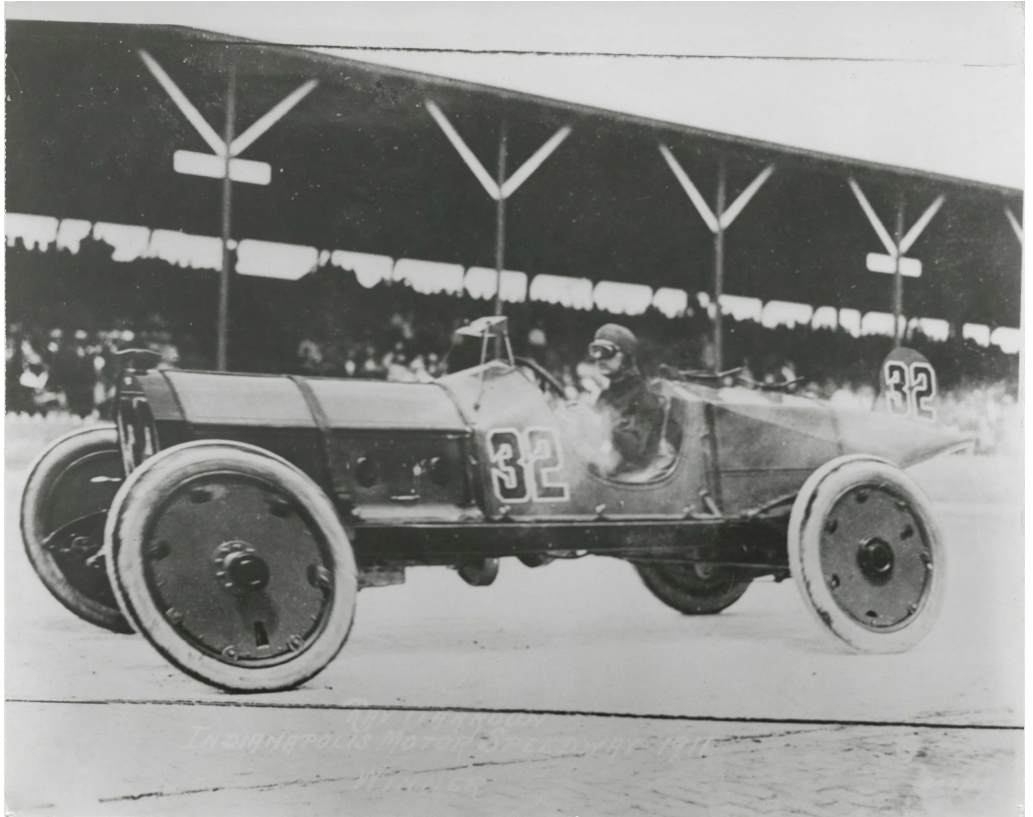
NET WEIGHT 1 ⁵/₈ OZ.

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since 1894
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Bureau
Good Housekeeping Magazine

MANUFACTURED BY HERSHEY CHOCOLATE CORPORATION, HERSHEY, PA.

THE GREAT AMERICAN CHOCOLATE BAR: In June 1900, the Hershey Milk Chocolate Bar was introduced, making affordable chocolate available to ordinary Americans. Its mass production symbolized industrial innovation, democratized indulgence, and helped shape American consumer culture, leisure habits, and the nation's enduring love of sweet treats.

MAY 30, 1911 FIRST INDIANAPOLIS 500



GREATEST SPECTACLE IN RACING: On May 30, 1911, the first Indianapolis 500 was held at Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Driving a Marmon Wasp, Ray Harroun won the 500-mile contest at an average speed of nearly 75 mph. The race became America's premier motorsports event and one of the world's most famous automobile competitions.

JULY 15, 1912 THORPE WINS DECATHLON



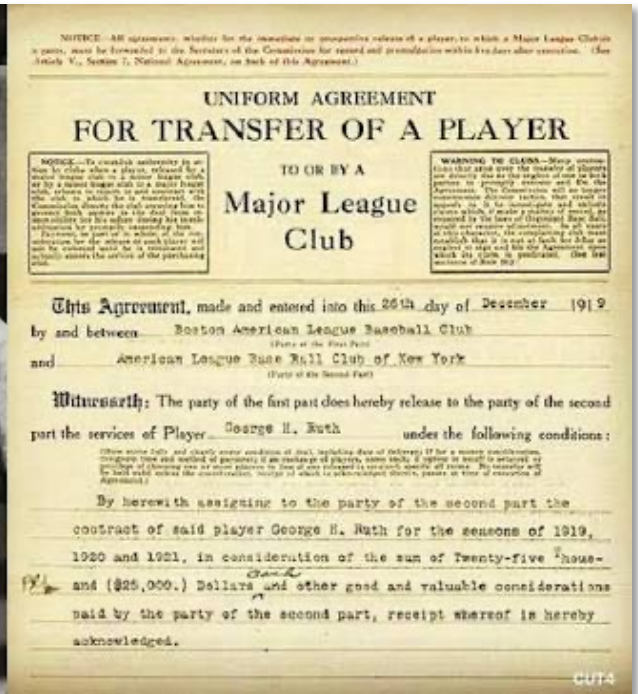
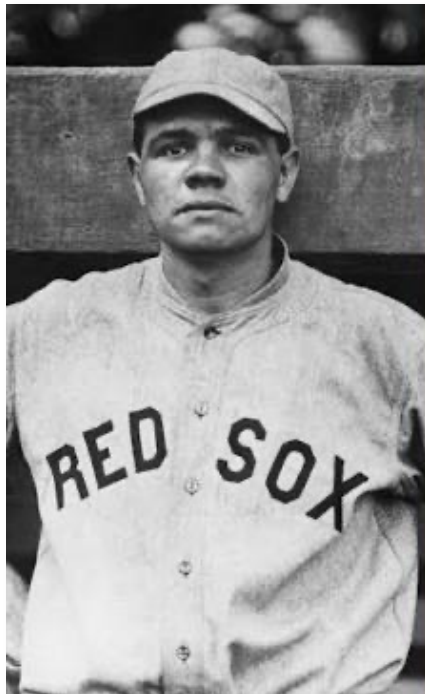
WORLD'S GREATEST ATHLETE: On July 15, 1912, Jim Thorpe won the Olympic decathlon & pentathlon at the Stockholm Games. The King Gustav of Sweden called him “the greatest athlete in the world”. He later became an American football star and first NFL president, embodying American values of excellence, versatility, and perseverance.

JUNE 11, 1919 SIR BARTON CLAIMS CROWN



TRIPLE CROWN: On June 11, 1919, Sir Barton won the Belmont Stakes, securing America's first Triple Crown in horse racing after victories in the Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes. His achievement captured national attention, elevating horse racing's popularity and inspiring a cultural legacy of celebrating champions in American sports history.

JUNE 5, 1920 RUTH TRADED TO YANKEES



THE BABE: On January 5, 1920, the New York Yankees acquired Babe Ruth from the Boston Red Sox for \$125,000. Known as “The Babe” and the “Sultan of Swat,” Ruth shattered home run records, led the Yankees to seven American League pennants and four World Series titles, and became America's first modern sports superstar.

NOVEMBER 2, 1920 PIONEERING RADIO BROADCAST



WIRELESS AGE: On November 2, 1920, KDKA in Pittsburgh, broadcast presidential election returns to listeners across the region, including news that Warren G. Harding had won the election. The broadcast helped launch the radio age and reflected American values of innovation, informed citizenship, and the rapid spread of information in a democracy.

JULY 13, 1923

HOLLYWOOD SIGN INSTALLED



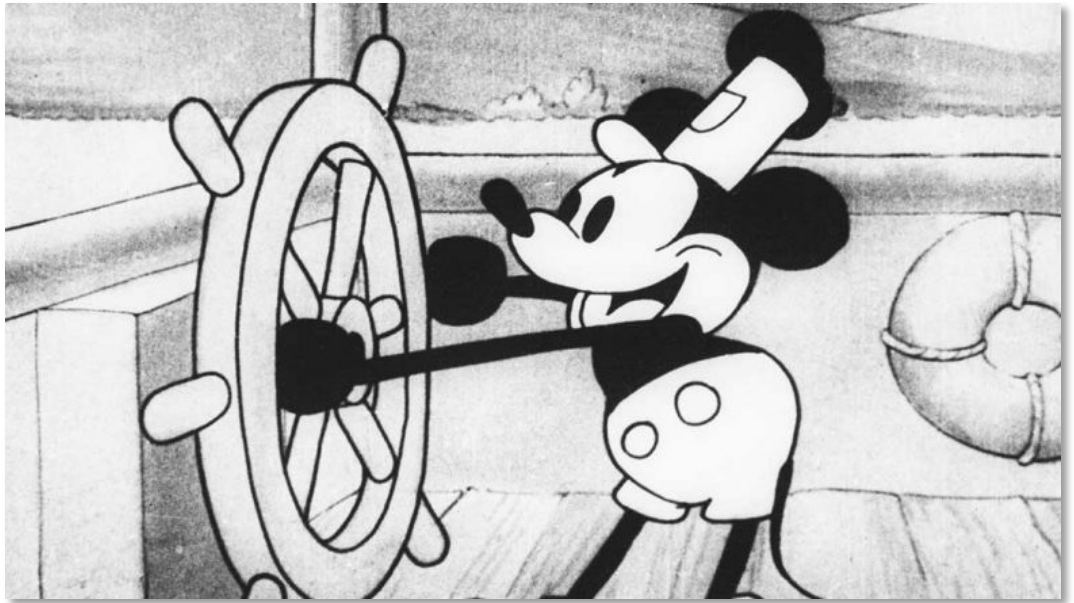
MOVIE CAPITOL: On July 13, 1923, the Hollywood Sign was dedicated on the hills above Los Angeles as a temporary advertisement for a real estate development called “Hollywoodland.” Although intended to stand for only a short time, the sign became an enduring symbol of the American film industry, entertainment, and the dream of success in Hollywood.

NOVEMBER 27, 1924 FIRST MACY'S PARADE



HOLIDAY TRADITION: On November 27, 1924, Macy's held its first Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. The event soon became famous for its giant character balloons floating above Manhattan. Today, the parade attracts millions of Broadway spectators and more than 20 million television viewers each Thanksgiving.

NOVEMBER 18, 1928 MICKEY MOUSE SETS SAIL



DISNEY DEBUT: On November 18, 1928, the animated short Steamboat Willie launched Mickey Mouse and introduced synchronized sound to cartoons, created by Walt Disney. Its innovation transformed entertainment, helped define American optimism and creativity, and established animation as a powerful cultural force worldwide for global audiences.

OCTOBER 24, 1929 LOUIS ARMSTRONG CHARTS



SATCHMO: In 1929, Louis Armstrong recorded "Ain't Misbehavin'," his first hit song as a bandleader. The song, written by Fats Waller and Harry Brooks, became an instant classic and a signature tune for Armstrong – who went on to become one of the most influential & beloved jazz musicians of the 20th century.

JANUARY 30, 1931 CHARLIE CHAPLIN CITY LIGHTS



THE LITTLE TRAMP: Charlie Chaplin's *City Lights*, released on January 30, 1931, blended comedy and pathos during the Great Depression. Its timeless story of love and resilience profoundly influenced American culture, elevating silent film artistry, affirming cinema's emotional power, and inspiring generations through humor, compassion, and social commentary.

MARCH 8, 1936 FIRST DAYTONA BEACH RACE



ON THE BEACH: The first stock car race on Daytona Beach, Florida, took place on March 8, 1936, launching a tradition that evolved into NASCAR. It profoundly impacted American culture by celebrating speed, innovation, and competition, while embedding motorsports into national identity, Southern heritage, and popular entertainment.

APRIL 15, 1938 SUPERMAN DEBUTS



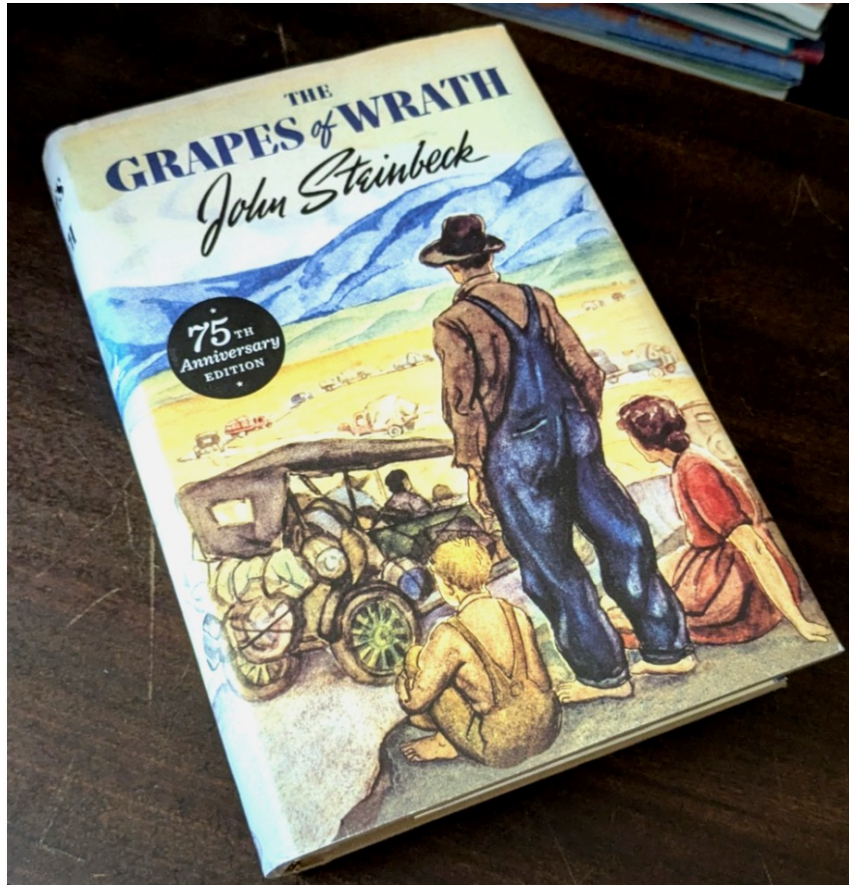
MAN OF STEEL: The country was deep in the Great Depression on April 15, 1938 when mild-mannered reporter Clark Kent debuted in the pages of Action Comics as the world's first superhero, Superman. Sprung from the minds of two Cleveland teenagers, Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster became famous fighting for "truth, justice, and the American way."

DECEMBER 15, 1939 GONE WITH THE WIND DEBUT



FRANKLY, MY DEAR: On December 15, 1939, *Gone with the Wind* premiered in Atlanta. Starring Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh, the Civil War epic became one of the most successful and influential films in Hollywood history, winning eight Academy Awards and captivating audiences for generations.

FEBRUARY 6, 1937 JOHN STEINBECK NOVELS



DUST BOWL: On February 6, 1937, John Steinbeck published *Of Mice and Men*, a poignant novel about friendship, dreams, and hardship during the Great Depression. Together with *The Grapes of Wrath* (April 14, 1939), it became one of the most influential works of American literature, capturing the resilience of ordinary Americans during the Dust Bowl decade.

DECEMBER 21, 1937 DISNEY'S SNOW WHITE



HEIGH-HO! Four days before Christmas, Walt Disney's Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs premiered, becoming the first full-length animated feature film. Its success revolutionized animation, proved cartoons could be serious art, and launched Disney's film empire, forever changing the entertainment industry and storytelling in cinema.

AUGUST 15, 1939 WIZARD OF OZ PREMIERE



YELLOW BRICK ROAD: The Wizard of Oz was one of America's most popular children's books and a cinematic breakthrough in 1939. The movie, starring Judy Garland, is known for its lively characters, technicolor story, and bright music. The song "Somewhere Over The Rainbow" became a hopeful Depression-era ballad for America.

MAY 1, 1941 CITIZEN KANE PREMIERES



ROSEBUD: On May 1, 1941, *Citizen Kane* premiered in New York City. Directed by and starring Orson Welles, it introduced groundbreaking storytelling and cinematography techniques that transformed filmmaking. Though controversial upon release, it later came to be regarded as one of the greatest and most influential movies in American history.

AUGUST 4, 1942 "WHITE CHRISTMAS"



MERRY & BRIGHT: In 1942, Bing Crosby recorded "White Christmas," for the movie "Holiday Inn". It became one of America's best-selling & most beloved songs of all time. It's sentimental lyrics and Crosby's warm, soothing voice captured the emotions & nostalgia of soldiers & civilians alike during World War II. Its enduring popularity continues through this day.

WORLD WARS & DEPRESSION

Key Moments:

- 1898 Sinking of USS Maine Leads To Spanish-American War
- 1898 Teddy Roosevelt Commands Rough Riders
- 1917 USA Enters Into WWI After Zimmerman Telegram
- 1918 Meuse-Argonne Offensive
- 1918 Spanish Flu Spreads From US Soldiers
- 1919 Treaty of Versailles Ends WWI
- 1929 Black Thursday Starts Great Depression
- 1930 New York's Chrysler & Empire State Building
- 1933 FDR Announces New Deal Programs
- 1934 Dust Bowl 'Black Sunday' Storm
- 1937 Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater
- 1941 4×4 Jeep Developed for US Army
- 1941 US Enters WWII After Attack On Pearl Harbor
- 1942 Battle of Midway in Pacific
- 1943 Norman Rockwell Paints 'Four Freedoms'
- 1944 Smoky The Bear Introduced
- 1944 'D-Day' Begins Liberation Of Europe
- 1944 Battle Of The Bulge
- 1945 Atomic Bombs Dropped On Japan
- 1945 Marshall Plan For Europe Introduced



FEBRUARY 15, 1898 SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR



REMEMBER THE MAINE: On February 15, 1898, the battleship USS Maine exploded and sank in Havana Harbor, killing 266 American sailors. Public outrage helped propel the United States into the 4-month long Spanish-American War. The American victory brought Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines and marked the nation's emergence as a global power.

JULY 1, 1898 ROOSEVELT'S ROUGH RIDERS



THE LION: On July 1, 1898, Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt led the Rough Riders in the charge up Kettle Hill during the Battle of San Juan Heights in Cuba. The dramatic victory became the most celebrated American action of the Spanish-American War and helped propel Roosevelt to national fame and eventually the presidency.

APRIL 2, 1917 ZIMMERMAN TELEGRAM



ENTRY INTO WWI: On April 2, 1917, President Woodrow Wilson addressed Congress, urging a declaration of war against Germany, partly influenced by the intercepted Zimmerman Telegram. This secret communication revealed Germany's proposal to Mexico for a military alliance against the U.S., significantly swaying public opinion and leading to America's entry into World War I.

MARCH 1918 SPANISH FLU PANDEMIC



Avoid Spanish "Flu" by refusing to kiss the girls. Keep your feet dry and shun big crowds. Place your handkerchief over your nose and mouth in the presence of sneezers or use cayenne pepper as a matter of protection so you can sneeze yourself. Gargle your throat with an anti-septic, don't neglect a cold, keep in the sunshine and work or fight. Don't go to church, picture shows or political meetings, eat corn bread and conserve according to government directions, and then if you catch it anyway make it a point to convey it to the profiteer who ought to be put out of business.

BRUTAL PANDEMIC: The Spanish Flu pandemic began in March 1918 at Fort Riley, spreading rapidly worldwide. Killing millions, it reshaped America public health systems and reinforced national values of resilience, sacrifice, and community responsibility during crisis while influencing future responses to disease and emergencies.

SEPTEMBER 26, 1918 MEUSE-ARGONNE OFFENSIVE



TURNING POINT: The Meuse-Argonne Offensive began on September 26, 1918, as the largest American military operation of World War I and all-time, with 1.2 million soldiers, marines, and sailors. Its success hastened Germany's defeat and marked the United States' emergence as a decisive military and global power on the world stage.

JUNE 28, 1919 TREATY OF VERSAILLES



END OF THE WAR: Signed on June 28, 1919, the Treaty of Versailles officially ended World War I, with President Woodrow Wilson promoting the League of Nations. While many Americans hoped for lasting peace, the U.S. Senate rejected ratification, keeping the United States out and reinforcing isolationist sentiment nationwide.

OCTOBER 24, 1929 WALL STREET CRASH



BLACK THURSDAY: On October 24, 1929, a day widely known as Black Thursday, panic selling started with massive losses shaking investor confidence. The financial turmoil, which continued into the next week, helped usher in the Great Depression, highlighting the importance of economic stability, responsible markets, and resilience during hardship.

MAY 27, 1930 NEW YORK SKYLINE LIT



SKYSCRAPERS: The Chrysler Building opened on May 27, 1930, showcasing striking Art Deco design with its gleaming spire and automotive-inspired details. Less than a year later, the Empire State Building opened on May 1, 1931, becoming the world's tallest building. Together, they symbolize America's ambition and architectural innovation.

APRIL 14, 1935 DUST BOWL BLACK SUNDAY



DUST BOWL: On April 14, 1935, the infamous Black Sunday storm swept across the Great Plains. The relentless combination of severe drought and unsustainable agricultural practices created towering dust clouds that engulfed communities. Black Sunday was a lesson in the environmental and social consequences of unchecked human impact on the land.

AUGUST 7, 1937 FALLINGWATER UNVEILED



ORGANIC ARCHITECTURE: On August 7, 1937, architect Frank Lloyd Wright unveiled Fallingwater, built dramatically over a Pennsylvania waterfall. The masterpiece embodied Wright's philosophy of organic architecture, blending design with the natural landscape. Fallingwater quickly became a symbol of American architectural creativity & innovation.

JULY 1941 WILLEYS MB JEEP DEVELOPED



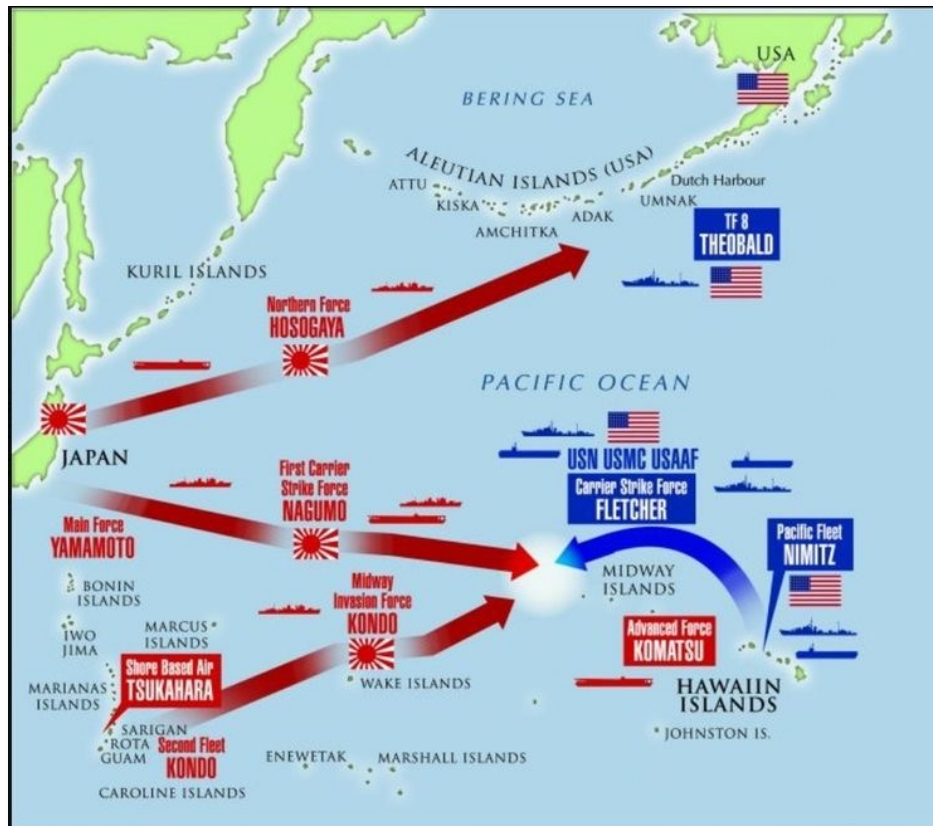
NEW ARMY MULE: On July 23, 1941, the U.S. Army standardized the Willys MB Jeep. It became the war's nimble workhorse, shaping American culture through rugged mobility, adventure, and postwar civilian off-road enthusiasm, industry, and design icons nationwide, inspiring generations since.

DECEMBER 7, 1941 PEARL HARBOR ATTACK



DAY OF INFAMY: After Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt delivered his famous “Day of Infamy” speech to rally the nation. The next day, Congress declared war on Japan, bringing the United States into World War II and uniting the nation for the global conflict ahead.

JUNE 4, 1942 BATTLE OF MIDWAY



TURNING POINT: Starting From June 4, 1942 and lasting 3 days, the Battle of Midway became a turning point in the Pacific War. After breaking Japanese naval codes, American forces ambushed the Japanese fleet near Midway Atoll, sinking four aircraft carriers. The victory halted Japan's expansion and shifted momentum to the United States.

FEBRUARY 20, 1943 ROCKWELL'S FOUR FREEDOMS



WHY WE FIGHT: On February 20, 1943, artist Norman Rockwell published the first of his Four Freedoms paintings in *The Saturday Evening Post*. Inspired by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's vision of freedom, the series became an enduring symbol of American ideals and helped raise millions through World War II war bond drives.

JUNE 6, 1944 D-DAY INVASION



BOLD LANDING: On June 6, 1944, Allied forces launched the D-Day invasion of Normandy, France, with more than 156,000 troops, 5,000 ships, and 11,000 aircraft participating. The operation demonstrated extraordinary courage, sacrifice, and international cooperation, helping secure victory in Europe and advancing the cause of freedom and democracy.

AUGUST 9, 1944 SMOKEY THE BEAR DEBUTS



ONLY YOU: On August 9, 1944, Smokey Bear was introduced by the U.S. Forest Service as the face of a wildfire prevention campaign during World War II. With his famous message, “Only YOU Can Prevent Forest Fires,” Smokey became one of the most recognizable public-service icons in American history.

FEBRUARY 23, 1945 FLAG RAISING ON IWO JIMA



FLAG OF OUR FATHERS: On February 23, 1945, six U.S. Marines and a Navy corpsman raised the American flag atop Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima. Captured in an iconic photograph, the moment became a symbol of courage, sacrifice, and determination as American forces fought toward victory in World War II.

AUGUST 6, 1945 ATOMIC BOMBS END WWII

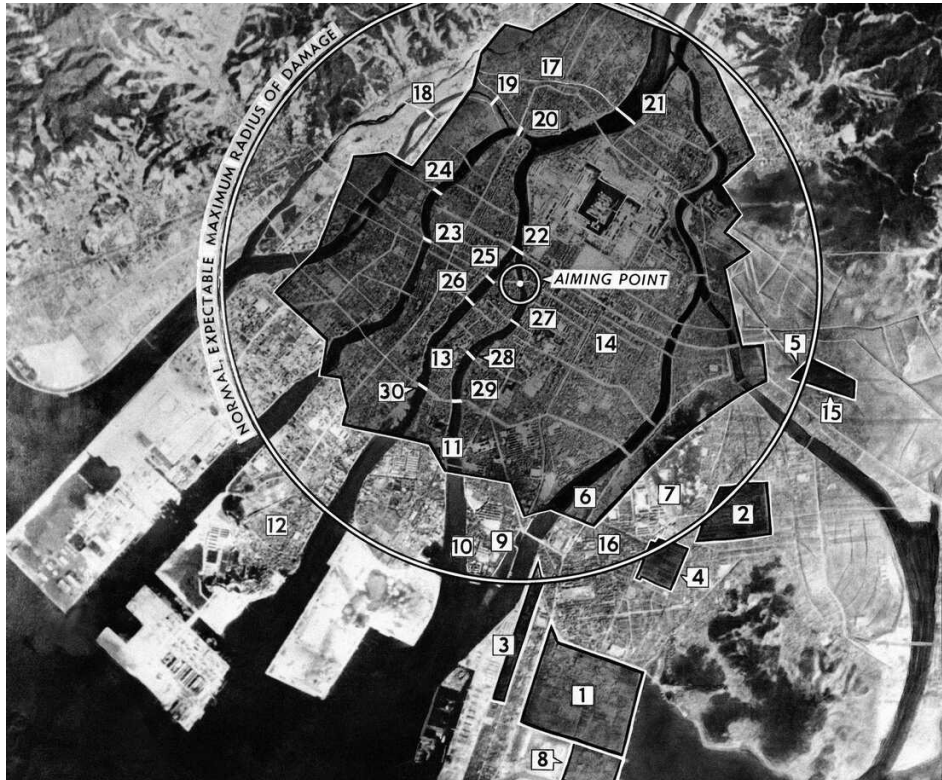


Photo Credit: AP

NUCLEAR AGE: On August 6 and 9, 1945, the U.S. dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, killing over 100,000 people. These bombings forced Japan's surrender, ending World War II. They marked America's emergence as a superpower and began the nuclear age, shaping global politics indefinitely.

JUNE 5, 1947 MARSHALL PLAN ANNOUNCED



MARSHALL PLAN: On June 5, 1947, Secretary of State George C. Marshall announced the Marshall Plan at Harvard University, proposing massive American economic aid to rebuild war-torn Europe. The initiative strengthened democratic allies, expanded U.S. trade, and positioned the United States as architect of the postwar order.

BABY BOOM & COLD WAR

Key Moments:

- 1940 First McDonald's Opens in California
- 1946 Chuck Yeager Breaks Sound Barrier in Bell X-1
- 1948 First Stock Car Race On Daytona Beach
- 1949 US Joins North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- 1951 J.D. Salinger: The Catcher In The Rye
- 1952 'Gunsmoke' Premieres on CBS Radio
- 1952 Ernest Hemingway: The Old Man & The Sea
- 1953 Korean War Truce Signed
- 1954 Joseph McCarthy Censured By The US Senate
- 1954 'The Tonight Show' Starts On NBC
- 1955 Disneyland Opens in California
- 1956 Elvis Presley Hits #1 with 'Heartbreak Hotel'
- 1956 Interstate Highway Act Passed
- 1956 'The Searchers' Movie Premieres
- 1956 First Fully-Enclosed Mall, 'Southdale' Opens
- 1959 Introduction of the Barbie Doll
- 1962 First Wal-Mart Store Opens
- 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis
- 1963 Kennedy Assassination
- 1964 Ford Mustang Introduced
- 1964. New York World's Fair Opens
- 1967 'The Graduate' Movie Premieres
- 1967 First NFL Super Bowl Broadcast
- 1969 Apollo 11 Lands On Moon
- 1969 First Flight of Boeing 747
- 1973 USA Withdraws From Vietnam
- 1976 First Flight Of Boeing 747 Jumbo Jet
- 1980 'Miracle On Ice' at Lake Placid Winter Olympics
- 1987 Reagan Calls World To Defeat 'Evil Empire' USSR



MAY 15, 1940 FIRST MCDONALD'S OPENED



BILLIONS SOLD: On May 15, 1940, two brothers - Richard & Maurice McDonald - opened what became the first McDonalds restaurant in San Bernadino CA. Originally, it was a BBQ drive-up, but soon focused on hamburgers with “speedy service”. McDonald’s has since become a symbol of the USA around the world.

OCTOBER 14, 1947 SOUND BARRIER BROKEN



THE RIGHT STUFF: On October 14, 1947, test pilot Chuck Yeager became the first person to break the sound barrier, piloting the Bell X-1 aircraft. This milestone in aviation history demonstrated that controlled supersonic flight was possible, paving the way for advances in both military and commercial aviation.

APRIL 4, 1949 AMERICA JOINS N.A.T.O.



North Atlantic Alliance
First Strategy Huddle for the Big 12---Foreign Ministers of Pact Nations Gather in Capital

Formal Check of Treaty Expected, Then Informal Talk on Agencies Needed

By the Associated Press
WASHINGTON, April 2—Foreign Ministers of all 12 Atlantic Pact powers were called into their first grand strategy huddle today.

The officials are expected first to make a formal check of the treaty which was completed here early this month. Then, informally, they may talk over the kind of agencies needed to carry out the aims of the alliance.

Two strategy groups are specified in the pact itself: A consultative council and a defense committee. All 12 member nations presumably will be represented on each of these bodies.

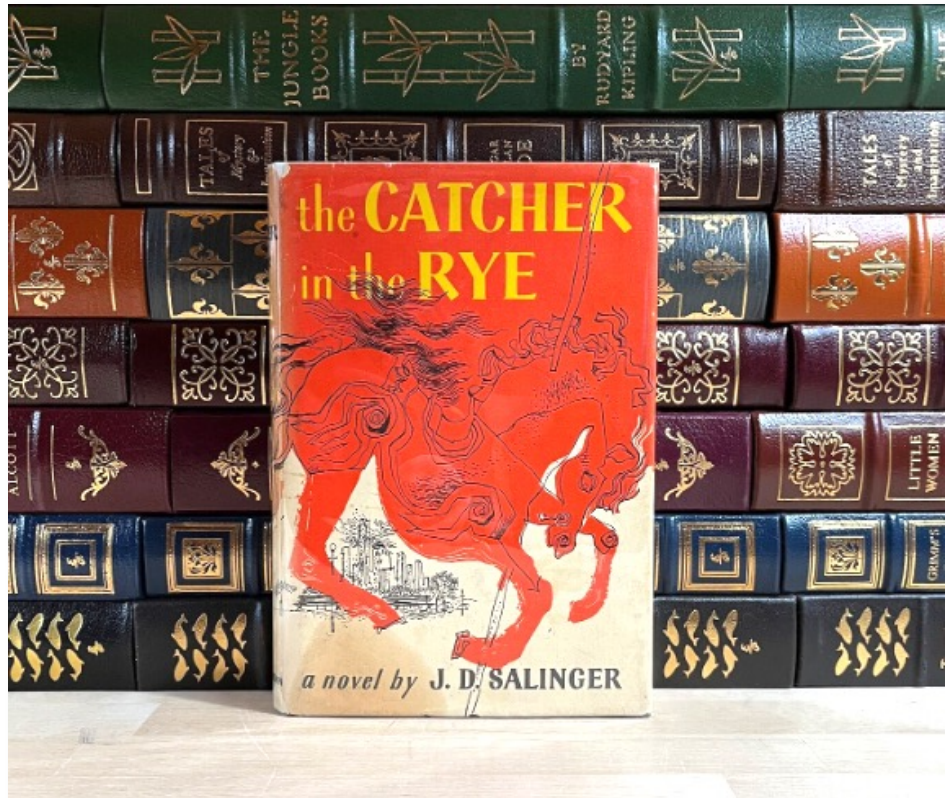
The council, according to the treaty, must be so organized that it can meet on short notice to deal with any emergency. It is the body which would be summoned into hasty session, for example, if one of the members of the alliance should be attacked.

Middle and Near East
Russian pressure is strong along the line between Greece and Iran. Arab nationalism, the Greek civil war, complicate the picture at this East-West crossroads area. Here, as elsewhere, American aid is the answer to Soviet pressure.
For a map of the Near and Middle East by G. B. Reesor, see Page 9. Gene Forbes and Ed Radenzel will discuss this area to-night over station—
KYA 6:10 P.M.

Market St. Youth Talent

COLD WAR: The United States joined NATO on April 4, 1949, when Secretary of State Dean Acheson signed the North Atlantic Treaty in Washington, D.C. This historic step marked America's first-ever peacetime military alliance, symbolizing a firm commitment to collective defense against Soviet expansion during the Cold War.

JULY 16, 1951 CATCHER IN THE RYE



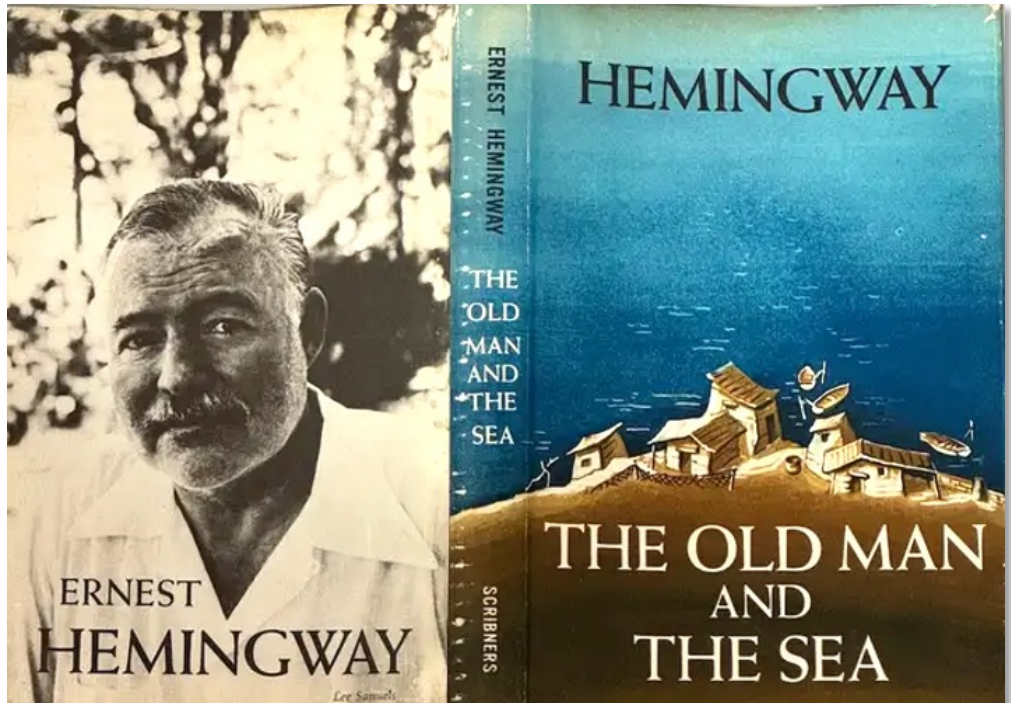
RESTLESS YOUTH: The *Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger was published on July 16, 1951. The novel, centered on 16-year-old Holden Caulfield's struggles with alienation, profoundly influenced American culture. It gave voice to postwar youth disillusionment, sparking controversy and shaping modern literature's treatment of adolescence.

APRIL 26, 1952 'GUNSMOKE' BEGINS ON RADIO



GET OUTTA DODGE: Gunsmoke debuted on CBS Radio on April 26, 1952, introducing a realistic Western drama that captivated listeners for 9 years. Adapted for television in 1955, it ran twenty seasons until 1975, becoming one of America's longest-running series, reshaping popular Western storytelling traditions and defining the mythos of the frontier.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1952 OLD MAN AND THE SEA DEBUT



PAPA HEMINGWAY: Ernest Hemingway's novel, 'The Old Man And The Sea', was the last of his major works. It was awarded the Pulitzer Prize (1953) and the basis for the Nobel Prize in Literature (1954). The short novel re-established Hemingway as one of America's top writers and expanded on his ideas of men proving their worth amid the wildness of nature.

JULY 27, 1953 KOREAN WAR TRUCE SIGNED



TRUCE: Signed on July 27, 1953, the Korean Armistice Agreement halted active fighting in the Korean War between United Nations forces, North Korea, and China. In the United States, which had fought for 3 years, the truce brought relief after costly stalemate, confirming America's Cold War commitment to contain communism without victory.

DECEMBER 2, 1954 MCARTHY RED SCARE



RED SCARE: On December 2, 1954, the U.S. Senate voted 67–22 to censure Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin for conduct deemed contrary to Senate traditions. The rebuke marked the decline of McCarthy's influence after years of aggressive investigations, blacklisting, and accusations during the nation's anti-communist Red Scare.

SEPTEMBER 27, 1954 THE TONIGHT SHOW DEBUT



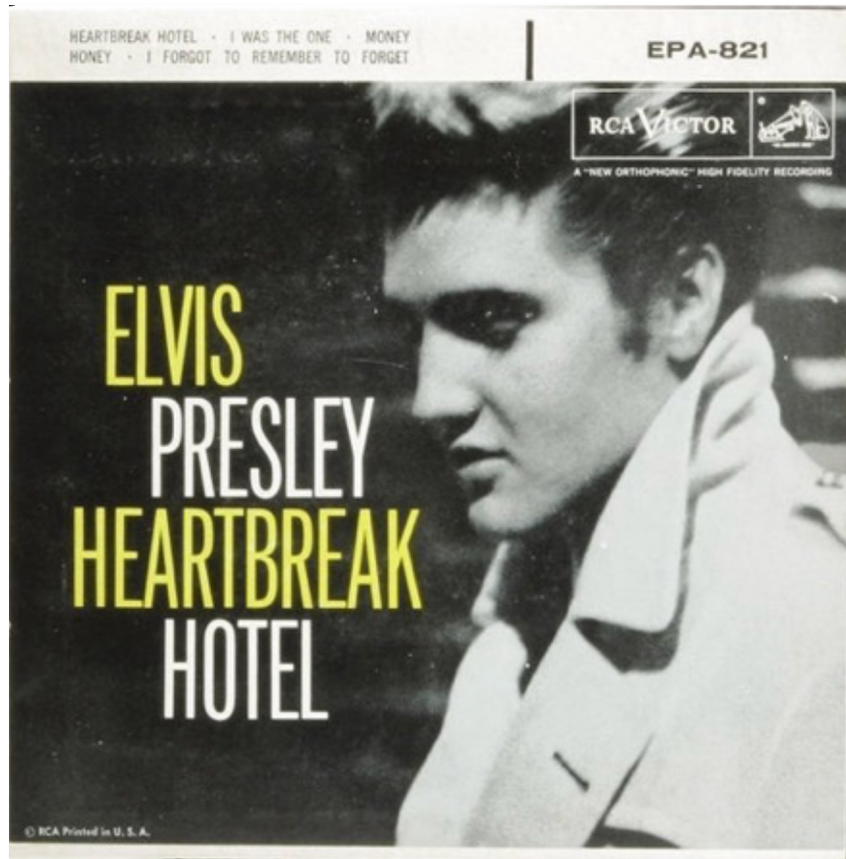
LATE NIGHT: First airing on September 27, 1954, The Tonight Show on NBC became a cornerstone of American culture. Hosted successively by Steve Allen, Jack Paar, Johnny Carson, Jay Leno, Conan O'Brien, and Jimmy Fallon, it parlayed news topics, social commentary, and celebrity influence into shared entertainment connection and laughter.

JULY 17, 1955 DISNEYLAND GRAND OPENING



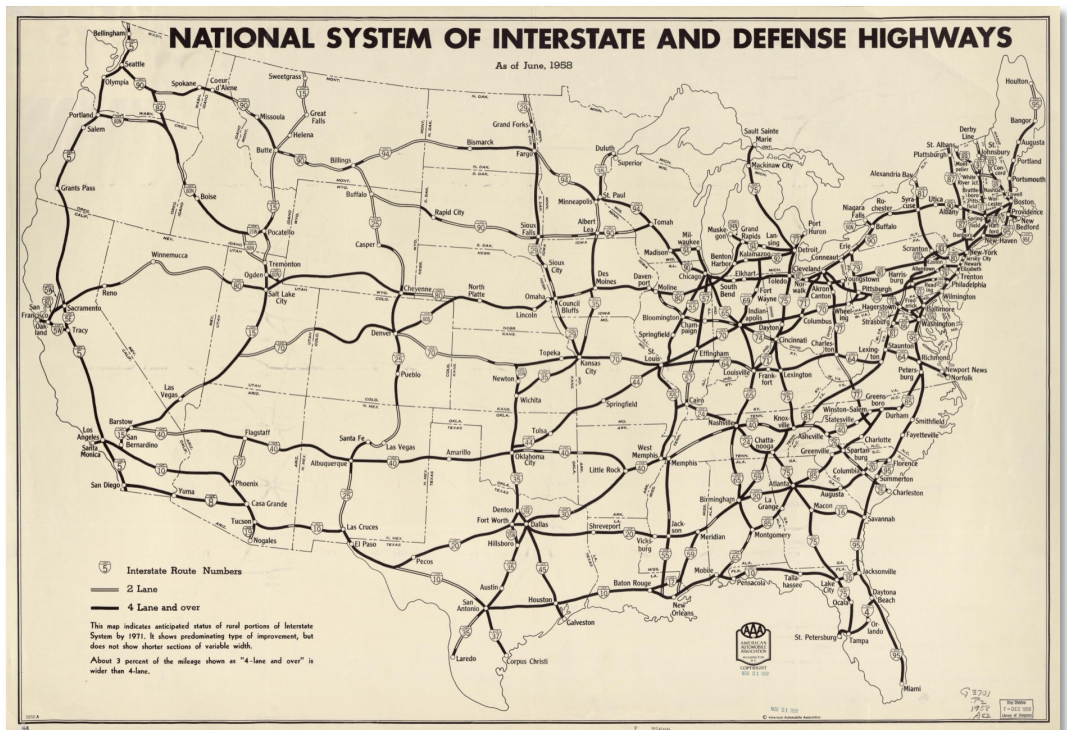
MAGIC KINGDOM: Disneyland opened in Southern California on July 17, 1955. Created by Walt Disney, the imaginative “Happiest Place on Earth” was the first modern theme park, combining storytelling, technology, and entertainment. It symbolized postwar American optimism and innovation, transforming family leisure and tourism.

JANUARY 27, 1956 ELVIS PRESLEY FIRST #1



HEARTBREAK HOTEL: Elvis Presley was 21 years old when 'Heartbreak Hotel' was released on January 27, 1956. He had released a few singles and gained a large following in the South, but "Heartbreak Hotel" made him a national sensation with his first #1 hit. Over the next seven years, "The King" always had at least one song in the Top 10 on the Pop charts.

JUNE 29, 1956 INTERSTATE HIGHWAY ACT



OPEN ROAD: The 1956 Interstate Highway Act, signed into law on June 29, 1956, transformed American infrastructure. Championed by President Eisenhower, it funded the creation of 41,000 miles of highways, promoted economic growth, national defense, suburban expansion, and the reshaped the way that Americans travel.

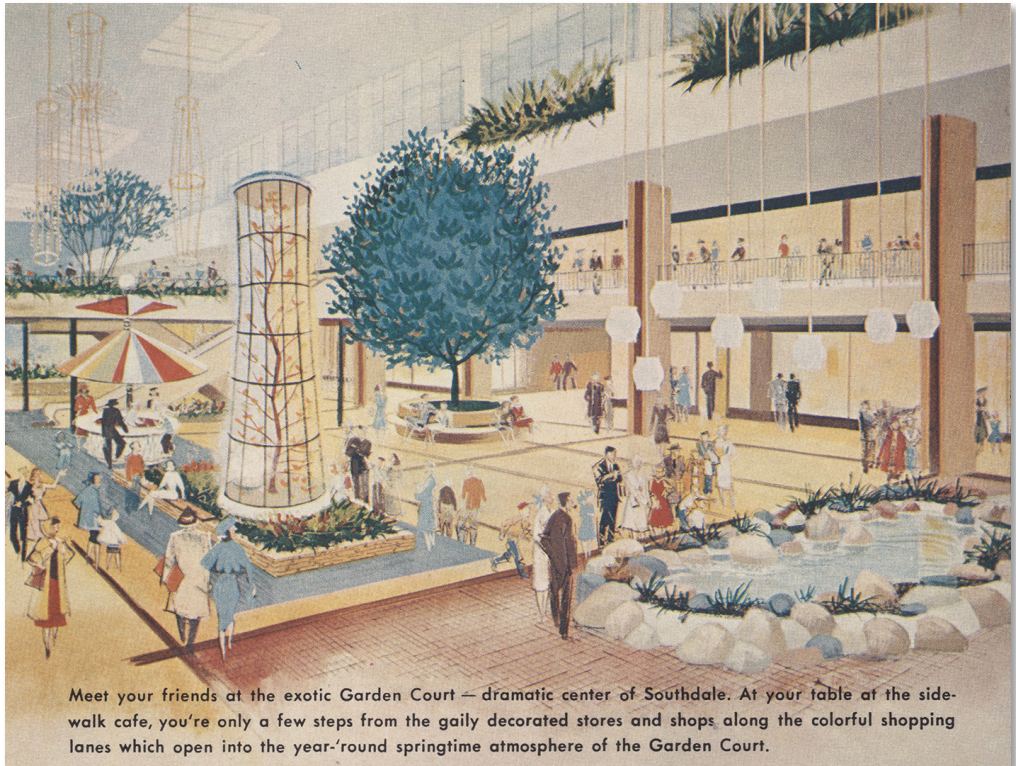
MAY 26, 1956

JOHN WAYNE "THE SEARCHERS"



AMERICAN COWBOY: The Searchers premiered May 26, 1956, starring John Wayne and directed by John Ford. The film became one of the most celebrated Westerns. Wayne's movies helped define American ideas of heroism, frontier justice, and rugged individualism in twentieth-century popular culture.

OCTOBER 8, 1956 FIRST INDOOR SHOPPING MALL



Meet your friends at the exotic Garden Court — dramatic center of Southdale. At your table at the sidewalk cafe, you're only a few steps from the gaily decorated stores and shops along the colorful shopping lanes which open into the year-round springtime atmosphere of the Garden Court.

MALL LIFE: On October 8, 1956, Southdale Center opened in Edina, Minnesota, becoming America's first fully-enclosed shopping mall. Designed by Victor Gruen, it transformed retail into a climate-controlled hub, shaping suburban life, encouraging car culture, and redefining shopping as entertainment and community gathering.

MARCH 9, 1959 BARBIE DOLL INTRODUCED



PLASTIC ICON: On March 9, 1959, Mattel introduced the Barbie doll at the American International Toy Fair in New York. Created by Ruth Handler, Barbie was the first popular “adult” woman doll and quickly reshaped play and culture, encouraging imaginative careers for girls while also sparking debates about standards and gender roles.

JULY 2, 1962 FIRST WAL-MART STORE OPEN



DISCOUNT CITY: On July 2, 1962, entrepreneur Sam Walton opened the first Walmart store in Rogers, Arkansas, launching a retail model focused on low prices and efficiency. Walmart transformed American shopping habits, reshaped small-town economies, and redefined expectations of convenience and affordability.

OCTOBER 16, 1962 CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS



THIRTEEN DAYS IN OCTOBER: On October 16, 1962, President John F. Kennedy was informed that the Soviet Union had placed nuclear missiles in Cuba. During thirteen tense days, firm diplomacy and military resolve averted nuclear war, reflecting America's commitment to courage, restraint, and leadership in crisis.

NOVEMBER 22, 1963 KENNEDY ASSASSINATION



DARK DAY IN DALLAS: President John F. Kennedy was assassinated on November 22, 1963, shocking the nation and the world. His death marked the tragic end of youthful optimism and “Camelot,” fueling conspiracy theories, political distrust, and cultural upheaval that profoundly influenced America’s identity and collective memory for decades.

APRIL 17, 1964 FORD MUSTANG UNLEASHED



Presenting
the unexpected...
new Ford Mustang!
\$2368*
1964

 This is the car you never expected from Detroit. Mustang is so dramatically beautiful it earned the Gold Award for Excellence in American Design... the first time an automobile has been honored with the Tiffany Gold Medal. Mustang has the look, the fun, the drive of the great European road cars. Yet it's an American in its bones... and so practical at the price—just \$2368. Mustang.

* That's the suggested retail price the new Ford Mustang Mustang. It does not include, of course, destination charge from Detroit, options, state and local taxes and title. It includes an MSRP extra and the vinyl roof mounting to \$21.00 extra.

It does include, however, an in-cab roof rack, a pocket instrument panel and full wheel covers, which are extra on most other cars...

as well as hood scoop, dual exhaust dual, dual tail sweeping, dual headlights, one side, cigarette lighter, seats for four, seven belt road blocks, spare mounting wheel, cruise control, 4 1/2" x 11" in. 50... and more!

The new Mustang is an entirely practical and economical car, and it was designed to be designed by you. You can make your Mustang into a luxury or high performance car by choosing from a long list of accessories, priced group of options.

For added luxury choose such options as air conditioning, push-button radio, vinyl roof covering, 3 speed OverDrive Man, power windows, power steering—your choice!

Oh, for sports car performance add the big 200-hp. in. V-8 engine (the same kind you also possess the famous Ford's), 4 speed stick shift (available in 1/2 forward, overdrive, and Rally Pac packages and stick).



FORD
Volkswagen Sales and Leasing
See an existing, exclusive
sales model of the new
Ford Mustang, used \$4.99 on
Ford Credit, 0% government L.
F 45 Rev. 55, 300, Michigan.
Offers only July 16, 1964.

PONY CAR: On April 17, 1964, the Ford Mustang debuted before the New York World's Fair, introducing affordable performance and stylish design to mass audiences. Created by the Ford Motors, it symbolized youthful freedom, mobility, and postwar prosperity, reshaping American car culture and consumer aspirations nationwide.

APRIL 22, 1964 NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR



PROGRESS CITY: The 1964 World's Fair in New York opened on April 22, 1964. The fair was a momentous occasion, drawing millions from around the world. It showcased groundbreaking technologies and cultural exhibits, leaving a lasting impact on the USA by fostering innovation, promoting global collaboration, and shaping the nation's vision for the future.

DECEMBER 21, 1967 THE GRADUATE PREMIERES



MRS. ROBINSON: On December 21, 1967, *The Graduate* premiered, becoming one of the defining films of its generation. Starring Dustin Hoffman and featuring music by Simon & Garfunkel, the film explored alienation, conformity, and the search for purpose, reflecting the growing skepticism of traditional expectations among young Americans.

JANUARY 15, 1967 FIRST SUPER BOWL GAME



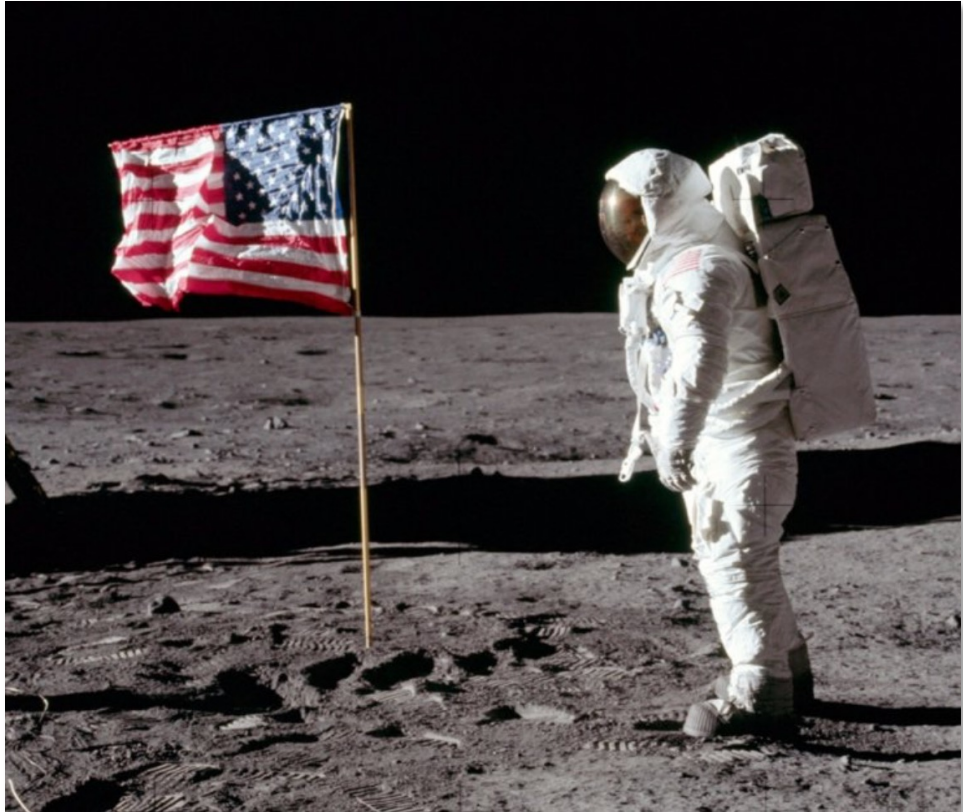
SUPER SUNDAY: On January 15, 1967, the first Super Bowl I matched the NFL champion Green Bay Packers, coached by Vince Lombardi, against the AFL champion Kansas City Chiefs in Los Angeles. The game unified rival leagues, launched America's spectacle, and transformed football into an enduring, national tradition.

FEBRUARY 9, 1969 FIRST BOEING 747 FLIGHT



JUMBO JET: The first flight of the Boeing 747 took place on February 9, 1969. Nicknamed the “Jumbo Jet,” it revolutionized air travel with its capacity and efficiency. The 747 made long-distance flights more accessible, contributing to globalization, boosting tourism, and transforming the airline industry, shaping modern American culture.

JULY 20, 1969 APOLLO 11 MOON LANDING



THE EAGLE HAS LANDED: On July 20, 1969, Apollo 11 achieved one of humanity's greatest milestones when astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin became the first people to walk on the Moon. Watched by millions worldwide, the mission fulfilled President Kennedy's goal and showcased American leadership in technology and the Space Race.

FEBRUARY 22, 1980 OLYMPIC “MIRACLE ON ICE”



DO YOU BELIEVE? On February 22, 1980, the “Miracle on Ice” occurred when the United States men's hockey team defeated the heavily favored Soviet Union 4–3 at the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid NY. The stunning victory inspired a nation during the Cold War and reflected American values of teamwork, perseverance, and belief in overcoming overwhelming odds.

JUNE 12, 1987 REAGAN BERLIN WALL SPEECH



COLD WAR CHALLENGE: On June 12, 1987, Ronald Reagan delivered his famous “Tear Down This Wall” speech at the Brandenburg Gate in West Berlin. Challenging Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to remove the Berlin Wall, Reagan championed freedom, democracy, and the universal desire for liberty, making the address a defining moment of the Cold War.

SOCIAL REVOLUTION

Key Moments:

- 1945 Jackie Robinson Breaks MLB Color Barrier
- 1950 Diner's Club - First Credit Card
- 1953 Hugh Hefner Publishes First Playboy Magazine
- 1954 Brown vs Board of Education Ends Segregation
- 1955 Emmet Till Murdered
- 1955 Rosa Parks Bus Protest
- 1957 Little Rock Nine; School Desegregation
- 1960 Harper Lee: To Kill A Mockingbird
- 1961 JFK Inaugural Address
- 1962 Birth Control Pill Approved As Contraceptive
- 1963 MLK 'I Have A Dream' Speech
- 1964 Civil Rights Act Signed Into Law
- 1965 'A Charlie Brown Christmas' Debuts
- 1965 Voting Rights Act Signed Into Law
- 1968 Democratic National Convention Riots
- 1968 MLK & RFK Assassinations
- 1968 Woodstock Music Festival
- 1969 Stonewall Gay Rights Riots
- 1971 Norman Lear's "All In The Family"
- 1971 'Keep America Beautiful' Anti-Littering Campaign
- 1971 Pentagon Papers Published
- 1971 "I'd Like To Buy The World A Coke" Ad
- 1972 The Godfather Movie Premieres
- 1973 Roe vs Wade 7-2 Abortion Ruling
- 1974 President Nixon Resigns After Watergate
- 1975 Withdrawal From Vietnam
- 1976 Eagles "Hotel California" Released
- 1987 Reagan Delivers Berlin Wall Speech
- 2001 September 11th Terrorist Attacks
- 2008 Obama Elected First African-American President
- 2015 Gay Marriage Confirmed By Supreme Court



APRIL 15, 1947 MLB COLOR LINE BROKEN



PLAY BALL: At 28 years old, Jackie Robinson, an Army veteran, and former 4-sport star at UCLA stepped onto Ebbets Field on April 15, 1947, breaking Major League Baseball's longtime 'color line'. Robinson, who "had the guts not to fight back" at the racist insults and injustices that were directed his way, led the Brooklyn Dodgers to six World Series.

FEBRUARY 8, 1950 DINER'S CLUB CREDIT CARD



CHARGE IT: On February 8, 1950, Diners Club introduced the first widely used charge card, allowing customers to pay participating restaurants with a single card instead of cash. The innovation launched the modern credit-card industry and transformed how Americans made purchases and managed their daily finances.

DECEMBER 1, 1953 PLAYBOY PUBLISHED



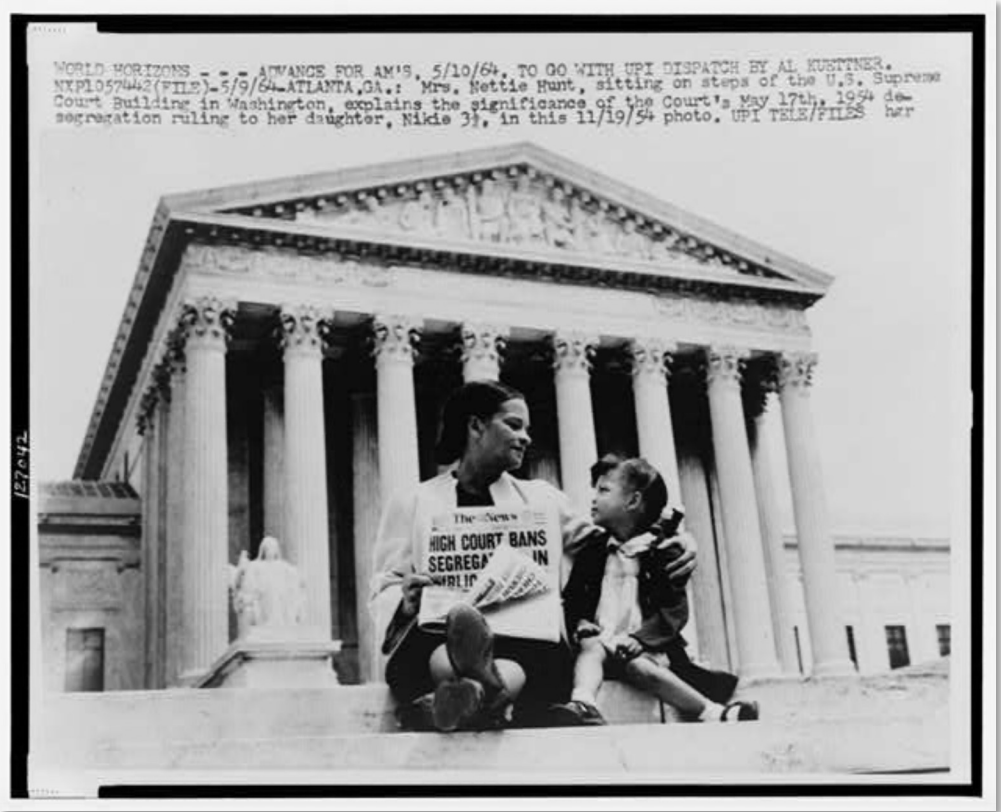
SEXUAL REVOLUTION: On December 1, 1953, Hugh Hefner published the first issue of Playboy magazine, featuring Marilyn Monroe on the cover. The magazine and its Playboy Bunnies became a cultural phenomenon, both pushing and reflecting the sexual revolution of the 1960s and challenging traditional attitudes towards sex and gender.

AUGUST 28, 1955 EMMETT TILL MURDER



FAILURE OF JUSTICE: On August 28, 1955, 14-year-old Emmett Till was abducted and murdered in Mississippi after being accused of offending a white woman. The brutality of the crime and the acquittal of his killers (who later confessed) shocked the nation, helping galvanize the emerging Civil Rights Movement.

MAY 17, 1954 BROWN VS. BOARD OF EDUCATION



EQUALITY: The Supreme Court *Brown v. Board of Education* decision declared state laws establishing separate public schools for black and white students to be unconstitutional. The decision ended the notion of “separate but equal” and set the stage for significant social and legal advancements in pursuit of Constitutional equality.

DECEMBER 1, 1955 ROSA PARKS BUS PROTEST



SEAT PROTEST: On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama. Her arrest sparked the Montgomery Bus Boycott, led by Martin Luther King Jr., helping ignite the Civil Rights Movement and transforming American attitudes toward racial segregation.

SEPTEMBER 4, 1957 LITTLE ROCK NINE



SCHOOL INTEGRATION: On September 4, 1957, nine African American students known as the Little Rock Nine attempted to integrate Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. Protected by federal troops ordered by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, their courage advanced school desegregation and became a defining moment in the Civil Rights Movement.

MAY 9, 1960 BIRTH CONTROL PILL



THE PILL: On May 9, 1960, the Federal Drug Administration announced the approval of the world's first oral contraceptive. Championed by nurse & educator Margaret Sanger, with \$3 million raised from her friend from Katherine McCormick, 'Envoid' helped facilitate the Sexual Revolution of the 1960s & 1970s.

JULY 11, 1960 'TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD'



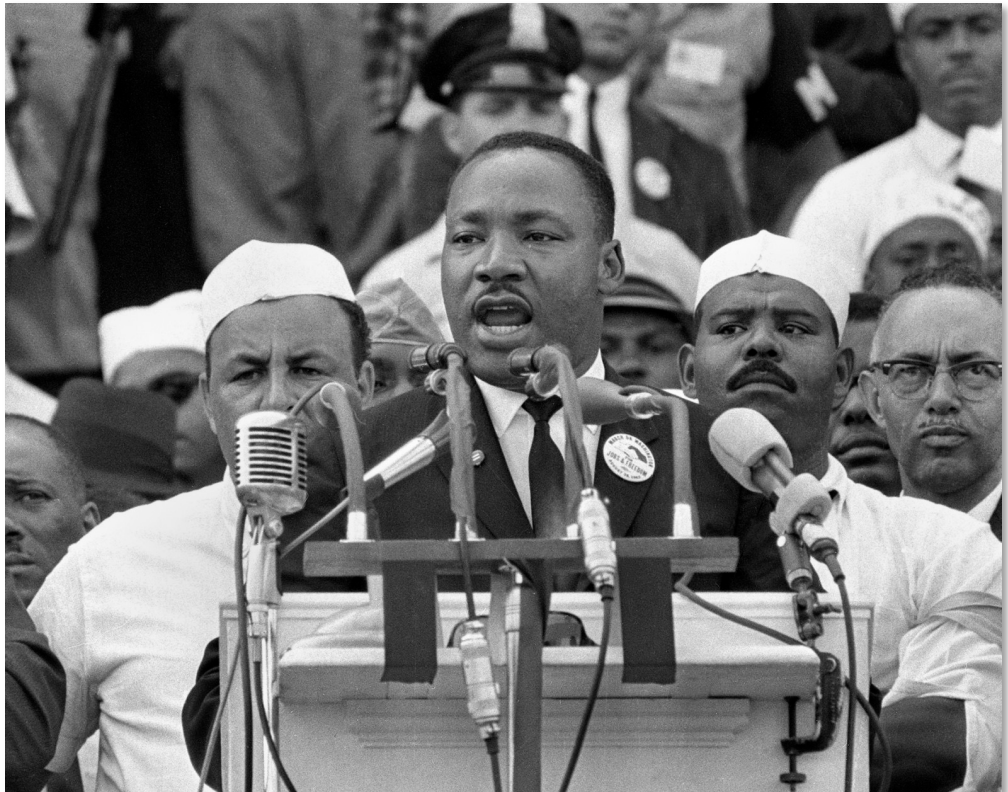
ATTICUS FINCH: Published on July 11, 1960, *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee confronted racial injustice through the moral courage of ordinary citizens. Widely acclaimed and read in American schools, the novel reshaped national conversations about empathy, equality, and justice, helping influence evolving American values in its era.

JANUARY 20, 1961 JFK INAUGURAL ADDRESS



ASK NOT: On January 20, 1961, John F. Kennedy delivered his inaugural address at the United States Capitol in Washington. Famous for urging Americans to “ask not what your country can do for you,” the speech inspired civic responsibility and reflected enduring national values of service, sacrifice, and democratic leadership.

AUGUST 28, 1963 'I HAVE A DREAM' SPEECH



CIVIL RIGHTS: Martin Luther King Jr delivered his landmark “I Have A Dream” speech on August 28, 1963 during the ‘March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom’ on August 28, 1963. From the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, he called for equal civil and economic rights and an end to racism in the United States

JULY 2, 1964 CIVIL RIGHTS ACT SIGNED



EQUALITY FOR ALL: On July 2, 1964, Martin Luther King, Jr was on hand as President Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act, outlawing discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. The landmark law reshaped America by advancing equality, strengthening democracy, and reinforcing the American ideals of freedom & opportunity.

AUGUST 6, 1965 VOTING RIGHTS ACT PASSED



SECOND RECONSTRUCTION: The Voting Rights Act was signed into law on August 6, 1965, outlawing discriminatory voting practices. It reshaped American democracy by affirming equality, expanding participation, and embedding the national value that every citizen's voice deserves protection and representation.

DECEMBER 9, 1965 A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS



GOOD GRIEF: On December 9, 1965, A Charlie Brown Christmas premiered, telling the story of Charlie Brown's search for the true meaning of Christmas amid growing holiday commercialism. Featuring Charles Schulz's beloved Peanuts characters, the special became a cherished American tradition and one of the most influential holiday programs.

APRIL 4 & JUNE 5, 1968 MLK & RFK ASSASSINATIONS



NATIONAL TRAGEDY: In 1968, “The Year That Shook America”, the assassinations of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. on April 4 and presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy on June 5 shocked the nation. Their deaths deepened a sense of turmoil during a turbulent era and profoundly shaped America's political and social landscape.

AUGUST 28, 1968 CHICAGO CONVENTION RIOT



PRIME TIME UNREST: On August 28, 1968, violent clashes between antiwar demonstrators and police outside the Democratic National Convention in Chicago were broadcast nationwide. The unrest reflected a turbulent era that also saw deadly riots in cities including Washington, D.C., Baltimore, and Detroit, exposing deep social and political divisions.

JUNE 28, 1969 STONEWALL INN UPRISING



RISING UP: On June 28, 1969, a police raid at the Stonewall Inn bar & recreation club in New York City sparked days of protest led by LGBTQ patrons and activists. The Stonewall uprising became a catalyst for the modern gay rights movement, reshaping America's commitment to equality, civil liberties, and human dignity.

AUGUST 15, 1969 WOODSTOCK FESTIVAL OPENS



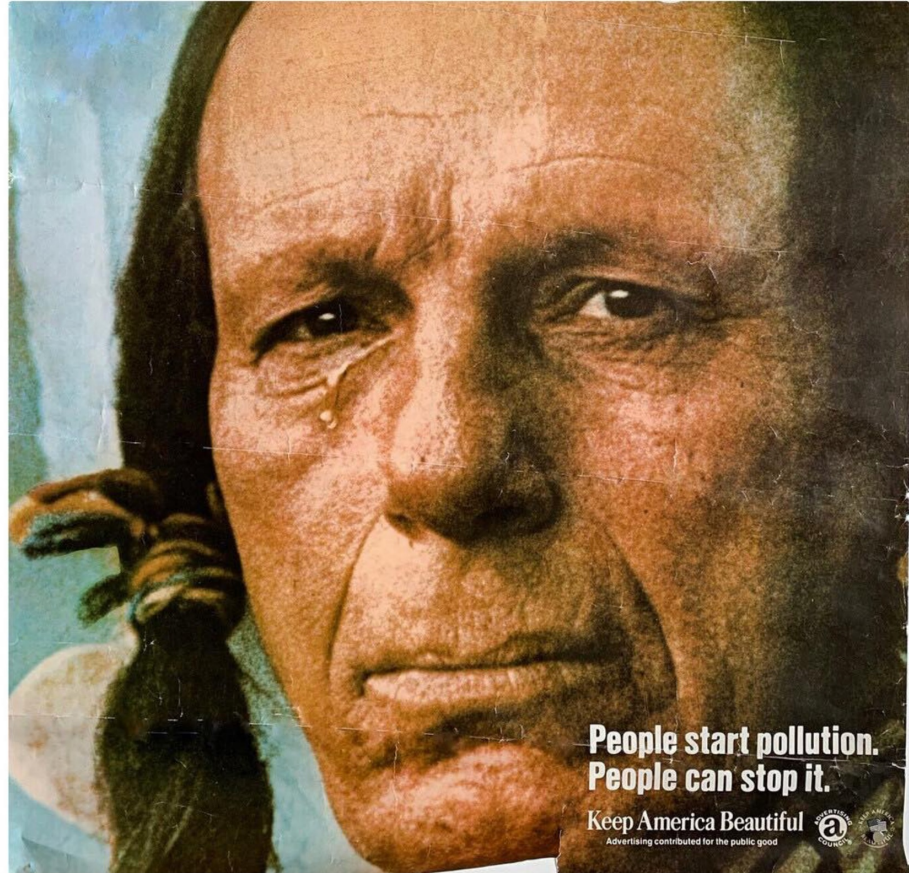
HIPPIES: The 1969 Woodstock Aquarian Music Festival is regarded as a seminal moment in rock music history and a nexus of the counterculture movement that led to sweeping social changes. Opening on August 15th, the ‘3-Days of Peace & Music’ attracted a crowd of 400,000. The event coined the term ‘the Woodstock Generation’ in our popular lexicon.

JANUARY 12, 1971 'ALL IN THE FAMILY' DEBUTS



THOSE WERE THE DAYS: Norman Lear's "All in the Family" first aired on January 12, 1971, and quickly became a landmark American TV sitcom. The show's portrayal of a working-class family and its frank discussions of controversial issues sparked heated debates across the country and paved the way for more socially conscious TV in the decades that followed.

APRIL 22, 1971 'KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL'



STOP POLLUTION: The 'Keep America Beautiful' campaign debuted on Earth Day, April 22, 1971, featuring the iconic "Crying Indian" ad with actor Iron Eyes Cody. It powerfully raised awareness about littering and pollution, embedding environmental consciousness into American culture.

JUNE 13, 1971 PENTAGON PAPERS REVEALED

The New York Times

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NEW YORK, SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 1971

The Second Edition was from New York City, 1971, 12c.
This copy mailed subject to the Geneva Convention.

LAT
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CITY TO DISCLOSE BUDGETARY TRIMS FOR DEPARTMENTS

Mayor's Aides Make Decision
on Final Figures Scheduled
to Be Announced Today

By MAURICE CARROLL
Mayor Lindsay has sur-
mised his supercabinet, the
heads of all major city depart-
ments, to Grace Mansion this
morning to tell them the cuts
that their departments face in
his revised budget.
"All of them made their
pitch to the Mayor within the
last 48 hours," a messenger
said yesterday. "Sunday they
get the word."

The \$3.13-billion budget origi-
nally made public by the
Mayor must be trimmed by a
few hundred million dollars to
reflect the revenue package he
extracted from Albany, which
expires for 1971 on June 30.

Vietnam Archive: Pentagon Study Traces 3 Decades of Growing U. S. Involvement

By NEIL SHEEHAN

A massive study of how the United States went to war in Indochina, conducted by the Pentagon three years ago, demonstrates that four administrations progressively developed a sense of commitment to a non-Communist Vietnam, a readiness to fight the North to protect the South, and an ultimate frustration with this effort—to a much greater extent than their public statements acknowledged at the time.

The 3,000-page analysis, to which 4,000 pages of official documents are appended, was commissioned by Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara and covers the American involvement in Southeast Asia from World War II to mid-1968—the start of the peace talks in Paris after President Lyndon B. Johnson had set a limit on further military commitments and revealed his intention to retire. Most of the study and many of the appended documents have been obtained by The New York Times and will be described and presented in a series of articles beginning today.

Three pages of documentary material from the Pentagon study begin on Page 35.

Though far from a complete history, even at 2.5 million words, the study forms a great archive of government decision-making on Indochina over three decades. The study led its 30 to 40 authors and researchers to many broad conclusions and specific findings, including the following:

¶That the Truman Administration's decision to give military aid to France in her colonial war against the Communist Vietminh "directly involved" the United States in Vietnam and "set" the course of American policy.

¶That the Eisenhower Administration's decision to rescue a fledgling South Vietnam from a Communist takeover and attempt to undermine the new Communist regime of North Vietnam gave the Administration a "direct role" in the ultimate breakdown of the Geneva settlement* for Indochina in 1954.

¶That the Kennedy Administration, though ultimately spared from major escalation decisions by the death of its leader, transformed a policy of "limited-risk gamble," which it inherited into a "broad commitment" that left President Johnson with a choice between more war and withdrawal.

¶That the Johnson Administration, though the President was reluctant and hesitant to take the final decisions, intensified the covert warfare against North Vietnam and began planning in the spring of 1964 to wage overt war, a full year before it publicly revealed the depth of its involvement and its fear of defeat.

¶That this campaign of growing clandestine military pressure through 1964 and the expanding program of bombing North Vietnam in 1965 were begun despite the judgment of the Government's intelligence community that the measures would not cause Hanoi to cease its support of the Vietcong insurgency in the South, and that the bombing was

Continued on Page 38, Col. 1



FREE PRESS: On June 13, 1971, The New York Times published the Pentagon Papers, revealing U.S. government deception in the Vietnam War. Leaked by Daniel Ellsberg, this disclosure fueled public distrust and anti-war sentiment, highlighting the critical role of a free press in ensuring government accountability and transparency.

JULY 12, 1971 COCA-COLA 'HILLTOP' TV AD



THE REAL THING: On July 12, 1971, The Coca-Cola Company aired the “Hilltop” commercial featuring the song “I’d Like to Buy the World a Coke”. Featuring hopeful young people singing on a hilltop, the ad became a cultural touchstone, promoting themes of unity, peace, and global harmony during a turbulent era.

MARCH 15, 1972 THE GODFATHER PREMIERES



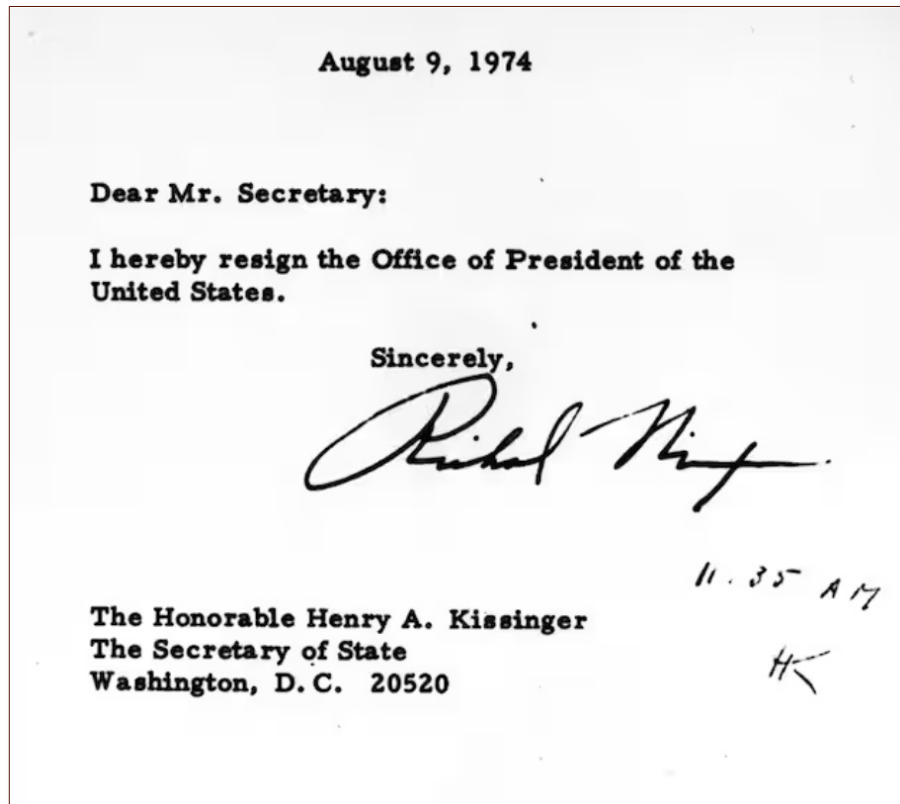
FAMILY BUSINESS: On March 15, 1972, *The Godfather* premiered, winning the Oscar for Best Picture and becoming one of the most influential films in American history. Chronicling the rise and struggles of the Corleone crime family, the film explored themes of power, loyalty, family, and the pursuit—and corruption—of the American Dream.

JANUARY 22, 1973 'ROE VS WADE' DECISION



ABORTION: The Supreme Court's 1973 Roe v. Wade decision legalized abortion nationwide, ruling that a constitutional right to privacy protected a woman's choice. The decision reshaped American politics and became a defining debate over personal liberty, morality, and Federal power that has continued since the Court returned the authority to the States in 2022.

AUGUST 9, 1974 NIXON RESIGNS PRESIDENCY



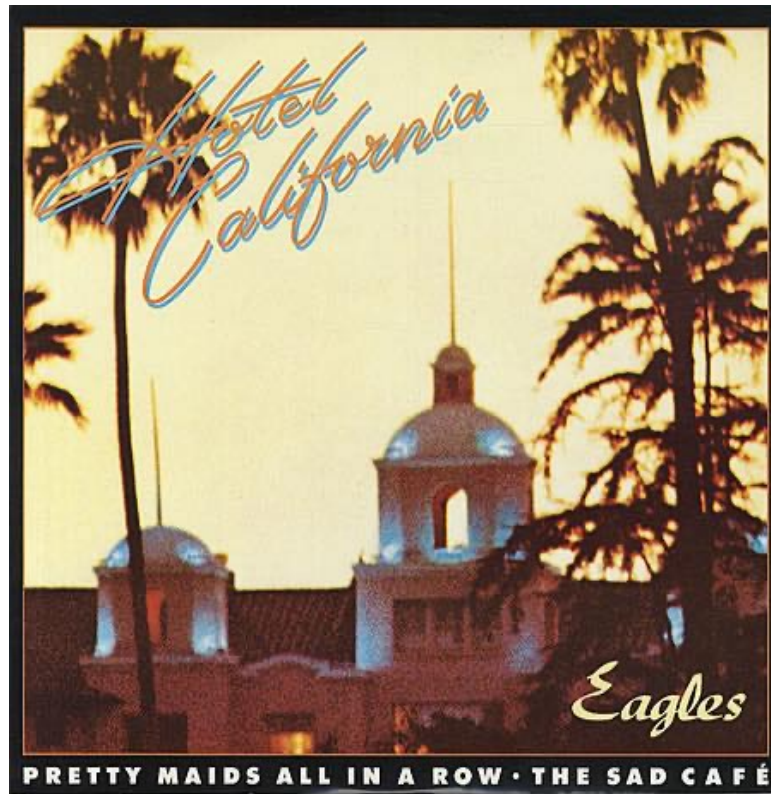
WATERGATE SCANDAL: On August 9, 1974, President Richard Nixon resigned from office following the Watergate scandal, becoming the first & only President to do so. The peaceful transfer of power demonstrated the strength of constitutional checks and balances, reinforcing American values of accountability, the rule of law, and democratic governance.

APRIL 30, 1975 WITHDRAWAL FROM VIETNAM



GOODNIGHT SAIGON: On April 30, 1975, North Vietnamese forces captured Saigon, ending America's involvement in the Vietnam War. The conflict's conclusion deepened public skepticism toward government, reshaped foreign policy caution, and influenced American culture through veterans' experiences, protest movements, and media reflection.

DECEMBER 8, 1976 HOTEL CALIFORNIA RELEASED



A LOVELY PLACE: The Eagles released *Hotel California* on December 8, 1976. Blending rock and poetic lyrics, the album captured the disillusionment of the American Dream. Its title track became an iconic anthem, earning a Grammy and critical acclaim. The album remains a defining work of 1970s rock and American cultural expression.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 9/11 TERRORIST ATTACKS



"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition
New York: Today, sunny, a few afternoon clouds. High 77. Tonight, slightly more humid. Low 61. Tomorrow, sun then clouds. High 81. Yesterday, high 81, low 63. Weather map, Page C18.

VOL. CL. . No. 51,874 Copyright © 2001 The New York Times NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2001 \$1 beyond the greater New York metropolitan area 75 CENTS

U.S. ATTACKED

HIJACKED JETS DESTROY TWIN TOWERS AND HIT PENTAGON IN DAY OF TERROR

A CREEPING HORROR
Buildings Burn and Fall as Onlookers Search for Elusive Safety

By N. R. KLEINFIELD

It kept getting worse. The horror arrived in episodic bursts of chilling disbelief, signaled first by trembling floors, sharp eruptions, cracked windows. There was the actual unfathomable realization of a gaping, flaming hole in first one of the tall towers, and then the same thing all over again in its twin. There was the merciless sight of bodies helplessly tumbling out, some of them in flames. Finally, the mighty towers themselves were reduced to nothing. Dense plumes of smoke raced through the downtown avenues, coursing between the buildings, shaped like tornadoes on their sides. Every sound was cause for alarm. A plane appeared overhead. Was another one coming? No, it was a fight-

President Vows to Exact Punishment for 'Evil'

By SERGE SCHMEMMANN

Hijackers rammed jetliners into each of New York's World Trade Center towers yesterday, toppling both in a hellish storm of ash, glass, smoke and leaping victims, while a third jetliner crashed into the Pentagon in Virginia. There was no official count, but President Bush said thousands had perished, and in the immediate aftermath the calamity was already being ranked the worst and most audacious terror attack in American history.

The attacks seemed carefully coordinated. The hijacked planes were all en route to California, and therefore gorged with fuel, and their departures were spaced within an hour and 49 minutes. The first, American Airlines Flight 11, a Boeing 767 out of Boston for Los Angeles, crashed into the north tower at 8:48 a.m. Eighteen minutes later, United Airlines Flight 175, also headed from Boston to Los Angeles, plowed into the south tower.

Then an American Airlines Boeing 757, Flight 77, left Washington's Dulles International Airport bound for Los Angeles, but instead hit the western part of the




TERROR STRIKE: On September 11, 2001, coordinated terrorist attacks struck New York and Washington DC, killing thousands. The tragedy reshaped America's national character by uniting citizens in resilience, sacrifice, and vigilance, redefining security, foreign policy, and a shared resolve to defend freedom amid grief and national identity today.

NOVEMBER 4, 2008 BARRACK OBAMA ELECTED



AFRICAN-AMERICAN PRESIDENT: On November 4, 2008, Americans elected Barack Obama as the nation's first African-American President. His victory affirmed democratic inclusion, expanding notions of possibility, and signaling progress toward equality, civic participation, and a more diverse understanding of leadership nationwide today.

JUNE 26, 2015 GAY MARRIAGE RULING



MARRIAGE EQUALITY: On June 26, 2015, the Supreme Court ruled in *Obergefell v. Hodges* that same-sex couples have a Constitutional right to marry – a position opposed by leaders of both major parties at the time. The landmark decision marked a major milestone in the expansion of individual rights and equal protection under the law.

CONNECTED AMERICA

Key Moments:

- 1977 Apple II Personal Computer Introduced
- 1977 'Star Wars: A New Hope' Premieres
- 1978 NAVISTAR Satellite Launched Beginning GPS System
- 1980 CNN Begins Broadcasting 24 Hour News
- 1981 Space Shuttle *Columbia* First Launched
- 1981 MTV Launches Music Video Revolution
- 1982 Michael Jackson: 'Thriller' Album Released
- 1984 Apple Macintosh Introduced
- 1991 Launch of America Online
- 1995 First Book Sold On Amazon.com
- 1998 Google Search Engine Launched
- 2002 WiFi Available In Starbucks Cafes
- 2004 Facebook Launched At Harvard
- 2007 Steve Jobs introduces Apple iPhone
- 2020 COVID-19 Pandemic Lockdowns
- 2022 ChatGPT Launch



APRIL 16, 1977 APPLE II PERSONAL COMPUTER



A is for Apple.

It's the first thing you should know about personal computers.

Discover the special thrill of personal computing—with Apple! It's a home computer, a business computer, a classroom computer, your computer. No wonder tens of thousands have already chosen Apple. Join the excitement in your local computer store. Call for the one nearest you. 800-538-9696. In California call 800-662-9238.

apple computer
10260 Baneley Drive
Cupertino, CA 95014

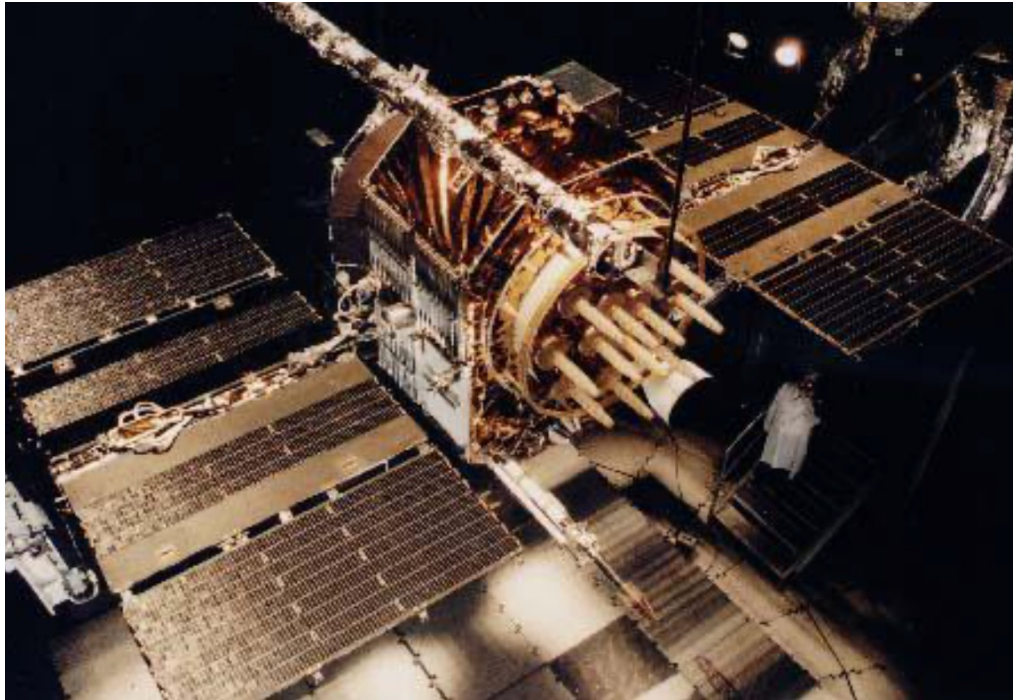
THINK DIFFERENT: Introduced on April 16, 1977, the Apple II personal computer, created by Apple Inc. founders Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak, brought computing into homes, schools, and small businesses. Its accessibility fueled the personal computer revolution, encouraging innovation, entrepreneurship, and Americans' growing reliance on digital technology.

MAY 25, 1977 PREMIERE OF STAR WARS



THE FORCE: On May 25, 1977, Star Wars premiered in just 32 American theaters and quickly became a phenomenon. Inspired by Joseph Campbell's *A Hero's Journey*, George Lucas created a timeless adventure that revolutionized special effects, launched a blockbuster franchise, dominated the Summer box office, and captivated audiences with a galaxy far, far away.

FEBRUARY 22, 1978 SATELLITE GPS LAUNCHED



SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY: The NAVSTAR ONE satellite launched on February 22, 1978, beginning the Global Positioning System. It provided precise navigation and timing, revolutionizing military operations, transportation, commerce, science, and everyday life, strengthening American technological leadership and economic productivity worldwide for decades ahead.

JUNE 1, 1980 CNN FIRST BROADCAST



24-HOUR NEWS: On June 1, 1980, CNN launched as the world's first 24-hour television news network. Founded by Ted Turner, it transformed how Americans received information, providing continuous coverage of events and reinforcing the importance of a free press, informed citizenship, and public engagement in democracy.

APRIL 12, 1981 SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA



AMERICA'S FLAGSHIP: The Space Shuttle Columbia first launched on April 12, 1981, starting NASA's reusable spacecraft era. The mission advanced technology, strengthened American leadership in space exploration, and inspired public confidence in scientific innovation during the late Cold War. It would sadly explode – killing 7 astronauts - on February 1, 2003 after 28 orbital missions.

AUGUST 1, 1981 MTV GOES ON THE AIR



I WANT MY MTV: Launched on August 1, 1981, MTV Music Television revolutionized American entertainment by blending music, fashion, and youth culture through nonstop music videos. It transformed how artists promoted songs, elevated visual storytelling, and reshaped television programming, advertising, and pop culture throughout the late twentieth century.

NOVEMBER 30, 1982 MICHAEL JACKSON'S THRILLER



POP MASTERPEICE: On November 30, 1982, Michael Jackson released *Thriller*. Featuring hits such as “Billie Jean,” “Beat It,” and “Thriller,” it became the best-selling album in history, with estimated worldwide sales exceeding 70 million copies, and helped redefine the music video era through the rise of MTV.

JANUARY 22, 1984 APPLE MACINTOSH DEBUTS



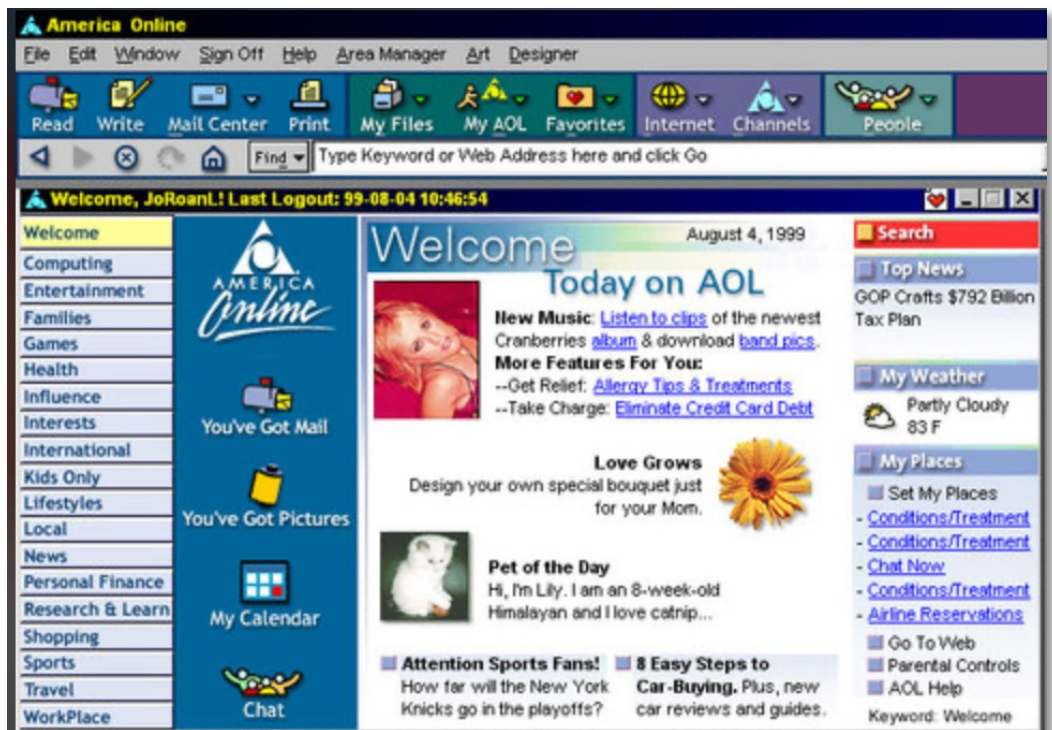
HELLO: On January 22, 1984, Apple's breakthrough "1984" Super Bowl commercial introduced the Macintosh to a national audience. Two days later, the home computer launched with an easy-to-use graphical user interface and mouse, helping popularize personal computing and ushering in a new era of technology innovation.

JUNE 12, 1991 CHICAGO BULLS' FIRST TITLE



AIR JORDAN: On June 12, 1991, Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls won their first of six NBA championships by defeating Magic Johnson and the Los Angeles Lakers in five games. The victory launched a basketball dynasty and Jordan exemplified American values of excellence, teamwork, and the pursuit of greatness through dedication, perseverance, and hard work.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1991 AMERICA ONLINE LAUNCHES



YOU'VE GOT MAIL: On September 7, 1991, America Online officially launched its AOL service for PC users, helping bring the internet into millions of American homes. Through email, chat rooms, and easy online access, AOL transformed communication and reinforced national values of innovation, connectivity, and the free exchange of information.

APRIL 3, 1995 AMAZON SELLS FIRST BOOK



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SPOTLIGHT! -- AUGUST 16TH

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EYES & EDITORS, A PERSONAL NOTIFICATION SERVICE

Like to know when that book you want comes out in paperback or when your favorite author releases a new title? Eyes, our tireless, automated search agent, will send you mail. Meanwhile, our human editors are busy previewing galleys and reading advance reviews. They can let you know when especially wonderful works are published in particular genres or subject areas. Come in, [meet Eyes](#), and have it all explained.

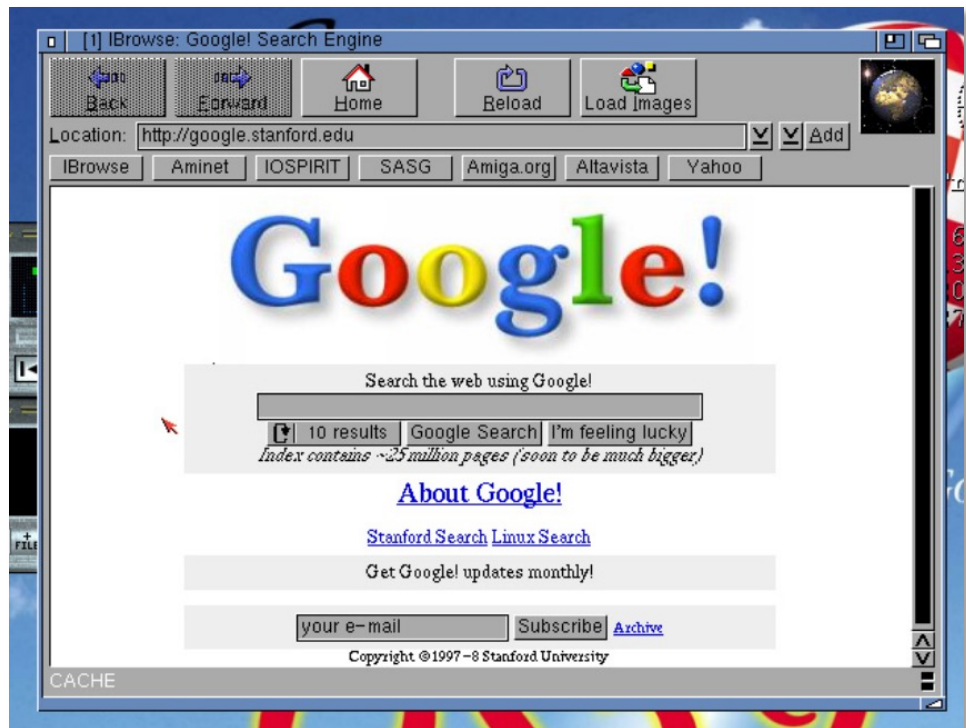
YOUR ACCOUNT

Check the status of your orders or change the email address and password you have on file with us. Please note that you **do not** need an account to use the store. The first time you place an order, you will be given the opportunity to create an account.



EVERYTHING STORE: On April 3, 1995, Amazon sold its first book online, marking an early milestone in the growth of electronic commerce. What began as an internet bookstore evolved into one of the world's largest retailers, transforming shopping habits and highlighting American values of innovation, entrepreneurship, and technological progress.

SEPTEMBER 4, 1998 GOOGLE SEARCH LAUNCHED



GOOGLE IT: On September 4, 1998, Google was founded by Larry Page and Sergey Brin, launching a search engine that organized the internet's information. Google transformed communication, research, business, and daily life, accelerating the digital age and reshaping how Americans access knowledge and connect. After 25 years, Google handled 3 trillion searches per year.

AUGUST 20, 2002 WI-FI AT STARBUCKS



WI-FI CAFÉ: On August 20, 2002, Starbucks launched Wi-Fi service in more than 1,200 U.S. coffeehouses. The move helped popularize the "laptop café," turning coffee shops into mobile offices and gathering places while bringing wireless internet into everyday American life.

FEBRUARY 4, 2004 FACEBOOK GOES ONLINE



SOCIAL MEDIA: On February 4, 2004, Facebook launched as “TheFacebook,” a social networking site created by Mark Zuckerberg and fellow students at Harvard University. Originally limited to college campuses, it grew into the world's largest social media platform, transforming how billions of people connect, communicate, and share information.

JANUARY 9, 2007 APPLE IPHONE INTRODUCED



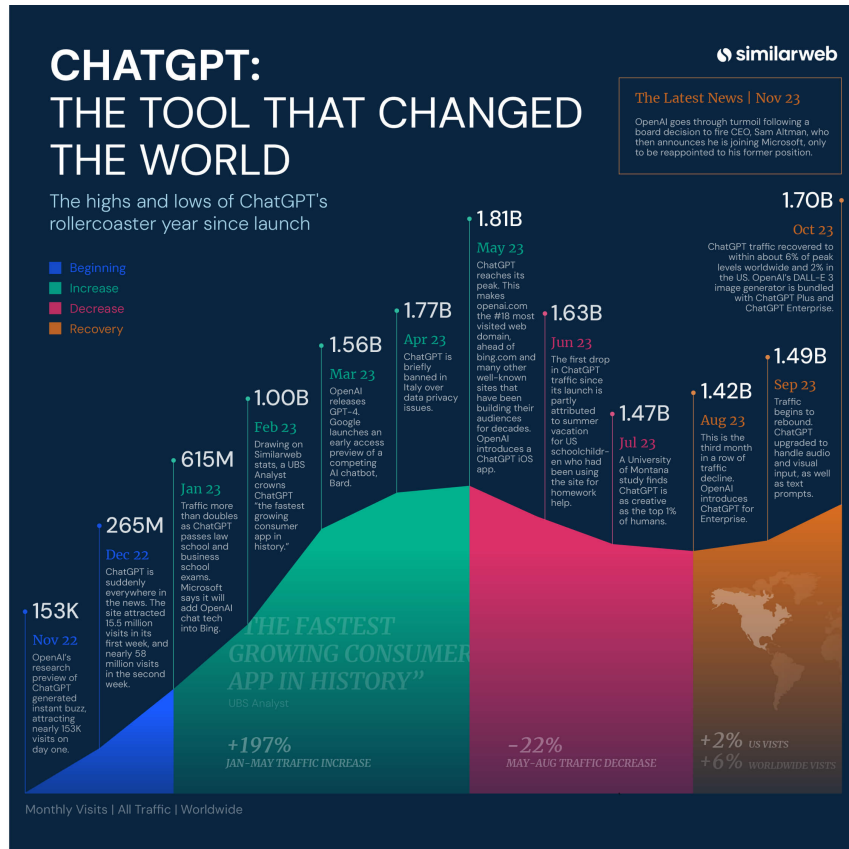
ONE MORE THING: On January 9, 2007, Steve Jobs and Apple introduced the first iPhone at their MacWorld conference. Combining a phone, internet device, camera, and touchscreen computer, it transformed communication, launched the modern smartphone era, and reshaped daily life for billions around the world.

MARCH 16, 2020 COVID PANDEMIC LOCKDOWNS



ABUNDANCE OF CAUTION: On March 16, 2020, the White House announced “15 Days to Slow the Spread,” urging Americans to limit gatherings and stay home as COVID-19 spread across the nation. What began as a short-term effort evolved into years of lockdowns, restrictions, and disruptions that reshaped daily life, work, and education.

NOVEMBER 30, 2022 AI GOES MAINSTREAM



LARGE LANGUAGE MODEL: On November 30, 2022, OpenAI launched ChatGPT, bringing powerful conversational artificial intelligence to the public. Millions of users signed up within days, making it one of the fastest-growing consumer technologies in history and accelerating a global wave of AI innovation, application, investment, and debate.