

**A GENERAL CHRONOLOGY  
OF THE  
PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY  
ITS PREDECESSORS AND SUCCESSORS  
AND  
ITS HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

**By Christopher T. Baer**

**1790-1799**

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**All data subject to correction and change**

- Jan. 2, 1790      Gen. Arthur St. Clair, Governor of Northwest Territory, arrives at Fort Washington; establishes Hamilton County in present-day Ohio with its seat at Losantiville; it includes present Indiana and Illinois. (Derleth, Long)
- Jan. 4, 1790      Robert Galbraith reports that he has completed the state road (the “Frankstown Road”) from present Hollidaysburg to the Conemaugh River at the mouth of Loyalhanna Creek; a dispute over the payment for and condition of the road follows. (Africa, Stewart)
- Jan. 4, 1790      Gen. St. Clair, Governor of Northwest Territory, renames Losantiville (Ohio) Cincinnati in honor of the Society of the Cincinnati, an association of Revolutionary War officers.
- Jan. 8, 1790      In his first annual message to Congress, Pres. Washington calls for a U.S. patent law. (Shagena)
- Jan. 11, 1790      Tench Coxe signs a partnership agreement with George Parkinson, an English immigrant who claims to have the secrets of Arkwright’s machines, and who promises to construct and deliver to Coxe a model of an experimental mill in return for a patent and Coxe paying to bring Parkinson’s family from Liverpool. (Cooke)
- Jan. 14, 1790      Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton presents his first report on the public credit, calling for the U.S. to assume all state foreign and war debts; assumption is popular in New England, which had large state war debts, and opposed in South, which had made arrangements to pay their debts or whose debts had already been sold to northern speculators; by this time, wealthy investors have purchased most of the state debt certificates at much less than par during the 1780s; they now begin rising towards par, creating windfall profits. (EAH, Shankman, Burrows/Wallace)

- Jan. 15, 1790 House of Representatives directs Secretary of the Treasury Hamilton to prepare a report on encouraging domestic manufactures, with a particular aim of making the U.S. independent of foreign powers for military supplies. (JSDavis)
- Jan.? 1790 Theophile Cazenove (1740-1811) of Amsterdam arrives in the U.S. as representative of the Dutch banking houses of Van Staphorsts & Hubbard, Pieter Standnitski & Son, Pieter & Christian Van Eeghen, and Ten Cate & Vollenhoven. (JSDavis, Chernow)
- 1790 Theophile Cazenove, U.S. representative of Dutch bankers, invests their funds in the Bank of the United States, the Potomac Company, other canals, and the Society for the Encouragement of Useful Manufactures. (Chazenof, Arnebeck)
- Jan. 30, 1790 Commissioners Samuel Boyd, Bartram Galbraith and Thomas Hulings, commissioners for the Susquehanna and Juniata Rivers, report that the Conowago Falls, 14 miles above Wrights Ferry, is the major obstruction to the navigation of the Susquehanna River; recommend building a canal as a simple channel without locks. (Ellis/Evans, Gibson)
- Feb. 8, 1790 John Stevens petitions Congress for patent protection. (DuBois)
- Feb. 9, 1790 In annual message, Pa. Pres. Thomas Mifflin reports to Legislature on the first round of river surveys. (Scharf)
- Feb. 25, 1790 James Rumsey holds the eighth trial of his new steamboat *Columbian Maid* in England; it is unsuccessful. (Shagena)
- Feb. 25, 1790 North Carolina cedes its territory west of the Great Smoky Mountains to the U.S.; it becomes the State of Tennessee in 1796. (Thorpe)
- Mar. 5, 1790 Unable to raise further purchase money after the market price of Massachusetts securities rises 37 cents to \$1.25 with Federal assumption of the state debts, Phelps and Gorham agree to surrender the western two-thirds of their purchase to the State of Massachusetts in lieu of making the last two installment payments. (Flick, Chernow)
- Mar. 11, 1790 Gabriel P. Van Horne and Kerlin & Co., advertise a Philadelphia-Baltimore mail stage running three times a week. (Ashmead)
- Mar. 16, 1790 New York Manufacturing Society, organized in 1789, receives a charter of incorporation in N.Y. with an increased capital of £60,000; members include James Nicholson, James Renwick, William Maxwell, Nicholas Cruger and Matthew Clarkson. (PL, JSDavis)

- Mar. 21, 1790 David Bates Douglass (1790-1849), prominent military and civil engineer, born at Pompton, N.J. (Stuart)
- Mar. 24, 1790 James Rumsey receives a second British patent for propelling vessels with air, water or steam. (Patnt)
- Mar. 25, 1790 Overnight fire destroys the factory and materials of the Pennsylvania Society for the Encouragement of Manufactures and Useful Arts, and it ceases operations; it was probably set by hand-spinners who were thrown out of work and had the prices of their goods lowered as a result of machine spinning; Philadelphia remains a center of fine hand-work rather than factory textile production, fed by a regular flow of impoverished spinners and weavers from England and Ireland. (JSDavis, Shelton)
- Spring 1790 David Meade sends the first raft of lumber down French Creek to the Allegheny River from his sawmill at Meadville. (McKnight)
- Apr. 1, 1790 Pennsylvania repeals the 1787 Confirming Act recognizing Connecticut titles of settlers who were in residence before the Decree of Trenton; persons claiming Pennsylvania titles must file new suits. (Harvey)
- Apr. 5, 1790 Pennsylvania act appropriates £40 12s 8d to Robert Thorn for clearing Wells Falls (near New Hope) and Howells Falls on the Delaware River. (BucksCoHS:6 - verify PL)
- Apr. 10, 1790 Pres. Washington signs first U.S. Patent Act; grants patents for 14 years upon review for priority of invention; however, the Patent Office, nominally headed by the Secretary of State, lacks the expert staff to properly evaluate all inventions. (Turnbull, Maxey)
- Apr. 12, 1790 Bill include U.S. assumption of the states' debts in the Funding Bill is defeated in the House 31-29 by a coalition of Southern and dissident Middle Atlantic Congressmen led by James Madison. (Bowling)
- Apr. 15, 1790 A move in the Pennsylvania Supreme Executive Council to remove John Nicholson as Comptroller-General for opposing any alteration of the democratic 1776 Constitution fails. (Arbuckle)
- Apr. 1790 William Duer resigns as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. (JSDavis)
- Apr. 16, 1790 Pa. Pres. Mifflin issues commission to Timothy Matlack (1736-1829), Samuel Maclay (1741-1811) and John Adlum (1759-1836) to survey the Swatara, West Branch, Allegheny, French Creek with a portage to Erie; the Kiskiminetas/Conemaugh to Stony Creek with a portage and down the Juniata to Water Street, as per legislative resolution of Mar. 31, 1790.

(PaArch)

- Apr. 16, 1790 John Fitch holds first successful test of new steamboat, the *Experiment*, on the Delaware; had replaced side bank of oars with stern paddles and reinvented the separate condenser; goes about 7MPH or about the same as a stagecoach. (Fitch, Flexner)
- Apr. 17, 1790 Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) dies in Philadelphia at age 84; 20,000 mourners watch his funeral procession from his home on Market Street to Christ Church. (DAB, Isaacson)
- Apr. 18, 1790 Gen. Josiah Harmar leads a force of 310 Kentucky volunteers to the Ohio River to stop Indian attacks on settlers' flatboats descending the river. (Bartlow)
- Apr. 24, 1790 John Fitch and his steamboat company demonstrate their vessel for David Rittenhouse, Robert Patterson (1743-1824), et al. on cruise of four miles. (Fitch)
- Apr. 26, 1790 Pres. Thoms Mifflin issues commission to Reading Howell (1743-1827), Frederick Antes (1764-1801) and William Dean to survey the upper Delaware with a portage to Great Bend, the North Branch, the upper Lehigh with a portage to Wyoming, and the upper Schuylkill and Little Schuylkill with a portage to the Lehigh or Susquehanna. (PaArch)
- Apr. 27, 1790 Commissioner Samuel Maclay leaves Harrisburg, for Middletown, then ascending Swatara Creek and Quitapahilla Creek to Old's Iron Works, then by land to Lebanon; he notes that the Quitapahilla can be made navigable for boats of 5 tons; Maclay's journal of the expedition conveys the difficulties of wilderness surveys. (Maclay)
- Apr. 27, 1790 St. Clair County created in the Northwest Territory in the area of modern Illinois with three judicial districts centered at Cahokia, Kaskaskia and Prairie du Rocher; it provides a U.S. government for the old French fur trading communities along the Mississippi River. (Long)
- Apr. 30, 1790 Commissioner Samuel Maclay arrives in Lebanon, where he is kept waiting for over a week for fellow commissioners Matlack and Adlum to arrive. (Maclay)
- Spring 1790 Growing demand for foodstuffs in Europe because of the French Revolution causes a revival of trade in Baltimore. (Bryan)
- May 3, 1790 First French settlers for the Scioto Company arrive in Alexandria, Va.; they range from aristocrats who hope to buy large properties to the lowest classes; the emigration is very poorly managed and most of the emigrants

have no idea of the rigors of pioneer life; the colony, near modern Gallipolis, Ohio, fails by 1792. (JSDavis)

- May 9, 1790 John Fitch runs his new steamboat to Burlington in 3:15 or up to 8 MPH. (Flexner)
- May 10, 1790 Thirteen men take two flatboats on flood waters down Chartiers Creek from Canon's Mills (Canonsburg) to the Ohio River. (Crumrine)
- May 10, 1790 Tench Coxe (1755-1824), who is friendly to Jefferson and Madison but is also an advocate of developing manufactures and commerce, is named Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. (JSDavis)
- May 17, 1790 John Adlum, Timothy Matlack and Samuel Maclay arrive at a point opposite Sunbury, Pa., on their mission to explore the Susquehanna to the headwaters of the Allegheny and Lake Erie. (Maclay)
- May 18, 1790 Charles Lombaert (1790-1875), future official of the Philadelphia & Trenton Railroad and father of PRR VP Herman J. Lombaert, born at Philadelphia; son of immigrant merchant Herman Joseph Lombaert (1756-1793). (StoryoftheArndts)
- May 26, 1790 Congress passes an act for the government of the territory south of the Ohio River; later the state of Kentucky. (Thorpe)
- May 29, 1790 Commissioners Samuel Maclay, Timothy Matlack and John Adlum reach the mouth of Sinnemahoning Creek (now Keating) on the West Branch. (Maclay)
- May 29, 1790 Rhode Island is the last state to ratify the Constitution and rejoin the Union. (avalonproject)
- May 31, 1790 Trustees of the Ferries over the Passaic & Hackensack Rivers petition the N.J. Legislature for the right to build bridges. (JSDavis)
- June 3, 1790 The Maclay survey party switches to canoes about 7 miles up the Sinnemahoning because of low water. (Maclay)
- June 8, 1790 The Maclay survey party reaches the Second Fork (Driftwood). (Maclay)
- June 9, 1790 Phelps and Gorham reconvey two-thirds of their Genesee land purchase, amounting to 4 million acres, to Massachusetts, retaining 2 million acres. (Chernow)
- June 12, 1790 Robert Morris meets Alexander Hamilton at the Battery in New York; they agree that if Morris can get the votes to pass Federal assumption of state

debts, Hamilton will use his influence to place the capital at Germantown or the Falls of the Delaware and designate Philadelphia as the interim capital; however, Hamilton is unable to persuade New York and New England to place both temporary and permanent capitals in Pennsylvania, and Congress remains deadlocked on both issues. (Bowling)

- June 1790 Six people descend the Shenandoah River from near Staunton, Va., to assess the possibility of improving the navigation. (Kapsch)
- June 14, 1790 John Fitch advertises his steamboat will run three times a week between Arch Street Ferry and Burlington, Bordentown and Trenton every other day; makes at least 21 trips and also makes cruises to Chester and Grays Ferry; operates at a loss because machinery takes up too much space and stagecoaches have greater speed and flexibility; is laid up in the fall and never used again. (Lane, Flexner, Scharf)
- June 15, 1790 Thomas Jefferson proposes to Robert Morris that the South approve locating the capital in Philadelphia for 15 years, followed by a permanent location on the Potomac. (Bowling)
- June 1790 At a parlay at Newtown, N.Y., with Timothy Pickering, Red Jacket and the Seneca chief Cornplanter denounce the Phelps and Gorham grant. (Peirce)
- June 16, 1790 Pres. Thomas Mifflin and the Pa. Executive Council take a trip in Fitch's steamboat. (Flexner)
- June 17, 1790 Commissioners Samuel Maclay, Timothy Matlack and John Adlum reach the limits of navigation on Bennett's Branch and begin crossing Boone Mountain on foot to Little Toby Creek in present Jefferson County. (Maclay)
- June 20, 1790 New England Congressmen caucus in a last-ditch attempt to keep the capital from going to the Potomac; over a private dinner, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and Alexander Hamilton agree to a bargain by which Madison is to gain enough Southern votes to pass a modified assumption bill, and Hamilton is to get the New Englanders to hold back and allow the South-Pennsylvania compromise for locating the temporary capital at Philadelphia for 10 years and the permanent capital on the Potomac to go through; only Jefferson makes any future mention of any such deal, but some kind of understanding is reached and removing the capital from the financial vortex of New York City is part of it. (Bowling, Burrows/Wallace)
- June 20, 1790 Knox County created in the Northwest Territory with a county seat at Vincennes; includes the western half of the Lower Peninsula and all of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, all of Indiana, plus parts of Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin. (Long)

- June 26, 1790 After exploring the crossing of Boone Mountain, Commissioners Samuel Maclay, Timothy Matlack and John Adlum return to the Sinnemahoning, then travel up the Driftwood Branch to the traditional portage to the headwaters of the Allegheny River. (Maclay)
- July 1, 1790 Senate passes the Residence Bill, 14-12, authorizing Pres. Washington to locate the U.S. capital in a ten-mile square federal district on the Potomac River between the Anacostia River and Conococheague Creek; Philadelphia, the northern choice, is to be the capital for 10 years. (Bowling)
- July 1, 1790 The Maclay survey party camps at Port Allegheny, then continues descending the Allegheny River. (Maclay)
- July 1790 Price of U.S. public securities rises in anticipation of passage of Hamilton's refunding bill; between October 1789 and December 1791 the securities triple in value. (JSDavis)
- July 9, 1790 U.S. House passes the Residence Bill, 32-29. (Bowling)
- July 9, 1790 John Adlum, Timothy Matlack and Samuel Maclay arrive at the mouth of Conewango Creek (Warren), then move up it towards Lake Chautauqua. (Maclay)
- July 12, 1790 Samuel Maclay and Timothy Matlack reach Lake Chautauqua. (Maclay)
- July 12, 1790 French Constituent Assembly passes the Civil Constitution of the Clergy, placing the Catholic clerical organization under secular state control and disestablishing the Catholic Church. (EncycBrit, Blanning)
- July 14, 1790 Timothy Matlack and Samuel Maclay find the old French wagon road leading from Lake Chautauqua to Lake Erie and reach Lake Erie about 25 miles east of Presque Isle. (Maclay)
- July 16, 1790 Timothy Matlack and Samuel Maclay leave Lake Erie, crossing to Conewango Creek. (Maclay)
- July 16, 1790 Pres. Washington signs the Federal Residency Act, authorizing the location of a new 10-mile square Federal capital district on the Potomac River somewhere between the Anacostia and Conococheague Creek. (Scharf, Bowling, Arbuckle)
- July 18, 1790 John Adlum, Timothy Matlack and Samuel Maclay return to the mouth of Conewango Creek, then proceed down the Allegheny River to Fort Franklin. (Maclay)

- July 20, 1790 Commissioners Samuel Maclay, Timothy Matlack and John Adlum arrive at Fort Franklin. (Maclay)
- July 23, 1790 Commissioners Samuel Maclay, Timothy Matlack and John Adlum arrive at Mead's, having ascended French Creek. (Maclay)
- July 24, 1790 U.S. House, for the first time, 32-29, in favor of federal assumption of the state war debts. (Bowling)
- July 30, 1790 First U.S. patent, for an improvement in making potash, granted to Samuel Hopkins (1743-1818), a Quaker of Philadelphia, frequently confused with another Samuel Hopkins of Pittsford, Vt. (Maxey)
- July 30, 1790 Town of Lynchburg, Va., platted. (Reps)
- Aug. 1, 1790 First census reveals New York City has surpassed Philadelphia in population; New York 33,131; Philadelphia 28,522; however, Philadelphia's urbanized area has long since spread beyond the tiny city limits between Vine and South Streets, while New York's political boundary includes all of Manhattan; based on total urban area, Philadelphia is still ahead with 42,444; New York and Baltimore, however, are growing at a more rapid rate, and all three cities are growing faster than the population as a whole. (Gilchrist)
- Aug. 1, 1790 Samuel Maclay, Timothy Matlack and John Adlum return to Fort Franklin. (Maclay)
- Aug. 3, 1790 Timothy Matlack, Samuel Maclay and John Adlum leave Fort Franklin. (Maclay)
- Aug. 4, 1790 Congress passes the Funding Act assuming and funding state war debts, after Hamilton, Madison and Jefferson arrange to support assumption in return for locating the national capital in the South; the state and continental debts are to be funded into three new issues, 6 percents, 3 percents issued for unpaid interest, and deferred 3 percents on which interest will not be paid until 1800; the value of \$60 million in Treasury and state securities doubles, a windfall to canny investors like William Bingham but loss and ruin for speculators who have contracted to buy public lands with depreciated certificates and to veterans who have been forced by necessity to sell their certificates early and for a fraction of their face value. (EAH, JSDavis, Alberts)
- Aug. 6, 1790 Commissioners Timothy Matlack and John Adlum begin an exploration of Toby Creek (Clarion River), while Samuel Maclay proceeds down the Allegheny River to the mouth of the Kiskiminetas; Maclay secures the



temporary services of John Rea and Frederick Baum, who are traveling down the river to Pittsburgh. (Maclay)

- Aug. 8, 1790 Robert Morris writes to his former assistant Gouverneur Morris, now in Europe, to be his agent for the sale of Genesee lands to immigrants in France and the Low Countries; Gouverneur Morris is also to help Robert Morris borrow the down purchase money in France; Robert Morris is counting on these speculations to erase his financial reverses of the late 1780s. (Chernow)
- Aug. 10, 1790 Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, having become financially embarrassed, agree to sell all their remaining land in between Seneca Lake and the Genesee River in western New York State (1.2 million acres) to Robert Morris of Philadelphia; Morris will then resell the land to an English syndicate headed by Sir William Pulteney and represented by Charles Williamson. (Chernow, hopefarm.com, Chazenof, Flick)
- Aug. 12, 1790 Samuel Maclay arrives at the mouth of the Kiskiminetas, where Rea and Baum take their leave. (Maclay)
- Aug. 12, 1790 Act of Congress authorizes Secretary of the Treasury Hamilton to purchase U.S. stocks for the sinking fund. (JSDavis)
- Aug. 12, 1790 Congress holds its last meeting in New York City and will reconvene in Philadelphia; New York recovers from the loss of the capital, as the money from the refunding starts rolling in; the U.S. will develop in a manner different from other Western nations, with its economic and cultural capital separate from its political capital; (in a commercial republic, culture gravitates to money instead of the patronage of an aristocratic court); the permanent capital on the Potomac will have the ambience of a Southern court house town, with only a resident skeleton staff except when the main houses of government are in session, a situation that will change only under the demands of war and finally the emergence of a welfare-warfare state after 1945. (Trager, Burrows/Wallace)
- Aug. 19, 1790 Timothy Matlack and John Adlum having rejoined Samuel Maclay, the three commissioners begin the ascent of the Kiskiminetas. (Maclay)
- Aug. 24, 1790 The Maclay survey party reaches the head of navigation on the Kiskiminetas River. (Maclay)
- Aug. 25, 1790 The Maclay survey party takes to pack horses through the Narrows of Chestnut Ridge. (Maclay)
- Aug. 26, 1790 The Maclay survey party arrives at Stony Creek, the future site of Johnstown, which is then a complete wilderness. (Maclay)

- Aug. 27, 1790 Future Indiana railroad official Nathan Billings Palmer (1790-1875) born at Stonington, Conn.; he moves from New York State to Pennsylvania in 1812. (Sulgrove)
- Aug. 30, 1790 Pres. George Washington departs New York for Mount Vernon, never to return. (Stokes)
- Sep. 1, 1790 The Maclay survey party reaches the Frankstown Road on Allegheny Mountain and arrives at John Blair's, 4 miles west of Hollidaysburg. (Maclay)
- Sep. 2, 1790 Convention dominated by conservatives, who also support the new U.S. Constitution, adopt a new constitution for Pennsylvania with a strong governor with large powers of appointment and a bicameral legislature replacing the unicameral legislature and plural executive; the governor now enjoys extensive patronage and veto power. (Brunhouse, Thorpe)
- Sep. 2, 1790 The Maclay survey party views Poplar Run Gap as the potential site of a future road across the Allegheny Mountain. (Maclay)
- Sep. 8, 1790 Canvass White (1790-1834), engineer of Erie, Union, Lehigh and Delaware & Raritan Canals, born at Whitestown, N.Y.; son of Hugh White and Tryphena Lawrence White. (Stuart, WwasW)
- Sep. 9, 1790 The Maclay survey party leaves Frankstown in canoes. (Maclay)
- Sep. 17, 1790 Samuel Maclay returns home to Harrisburg, having traveled overland from the Kishacoquillas Valley. (Maclay)
- Sep. 19, 1790 Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton makes his first purchase of U.S. securities for the sinking fund; he times his purchases to support the market; the Treasury's stabilizing of the public debt instruments leads to the creation of a permanent securities market, including the loaning of "stocks" (actually government bonds), the purchasing of stocks on credit, and auction sales of securities. (JSDavis)
- Sep. 21, 1790 Robert Morris approaches William Temple Franklin (1760-1823), twice-illegitimate grandson of Benjamin Franklin and son of William Franklin, to go to Europe as the agent for the sale of his Genesee lands in England and France. (Chernow)
- Sep. 28, 1790 Executive Council approves the report of survey by Alexander McLean of the road from Bedford to Pittsburgh. (Blackburn)
- Sep. 30, 1790 Army under Gen. Josiah Harmar (1753-1813) leaves Fort Washington

(Cincinnati) to attack the Miami town of Kekionga on the site of present-day Fort Wayne; at the same time, a second force under Maj. John F. Hamtramck leaves Fort Knox (Vincennes) in a diversionary attack up the Vermillion River; most of Harmar's forces are untrained Kentuckians. (Sipe, Derleth, PMH&B 93)

- Oct. 7, 1790 Abiel Abbott (1790-1838), future Superintendent of the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company, born at ?? (Harvey)
- Oct. 10, 1790 Maj. John F. Hamtramck (1756-1803) destroys the villages on the Vermillion River without opposition but lacks sufficient rations to march on to Ouiatenon, where the Indians have massed to give battle, and he returns to Vincennes. (Derleth)
- Oct. 12, 1790 Thomas Mifflin is elected the first Gov. of Pennsylvania under the new Constitution with a landslide victory over Arthur St. Clair. (Arbuckle)
- Oct. 14, 1790 Gen. Josiah Harmar burns deserted villages on the Maumee, including the main settlement of Kekionga, and destroys 20,000 bushels of corn, but Miami raiding parties capture his pack train. (Derleth, PMH&B 93)
- Oct. 16, 1790 Undisciplined militia from Harmar's army break in panic at the first onset of skirmishes with Miami parties near the St. Joseph River. (Derleth)
- Oct. 18, 1790 Miamis under Chief Little Turtle (1747?-1812) defeat a portion of Harmar's army under Col. John Hardin, who had returned for a second attack, near Kekionga, the site of present-day Fort Wayne. (Derleth)
- Oct. 19, 1790 About 400 French emigrants settle at Gallipolis in present Ohio; only 93 remain by 1795. (Andrews)
- Oct. 23, 1790 Gen. Josiah Harmar, his army totally demoralized by the division between disciplined regulars and panicky militia, begins a retreat to Cincinnati; Native American resistance to U.S. intrusion into Ohio and Indiana intensifies, encouraged by the British at Detroit, a fort they have continued to hold in defiance of the Treaty of Paris. (Derleth, PMH&B 93)
- Nov. 1, 1790 Philadelphia merchants William Turnbull (1751-1822) and Peter Marmie (1759-1823) and Col. John Holker blow in a furnace and forge of the Alliance Iron Works on Jacobs Creek above its junction with the Youghiogeny River in Fayette County, Pa.; the first ironworks in western Pennsylvania; Marmie manages the works, but the furnace is unprofitable and is abandoned in 1802. (Swank, Albert, [explorepahistory.com](http://explorepahistory.com))
- Nov. 1, 1790 Robert Morris grants William Temple Franklin a full power of attorney to sell all or part of his Genesee lands. (Chernow)

- Nov. 3, 1790 Gen. Josiah Harmar arrives at Cincinnati. (Derleth)
- Nov. 18, 1790 Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham, having sold about 50 townships, sell the rest of their land in western New York, amounting to about 1.26 million acres, to Robert Morris at £30,00 in four instalments or 8d. per acre; Morris hopes to pay all but the first installment of £5,000 out of proceeds of land sales in Europe. (Chernow, HistSteubenCo, Cowan)
- Nov. 24, 1790 New Jersey Legislature passes a law appointing Samuel Tuthill of Morristown, Col. John Neilson of New Brunswick, Robert T. Kimble of Newark and William Maxwell and John Pintard of New York City to build a road between Newark and Paulus Hook with toll bridges over the Hackensack and Passaic Rivers; to raise £4,000 by lottery; are given monopoly of crossing the Hackensack from its mouth to Kingsland Creek and the Passaic from its mouth to Second River (Belleville). (PL, Lane, Digest)
- Nov. 24, 1790 New Jersey Legislature passes law appointing commissioners to build a bridge over the Raritan River at New Brunswick. (PL, JSDavis)
- Nov. 25, 1790 Trenton and Perth Amboy becomes joint capitals of New Jersey, replacing Burlington. (Lee, Long)
- Nov. 27, 1790 French Constituent Assembly decrees that all clergy wishing to keep their livings must take an oath to support the Civil Constitution of the Clergy; religious conservatives in the west and non-French-speaking regions support the resistance of their priests, leading to a religious civil war. (EncycBrit, Blanning)
- Nov. 29, 1790 Gouverneur Morris declines to be Robert Morris's European agent for his land operations as it would compromise his position as a representative of the U.S. government. (Chernow)
- Dec. 2, 1790 Maj. John F. Hamtramck writes to Gov. St. Clair advising of the futility of punitive raids against the Native Americans and recommending a line of forts from Lake Erie to Vincennes to control the frontier. (Derleth)
- Dec. 6, 1790 Congress convenes for the first time in Philadelphia, moving the national capital from New York. (EAH)
- Dec. 13, 1790 Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton submits his second report on public credit, including the recommendation for a national bank and an excise tax on whiskey. (EAH)
- Dec. 13, 1790 Pennsylvania General Assembly appoints a Committee on Inland

Navigation to deal with river improvements. (Lechner)

- Dec. 14, 1790 Timothy Matlack (1736-1829), Samuel Maclay (1741-1811) and John Adlum (1759-1836) report on survey of western rivers; propose three routes, one via Juniata-Kiskiminetas, one via north branch of Sinnemahoning-Allegheny, and one via west brach of Sinnemahoning-Allegheny; also up Allegheny and French Creek with portage to Erie and down Allegheny to Pittsburgh. (HseJrnl)
- Dec. 14, 1790 “The Pres. & Directors of the Bank of Maryland,” the first bank in Maryland, incorporated by Samuel Smith (1752-1839), William Patterson (1752-1835), Robert Gilmor (1748-1822), Thomas Hollingsworth (1747-1815), et al., with a capital of \$300,000; stock owned by the old mercantile elite and gentry. (PL, JSDavis, Browne)
- Dec. 14, 1790 Maryland act moves the seat of Caroline County from Melville’s Warehouse to Pig Point, which is renamed Denton. (PL)
- Dec. 15, 1790 Dismal Swamp Canal Company incorporated in N.C. (JSDavis)
- Dec. 16, 1790 Virginia act authorizes the creation of the town of Matildaville at the Great Falls of the Potomac in connection with the work of the Potomac Company. (PL)
- Dec. 16, 1790 Virginia act appoints trustees for clearing the Roanoke River above tide to the forks of the Dan and Staunton Rivers and then up those streams to their heads. (PL)
- Dec. 18, 1790 Third U.S. patent is awarded to Oliver Evans for his improvements in flour milling; this patent is in force until 1818, and supersedes Evans’s state patents. (Bathe, Stokes, Sharrer)
- Dec. 20, 1790 Maryland act appoints commissioners for improving and regulating the town of Easton. (PL)
- Dec. 21, 1790 New government of Pennsylvania installed with Thomas Mifflin as first Governor. (Scharf)
- Dec. 21, 1790 Charter supplement extends the deadline for the Proprietors of the Susquehanna Canal completing their works to Oct. 1, 1798, and allows them to increase the number of shares to 30. (PL)
- Dec. 21, 1790 First U.S. integrated cotton mill opens at Pawtucket, R.I.; built by Samuel Slater (1768-1835) who smuggled the technological secrets of the Arkwright water frame out of England in his head; beginnings of New England textile industry; Slater is financed by Providence merchants Moses

Brown ( - ) and William Almy ( - ); the continuous water frame requires mostly unskilled labor beyond the few mechanics needed to keep the machines in repair, and this is met by employing rural children; until the “Hungry Forties,” British and Irish immigrant workers choose ports in the Mid-Atlantic over homogenous, xenophobic New England, making the transition to large mechanized factories easier in New England. (Mercer - FactsStates has 1793)

- Dec. 22, 1790 Maryland act authorizes commissioners appointed under the 1787 act for laying out toll roads radiating from Baltimore to farm the operation of the road to any persons building one for 20 years. (JSDavis)
- Dec. 28, 1790 In his annual message, Gov. Mifflin recommends the improvement of rivers following the recommendations of the state surveyors. (PaArch)
- 1790 John Noble Cumming and John Inskeep begin carrying the mail six times a week between New York and Philadelphia for the first time; revenue more than doubles from the tri-weekly service of 1789. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- 1790 Benjamin Longstreth builds a rolling and slitting mill at present Phoenixville, Pa. (Swank)
- 1790 150,000 bu. of wheat transshipped at Middletown for Philadelphia, having descended the Susquehanna and Juniata Rivers; land carriage between Middletown and Philadelphia is about \$2.61 per bbl.; about 30,000 bu. of wheat are shipped from along Penn’s Creek, where two years previous, flour had to be imported to that area. (Scharf, EEBrown)
- 1790 Population of Baltimore has increased by 68% since the end of the war. (Browne)
- 1790 Frederick County, with over 30,000, is now the most populous county in Maryland, as the center of settlement shifts to the Piedmont; the Eastern Shore has lost 16% of its population since the Revolution and the lower Western Shore 12%. (Sharrer)
- 1790 John Harris (1723-1794) lays out Mifflintown on the Juniata River; named for Gov. Thomas Mifflin. (HistJuniata/Susq)
- 1790 John Hayden of Haydentown on Georges Creek about 7 miles south of present Uniontown, Pa., discovers “blue lump” iron ore and makes a small piece of iron in a blacksmith’s forge; he takes the sample to his relative John Nicholson in Philadelphia, and they plan to build a forge and furnace; they build a bloomery in 1792, but nothing more. (Swank)
- 1790 Robert Garrett (1783-1857), founder of a Baltimore banking house,

emigrates from Ireland to U.S., the youngest child of the family; his father John Garrett dies on the voyage; the family eventually settles in Middletown, Washington County, Pa., in 1798. (Williams)

- 1790 Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham default on their second payment to Massachusetts for their lands in western New York. (wiki)
- 1790 James Wadsworth (1768-1844) and William Wadsworth settle at Big Tree on the Genesee River, where they found the town of Geneseo in 1791. (EncycNYS)
- 1790 First ferry across the Ohio River in present Ohio established at Marietta. (Gephart)
- 1790 Two fur trappers, Gabriel Godfrey and John Beaugrand, found a trading post at the foot of the Maumee River rapids at present-day Toledo. (Miller)
- 1790 Col. James Ferguson begins regular trading trips in flatboats and canoes between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati. (HistCinHamCo)
- 1790 Over the next decade, between 10,000 and 25,000 French refugees arrive in the United States to escape the French Revolution and the slave insurrection in Sainte Domingue. (Pula)
- 1790 Thomas Dobson of Philadelphia begins the first American printing of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*; it is completed in 1803. (Scharf)
- c. 1790 Cast iron edge (“T”) rails first used in South Wales. (Marshall)
- c. 1790 The so-called “Second Great Awakening” begins with a new generation of charismatic revival preachers and runs to about 1840; the movement is propelled in part by a new optimism following the establishment of a national government and an end to the privations of the Revolutionary War and the immediate postwar years; in the absence of the old colonial established churches, the number of denominations and sects proliferates; the more democratic or emotional denominations, such as the Baptists and Methodists who also preach to the lower classes and slaves, grow relative to the older denominations, which are seen by many to have become stale, closed, or over-intellectualized; many Quakers convert. (wiki)
- Jan. 1, 1791 Drawing by lots for land in the Military Tract in central New York begins; supposedly reserved for veterans, the Tract has been surveyed into 25 rectangular townships which have been given classical and literary names, possibly by Robert Harpur, Assistant Secretary of State and a former schoolmaster; the distribution of land is marred by frauds. (Flick)

- Jan. 1, 1791 County seat of Caroline County, Maryland, moved to Denton. (Long)
- Jan. 2, 1791 Indians stage their first attack north of the Ohio River at Big Bottom on the Muskingum River; 14 settlers killed. (Trumbull/Mahoning)
- Jan. 5, 1791 New York Gov. George Clinton (1739-1812) in his annual message recommends the improvement of the Mohawk-Wood Creek route to Oswego on Lake Ontario. (Sweet, Whitford)
- Jan. 8, 1791 Indians led by renegade Simon Girty ambush a surveying party near the Great Miami River, killing one and wounding another. (Bartlow)
- Jan. 9, 1791 Indians led by Simon Girty begin a three-day siege of Dunlap's Station, a blockhouse on the east bank of the Great Miami River 10 miles below present Hamilton, Ohio; the siege is lifted by the arrival of a relief party from Fort Washington (Cincinnati), but the station is abandoned as too exposed to attack. (Bartlow)
- Jan. 1791 William Temple Franklin (1760-1823), grandson of Benjamin Franklin and son of William Franklin, arrives in London as agent for Robert Morris to find buyers for his New York land; he approaches Patrick Colquhoun (1745-1820), a Glasgow merchant who had worked in eastern Virginia before the Revolution. (Chernow, Martin)
- Jan. 24, 1791 Pres. Washington announces the location of the new federal district as it now exists; he has moved the southern boundary point 4 miles to the south of the point specified to take in all of Alexandria; Washington owns almost 1,200 acres within the enlarged Virginia portion of the district, and Martha Washington's grandson George Washington Parke Custis (1781-1857) owns the 950-acre "Arlington" plantation, which he has inherited from his recently deceased father, John Parke Custis (1754-1781); Washington appoints Daniel Carroll (1730-1796) of Montgomery County, Md., Thomas Johnson (1732-1819) of Frederick, Md., and David Stuart of Alexandria, all investors in the Potomac Company, as the first commissioners for the District of Columbia. (Scharf, Bowling, Arbuckle, Arnebeck)
- Jan. 28, 1791 Meeting in Philadelphia of 15 prominent individuals, including Henry Drinker (1734-1809), Dr. William Smith (1727-1803), John Adlum (1759-1836), Timothy Matlack (1736-1829), William Maclay (1737-1804), Samuel Wallis (1730-1798), John Patton (1745-1804), and others leads to a proposal to form a society to promote a systematic program of internal improvements in Pennsylvania. (MB)
- Jan. 31, 1791 Society for Promoting the Improvement of Roads & Inland Navigation organized at the State House (Independence Hall) in Philadelphia; attendees now include Robert Morris (1734-1806), John Nicholson (1757-1800),



James Wilson (1742-1798), Tench Francis (1730-1800) and Tench Coxe (1755-1824); Robert Morris elected Pres., Timothy Matlack Secretary; appoints committee of Nicholson, Coxe, William Smith et al. to prepare memorial to Legislature. (MB check name - most sources say org. in May 1789 - but this date from original minutes).

- Early 1791 Potomac Company begins building a bypass canal and locks at Little Falls on the Maryland side; most of the work force is made up of slaves rented from their owners; Leonard Harbaugh (1749-1822) is later contractor for building the canal and locks. (Kapsch)
- Winter 1791 Lewis McKnight of Monmouth County, N.J., buys the Wardell property at Long Branch consisting of a house of 100 acres for £700; he converts the house into a boarding house with money loaned by Philadelphia merchant Elliston Perot (1747-1834), who has stayed there for the last three summers. (Ellis)
- Feb. 2, 1791 Samuel Powel (1738-1793), Richard Bache (1737-1811), son-in-law of Benjamin Franklin, and Gen. Isaac Hiester joint Society for Promoting the Improvement of Roads & Inland Navigation. (MB)
- Feb. 7, 1791 Society for Promoting the Improvement of Roads & Inland Navigation adopts memorial to Legislature calling for a comprehensive state system of river improvement and portage roads. (MB)
- Feb. 7, 1791 Rensselaer County, N.Y., created from the part of Albany County east of the Hudson River; Saratoga County created from the part of Albany County north of the Mohawk River. (French, Reynolds)
- Feb. 8, 1791 Congress passes the bill chartering the Bank of the United States with most southerners opposed; many fear that the bank's 20-year life will be used to keep the national capital in Philadelphia and overturn the settlement moving it to the Potomac. (Bowling)
- Feb. 9, 1791 Gov. Mifflin reports that Frankstown-Conemaugh Road has been completed by Robert Galbraith but the cost has exceeded the appropriation by £202. (PaArch)
- Feb. 10, 1791 Pa. Committee on Inland Navigation reports to the General Assembly on the second round of river surveys; recommends the improvement of the Delaware River above tide to the New York state line in the hope of diverting trade from Central New York State; also improving the Schuylkill with a portage road or canal from Reading to the Susquehanna River, improving the North Branch of the Susquehanna to tap New York State, and improving the West Branch with a portage to the Allegheny to reach Lake Erie. (Lechner)

- Feb. 12, 1791 Future inventor, manufacturer and philanthropist Peter Cooper (1791-1883) born at New York City. (DAB)
- Feb. 14, 1791 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation appoints committee to devise plan for carrying out improvements; sets dues at \$1 per year. (MB)
- Feb. 14, 1791 Pres. Washington receives the bill creating the Bank of the United States; Attorney-General Edmund Randolph, a Virginian, gives an opinion that the bill is unconstitutional, and southerners hope he will veto it. (Bowling)
- Feb. 15, 1791 New York Legislature appoints Committee on Roads & Inland Navigation to investigate removing obstructions to navigation of Hudson and Mohawk Rivers and what new roads are needed; the committee utilizes notes collected by Elkanah Watson (1758-1842). (Sweet, Whitford)
- Feb. 15, 1791 Sir William Johnstone Pulteney (1729-1805), a Scottish lawyer who has married the heiress of the Earl of Bath, authorizes Patrick Colquhoun to enter an arrangement with William Temple Franklin to buy Robert Morris's New York land, 1.26 million acres at for £75,000 or 20 cents an acre; Morris makes a profit of about \$216,000. (Chernow, Cowan, Martin)
- Feb. 1791 Casimer Th. Goerck surveys the corduroy road and bridges between Paulus Hook and Newark (present Newark Avenue) for the commissioners for the bridges over the Passaic & Hackensack. (JSDavis)
- Feb. 1791 John Stevens employs John Hall, an English mechanic who had worked for John Fitch to build a steam engine and boiler. (DuBois)
- Feb. 16, 1791 Otsego County, N.Y., and Tioga County, N.Y., created from part of Montgomery County. (French)
- Feb. 18, 1791 Senate begins debating a bill to amend the act creating the District of Columbia, shifting the boundary southward as done by Pres. Washington, but requiring that the public buildings be on the Maryland side; northerners, who had objected to Washington choosing the site on his own terms, now hold the bill hostage to his signing the Bank Bill. (Bowling)
- Feb. 19, 1791 Pennsylvania legislative committee reviewing reports of river surveys sets price of program at £60,870. (Scharf, )
- Feb. 23, 1791 Alexander Hamilton provides Pres. Washington with a defense of the doctrine of implied powers and of the constitutionality of the Bank Bill. (Bowling)

- Feb. 23, 1791 Louis-Joseph, 8<sup>th</sup> Prince de Conde (1736-1818), arrives in Worms and begins assembling a French army in exile. (Mercer)
- Feb. 24, 1791 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation requests English engineer James Brindley (1745-1820), the nephew of the James Brindley (1716-1772) of Bridgewater Canal fame, to come to Philadelphia to confer on subject of canals; astronomer David Rittenhouse joins. (MB)
- Feb. 25, 1791 Pres. Washington signs charter of (First) Bank of the United States with headquarters in Philadelphia and a capital of \$10 million of which two-fifths is to be owned by the federal government; 75% of subscriptions can be payable in funded U.S. 6s and 3s. (EAH, JSDavis, DAdams)
- Feb. 26, 1791 Senate passes the supplement to the Residency Act legalizing Pres. Washington's inclusion of Alexandria in the District of Columbia. (Bowling)
- Feb. 26, 1791 New York Committee on Roads & Inland Navigation reports, calling for companies to improve navigation between Hudson River and Woods Creek and Hudson River and Lake Champlain and making Delaware and Susquehanna Rivers public highways. (Whitford)
- Feb. 28, 1791 Committee of Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation reports on best method of making turnpike roads; James Brindley is introduced and discusses subject of canals; appoints a committee to confer with James Brindley and examine ground for canal between Tulpehocken and Quittapahilla Creeks. (MB)
- Mar. 3, 1791 Congress enacts an excise tax on distilled spirits, angering trans-Allegheny farmers who ship much of their produce to the East in the form of whiskey. (EAH)
- Mar. 3, 1791 Congress authorizes locating the District of Columbia beyond the bounds of the original act of 1790. (Thorpe)
- Mar. 3, 1791 Congress grants heads of families in the Kaskaskia District of Illinois 400 acres each and a military donation of 100 acres to each man in the militia in 1790; Capt. James Piggott (1735-1799) locates his 100 acres on the east side of the Mississippi River opposite St. Louis. (Wallace)
- Mar. 4, 1791 Vermont admitted to the Union after New York State relinquishes its claims to its territory. (Thorpe)
- Mar. 7, 1791 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation agrees to James Brindley's terms of a half guinea a day, half his regular rate, to

survey the summit for a canal with Timothy Matlack and John Adlum, Brindley to provide his own level; appoints committee to collect information on roads and canals now being built for use of Legislature. (MB)

- Mar. 7, 1791 Bank of Maryland organized and opens for business; directors include Robert Oliver (1757?-1834), Richard Caton (1763-1845), Archibald Campbell and Jeremiah Yellott (1749-1805). (Scharf)
- Mar. 7, 1791 Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson orders French engineer Pierre L'Enfant (1754-1825) to begin examining the site for the new capital and public buildings between Georgetown and the Eastern Branch (Anacostia River); the south bank of the latter is conceived as the port and commercial center. (Arnebeck)
- Mar. 10, 1791 Phelps and Gorham's rights to the 3.75 million acres of land west of the Genesee River revert to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. (wiki)
- Mar. 12, 1791 Samuel Ogden (1746-1810), acting for Robert Morris, contracts to purchase the 4 million acres (actually 3.75 million) west of the Genesee River relinquished by Phelps and Gorham from the State of Massachusetts for £100,000 or \$333,333 in specie in five separate deeds; Morris decides to keep the easternmost tract, a north-south strip along the Genesee 12 miles wide, known as the Morris Reserve, and sell the other four in Europe. (Chernow, Chazanof, Flick)
- Mar. 14, 1791 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation approves a memorial to the Pa. Legislature. (MB)
- Mar. 15, 1791 Onondaga County, N.Y., created from part of Herkimer County. (French)
- Mar. 1791 Andrew Ellicott (1754-1820) appointed surveyor for the District of Columbia; the existing landowners are to keep every other lot and be remunerated for the rest at £25 per acre. (Arbuckle)
- Mar. 1791 Isaac Meason (1743-1818) blows in Union Furnace on Dunbar Creek, 4 miles south of present Connellsville, Pa. (Swank)
- Mar. 1791 Massie's Station, later Manchester, Ohio, established as a Virginia settlement by Kentucky frontiersmen; the area between the Scioto and Miami is settled by southerners, between the New Englanders at Marietta and the New Jersey settlers in the Cincinnati-Dayton area between the Great and Little Miami Rivers. (Trumbull/Mahoning)
- Mar. 1791 Dowlais Iron Works in South Wales begins making iron tramroad plates. (HopkinThomasProject)

- Mar. 17, 1791 Patrick Colquhoun for William Johnstone Pulteney closes the purchase of 1 million acres from Robert Morris for £75,000; Morris eventually clears a profit of \$165,000 after discounting, down from the \$216,000 anticipated at first signing. (Cowan, Rappleye, Chernow)
- 1791 William Johnstone Pulteney forms the London Associates or Pulteney Associates to finance the Pulteney Purchase in western New York; Pulteney holds 9/12, William Hornby, former Gov. of Bombay 2/12, and Patrick Colquhoun 1/12; as New York forbids aliens to hold land, title to the Pulteney Purchase is vested in American trustees. (Cowan)
- Mar. 18, 1791 Town of Troy, N.Y., separated from Rensselaerswyck. (French)
- Mar. 21, 1791 “The President, Directors & Company of the Bank of New York” incorporated in N.Y by Isaac Roosevelt, William Maxwell, Thomas Randall, Daniel McCormick, Nicholas Low, William Constable, Joshua Waddington, Samuel Franklin, Comfort Sands, Robert Bowne, Giulian Verplanck, Jolin Murray and William Edgar with a capital of \$900,000; first incorporated bank in N.Y.; the Clintonians have blocked the charter for some time, but now let it pass as a counterweight to the Bank of the United States; the state may take \$50,000. (PL, JSDavis, Burrows/Wallace)
- Mar. 24, 1791 New York act authorizes Commissioners of Land Office to explore for an artificial channel from the Mohawk at Fort Stanwix to Wood Creek, for locks on the Mohawk to the Hudson and also the Champlain route; Elkanah Watson, Gen. Philip Schuyler and Goldborrow Banyer are appointed commissioners to conduct the surveys; at this time, the Mohawk is navigable for Durham boats carrying 1.5 to 2 tons westbound and 5 tons eastbound; the cost of transportation between Seneca Lake and Albany is \$75 to \$100 per ton, and time is 21 days westbound and 8 days eastbound. (Sweet, Whitford)
- Mar. 24, 1791 New York act authorizes the state to subscribe to the Bank of the United States. (PL)
- Mar. 30, 1791 Pres. Washington proclaims boundaries of the new District of Columbia, which includes two established trading towns, Georgetown, Md., and Alexandria, Va.
- Mar. 30, 1791 Portion of Philadelphia's Northern Liberties east of 4th Street given charter of municipal government. (Scharf)
- Spring 1791 Michael Cryder (1742-1816), assisted by his sons Israel (1764-1845) and Daniel, descends from Standing Stone (Huntingdon) in the first ark (flatboat) to run from the Juniata to Havre-de-Grace, Md., in four days with

104 bbls. (10 tons) of flour; they are the first commercial voyage to run the Conewago Falls below Middletown and the other rapids between Wrights Ferry (Columbia) and tidewater; arks are sufficiently large (75 x 16) and sturdy to descend the steep fall of the lower Susquehanna on freshets of at least 3 feet above normal water but cannot be returned upstream; they are sold for lumber to defray part of the cost; ark navigation of the Susquehanna during spring freshets soon assumes large proportions from as far north as Steuben County, N.Y.; later Susquehanna River arks are 90 x 16 feet with pointed ends with a cabin for the cargo of flour or, on open arks used for coal, a small shelter for the four-man crew; arks are steered by 30-foot long oars at each end. (EEBrown, Harvey - primary source is from appendix to American Museum p. 32 of 1-7/1792 - Poulson pam implies spring of 1795? made voyages every year)

- Apr. 3, 1791 Supplemental report made to Pa. Legislature recommending appropriations for opening rivers, canal between Tulpehocken and Quittapahilla Creeks, a canal between Frankstown and Poplar Run, a turnpike from Philadelphia to Lancaster, and clearing the Susquehanna below Wrights Ferry. (Scharf)
- Apr. 4, 1791 Warned by friendly Senecas, the settlers at Meadville, Pa., reach safety at Fort Franklin. (HistCrawfrdCo)
- Apr. 7, 1791 Pennsylvania act authorizes the state to borrow £60,000 from the Bank of North America, using U.S. stock as collateral, to be used to retire the debt and for internal improvements. (PL)
- Apr. 13, 1791 Pennsylvania appropriates £24,220 for river improvement and £2,100 for roads. (elsewhere £23,320 total!); includes £3,500 to improve the Delaware from Trenton to the N.Y. State line, £2,500 to improve the Schuylkill to Reading; £5,250 to improve the Susquehanna between Wrights Ferry (Columbia) and Middletown, £300 between Middletown and the mouth of the Juniata, £2,320 for the Juniata to Water Street and Frankstown £4,000 for the Little Conemaugh, £2,800 for the Great Conemaugh, £350 for the Kiskiminetas, £300 for the Susquehanna from the Juniata to Sunbury, £160 from Sunbury to the Sinnemahoning, £500 for the Sinnemahoning to Driftwood, and £150 for the upper Allegheny from the crossing of the road to Driftwood to Conewago Creek; £400 for French Creek to the Presque Isle portage road and an additional £400 for the road; £300 for a road from the mouth of the Juniata Railroad to present Millerstown. (PL)
- Apr. 13, 1791 Harrisburg, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Apr. 13, 1791 Pope Pius VI (1717-1799) condemns the Civil Constitution of the Clergy; galvanizes opposition to the French Revolution among traditional Catholics in the countryside, particularly in the south and west. (EncycBrit, Blanning)

- Apr. 15, 1791 Tench Coxe sends Thomas Jefferson a draft of *A plan for a manufacturing establishment in the United States*; it calls for a subscription of \$500,000, to be paid mostly in stock of the Bank of the United States or U.S. government bonds; this is to be used as collateral to borrow \$500,000 in cash from Holland to start the enterprise; this is the first intimation of what will become the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures; the plan, later credited entirely to Alexander Hamilton, is probably a collaboration with Hamilton providing the financial aspects and Coxe the manufacturing ones. (JSDavis)
- Apr. 15, 1791 First (southern) cornerstone of the District of Columbia laid with Masonic ceremonies at Alexandria. (Scharf)
- Apr. 23, 1791 John Fitch files for U.S. patent for his steamboat; Secy. of State Jefferson, a fellow Virginian, is partial to Rumsey and refuses to give Fitch priority. (Fitch)
- Apr. 26, 1791 Fitch calls his backers together and tells them he proposes to stop work because of his treatment by the Patent Office. (Fitch)
- Apr. 26, 1791 The Pulteney Associates appoint Charles Williamson (1757-1808) as their agent at a 2½% commission; he is to obtain U.S. citizenship to enable him to hold the land in trust; his plan is to settle the New York lands with Highland Scots. (Cowan, Chernow)
- Apr. 27, 1791 Future telegraph inventor Samuel Finley Breese Morse (1791-1872) born at Charlestown, Mass., son of the Rev. Jedidiah Morse (1761-1826), an orthodox Calvinist parson later known as the “Father of American Geography.” (Thompson)
- Apr. 30, 1791 Fitch's company orders the engine of the old steamboat broken up and sold. (Fitch)
- May 10, 1791 Gov. Thomas Mifflin appoints Benjamin Rittenhouse (1740?-1825), William Smith (1727-1803) and William Findley (1741?-1821) as “Agents of Information” to advise on internal improvements. (JSDavis)
- May 11, 1791 Samuel Ogden assigns the remainder of the Phelps and Gorham lands to Robert Morris, which the State of Massachusetts deeds to Morris in five tracts; Morris will eventually sell four of the tracts to a consortium of six Dutch banking houses who will form the Holland Land Company in 1796. (Chernow)
- May 23, 1791 John Fitch's company orders the repair and completion of a new boat. (Fitch)

- May 23, 1791 A force of 750 Kentucky militia commanded by Gen. Charles Scott crosses the Ohio to attack the Wea towns in what is now central and northern Indiana. (Esarey)
- June 7, 1791 Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham agree to be able to settle their remaining debts for the Phelps and Gorham purchase in specie. (Flick)
- June 14, 1791 Gen. Charles Scott's force returns to the Falls of the Ohio after burning crops and towns and taking 58 hostages without losing a man. (Esarey)
- June 21, 1791 Commissioner for Bridges over the Rivers Passaic & Hackensack advertise for bids for building the bridges. (JSDavis)
- June 21, 1791 French royal family is arrested at Varennes near the frontier while attempting to flee to the German lines in disguise. (Blanning)
- June 22, 1791 Pa. contracts with Thomas Wright (1748-1820) and Thomas Dyer (1747-1808) to improve the upper Lehigh River, working downward from Sullivan's Road; to be for rafts 40 x 10 drawing 1 foot of water; paid an advance of £300. (PaArch, SenJrnl)
- June 22, 1791 Pierre Charles L'Enfant (1754-1825), a French military engineer who has been part of the French forces in the Revolutionary War and who has been commissioned by Pres. Washington to lay out the new capital city on the Potomac, submits his first plan, with diagonal avenues overlaying a rectangular street grid influenced by that of Versailles and other European capitals; in opposition to those who expect the commercial center of the city to lie along the waterfront of the Anacostia River east of Capitol Hill, L'Enfant wants to place it between the Capitol and President's House, to be served by converting Tiber Creek into a canal. (DAB, Arnebeck)
- June 25, 1791 Louis XVI and the French royal family are returned to Paris under guard. (Mercer)
- June 29, 1791 Pennsylvania contracts with Arthur Donaldson, James Lewis, John Strohecker, and John Garver to improve the Schuylkill River for 8-ton boats from the Falls above Philadelphia up to Reading. (PaArch, SenJrnl)
- June 29, 1791 Pres. Washington shows the local landowners Pierre Charles L'Enfant's plan for the City of Washington and the location of the public buildings. (Arbuckle)
- July 1, 1791 William Duer and Gen. Henry Knox buy 2 million acres in Maine on the lower St. Croix and Penobscot Rivers and the upper Kennebec; they later buy an additional 1 million acres, giving them ownership of one-ninth of the future state. (Alberts)



- July 1, 1791 Auctioneers John Pintard & A.L. Bleecker hold the first auction sale of public securities in New York. (Werner)
- July 1791 Leonard Bleecker and John Pintard form a partnership to hold auctions of securities in the Long Room of the Merchants Coffee House at New York. (Burrows/Wallace)
- July 1, 1791 Thomas Wright moves from Dyerstown, Bucks County, to Wilkes-Barre, following his brother-in-law Thomas Dyer; they join a group trying to improve transportation between the Lehigh and Wyoming Valleys; Wright is in charge of procuring workers and supplies, while Dyer supervises the work, which is begun at the Great Falls of the Lehigh (present Stoddartsville), and working downward. (BucksCoHS:4)
- July 4, 1791 The stock subscription to the Bank of the United States opens in Philadelphia at \$25 per share down payment; the issue is oversubscribed by 20% at prices up to \$50, causing a wild bull market for public securities; by Aug., the stock has risen to 300, but it then falls in New York and by Oct. the stock is selling at 170. (JSDavis, HWest, Burrows/Wallace)
- July 5, 1791 Pa. contracts with Richard Backhouse (1748?-1793) and George Wall to improve the Delaware River from Trenton to the N.Y. state line; pays first installment of £500; an additional £2,000 spent in 1791, but the work is not completed. (PaArch, SenJrnl)
- July 6, 1791 Habsburg Emperor Leopold II (1747-1792) issues the Padua Circular, calling on all the kings of Europe to unite to secure the release of the French royal family. (Blanning)
- July 7, 1791 "New Line Dispatch" advertises a summer stage running between Paulus Hook and Philadelphia in one day, leaving New York at 4:30 PM. (Stokes)
- July 9, 1791 Pa. contracts with Samuel Seely to improve the Lackawaxen River for £250. (SenJrnl)
- July 14, 1791 Five day of riots rock Birmingham, England, after a Bastille Day dinner is held at the principal inn; although he is not at the dinner, the Unitarian meeting house of noted chemist Joseph Priestley (1733-1804) is trashed, his house burned to the ground and his books and papers destroyed; Priestly, a friend of the Revolution, has been engaged in a furious war of words with conservative statesman Edmund Burke (1729-1797); Priestly flees the country, eventually settling in Northumberland, Pa.; Boulton & Watt fear an attack on their Soho Works and arm their men for its defense; the backlash against radicals and non-conformists grows. (Dickinson/Jenkins, Hague)

- July 1791 First subscription of \$100,000 made to what will become the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures; the chief subscribers include Elias Boudinot (1740-1821), Nicholas Low (1729-1826), William Duer (1747-1799), William Constable (1752-1803), Philip Livingston, Blair McClenachan (1751-1812), Matthew McConnell, and Herman LeRoy (1758-1842). (JSDavis)
- July 27, 1791 First meeting held at Old Redstone Fort (Brownsville, Pa.) to protest the excise tax on whiskey. (HistAllghnyCo)
- July 31, 1791 Charles S. Coxe (1791-1879) born at Philadelphia, son of Tench Coxe (1755-1824) and Rebecca Coxe Coxe. (CoxePprs)
- Summer 1791 Centre Furnace built on Spring Creek, Centre County, by Col. John Patton and Col. Samuel Miles (1738/40-1805).
- Aug. 1, 1791 A party from the Wyoming Valley begins exploring for a new road to Wind Gap, intersecting the Lehigh River somewhere below the present Francis E. Walter Dam. (BucksCoHS:4)
- Aug. 1, 1791 Another raiding party under Gen. James Wilkinson (1757-1825) leaves Fort Washington (Cincinnati) for the Miami country; returns to the Falls of the Ohio with prisoners by the end of the month; raids only further convince the tribes that the Americans mean to destroy them. (Esarey, Derleth)
- Aug. 8, 1791 Maj. Robert Hoops reports to Richard Backhouse that he has completed a passage through the Little Foul Rift falls. (BucksCoHS:6)
- Aug. 9, 1791 Subscribers for the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures meet at New Brunswick and authorize Alexander Hamilton to recruit artisans for cotton manufacture; also authorizes publishing a prospectus and completing the application for a New Jersey charter. (JSDavis)
- Aug. 10, 1791 John Fitch's sometimes partner Henry Voight (1743-1814) receives a patent for a catamaran teamboat ferry using the same stern paddles as Fitch's steamboat. (Crisman)
- Aug. 11, 1791 The prices of U.S. securities peaks at 280 in New York and 312-325 in Philadelphia, then collapse. (JSDavis)
- Aug. 11, 1791 Future Pennsylvania Canal Commissioner and capitalist George Matson Hollenback (1791-1866) born at Wilkes-Barre, Pa., son of Paxton Boy turned land speculator Matthias Hollenback. (Harvey)
- Aug. 13, 1791 Robert Morris borrows \$100,000 from William S. Smith, an agent of the Pulteney Associates, in return for a mortgage on Tract No. 1 of the five

- Phelps and Gorham tracts, called the “Morris Reserve” at 6% interest. (Chernow)
- Aug. 15, 1791 Secretary of the Treasury Hamilton authorizes the purchase of public securities at New York to stem the collapse of prices; U.S. bond prices recover by Dec. 1791. (JSDavis)
- Aug. 15, 1791 Yellow fever epidemic strikes New York City until October, when frosts kill the mosquitoes that transmit it. (Stokes)
- Aug. 1791 Robert Morris borrows \$100,000 from the Pulteney Associates, mortgaging the Morris Reserve lands as security. (Rappleye)
- Aug. 17, 1791 Plans for what will become the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures are disclosed in the Philadelphia *Gazette of the United States* and copied by other papers; the factory site will be in New Jersey to be acceptable to both New York and Philadelphia investors. (JSDavis)
- Aug. 22, 1791 Slaves in the French colony of Sante Domingue (Haiti) begin a long and ultimately successful revolt against their masters, after the planters refuse to give the vote to mulattoes and free blacks as ordered by the French Assembly; the war is fought to the death with no quarter given and atrocities on both sides; 10,000 to 20,000 French flee from the island to the U.S. (Heinl)
- Aug. 1791 Jean Baptiste Marie Du Barry (1764-1830), grandfather of PRR VP Joseph Napoleon Du Barry (1830-1892), arrives in Philadelphia as a refugee from Sainte Domingue. (SonsoftheRevolution)
- Aug. 23, 1791 Another protest meeting at Washington, Pa., passes resolutions that citizens shun and oppose anyone trying to collect the excise tax. (HistAllghnyCo)
- Aug. 23, 1791 Theophile Cazenove writes to his employers in the four Dutch banking houses noting that speculation in public securities now offers little opportunity for profit, but there are opportunities in land speculation. (Chernow)
- Aug. 24, 1791 Gov. Thomas Mifflin in his state of the state address reports that he has made contracts for improving the Delaware, Schuylkill, Lehigh and Lackawaxen Rivers and for roads from Wind Gap to Wilkes-Barre, Keplingers Mills to the Susquehanna, Hamburg to Catawissa, Middle Creek to Grubb's Furnace, Daniel Titus's to Poplar Run and through Long, Jacks, Igows and Canoe Narrows on the Juniata route; has secured loan of £60,000 from the Bank of North America. (PaArch)
- Aug. 26, 1791 Patent Office issues broad steamboat patents to John Fitch, James Rumsey,

John Stevens and Nathan Reed (1759-1849) of Salem, Mass.; dated the same, so that Fitch cannot claim priority. (Fitch, Shagena)

- Aug. 27, 1791 Emperor Leopold II (1747-1792), the brother of Queen Marie Antoinette, and King Frederick William II of Prussia (1744-1797) issue the Declaration of Pillnitz calling for an international concert in support of the French monarchy; as Russia is preoccupied in the East, and Britain wants to see the turmoil in France continue, they know that such concert won't be forthcoming; they hope to manipulate the French by threats alone, while the revolutionaries see the declaration as an international royalist conspiracy aimed at them. (Blanning)
- Aug. 29, 1791 Timothy Matlack (1736-1829) and John Adlum (1759-1836) present the final report and map of James Brindley's survey for a canal between Tulpehocken and Quittapahilla Creeks; claim there is enough water to feed the summit level within a circle of about 8 miles. (MB)
- Sep. 4, 1791 William Hall and Joseph Mort, two mechanics engaged by Alexander Hamilton, recommend the Passaic Falls as the site for the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures; the Great Falls of the Passaic River have a 60-foot drop with a potential 2,000 HP. (JSDavis, Hunter)
- Sep. 5, 1791 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation approves memorial to Legislature calling for incorporation of a company to build a canal between the Schuylkill and Susquehanna Rivers; discuss projects of turnpikes towards Wissahickon or Germantown. (MB)
- Sep. 7, 1791 John Fitch completes work on his new steamboat, the *Perseverance*, but the engine leaks and it is unable to attain successful operation; Fitch's backers refuse to advance more money, and before any modifications can be made, a storm beaches the boat on Pettys Island. (Fitch, Flexner)
- Sep. 7, 1791 First units of a new army under Gen. Arthur St. Clair leave Cincinnati on a new advance against the Miamis; Gen. Josiah Harmar, dismayed by the same mix of regulars and militia that had bedeviled his previous command, soon resigns from the Army; St. Clair's advance is slowed to a crawl by autumn rains and flooding. (Derleth - Sipe says 9/17 - 9/7 was the day the commanders reached Cincinnati)
- Sep. 8, 1791 Thomas Jefferson and James Madison meet with the federal district commissioners and agree that the new federal capital be named "Washington" and the district the District of Columbia. (Arnebeck)
- Sep. 9, 1791 Pa. refuses to change the terms of Thomas Wright and Thomas Dyer's contract to improve the upper Lehigh River. (PaArch)

- Sep. 14, 1791 Louis XVI accepts the new Constitution and a new Legislative Assembly is elected to replace the National Assembly of 1789. (EncycBrit)
- Sep. 1791 Maj. Abraham Hardenburgh (1756-?) and Benjamin Wright (1770-1842) survey the Mohawk River route for the New York Land Office. (Whitford)
- Sep. 1791 Elkanah Watson (1758-1842) of Albany with Gen. Philip Van Cortlandt (1749-1831), Stephen H. Bayard and Jeremiah Van Rensselaer (1738-1810) travel from Albany to Seneca Lake, mostly by water; Watson envisions a system of canals, including one between Seneca Lake and the Susquehanna River. (Whitford)
- Sep. 1791 Assaults begin against officers attempting to collect the excise tax on whiskey in western Pennsylvania. (HistAllghnyCo)
- Sep. 1791 Forces under Col. John F. Hamtramck begin construction of Fort Hamilton on the Great Miami River. (Sipe, Derleth)
- Sep. 17, 1791 Gen. Arthur St. Clair builds Fort Hamilton, with 4 blockhouses and a stockade on the east bank of the Great Miami River. (Bartlow)
- Sep. 28, 1791 Pennsylvania act authorizes laying out a town (Beaver, Pa.) at the mouth of the Beaver River. (PL)
- Sep. 29, 1791 Pennsylvania incorporates "The President, Managers & Company of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation" (Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company) to improve the navigation of the Schuylkill River and develop a connection to the Susquehanna; begins constructing a canal crossing the summit between the Tulpehocken and Quittapahilla Creeks near Lebanon, Pa. (PL)
- Sep. 30, 1791 Pennsylvania authorizes appointment of commissioners to lay out new road from the Schuylkill Middle Ferry, Philadelphia, to Lancaster. (Landis)
- Sep. 30, 1791 Pennsylvania act combines the 1755 College of Philadelphia with the 1779 University of the State of Pennsylvania as the University of Pennsylvania. (PL, archives.upenn.edu)
- Oct. 3, 1791 Providence Bank incorporated by John Brown and Moses Brown as the first incorporated bank in Rhode Island. (Field/RI)
- Oct. 8, 1791 Viewers report a channel completed through Foul Rift falls on the Delaware River. (BucksCoHS:6)
- Oct. 10, 1791 Gov. Thomas Mifflin appoints Benjamin Rittenhouse, John Ewing and John Nancarrow (1734?-1801) to lay out the new road from the Schuylkill

Middle Ferry to Lancaster. (JSDavis)

- Oct. 12, 1791 St. Clair's army begins construction of Fort Jefferson six miles south of present-day Greenville, Ohio. (Sipe)
- Oct. 14, 1791 Protestant lawyer Theobald Wolfe Tone (1763-1798) establishes the Belfast Society of United Irishmen in Belfast to work for Catholic emancipation and an independent, non-sectarian Ireland on the French Revolutionary model; it is supported mostly by the urban middle classes. (Mercer)
- Oct. 17, 1791 First auction of lots in Washington, D.C., held; only 35 lots sold. (Arnebeck, Arbuckle)
- Nov. 3, 1791 Gen. Arthur St. Clair's army camps at the headwaters of the Wabash with the untrained militia up front of the regulars and too fatigued to build fortifications. (Derleth)
- Nov. 4, 1791 Miamis under Little Turtle (1752?-1812) defeat U.S. Army and militia under territorial governor Gen. Arthur St. Clair on the headwaters of the Wabash in western Ohio; St. Clair loses 630 men dead and 283 wounded taken prisoner and \$33,000 worth of supplies; survivors retreat to Fort Jefferson. (Sipe, Dunbar)
- Nov. 8, 1791 Survivors of St. Clair's army reach Fort Washington. (Sipe)
- Nov. 9, 1791 Bank of the United States votes to establish branches in Boston, New York, Baltimore and Charleston. (JSDavis)
- Nov. 9, 1791 Charles Williamson arrives in Norfolk after a long and rough crossing; travels by land to Baltimore where he settles his family; here he finds several friends who have married into the Maryland gentry and conceives the idea of settling the Pulteney Lands as large slave plantations; Williamson then travels to Philadelphia. (Cowan, Martin)
- Nov. 20, 1791 John Fitch obtains a French patent for his steamboat. (Shagena)
- Nov. 20, 1791 Future canal transporting company pioneer David Leech (1791-1858) born at Warrington, Bucks County, Pa.; son of John Leech (1767-1864) and Jane Morrison Leech (b. 1769); he is the great-great grandson of Tobias Leech (1652/3-1726), who came from Gloucestershire to the Delaware Valley in 1682; the family later moves to northwestern Pennsylvania. (AmBio)
- Nov. 22, 1791 Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures (SUM) incorporated in N.J. by New York Federalists, including Alexander Hamilton, William Duer, et al., to develop a manufacturing complex on a site 6 miles square; the chief product is to be cotton textiles; authorized capital is to be \$500,000 with the

right to increase to \$1 million; the Bank of the United States is the only other million-dollar corporation. (JSDavis, Hunter)

- Nov. 24, 1791 N.J. Legislature authorizes the Commissioners for the Bridges over the Rivers Passaic & Hackensack to raise £27,000 by lottery, of which £20,000 is to be applied to building the bridges, £5,000 to the bridge over the Raritan at New Brunswick, and £2,000 to building a new state Capitol at Trenton; toll is to be reduced and no toll charged on foot passengers; profits above expenses and repairs are to be invested in Bank of the United States stock and placed in escrow with the state against the cost of eventually rebuilding the bridges; the lottery, managed by Gen. John Noble Cumming, is not successful, and charges are made that lottery funds are misappropriated by the Commissioners, several of whom suffer in the Panic of 1792. (PL, JSDavis, Lane, Princetonians)
- Nov. 28, 1791 Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures organized at New Brunswick; William Duer, Governor. (Trumbull)
- Nov. 28, 1791 Commissioners for building a bridge across the Raritan River hold an organization meeting at New Brunswick; John Bayard and Herman LeRoy and John Dennis [of Newark??], are the leading subscribers; £6,500 is to be paid in seven installments. (Benedict)
- Dec. 1, 1791 Books opened; 800 shares subscribed to Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company. (PSocMB)
- Dec. 5, 1791 Alexander Hamilton submits his Report on Manufactures, recommending encouragement of domestic manufacturing, bounties for agriculture, and a federally funded system of internal improvements. (EAH)
- Dec. 5, 1791 Society for the Establishment of Useful Manufactures organized at Trenton; directors include John Bayard, Elisha Boudinot, John Dewhurst, William Duer, Royal Flint, Moore Furman, George Lewis, Nicholas Low, Thomas Lowrey, Alexander Macomb, Archibald Mercer, John Neilson, and Benjamin Walker. (JSDavis)
- Dec. 7, 1791 Virginia act authorizes Francis Thornton to build a toll bridge across the Rappahannock River at Fredericksburg. (PL)
- Dec. 9, 1791 William Duer elected Governor of the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures. (JSDavis)
- Dec. 9, 1791 Gov. Thomas Mifflin in address notes he has made further contracts for a road from Harrisburg through the narrows to join the Sunbury Road at Halifax, a portage road from Stockport on the Delaware to Great Bend on the upper Susquehanna, and clearing the Juniata to Frankstown; also urges

resumption of interstate negotiations for the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal. (PaArch)

- Dec. 9, 1791 Robert Morris mortgages his lands at Morrisville, Pa., to the Bank of North America to secure a loan of £37,500. (Chernow)
- Dec. 12, 1791 First Bank of the United States opens in Carpenters' Hall in Philadelphia; Thomas Willing Pres.; of 25 directors, 9 are from Pennsylvania, 7 from New York, 4 from Massachusetts and 1 each from Connecticut, Maryland, North Carolina and South Carolina; Stephen Girard becomes the largest stockholder (?). (Purvis, Alberts, DAdams, Baltzell)
- Dec. 12, 1791 Agents of the Illinois and Wabash Companies offer to surrender their claims to the U.S. in return for retaining a quarter of their lands; the claims are eventually ruled invalid because they were made prior to the Revolution and violated the terms of the Proclamation Act of 1763 barring private purchases from the Indians in the Ohio Country. (Esarey)
- Dec. 13, 1791 Pa. House refers those parts of Gov. Mifflin's address dealing with roads and navigation to a special committee of 11 members. (Landis)
- Dec. 14, 1791 Pennsylvania contracts with Richard Smith, Benjamin Elliott, John Canan and David Stewart to improve the Juniata River from Aughwick Falls to Frankstown. (PaSenJrnl, 1807/08)
- Dec. 17, 1791 Virginia act requires all boats operating on the James River above Richmond to have their owner's names and addresses painted on them and to be registered with the appropriate county clerk. (PL)
- Dec. 19, 1791 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation notes a bill before House to appoint committee to survey for a canal between the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers; Society appoints a similar committee which is to also consider improving the Falls of Schuylkill; reports that state survey of Lancaster Road is nearly done; discuss projects of roads to Lancaster and between Reading and Harrisburg; Gen. Anthony Wayne (1745-1796), Abraham DuBois (d. 1807), John Cadwalader, John Wilkes Kittera (1752-1801), Alexander Scott and John Scott elected to the Society. (MB)
- Dec. 19, 1791 Maryland act cedes territory to the District of Columbia with the proviso previous property rights be perpetuated, i.e., that it remain slave territory on penalty of voiding the cession. (Scharf)
- Dec. 20, 1791 Pa. House appoints a special committee to deal only with the issue of roads. (Landis)



- Dec. 27, 1791 William Duer makes a secret partnership with Alexander Macomb (1748-1831) a merchant and fur trader, to speculate in U.S. and bank stocks; they form the "Six Percent Club" to speculate in U.S. 6% bonds; the other members of the club include Royal Flint, John Dewhurst, Walter Livingston, John and Nicholas Roosevelt, William and John Constable, Isaac Whippo, Richard Platt, John Pintard, and Daniel Verplanck; the "Club" is to make massive secret purchases of U.S. 6% bonds and bank stocks; they also announce a plan to form a new "Million Bank" capitalized at \$1 million, which will merge with the Bank of New York and the New York Branch of the Bank of the United States; the club members are to sell out and take their profits at the height of the boom. (Werner, JSDavis, Pencak, Burrows/Wallace)
- Dec. 30, 1791 Maryland act provides for laying out a post road from Baltimore and the Little Gunpowder in the direction of Belair. (PL)
- 1791 Gen. Henry Knox has John Hills survey for a canal between Boston and the Connecticut River on a southern route through Worcester and a northern one. (Bliss)
- 1791 New York State commissioners auction 5.5 million acres of Iroquois land for over \$1 million; most of the sales are to wealthy land speculators in the city; Alexander Macomb acquires 3.5 million acres. (Burrows/Wallace)
- 1791 Five days a week mail service inaugurated between Philadelphia and Baltimore. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- 1791 Thomas Biddle (1776-1857) joins the mercantile house of his father, Col. Clement Biddle (1740-1814); it later becomes the Philadelphia brokerage house of Thomas Biddle & Co. (Holdsworth)
- 1791 Clement Biddle & Co. enters the China trade; Clement's son George W. Biddle (1779-1812) becomes the firm's factor at Canton, where he dies. (HWest)
- 1791 Ironmaster William Coleman (1757-1819) purchases the Philadelphia-Reading stagecoach run, which his family will operate for 70 years; he extends it west to Harrisburg and north to Sunbury. (Montgomery)
- 1791 Andrew Ellicott begins surveying Pierre L'Enfant's plan for Washington, D.C. (Chazanof)
- 1791 Potomac Company begins construction of a bypass canal and locks around the Great Falls on the Virginia side; most of the canal has to be blasted out of solid rock. (Kapsch)

- 1791 James Claypoole is the first white settler on the site of Kittanning, Pa. (Smith/Armstrong)
- 1791 Federal Road laid out from Grave Creek on the Ohio River westward through what is now Noble County, Ohio. (HistNbleCo)
- 1791 Daniel Doty of Essex County, N.J., is the first settler on the Great Miami River in what is now Butler County, Ohio; he returns with his family after the end of the Indian wars in 1795. (Bartlow)
- 1791 The new French Constitution abolishes the Farmers-General of the Taxes, a closed guild that leased the right to collect the national taxes in return for a fixed payment to the Crown; the Farmers-General also held a monopoly on the importation of tobacco, so that the tobacco trade is now thrown open to individual French and American merchants. (McMaster)
- 1791 U.S. exports to Britain exceed £1 million for the first time since the Revolution; total U.S. exports are \$19 million or £4.1 million; U.S. imports from Britain have reached £4 million, up from £1.4 million in 1788; total U.S. imports are £5 million. (Chew/JER 25:4)
- 1791 Total U.S. flour exports are 619,681 bbl., of which 315,785 bbl. are shipped from Philadelphia and about 208,000 from Baltimore. (Sharrer)
- 1791 Robert Coleman builds Colebrook Furnace on Conewago Creek in Lebanon County, Pa. (Swank)
- 1791 N.Y. Gov. George Clinton and the Livingston clan invite Thomas Jefferson and James Madison to make a tour of the state; it portends the formation of a New York-Virginia Antifederalist political axis. (Burrows/Wallace - verify)
- 1791 To bolster their defense of the border with the U.S., Britain passes the Canada Constitutional Act, which divides the old Province of Quebec into Lower Canada, the present francophone Province of Quebec, and Upper Canada, the present, anglophone Province of Ontario; this has the effect of limiting French law and religion to the long-occupied parts of the old territory and bringing the rest of Canada under English common law and Anglicanism in line with the demands of a majority of the inhabitants; learning from the Revolution, the Crown does not tax the inhabitants for administrative costs; Upper Canada is heavily populated by Loyalist refugees from the Mohawk Valley, plus a second group of Americans fleeing hard times in the 1780s and attracted by lower British taxes and free land; John Graves Simcoe (1752-1806) is appointed Gov. of Upper Canada; Simcoe had commanded partisans and spies in New York during the Revolution and been with Cornwallis at Yorktown; Simcoe naturally hates

the American republic and intrigues against it; as the British continue to occupy most of later Michigan, it is administered as part of Upper Canada. (Taylor, Dunbar)

- 1791 Four-year "Canal Mania" begins in England fueled by capital brought by émigrés from Revolutionary France; between 1791 and 1795, 51 new canal companies are chartered with a total capital of over £7.5 million. (Whitford, Pawson)
- 1791 Richard Crawshay (1739-1810) become the sole proprietor of the Cyfarthfa Iron Works at Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales; he builds it into one of the largest iron works in the world, partly on the government's demands for iron cannon, cannon balls and other weapons for the wars against France; Cyfarthfa remains in the Crawshay family for four generations before being overtaken by obsolescence. (wiki)
- Jan. 1, 1792 Elkanah Watson gives copy of the journal of his 1791 travels to Seneca Lake to Gen. Philip Schuyler (1733-1804). (Whitford)
- Jan. 2, 1792 Tobacco merchant Thomas Leiper (1745-1825), George Roberts, newspaper editor Zachariah Poulson (1751-1844), and others elected to the Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation. (MB)
- Jan. 3, 1792 New York Commissioners Elkanah Watson, Gen. Philip Schuyler and Goldborrow Banyer report that the cost of improving a water communication between Albany and Seneca Lake by locks and canals will be \$200,000. (Sweet)
- Jan. 4, 1792 Patrick Colquhoun, Robert Morris's agent in London, writes that he expects to hire Thomas Didford, Jr., as engineer for the Pennsylvania canal companies. (MB)
- Jan. 5, 1792 New York Gov. Clinton submits report of Committee on Roads & Inland Navigation to Legislature. (Whitford)
- Jan. 6, 1792 John Holdran leases the Paulus Hook ferry for £380 per year. (Stokes)
- Jan. 9, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company organized at the State House (Independence Hall); Robert Morris, Pres.; Tench Francis, Treasurer; Timothy Matlack, Secretary; directors are John Nicholson, Samuel Powel (1738-1793), William Smith (1727-1803), Henry Drinker (1734-1809), Walter Stewart, Samuel Miles, Robert Hare, Samuel Meredith (1741-1817) George Clymer (1739-1813), William Bradford (1755-1795), George Lattimer and John Donaldson; Nicholson eventually has 270 shares on which \$64,300 is paid; Robert Morris, 52 shares and \$14,300. (MB)

- Jan. 12, 1792 Pa. Gov. Mifflin presents memorial of Pennsylvania Society for the Promoting of Roads & Inland Navigation to Assembly; recommends correcting certain defects of plan and adding a great road between Philadelphia and Erie. (HJ)
- Jan. 12, 1792 State of New York subscribes for \$50,000 in the stock of the Bank of New York. (JSDavis)
- Jan. 1792 Pennsylvania Assembly considers a bill to place a 1% tax on auction sales of securities with a 10% penalty on dealing in futures; it fails of passage; opponents note that New York has outpaced Philadelphia by generating wealth through dealing in securities with foreigners. (JSDavis)
- Jan. 1792 Speculation in new U.S. Treasury securities peaks. (Kindleberger)
- Jan. 16, 1792 Public meeting held at New York City by Alexander Macomb, Brockholst Livingston (1757-1823), Abraham Duryea, et al., to secure subscriptions to a second bank to be called the Million Bank of the State of New York; over \$10 million subscribed; part of the speculative boom, whose purpose is to drive down the price of Bank of New York shares so that William Duer and friends can corner it, it is never organized. (JSDavis, Stokes, Pencak)
- Jan. 16, 1792 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation reports on memorials for roads from inhabitants of Penns Valley, Brush Valley and Georges Valley. (MB)
- Jan. 16, 1792 Duck Creek Crossroads, Del., renamed Symrna. (Scharf)
- Jan. 17, 1792 Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures appoints a committee headed by Alexander Macomb to select a site and purchase lands; Macomb has earlier advised to buy the Passaic Falls before landowners raise their prices, but other directors wish the development to be at Trenton, Rahway or Second River (Belleville); also resolves to acquire machinery and British workmen, including evading the British laws against the emigration of skilled mechanics. (JSDavis)
- Jan. 17, 1792 New Yorkers headed by Walter Livingston (1740-1797) and Richard Platt subscribe \$2 million to a proposed Tammany Bank; later amalgamated with the Million Bank. (JSDavis)
- Jan. 23, 1792 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation hears report on turnpike roads. (MB)
- Jan. 30, 1792 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation appoints committee of Henry Drinker, R. Wallis, Dr. William Smith, Timothy Matlack and John Nicholson to recommend what improvements

are needed on the Delaware River. (MB)

- Feb. 1, 1792 Gov. Mifflin transmits survey of Middle Ferry-Lancaster Road to the Assembly. (PaArch)
- Feb. 1, 1792 Post road established between Albany and Canajoharie, N.Y., in the Mohawk Valley. (Reynolds)
- Feb. 4, 1792 Commissioners appointed by Pennsylvania House to view the roads between Philadelphia and Lancaster report; can build more direct roads and will need to be covered with gravel; such a road is beyond the means of the state and will require incorporated companies. (HsJrnl)
- Feb. 6, 1792 Stock Exchange Office opens at 22 Wall Street in New York; auctioneers are to rotate holding public sales every noon. (JSDavis)
- Feb. 6, 1792 Baltimore Branch of the Bank of the United States established by the election of 13 directors; capital of about \$500,000. (Scharf, Bryan)
- Feb. 7, 1792 Gov. John G. Simcoe of Upper Canada issues a proclamation offering 200 acres of land in what is now southern Ontario to any bona fide settler for nominal fees of 6 pence per acre (vs. \$2-3 per acre in the U.S.) and an oath of allegiance to the British Crown; he is successful in attracting emigrants from Pennsylvania and New Jersey who had been neutral or lukewarm during the Revolution. (Taylor)
- Feb. 7, 1792 Austria and Prussia sign a military convention forming the First Coalition against the revolutionary government of France and invite other monarchies to join them.
- Feb. 11, 1792 Hamilton County created in Northwest Territory, including the eastern part of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan. (Long)
- Feb. 15, 1792 Pa. House committee considering roads reports that a heavy stone road between Philadelphia and Lancaster is beyond the means of the state to construct, and it should be built by private subscribers as a toll road. (Landis)
- Feb. 1792 N.J. act authorizes state commissioners to transfer bridges to new "Proprietors of the Bridges over the Rivers Passaic & Hackensack. (Cards - not in PL)
- Feb. 1792 Charles Williamson travels to from New York City to the former Seneca stronghold of Kanadesaga and the head of Seneca Lake, which he renames Geneva, and then to Canandaigua, N.Y.; resolves to open a road from the south, as the route via the Mohawk is too arduous; Williamson also aims to

attract settlers from among the planters of Maryland and Virginia who will establish large estates. (Cowan)

- Feb. 1792 Thomas Paine (1737-1809), now in England, publishes the second part of *The Rights of Man*, calling for an end to all hereditary governments; radical correspondence societies proliferate throughout England. (Hague)
- Feb. 1792 Peter Collins (1792-1875), future Pennsylvania railroad contractor and father of contractors, born in Donegal, Ire. (reocities)
- Feb. 17, 1792 Henry Knox, et al., petition the Massachusetts General Court (Legislature) for a charter to build a canal from Boston to the Connecticut River. (JSDavis)
- Feb. 18, 1792 Pennsylvania House orders a bill to incorporate a company to improve the road between Philadelphia and Lancaster. (HsJrnl)
- Feb. 18, 1792 Robert Morris sells 100,000 acres in the Morris Reserve Tract No. 1 to James Watson, Andrew Craigie and James Greenleaf for \$37,500, despite the fact that it is mortgaged to the Pultney Associates. (Chernow)
- Feb. 19, 1792 New York auctioneers open a room at 22 Wall Street in which daily sales of securities are to be held. (Werner)
- Feb. 20, 1792 Congress passes the Post Office Act of 1792, its first postal legislation; Congress rather than the Executive decides on post routes which are to go into effect on June 1, thus expanding the system for maximum service to constituents rather than attempting to be self-supporting as under Postmaster General Ebenezer Hazard; it prohibits the Post Office from opening the mails to spy on individuals; it grants very favorable rates to all newspapers, so that the number of newspapers sent by mail reaches 1.9 million in 1800 and 39 million by 1839, greatly disseminating news well beyond the seaport cities; the cheap rates on newspapers are subsidized by high rates on letters, which are paid mostly by merchants; it also establishes a General Post Office in Washington. (StatutesatLarge)
- Feb. 20, 1792 Congress establishes the first network of post roads, running from Maine to Savannah and as far into the interior as Lexington and Danville, Ky. (Scharf)
- Feb. 23, 1792 Proprietors of the Locks & Canals on the Connecticut River incorporated in Mass.; Christopher Colles is engaged to make surveys at South Hadley and Montague. (JSDavis)
- Feb. 27, 1792 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation hears report on the Delaware River; calls for incorporation of a company to

improve it, but removes Schuylkill River from bill as coming under powers of Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company; asks Navigation Company to pay expense of the Brindley survey. (MB)

- Feb. 27, 1792 Pres. Washington dismisses Pierre C. L'Enfant from directing the plan of Washington, D.C., for extravagance in pursuing work far beyond the means available; the plan is revised and executed by surveyor Andrew Ellicott (1754-1820), who has been marking the boundary of the District of Columbia. (DAB, Arnebeck)
- Feb. 28, 1792 Pennsylvania House committee reports on original memorial of Pennsylvania Society for the Promoting of Roads & Inland Navigation and orders bills to incorporate companies. (HsJrnl)
- Mar. 2, 1792 Dr. William Smith presents draft of memorial on Delaware River to Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation. (MB)
- Mar. 3, 1792 Pennsylvania completes purchase of Erie Triangle from U.S. at 75 cents per acre (\$151,640), giving it a port on Lake Erie. (SecyIntAffairs)
- Mar. 3, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board agrees to take notes instead of cash for subscriptions. (MB)
- Mar. 5, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company prepares a memorial to the Legislature seeking £3,420 appropriated for internal improvements under the act of Apr. 13, 1791; opposes move afoot to spend the money on the Monongahela and Youghiogheny Rivers in western Pennsylvania. (MB)
- Mar. 8, 1792 "Proprietors of the Massachusetts Canal" incorporated in Mass., including Secretary of War Henry Knox (1750-1806), David Cobb (1748-1830), et al., to build from Boston to the Connecticut River; despite some enthusiasm in Worcester, the company cannot attract enough investors to organize. (PL, CHTP7, Rubin, JSDavis)
- Mar. 9, 1792 William Duer is forced to stop payment on certain notes; rumors of his difficulties, including a discrepancy of \$250,000 in his accounts at the Treasury, are a factor in a break in the price of stocks. (JSDavis, Burrows/Wallace)
- Mar. 10, 1792 Tight money leads to the failure of Col. William Duer (1747-1799), a leading speculator in Treasury securities, for \$3 million in the first panic on the New York money market; Duer is an ancestor of PRR Chief Electrical Engineer John Van Buren Duer. (Burrows/Wallace, Wyckoff - Trager says Mar. because of collapse of Duer's Ohio valley land companies; losses in NY set at \$5 million Duer was probably the first American millionaire but made most of his money on insider dealings as Assistant Secretary of the

Treasury - recheck date of failure??)

- Mar. 12, 1792 U.S. Comptroller Oliver Wolcott (1760-1833) calls for a suit against William Duer to settle a supposed imbalance of \$200,000 in his accounts as Secretary of the Board of Treasury; Duer was habitually lax in his habits, and Wolcott now presses to recover, fearing Duer's imminent failure. (JSDavis)
- Mar. 13, 1792 Town of Riverhead incorporated in N.Y. from the western part of the Town of Southold. (French)
- Mar. 14, 1792 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation reports that it has presented two bills to Legislature, one for a company to improve the Delaware River and its tributaries and one to improve the Schuylkill; Thomas Wright of Wilkes-Barre and Surveyor-General Andrew Porter (1743-1813) elected to membership. (MB)
- Mar. 16, 1792 Future pioneer locomotive manufacturer Thomas Rogers (1792-1856) born at Groton, Conn. (WwasW)
- Mar. 17, 1792 Col. Samuel Miles (1740-1805) of Montgomery County buys large tracts on Spring Creek and Bald Eagle Creek; he send his sons John Miles (1778-1829) and Joseph Miles (1780-1841) who lay out the town of Milesburg in 1793. (Linn/Centre)
- Mar. 19, 1792 Financial panic begins in New York; the nation's first stock market panic; William Bingham has sensed that the market was overextended and sold his bank stocks; he later buys back government bonds at fire-sale prices. (JSDavis, Alberts)
- Mar. 22, 1792 New York Branch of the Bank of the United States opens. (Pencak - see below)
- Mar. 23, 1792 Failed New York speculator William Duer is arrested and sent to debtors' prison. (JSDavis)
- Mar 23, 1792 Pennsylvania House tables a committee report on memorial of Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation and calling for the incorporation of two companies, one to improve the navigation of the Delaware River and one the Susquehanna. (HsJrnl)
- Mar. 25, 1792 Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton orders the sinking fund to buy U.S. securities at par if they start to fall below par in order to prevent further panic and collapse of prices; although a number of wealthy individuals fail, there is no lasting disruption of trade or exports; while many New Yorkers are ruined, other speculators including William



Bingham and John Nicholson in Philadelphia, are able to buy securities at depressed prices and hold them until they recover, becoming even wealthier in the process. (JSDavis, Chew/JER 25:4, Arbuckle)

- Mar. 26, 1792 Walter Livingston announces his inability to pay his notes as a result of having endorsed the notes of William Duer. (JSDavis)
- Mar. 28, 1792 French Assembly grants full citizenship to blacks in its West Indian colonies; this leads the white planters to stage a counter-revolution against both the blacks and the new representatives of the Convention. (Lefebvre)
- Mar. 30, 1792 Pennsylvania purchases the Erie Triangle for \$151,640 or 75 cents an acre; the purchase is negotiated by John Nicholson. (Sipes, Arbuckle)
- Mar. 30, 1792 New York incorporates Western Inland Lock Navigation Company in the State of New York to build a combination of canals and river improvements linking the Mohawk River with Oswego on Lake Ontario and to Seneca Lake; also Northern Inland Lock Navigation Company in the State of New York for connecting the upper Hudson River with Lake Champlain; the stock of each is to be 1,000 shares at \$25, later increased to \$300,000. (PL, Sweet)
- Mar. 31, 1792 Mayor and Recorder of Philadelphia protest to House against the Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road bill. (Landis)
- Mar. 31, 1792 New York merchants dealing in securities (brokers) resolve to attend no more public auction sales of stocks. (Werner)
- Apr. 2, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board receives the letter of Patrick Colquhoun advising he is about to hire Thomas Didford as engineer; company resolves to hire James Brindley for the season and also hire Col. Thomas Bull (1744-1837) as Superintendent; orders John Nicholson to have David Rittenhouse make leveling instruments. (MB)
- Apr. 2, 1792 Mint Act establishes decimal currency in both silver and gold in ratio of 15-1; serves to drive gold out of circulation; establishes the Mint in Philadelphia with David Rittenhouse as Director. (EAH)
- Apr. 2, 1792 New York City branch of the Bank of the United States opens. (Stokes)
- Apr. 2, 1792 Last auction sale of securities at New York. (Werner)
- Apr. 3, 1792 The New Jersey directors of the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures meets at New Brunswick; all of the New York directors are absent, Gov. William Duer and others having been jailed for debt; the panic has crippled the efforts of the company. (JSDavis)

- Apr. 3, 1792 Pa. act declares a further portion of Penn's Creek to be a public highway up to the mouth of Sinking Creek at Spring Mills in Centre County. (PL)
- Apr. 3, 1792 Erie Triangle becomes part of Allegheny County. (Long)
- Apr. 3, 1792 Pennsylvania passes a new land law offering for sale all territory north and west of the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers and reducing the scale of payments; the price of land in the 1768 New Purchase is reduced to 50s. to £2 10s per 100 acres, and land purchased at Fort Stanwix in 1784 is reduced from £10 to £5 per 100 acres, except the Donation and Depreciation Lands, which are valued at £7 10s per 100 acres; warrantees in the area north and west of the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers must cultivate at least 2 acres within 2 years and live on them for 5 years, or the land may be resold to others; however, there is a proviso that waives this restriction if settlement is prevented by Indian warfare; to qualify for this waiver, warrantees need to get a prevention certificate by swearing before a justice of the peace, most of whom are friendly to the land speculators; no person is to warrant more than 400 acres, but this is easily circumvented by using the names of dummy warrantees; the result is a great surge of land speculation, largely in the indiscriminate purchase of forest lands in the Appalachian Mountains and Plateau; much of the land is underlain by coal, oil and gas which cannot be extracted and marketed for many years; Gov. Mifflin is by now a full-time drunkard, and gives Comptroller-General John Nicholson free reign in managing the land and is liberal in approving dummy warrants filed by Nicholson and other speculators. (PL, Hoffman, Tinkcom, Rappleye - HistClarionCo says land east of Allegheny River cut from £20 to £5 per 100 or from 54 to 13 cents an acre)
- 1792 Pennsylvania act passed to encourage actual settlement in the northwestern part of the state requires land purchasers west of the Allegheny River and Conewango Creek to make actual settlement "unless prevented by enemies of the United States," i.e., Indians; hostility of the Six Nations is preventing the land speculators like John Nicholson and Robert Morris from realizing a quick turnover of the holdings to settlers. (HistClarionCo. - is 4/3 law)
- Apr. 3, 1792 John Nicholson takes out 390 warrants of 400 acres each, covering the Erie Triangle, less 46,187 acres retained by the state, using borrowed names; he later files for another 100,000 acres near Beaver and Shenango Creeks. (Arbuckle)
- Apr. 4, 1792 Future Pennsylvania politician, Canal Commissioner and Congressman Thaddeus Stevens (1792-1868) born near Danville, Vt. (Palmer)
- Apr. 7, 1792 Francis Martin Drexel (1792-1863), founder of a Philadelphia banking dynasty, born in the Austrian Tyrol near Lake Constance; his father's

mercantile business will be ruined by Napoleon's invasions; Drexel spends his youth on the run avoiding French conscription and supporting himself as a painter of coaches and signboards, in 1815 he begins painting portraits. (Hopkinson)

- Apr. 9, 1792 Pennsylvania incorporates Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road Company; first incorporated turnpike company in the U.S. (PL)
- Apr. 10, 1792 "The President, Managers & Company of the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Navigation" (Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Navigation Company) incorporated in Pa. to build a canal from Norristown to the Delaware River above Callowhill Street; appoints committee of David Rittenhouse, William Smith and Samuel Powel to level and lay out canal. (PL, CHTP18)
- Apr. 10, 1792 Pennsylvania appropriates a further \_\_\_\_ for river improvements and roads; £3,000 taken from Conemaugh appropriation of 1791 and given to Monongahela, Youghiogheny and Raystown Branch of Juniata; £100 for a road from Loyalsock Creek to the Tawanisco Branch of the Tioga River at the New York state line.
- Apr. 10, 1792 Pa. act authorizes Gov. Mifflin to invest state funds in the stock of the Bank of North America; the state is beginning to run a surplus, having paid its Revolutionary War debts from sales of public land and collection of back taxes. (PL, Schwartz/JPE55)
- Apr. 10, 1792 New York act bans the auction sale of public securities. (Werner)
- Apr. 10, 1792 New York act authorizes improving and repairing the road from Albany through Duanesburgh and Cherry Valley to the outlet of Otsego Lake (Cooperstown). (PL)
- Apr. 10, 1792 "The President, Directors & Company of the Bank of Albany" incorporated in N.Y. with a capital of \$240,000. (PL)
- Apr. 10, 1792 Town of Greenbush incorporated in N.Y. from that part of Rensselaerswyck opposite Albany. (French)
- Apr. 10, 1792 Town of Newtown (later Elmira) incorporated in N.Y. from a part of the Town of Chemung. (Peirce)
- Apr. 11, 1792 Robert Morris completes the conveyance by deed of 1.26 million acres in western New York purchased from Phelps and Gorham to Charles Williamson (1757-1808), agent for the Pulteney Associates. (Cowan)
- Apr. 12, 1792 Alexander Macomb declares insolvency with debts of \$1.583 million and assets of \$900,000 and is sent to debtor's prison on Apr. 18; his associate

Isaac Whippo also fails but flees the city. (JSDavis)

- Apr. 12, 1792 Act of Congress alters its 1788 grant John Cleves Symmes (1742-1814) so as to run between the mouths of the Great Miami and Little Miami Rivers and as far north as to contain 1 million acres; the amount actually surveyed proves to be 543,950 acres. (Statutes at Large, Drury)
- Apr. 18, 1792 A stone-throwing crowd surrounds the debtors' prison, clamoring for revenge upon William Duer. (Burrows/Wallace)
- Apr. 20, 1792 French Legislative Assembly approves Louis XVI's proposal to declare war against his brother-in-law Leopold II of Austria (but not the entire Holy Roman Empire); the ensuing 24 years of war in Europe creates a growing demand for American grain, leading to an economic boom in the wheat-growing regions of the Middle states, and draws American capital into the neutral carrying trade and away from internal improvement projects. (EncycBrit, Mercer, Blanning, )
- Apr. 21, 1792 Act of Congress grants the Ohio Company of Associates, led by Manasseh Cutler (1742-1823), 964,285 acres in two tracts in what is now southeastern Ohio. (StatutesatLarge)
- Apr. 23, 1792 Incumbent Anti-Federalist New York Gov. George Clinton (1739-1812) defeats Federalist challenger John Jay (1745-1829), only because the votes of three counties are thrown out on a partisan technicality. (Sobel)
- April 25, 1792 Jacques Nicolas Pelletier has the dubious distinction of being the first Frenchman to die on the guillotine; the Assembly has decreed that all death sentences be carried out with a beheading machine, replacing the varied and more lingering methods used on commoners under the old regime; although designed as a humanitarian gesture, the guillotine proves particularly suited to dispatching batches of political prisoners at little more than a minute apiece, while providing bloody street theater to stoke revolutionary fervor; the spectacle of mass executions that begin in less than a year's time contribute to the growing revulsion and fear directed by British and American conservatives against Revolutionary France.
- Apr. 29, 1792 John Nicholas establishes the first regular stage coach service between Philadelphia and Easton, Pa. (Battle)
- Spring 1792 Under the new land law, William Bingham begins the purchase on warrants of a future total of 1.16 million acres in north central Pennsylvania, mostly between the two branches of the Susquehanna and the area between the watershed of the West Branch and the Allegheny Rivers. (Alberts)
- Spring 1792 Under the new land law, Tench Coxe begins acquiring warrants for about

30,000 acres in Northampton and Luzerne Counties. (Cooke)

- May 1, 1792 Books for Northern Inland Navigation Company and Western Inland Navigation Company open at Tontine Coffee House in New York City; because of recent panic, no shares taken in first three days. (JSDavis - note Tontine not opened!!)
- May 1, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company resolves to invest its surplus funds in U.S. bonds. (MB)
- May 4, 1792 Robert Morris and John Nicholson incorporate the Pennsylvania Population Company with a capital of \$500,000 to raise money on 500,000 acres in northwestern Pennsylvania; shares are sold at \$200; John Nicholson takes 400 shares and another 100 for Robert Morris; other directors include James Wilson, Gen. William Irvine (1741-1804), Walter Stewart, Theophile Cazenove (representing Dutch investors) and Aaron Burr. (Arbuckle, Rappleye, Chernow)
- May 7, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company agrees to employ Col. Thomas Bull as Superintendent at \$150 per month plus expenses, he providing his own house. (MB)
- May 8, 1792 Pennsylvania contracts with William Smith, Richard Smith and James Harris to improve Juniata River from mouth to Aughwick Falls with appropriation of £300; work never finished. (PaSenJrnl 1807/08)
- May 10, 1792 Connecticut Legislature makes a grant of 500,000 acres in the western part of the Western Reserve as recompense to persons who have suffered losses in the Tryon-Arnold raids during the Revolutionary War; the lands, which equal the present counties of Erie and Huron, plus parts of Ashland and Ottawa Counties, are called the "Firelands" for those who suffered losses by fire. (Peeke)
- May 11, 1792 Pennsylvania Population Company organized with John Nicholson as Pres. and directors including Theophile Cazenove, Tench Francis, Gen. William Irvine, George Meade and Walter Stewart; other stockholders include Aaron Burr, Robert Morris and James Wilson; owns 202,813 acres in the Erie Triangle and 297,813 acres bounded by the Ohio and Allegheny Rivers and Conewango Creek; Federalists Morris and Wilson have been political opponents of Nicholson, but become business partners; the object is to sell land in small parcels to settlers. (Arbuckle)
- May 1792 New York and Philadelphia money markets return to normal. (JSDavis)
- May 17, 1792 Twenty-four brokers meet in front what is now 68 Wall Street and agree to establish a regular market for dealing in public stocks, charging 0.25%

commission and giving preference to the other signatories; forerunner of New York Stock Exchange; originally, meetings are held under a buttonwood tree between 68 & 70 Wall Street. (Stokes, Werner, Wyckoff)

- May 17, 1792 Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures, with Alexander Hamilton in attendance, finally orders the purchase of the site at the Great Falls of the Passaic River; the site is christened Paterson, N.J., after Gov. William Paterson (1745-1806), who signs the charter; orders Thomas Marshall, an English mechanic who claims to have superintended the construction of cotton mills for Sir Richard Arkwright, to construct a cotton mill; the Great Falls have a total potential of about 2,100 HP. (JSDavis)
- May 18, 1792 John Nicholson of the Pennsylvania Population Company files warrants for another 200,000 acres in the Donation Lands north of the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers. (Arbuckle)
- May 28, 1792 Most of the Board of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company, including Robert Morris, John Nicholson, Samuel Powel, William Smith, Tench Francis (1730-1800) and Timothy Matlack, meets at Lebanon; examine the route over two days with David Rittenhouse, James Brindley and some local gentlemen; examine the summit between the Quitapahilla and Tulpehocken Creeks and also the waters to the north, including the Deep Run Branch of the Little Swatara. (MB)
- May 29, 1792 Committee of the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures inspects the Great Falls of the Passaic with Gen. Philip Schuyler (1733-1804), Hamilton's father-in-law and a supposed expert on canals; they conclude that William Duer's plan for a full canal from above the falls to the head of tide on the Passaic River (in present-day Passaic) is prohibitively expensive. (JSDavis)
- June 1, 1792 Kentucky enters the Union as the 15th state and the first state west of the Appalachians. (Purvis)
- June 3, 1792 Charles Williamson, who has brought his family from Baltimore to Northumberland, hires Benjamin Patterson of Northumberland to lead an exploring party north through the site of Williamsport and up the Sheshequin Trail into the Genesee Country; they arrive at the junction of the Genesee River and Canaseraga Creek where he establishes Williamsburg 16 days later; Williamson and most of his party of about 500 emigrants are prostrated with "agues" or "Genesee fevers," probably malaria and/or typhoid spread by mosquitoes breeding in the poorly-drained post-glacial topography; the settlement is short-lived and quickly overshadowed by Geneseo; Patterson opens a rough wagon road from the mouth of Loyalsock Creek up the West Branch and then up Lycoming Creek to the headwaters of the Tioga River and down it to Painted Post,

N.Y.; Williamson builds a blockhouse at the summit just north of the present Tioga County line, from which the road becomes known as the "Blockhouse Road"; it is not completely finished until the summer of 1796. (Martin, Cowan, McKnight, Meginness/Lycoming)

- June 4, 1792 Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road Company opens subscription books; stock is oversubscribed with 2,276 bids for 600 shares, which are distributed by lot. (Landis)
- June 4, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company appoints Samuel Powel and William Smith a committee to view the route and report. (MB)
- June 5, 1792 Additional 400 shares of Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road Company subscribed at Lancaster. (Landis)
- June 11, 1792 William Smith reports on examination for the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company; fixes the line of canal from Kucher's Mill Dam on the Quittapahilla to Leys Spring at the head of the Tulpehocken, a total of 4 miles, 31 perches; appoint a committee to take measurements of the flow of all five springs. (MB)
- June 12, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board approves an offer of Richard Stokes to make canal wheelbarrows; he claims to have made the same in Britain; on the same day, Patrick Colquhoun writes from London that Thomas Didford has declined to come to the U.S. as the company's engineer. (MB)
- June 1792 Gen. Anthony Wayne arrives at Pittsburgh to form a professionally-drilled army to attack the Miamis. (Esarey)
- June 18, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company agrees to purchase a level and theodolite made by David Rittenhouse; appoints a committee to wait on Capt. James Rogers of Rhode Island re his procuring laborers in New England. (MB)
- June 21, 1792 Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road Company receives letters patent. (PaArch)
- June 22, 1792 Baltimore Branch of the Bank of the United States opens for deposits and for discounts on June 25. (Scharf)
- June 26, 1792 Robert Morris reports to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board that the legislative appropriation for the Conewago Falls will probably be a mere sluice that will not help upstream navigation; urges the Navigation Company to build a full canal there and sell the water power; Capt. James Rogers reports that laborers may be had in New

Hampshire at \$6.00-6.50 per month and food. (MB)

- June 27, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board approves memorial to the Legislature re Conewago Falls; to tow even a small boat up the Conewago Falls takes 30-40 men one day and costs £5-6 and is therefore almost never done; the falls drop 19 feet in the course of a mile; the typical Middletown boat used in ascending trade above the falls carries 9 tons and is operated by 5 setting poles. (MB, Letter of Wm. Penrose)
- June 27, 1792 Proprietors of the Locks & Canals on the Merrimack River incorporated in Mass. to render the Merrimack River navigable up to the New Hampshire state line. (JSDavis)
- June 28, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board authorizes William Smith and Timothy Matlack to run such additional survey lines as necessary. (MB)
- June 28, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company appoints William Smith and Timothy Matlack to level the summit and locate the canal and also the Conewago Canal; Thomas Bull (1744-1837) appointed Superintendent. (CHTP18)
- June 29, 1792 Col. Thomas Bull reports to Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board on making preparations for workmen; Board authorizes him to procure planking and timbers, 200 wheelbarrows, picks, etc. (MB)
- June 29, 1792 John Fitch writes to David Rittenhouse seeking an advance of £50 to finish the *Perseverance*. (Scharf)
- July 1, 1792 Robert Morris repays half of his \$100,000 loan from the Pulteney Associates. (Rappleye)
- July 2, 1792 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company organized and adopts bylaws; Robert Morris, Pres. (MB)
- July 3, 1792 Gov. Thomas Mifflin contracts with 17 individuals, including John Nicholson and Robert Morris (all of whom are stockholders of the two canal companies), to construct a canal bypassing Conewago Falls, the main obstruction on the Susquehanna between Columbia and Middletown; state appropriates \$5,280 (AR); also contracts with them to improve the Susquehanna River from Wrights Ferry to Middletown with appropriation of £5,250; this latter work is not completed. (PaSenJrnl 1807/08)
- July 4, 1792 Cornerstone laid for a bridge over Rock Creek at K Street, the first new structure in Washington, D.C.; however, its is soon collapsing, and the center arch has to be replaced by a wooden draw span. (Arnbeck)



- July 5, 1792 Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures finally purchases its Paterson site for £3,293; Maj. Pierre C. L'Enfant (1754-1825), who has been discharged from the platting of Washington, D.C., is soon engaged to lay out the town. (JSDavis)
- July 11, 1792 The French Assembly declares the "fatherland in danger" and abolishes the king's veto power, makes the National Guard part of the military, and puts all government bodies on a full war footing.
- July 17, 1792 William Smith reports to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company on their surveys; have found a mill on the branch that enters the Tulpehocken below Ley's Spring to be 30 feet above Ley's Spring; it can be linked to Breckbill's Spring and the whole conveyed to supply the summit level; they have also found springs on the Quittapahilla side of the summit. (MB)
- July 17, 1792 Report on Conewago Canal suggests a route on the west bank of the Susquehanna. (Letters to Wm. Penrose)
- July 1792 John Fitch deposits his manuscript autobiography and notes on the steamboat in the Library Company of Philadelphia. (Fitch)
- July 22, 1792 James Sproat Green (1792-1862), future officer of the Delaware & Raritan Canal Company, born at Philadelphia; son of the Rev. Ashbel Green (1762-1848) a Presbyterian clergyman and later Pres. of the College of New Jersey, now Princeton University. (Woodward)
- July 24, 1792 Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road Company organized; William Bingham (1752-1804), reportedly the richest man in the U.S., elected Pres.; Tench Francis (1730-1800) Treasurer, and William M. Smith (1759-1821) Secretary; David Rittenhouse, John Nicholson, Abraham Witmer (1748-1818), and Elliston Perot (1746/7-1834) among the directors. (Landis)
- July 25, 1792 Charles William Frederick, Duke of Brunswick (1735-1806), the brother-in-law of George III who is leading the Austro-German forces threatening an invasion of France, issues a manifesto threatening Paris with destruction if the royal family is harmed; it has the opposite effect than intended. (Blanning)
- July 27, 1792 Western Inland Navigation Company organized at Albany; Philip Schuyler (1733-1804) elected Pres. (JSDavis)
- July 31, 1792 Philip Schuyler sounds out Alexander Nisbet, a Scottish immigrant who claims to be an engineer and millwright, for a position with the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company; Nisbet is forced to admit that he is a

millwright and contractor, not an engineer. (Calhoun)

- Aug. 1, 1792 Northwest Territory enacts its first law for opening highways; county courts of quarter sessions are to appoint supervisors to lay out roads on the petitions of 12 or more citizens; roads are to be built and maintained by levying the labor of local residents. (PL)
- Aug. 2, 1792 Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures, finding the bids for erecting the mill and machinery unsatisfactory, places the construction under Maj. Pierre C. L'Enfant, John Noble Cumming and the artisans Hall, Marshall and Pearce engaged by Hamilton. (JSDavis)
- Aug. 2, 1792 Bank of New York issues an additional \$400,000 in stock, which is subscribed immediately. (JSDavis)
- Aug. 1792 Austro-Prussian forces sweep into France, taking many frontier forts. (Blanning)
- Aug. 9, 1792 After the Assembly fails to depose Louis XVI, the Jacobin Party, backed by the city of Paris's poorer artisan classes, overthrows the Commune (city government) and establishes a radical one; they are thus in a position to overawe the Assembly and control the national government. (EncycBrit, )
- Aug. 10, 1792 Paris mob storms the Tuileries palace and massacres the king's Swiss Guards; Louis XVI seeks the protection of the Assembly and is made a prisoner and suspended from office; the moderate Constitution of 1791 is abolished; the Legislative Assembly is to be superseded by a National Convention that will write a new constitution. (Blanning)
- Aug. 13, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company orders John Nicholson, George Clymer and Samuel Miles to arrange to begin work at once at the summit level. (MB)
- Aug. 13, 1792 Patrick Colquhoun, agent of the Pennsylvania canal companies in London, writes from there that he has secured the service of William Weston (1753-1833?), an English civil engineer from Gainsborough-on-Trent, who will arrive before Christmas; Weston is the son of Samuel Weston, a canal engineer who has worked under James Brindley, Sr.; the younger Weston has worked on the Oxford Canal and the Trent Bridge at Gainsborough; Weston almost single-handedly brings the traditions of British civil engineering to the U.S. (MB, CHTP18, Kirby)
- Aug. 13, 1792 The French royal family is imprisoned in the Temple, the old castle and church of the medieval Knights Templar. (Mostert)
- Aug. 14, 1792 Western Inland Lock Navigation Company appoints Elkanah Watson

(1758-1842), Philip Schuyler (1733-1804), and Goldsborough Bayner a committee to explore the Mohawk River from Schenectady to Fort Schuyler; the committee uses the services of Archibald Nesbit, a Scots engineer, and Moses DeWitt, a surveyor, as consultants. (Sweet, JSDavis)

- Aug. 1792 The ideological quarrel between Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson and Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton breaks out into open warfare waged by their minions in the columns of rival newspapers, especially the *Federalist Gazette of the United States* and the Jeffersonian *National Gazette* in Philadelphia; in Philadelphia, where handicraft manufacturing is more deeply established, artisans protest the unfair exemptions and “monopolies” granted to the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures and similar enterprises and fear it will ruin them. (JSDavis)
- Aug. 1792 The first group of German settlers recruited by Charles Williamson arrives in Philadelphia; they are mostly urban poor with no pioneering skills. (Cowan)
- Aug. 17, 1792 John Nicholson reports to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company on a plan for the summit canal; can dig the levels between the locks before the British engineer arrives; Matlack, Bull and Brindley are to supervise the work, which is to be done by contract laborers; the canal to be 30 feet wide on the bottom and 4 feet deep. (MB)
- Aug. 19, 1792 The Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834) emigrates after his troops fail to follow him in a march on Paris to restore the constitutional monarchy; the Prussians invade France from the east. (EncycBrit, Andress)
- Aug. 20, 1792 Surveyors of Western Inland Lock Navigation Company leave Schenectady for Fort Stanwix (Rome). (Sweet, Whitford)
- Aug. 21, 1792 Convention held in Pittsburgh to condemn the excise tax on whiskey. (JSDavis)
- Aug. 22, 1792 Directors of the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures tour the site at Paterson and examine the mill and machinery. (JSDavis)
- Sep. 1, 1792 Western Inland Lock Navigation Company committee reports the cost of £10,500 for a canal at Little Falls and £3,000 for a summit canal at Fort Stanwix and the improvement of Wood Creek, or a total for the entire project of £39,500; urge economy, including the use of wooden locks, which rot in 6 years; states the belief that the company can be managed with an American superintendent and that he and a few skilled carpenters can easily copy the canals being built in Pa. and Va.; Philip Schuyler, with no engineering training, comes to superintend both the Western and Northern Inland Navigation projects. (Sweet, Whitford, JSDavis)

- Sep. 2, 1792 Philip Schuyler dismisses Alexander Nisbet from the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company after experimenting with the building of wooden canal locks. (Calhoun)
- Sep. 2, 1792 Fed by the fears of invasion, the September Massacres begin in Paris with the murders of non-juring priests and friars; over the next five days, about half the prison population of Paris, or 1,200-1,400 people, are hacked and beaten to death by mobs after kangaroo court trials; while some aristocrats and many clergy are among the victims, many more are common criminals luckless enough to be incarcerated at the time.
- Sep. 11, 1792 Stockholders of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company approve construction plans and order books reopened to place the full 1,000 shares. (JSDavis)
- Sep. 15, 1792 Pres. Washington issues a proclamation to cease protests against the excise tax on whiskey and obey the laws; assaults and tarring-and-featherings continue. (JSDavis, HistAllghnyCo)
- Sep. 1792 Five Dutch banking houses and their lawyer form a pool called the “Club of Six” to invest 1.4 million florins in U.S. land and another 933,333 florins for equipment, sales and other expenses; the houses are Willem & Jan Willink, 16/56, Peter Stadnitski, 13/56, Jacob Van Staphorst, 12/56, Christiaan Van Eeghen, 8/56, ten Cate & Vollenhoven, 5/56, and Rutger Jan Schimmelpenninck, 2/56; the group then buys 3.3 million acres from Robert Morris. (Van Winter)
- Sep. 1792 The German settlers for the Pulteney Purchase arrive at Lycoming Creek (Williamsport) where they are made to cut a road northward (approximately present U.S. Route 15) under the supervision of Benjamin Patterson, a work for which they are ill-suited; Patterson finally reaches Painted Post in New York by Dec. 1792. (Cowan)
- Sep. 1792 Village of Armagh founded in Armstrong County, Pa., by a group of emigrants from Antrim and Armagh in Ireland. (Stewart)
- Sep. 20, 1792 French Revolutionary army defeats the Prussians at Valmy when the Duke of Brunswick, who expected little resistance, breaks off the engagement after a brief artillery duel; the French win a great psychological victory and momentum shifts decisively against the Counter-revolutionaries. (Mercer)
- Sep. 20, 1792 The French National Convention, which is to write a new, more democratic constitution, meets for the first time; the Convention sits until 1795 as the national government. (EncycBrit)

- Sep. 21, 1792 Surveys begun for Northern Inland Lock Navigation Company. (Rept)
- Sep. 21, 1792 French National Convention, elected to prepare a new constitution, abolishes the monarchy and proclaims the First French Republic. (history.com)
- Sep. 22, 1792 Future Philadelphia banker and railroad promoter William David Lewis (1792-1881) born at Christiana, Del. (WwasW)
- Sep. 24, 1792 France conquers Savoy, as its armies advance beyond its borders; most of the war's battles will no longer be fought on French soil, although civil war rages in royalist areas in the south and west; French armies either annex territory or set up French-style satellite republics as they advance. (Mercer)
- Sep. 25, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board discusses whether to improve the beds of the Tulpehocken and Quittapahilla Creeks or to build a canal along the banks. (MB)
- Sep. 27, 1792 Ouiatenon (Wea) make separate peace with U.S. at Vincennes. (Esarey, Derleth)
- Sep. 29, 1792 Pres. Washington authorizes the public sale of lots within the City of Washington, D.C.; there are few takers. (Scharf)
- Oct. 1, 1792 Oliver Evans files specifications for a U.S. patent on steam wagons, something that has preoccupied him off and on since 1774. (Bathe)
- Oct. 8, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board selects the southern route for the canal; authorizes Col. Thomas Bull to buy a strip 100 feet wide at up to £20 per acres and to engage workmen. (MB)
- Oct. 8, 1792 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company contracts with Dr. William Moore Smith, the Secretary of the company, for a 66-foot strip at Norristown; the canal prism to be 28 x 5 x 19. (MB)
- Oct. 8, 1792 Second auction sale of lots held in Washington, D.C.; results in the sale of only 52 more lots; the sums realized from the sales is far from what is needed to develop the city. (Arnebeck, Arbuckle)
- Oct. 13, 1792 Cornerstone of the President's House laid with Masonic ceremonies in Washington, D.C. (Arnebeck)
- Oct. 15, 1792 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company appoints Isaac Roberdeau, formerly Pierre L'Enfant's assistant at Washington, to make a survey and profile for the canal. (MB)

- Oct. 1792 Timothy Matlack and Thomas Bull begin staking out the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company's summit canal; they are met by threats of armed force by the local residents, who resent the intrusion of rich Philadelphians into their entirely German community and having their farms cut up; persons interfere with the survey of Ley's land, and stakes are pulled up at night and burned, as is the camp being built for the workmen. (MB)
- Oct. 1792 Committee of the Northern Inland Lock Navigation Company lays out a route between the Hudson River and Lake Champlain. (JSDavis)
- Oct. 23, 1792 French take Frankfurt-am-Main. (Blanning)
- Oct. 28, 1792 Prince Dimitri Dimitrievich Gallitzin (1770-1840), the heir of an ancient Russian noble family, who has converted from Russian Orthodoxy to Roman Catholicism, arrives in Baltimore with letters of introduction to Bishop John Carroll; he decides to enter the priesthood and voluntarily forfeit his inheritance; he changes his name to Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin, and between becoming a citizen in 1802 and 1809 goes by the name of Augustine Smith. (wiki)
- Oct. 30, 1792 The younger Mr. Ley and John Meyer meet with Timothy Matlack and Thomas Bull and inform them of the results of a town meeting held the day before; the residents agree to halt active resistance while they petition the Legislature, providing that the company also stops work; Bull and Matlack refuse to stop and claim that their surveys are done. (MB)
- Oct. 30, 1792 French occupy Basle in Switzerland and proclaim the Helvetian republic. (Mercer)
- Oct. 31, 1792 Timothy Matlack and Thomas Bull report to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board on the situation on the Tulpehocken and that they have staked out the canal; Bull reports that he has made no land purchases and that many farmers want to sell their whole farms rather than have them cut in half; the Board appoints a committee to confer with the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal and Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road on sending a joint agent to New England to recruit labor. (MB)
- Nov. 1, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board orders Thomas Bull to employ laborers at not more than 3s6d (70 cents) per day; overseers to get 7s6d with the company to provide tools and provisions; give Bull a \$1,000 advance; he is to get an agreement with the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal and the Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road to observe a uniform ceiling on the wages to be offered. (MB)
- Nov. 3, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board appoints William

- Duncan, a friend and confidant of John Nicholson as commissary. (MB)
- Nov. 3, 1792 William Weston embarks from Falmouth, England on the *Carteret*. (MB??)
- Nov. 5, 1792 Patrick Colquhoun, agent of Pennsylvania canal companies in London, formally contracts for the service of William Weston, an English civil engineer from Gainsborough-on-Trent, for five years at £800 per year; Weston is to devote seven months per year to company business but may work on other projects to his own benefit for the other five months; if the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation is completed within five years, Weston is to make himself available for other projects in Pennsylvania and New York. (MB)
- Nov. 6, 1792 The French Army wins the Battle of Jemappes near Mons, opening the way to the occupation of the Austrian Netherlands, modern Belgium. (Black)
- Nov. 9, 1792 Alexander Hamilton makes an agreement with John Campbell, a Scottish stocking weaver to bring stocking frames, tools and 12 skilled workers to establish a stocking factory for the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures at Paterson, N.J. (Arbuckle)
- Nov. 9, 1792 Faced with a poor harvest, British Orders-in-Council bar the export of grain until spring. (Barnes)
- Nov. 10, 1792 Joint committee of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna, Delaware & Schuylkill, and Conewago Canals and Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road meets; Isaac Roberdeau (1763-1829), who had worked under Pierre C. L'Enfant on laying out Washington, D.C. and Paterson, N.J., is named agent of all three companies at \$120 per month; he later becomes William Weston's assistant; the companies agree to cooperate with each other and with local employers of day laborers so as not to increase wages by bidding against each other; workers imported from New England are to be excepted. (MB, CHTP18)
- Nov. 13, 1792 Trenton, N.J., incorporated as a city. (Woodward)
- Nov. 14, 1792 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board authorizes buying the mill of Baltzer Orth on the head of the Quittapahilla Creek for £4,250 and two tracts of Abraham Crow for £2,600; appoints John Nicholson and William Smith to report on the company's progress to Gov. Mifflin. (MB)
- Nov. 14, 1792 Joint committee of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna, Delaware & Schuylkill, and Conewago Canals and Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road agrees to a common plan to procure laborers in New England, 400 for each of the main canals, 150 for the Conewago Canal, and 200 for the turnpike, also 10 yoke of oxen, carts and drivers for the turnpike; maximum wage is to be 3s per day in winter and 3s6d in spring and summer; are to be given \$5 each

for moving expenses and the use of company teams; companies are to sell provisions to the men at cost; men are to report to Philadelphia about Mar. 10, 1793. (MB)

- Nov. 14, 1792 French enter Brussels in the Austrian Netherlands, having defeated the Austrians at Jemappes on Nov. 6. (Mercer)
- Nov. 1792 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company begins work at Norristown; route of the canal runs from Norristown to the Delaware River in Northern Liberties; Jonathan Robeson, Superintendent; several disconnected sections dug by 1800. ( , CHTP18)
- Nov. 1792 Town of Beaver, Pa., laid out by Daniel Leet. (Richard)
- Nov. 19, 1792 French issue a proclamation promising assistance to any people who try to overthrow their own monarchs. (Hague)
- Nov. 21, 1792 Accident aborts a second test of James Rumsey's steamboat *Columbian Maid* at Greenwich, England. (Shagena)
- Nov. 23, 1792 William Weston embarks for New York.
- Nov. 23, 1792 Bank of Alexandria ("The President, Directors & Company of the Bank of Alexandria") incorporated in Va.; first incorporated bank in Va.; capital is only \$150,000; Jefferson and other Virginia opponents of banks relax their stance, as the bank is necessary to permit Virginia to compete with Baltimore. (PL, JSDavis, Starnes)
- Nov. 28, 1792 Rancocus Toll-Bridge Company incorporated in N.J. to build a bridge at Wallace's Ferry in Burlington; completed 1793. (JSDavis)
- Nov. 29, 1792 N.J. Legislature abolishes the lottery privileges of the Commissioners for the Bridges over the Rivers Passaic & Hackensack and orders them to proceed by the sale of shares. (JSDavis)
- Nov. 29, 1792 French take Antwerp. (Mercer)
- Dec. 1, 1792 Pres. William Bingham informs Gov. Thomas Mifflin that the Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road has been located and staked out. (Landis)
- Dec. 1, 1792 British government of William Pitt mobilizes the militia in response to the situation in France and the fear of Jacobin influences at home. (Andress)
- Dec. 2, 1792 Prussians recapture Frankfurt-am-Main, where they are greeted as liberators. (Blanning)



- Dec. 3, 1792 Joint committee of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna, Delaware & Schuylkill, and Conewago Canals and Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road orders Agent Isaac Roberdeau to depart immediately for the East to procure labor; decrease the number of men for the Conewago Canal to 100 and increase the number for the turnpike to 250. (MB)
- Dec. 5, 1792 James Guthrie (1792-1896), future U.S. Senator and railroad entrepreneur at Louisville, born near Bardstown, Ky. (CongBio)
- Dec. 13, 1792 On behalf of the “Club of Six” Dutch investors (Wilhelm Willink, Nicholas Van Staphorst, Christiaan Van Eeghen, Hendrick Vollenhoven, Rutger Jan Schimmelpeninck and Peter Stadnitski, later the Holland Land Company), Theophile Cazenove agrees to buy from James Wilson the following lands in northern Pennsylvania: 13,175 acres on Towanda Creek, 920,454 acres east of the Allegheny River along the Clarion River, and 499,660 acres west of the Allegheny River. (Van Winter, HistClarionCo)
- Dec. 14, 1792 Thomas Willing and Robert Gilmer take out warrants for 46,000 acres in north-central Pennsylvania; they are later transferred to Willing’s son-in-law William Bingham. (HistClarionCo)
- Dec. 1792 Stagecoach line established between Albany and Whitestown in Oneida County. (Reynolds)
- Dec. 1792 James Rumsey retests his engine and resumes work on his steamboat. (Flexner)
- Dec. 16, 1792 James Rumsey stages a third trial of his steamboat *Columbian Maid* on the Thames. (Shagena)
- Dec. 17, 1792 Pa. contracts with Samuel Jackson to improve the Monongahela River for £1,200; work not completed. (SenJrnl)
- Dec. 18, 1792 James Rumsey (1743-1792) dies of a stroke brought on by excitement from addressing the Mechanics Society in London. (Flexner)
- Dec. 18, 1792 New York act cedes a tract at Montauk Point at the east end of Long Island for building a lighthouse. (PL)
- Dec. 19, 1792 Robert Morris writes to his son, Robert Morris, Jr., who has gone to Europe to find purchasers for his Genesee lands, not to sell any, as prices are too low; unfortunately, the letter cannot reach Europe until Robert, Jr., has made a sale to the Dutch. (Chernow)
- Dec. 21, 1792 Virginia passes a stricter act for the inspection of flour. (PL)

- Dec. 22, 1792 Charter supplement to the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company reduces the required depth of water and lock size. (JSDavis - verify)
- Dec. 22, 1792 Books of the Pennsylvania Population Company closed; subscribers include John Nicholson (535 share), Aaron Burr (524 shares), Peter Standnitski (300 share), Theophile Cazenove (200 shares), J. H. Vollenhoven (150 shares), Robert Morris (100 shares), James Wilson (20 shares), and Tench Francis (10 shares); it has acquired about 460,000 acres in present Erie and Crawford Counties. (HistCrawfrdCo)
- Dec. 23, 1792 Baltimore Water Company incorporated in Md.; first incorporated water supply company in U.S. (JSDavis)
- Dec. 23, 1792 Bank of Richmond (“The President, Directors & Company of the Bank of Richmond”) incorporated in Va.; not enough subscriptions to organize. (PL, JSDavis)
- Dec. 24, 1792 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation appoints a new committee to draft a bill for improving the Delaware River and its tributaries above tide, also a bill for improving branches of the Susquehanna River, including Bald Eagle Creek, Pine Creek, Tioga River, and branches of the Juniata River, especially the Little Juniata. (MB)
- Dec. 24, 1792 Robert Morris completes the sale of 1.5 million acres west of the Genesee River on the western boundary of the state to Theophile Cazenove, the representative of Dutch investors; £75,000 up front for the first 1 million acres, and £37,500 for the rest; the Dutch are to have three years in which they can back out of the deal, in which case, the cash advance becomes a loan; these terms will keep Morris entangled in the affairs of the Holland Land Company into 1801; the land is conveyed to the New York mercantile house of LeRoy, Bayard & Co. in trust for the Dutch; Morris is to remove Indian titles; Morris decides the price is too low and decides to withhold the rest of his lands from market; however, before he receives instructions to the contrary, his son Robert Jr., his agent in Europe, sells another 1 million acres to the Dutch for 650,000 florins, and a further option on another 800,000 acres; these prices were close to the break-even point. (Cowan, Rappleye, Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- 1792 Beginning in 1792, Robert Morris and John Nicholson acting jointly acquire a total of 1,721,327 acres of Pennsylvania land by 1794. (Chernow)
- 1792 Jesse Brown of Norwich and Jacob Brown of New Haven begin stagecoach service twice a week along Long Island Sound from New Haven through New London and Norwich to Providence. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- 1792 Potomac Company reports it has completed a sluice navigation between

Great Falls and Seneca Falls and through Hook's Falls. (Kapsch)

- 1792 Driven out of Sainte Dominique by the revolt, James Perkins ( -1822) returns to Boston and with his younger brother Thomas Handasyd Perkins (1764-1854) forms the partnership of J. & T.H. Perkins to trade with China. (DAB, Haddad)
- 1792 Future Pa. Congressman and Canal Commissioner Edward Burd Hubley (1792-1856) born at Reading. (CongBio)
- 1792 William Henry, Jr. ( - ) builds a gun factory near Nazareth. Pa. (Alderfer)
- 1792 Samuel Potts (1736-1793) sells his share in the old Norwegian Company tract near present Pottsville to Isaac Thomas ( -1815) and Lewis Reese, who begin a large lumbering operation; Potts reserves the mineral rights to himself and his heirs; after buying out the other heirs, his son-in-law Nathaniel Potts Hobart ( - ) will begin to assert these rights aggressively in 1826 when the tract is opened to market by canal. (Nolan/Unger - but on another page says Thomas and Reese bought the surface rights in 1796 and 1797)
- 1792 Petersburg, Pa., later Duncannon, laid out on the Susquehanna River by Christian Miller. (Jordan/Juniata)
- 1792 Blairsville, Pa., founded by Capt. John Blair.
- 1792 Centre Furnace blown in near present State College, Pa. (explorepahistory.com)
- 1792 Forge built on George's Creek south of Uniontown. (Warren)
- 1792 John Nicholson forms a partnership with John Hayden to build the first (?) blast furnace west of the Allegheny Mountains at Fairfield, near Uniontown. (Arbuckle)
- 1792 Two new firms, W. & J. Willink and Rutger Jan Schimmelpenninck, join the consortium of four Dutch banking houses investing in the U.S.; their agent, Theophile Cazenove purchases 1.5 million acres in northwestern Pennsylvania; in 1792-93 he buys 200,000 acres in central New York and 3.3 million acres west of the Genesee River; as aliens are not allowed to own land in N.Y., he must operate through a board of American trustees. (Chazanof)
- 1792 American sea island cotton first offered in Glasgow. (Lefebvre)
- 1792 British engineer William Jessop (1745-1814) designs "fish-bellied" cast

iron rails set on stone blocks; first used in 1793-94 on a colliery railway at Loughborough in Leicestershire. (Marshall)

- Jan. 1, 1793 Robert Morris is unable to repay the \$50,000 second installment on the mortgage to the Pulteney Associates on Morris Reserve Tract No. 1. (Chernow, Rappleye)
- Jan. 1, 1793 County seat of Sussex County, Del., moved from Lewes to Georgetown. (Long)
- Jan. 5, 1793 District of Columbia commissioners hire Samuel Blodgett, Jr. (1757-1814), as Superintendent of the City; he proposes a scheme of lotteries to build first a grand hotel and then groups of houses. (Arnebeck)
- Jan. 7, 1793 In its first annual report, Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company reports that 80 to 100 men are at work and about a half-mile of canal has been dug; are working on the summit level on land purchased by John Nicholson from Jacob Schaffer; have struck rock at a depth of 9 feet. (MB)
- Jan. 11, 1793 Robert Morris sells 86,793 acres of the so-called Triangle Tract at the extreme northeast of Morris Reserve Tract No. 1 to LeRoy & Bayard for \$30,000, notwithstanding it is mortgaged to the Pultney Associates and Morris has defaulted on payments. (Chernow)
- Jan. 14, 1793 William Weston presents himself to a board meeting of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company, which approves his contract made in London in Nov. 1792; Weston brings with him a Troughton wye level, generally believed to be the first modern leveling instrument in the U.S.; Weston concentrates on the S&S Navigation but also works on the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal and Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road. (MB, )
- Jan. 14, 1793 Pennsylvania Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation presents memorial to Assembly with suggestions for completing the system of river improvements. (HsJrnl)
- Jan. 16, 1793 Philip Schuyler of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company begins corresponding with William Weston, asking him to inspect the sites and give advice. (Calhoun)
- Jan. 17, 1793 Samuel Forrer (1793-1874), engineer of Ohio canals and railroads, born in Dauphin County, Pa. (Stuart)
- Jan. 19, 1793 Pennsylvania House appoints committee on how to spend £5,000 appropriation for roads and rivers. (HsJrnl)

- Jan. 21, 1793 After a trial by the Convention, Louis XVI (1754-1793), deposed King of the French, is guillotined, an act that raises the stakes for the other crowned heads of Europe and ensures that the war will be long and bitter with no room for compromise. (Blanning)
- Jan. 23, 1793 Prussia and Russia signs a treaty revoking the liberal Polish Constitution of May 1791 and rewarding themselves with large chunks of Polish territory; Poland loses over half of its remaining territory and over half its population; Prussia bases its demands as compensation for entering the war against France at Russia's urging and suffering defeat at Valmy. (wiki)
- Jan. 26, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company, Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company, Conewago Canal Company and Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road Company make a new contract with William Weston for his full time at a salary of £1,500; Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board authorizes Superintendent Thomas Bull to build a blacksmith shop and hire a blacksmith. (MB)
- Jan. 26, 1793 William Lewis and Richard Peters (1744-1828) of Philadelphia secure warrants on 16,500 acres in present Clarion County and additional land in present Forest County. (HistClarionCo)
- Jan. 28, 1793 William Weston begins one week of surveying for the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal. (MB)
- Jan. 28, 1793 William Bingham buys William Duer's share in the 3 million acres of Maine lands; Henry Knox is to receive one-third of the resale profits, but Bingham holds his share of the land as collateral for a loan. (Alberts)
- Jan. 29, 1793 Bank of North America agrees for the state to subscribe for \$750,000 at 400, but the deal falls through. (Schwartz/JPE55)
- Jan. 29, 1793 Pres. Washington confirms the appointment of Henry Voight (1743-1814), formerly John Fitch's mechanic, as Chief Coiner of the new U.S. Mint in Philadelphia, a post he holds until his death in 1814. (Flexner)
- Jan. 31, 1793 Commissioners for the Bridges over the Rivers Passaic & Hackensack advertise for contractors to build the bridges and subscriptions of \$40,000 for each bridge, which is quickly subscribed in New York and Newark. (JSDavis)
- Jan. 31, 1793 Inhabitants of Lancaster County present first petition against act of Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road Company to Legislature; complain against exercise of eminent domain in cutting up farms to build a straight and regular, rather than a traditional meandering and undulating road. (HsJrnl)

- Jan. 31, 1793 Pa. contracts with Isaac Meason and John Gibson to improve the Youghiogheny River from its mouth to Jacobs Creek with an appropriation of £1,200; work completed. (SenJrnl 1807/08)
- Early 1793 City of New Brunswick declines to subscribe money for the bridge over the Raritan River. (JSDavis)
- Feb. 1, 1793 France's revolutionary government declares war on Great Britain and the Dutch Republic, both of which have tried to remain neutral; Britain then makes treaties with the other opponents of France, creating the First Coalition with Austria, Prussia, Spain, the Dutch Republic, and the Bourbon kingdom of Naples beginning 22 years of war in Europe; France comes to rely on neutral American shipping to serve her Caribbean colonies; capital flows into booming foreign trade, starving domestic improvement projects. (EncycBrit, Lefebvre, Mercer)
- Feb. 1, 1793 William Weston leaves Philadelphia to examine Delaware & Schuylkill Canal at Norristown, where about 200 men are at work. (Smith)
- Feb. 4, 1793 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation hears committee report on which roads should be made under state's annual appropriation of £5,000. (MB)
- Feb. 4, 1793 William Weston travels from Norristown to Lebanon, where about 400 men at work; the Troughton level is sent up to Lebanon on the Harrisburg stage. (MB, Smith)
- Feb. 4, 1793 Resurvey of Robert Morris's purchase of Genesee lands from Phelps and Gorham made by Adam Hoops, Frederick Saxton, John Adlum and Augustus Porter, shows a total acreage of 1,264,569 acres instead of 1 million; Morris pays Phelps and Gorham an additional £9,476 on Feb. 16. (Chernow)
- Feb. 5, 1793 William Weston and William Smith examine water supply on summit level of Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company's canal. (Smith)
- Feb. 7, 1793 Peter Colt (1744-1824), formerly Treasurer of Connecticut, becomes Superintendent of the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures at Paterson. (Trumbull)
- Feb. 11, 1793 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation hears report that the Proprietors of the Susquehanna Canal in Maryland have received an offer from Dutch investors for their franchise but have suspended negotiations to learn the views of Pennsylvania; Society appoints a committee to investigate, including the possibility of linking it to a

Chesapeake & Delaware Canal; debates preparation of a memorial for incorporating a company to improve the Schuylkill from the mouth of Stony Creek to the mouth of the Tulpehocken, linking the two existing canal projects. (MB)

- Feb. 1793 Financial panic in England caused by jitters in the wake of Louis XVI's execution and France's declaration of war; the monetary expansion and speculative "canal mania" ends; country banks that have sprung up like mushrooms on French émigré capital begin failing; Robert Morris loses £124,000 in the failure of a small London bank. (Kindleberger, Chew/JER 25:4, Rappleye)
- Feb. 1793 Daniel Parker, James Rumsey's partner makes one last attempt to run the *Columbian Maid*. (Shagena)
- Feb. 1793 Philip A. Schuyler (1754-1795), Jacob Mark and Nicholas J. Roosevelt (1767-1854) form the New Jersey Copper Mine Association to reopen the Schuyler Copper Mine and rebuild the Newcomen pumping engine, which has been idle for about 20 years. (Pursell)
- Feb. 16, 1793 French army under Gen. Charles François Dumouriez (1739-1823) invades the Dutch Republic. (Lefebvre)
- Feb. 17, 1793 Commissioners for the Bridges over the Rivers Passaic & Hackensack contract for construction the bridges. (DL&WCorps)
- Feb. 18, 1793 France opens all its ports in the West Indies, East Indies and Mascarene Islands to American shipping, in order to ensure flows of American supplies; in response, the Royal Navy begins seizing American ships trading with the West Indies, creating an international crisis. (McMaster, Chew.JER 25:4, Taylor)
- Feb. 19, 1793 Commissioners for the Bridges over the Rivers Passaic & Hackensack contract with the subscribers to the 400 total shares guaranteeing them the right to all tolls until Nov. 24, 1889. (JSDavis)
- Feb. 19, 1793 Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures names Peter Colt of Hartford, formerly Treasurer of Connecticut, as Superintendent at a salary of \$2,500 per year; replaces the more informal supervision of John Noble Cumming (1752?-1821); he places the operations on a sounder footing; Colt clashes with Pierre C. L'Enfant, whose skills are necessary for building the millraces, but who prefers the non-essential artistic problem of laying out the town; once again, L'Enfant's grandiose ideas are beyond the means available. (JSDavis, DAB)
- Feb. 19, 1793 William Weston make his first report to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna

Navigation Company; bottom of canal is to be 20 feet wide instead of 30 feet, with six feet of depth on the summit level to act as a reservoir; top width to be 38 feet on the summit level and 30.5 feet elsewhere; locks to be 60 x 9 feet. (MB)

- Feb. 19, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board recommends issuing scrip in denominations from 5 cents to \$4.00, as Supt. Thomas Bull has reported a lack of hard money in the Lebanon area. (MB)
- Feb. 20, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company purchases 152 acres from John Kintner for \$2,666. (MB)
- Feb. 20, 1793 First lots sold in Mead's Settlement, later Meadville, Pa. (HistCrawfrdCo)
- Feb. 21, 1793 Congress passes new Patent Act which remains in force to 1836; drops requirement of review for priority of invention and grants patents simply on filing and paying the fee, leading to frequent and bitter patent lawsuits. (Maxey, McDougall)
- Feb. 24, 1793 French National Convention introduces nationwide conscription of 300,000 men to bolster its dwindling armies; resistance to forced conscription in the traditionally Catholic western region of the Vendée leads to a civil war in which as many as 400,000 are killed. (Lefebvre, Blanning)
- Feb. 26, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board orders William Weston to direct all work, overseers, etc., to explore ways of turning all the springs at the summit level into the canal, and to order 500 spades of an approved pattern. (MB)
- Feb. 27, 1793 William Weston begins five days of work for the Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road. (MB)
- Feb. 27, 1793 Robert Morris, Jr.'s deed to the Dutch houses for 1 million acres of Genesee land lying just west of the Morris Reserve, plus an option on an additional 800,000 acres, is recorded in New York State. (Chernow, Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- Mar. 1, 1793 William Pollard, who has acquired U.S. rights to the Arkwright spinning frame, agrees with John Nicholson to build a cotton mill at the Falls of Schuylkill, where Nicholson plans a diversified manufacturing village. (Shelton)
- Mar. 5, 1793 Second petition of residents of Lancaster County against Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road Company presented to Legislature. (HsJrnl)
- Mar. 5, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company has notes outstanding totaling \$56,928. (MB)



- Mar. 6, 1793 "The President, Directors & Company of the Bank of Columbia" incorporated at Hudson, N.Y., with a capital of \$160,000. (PL)
- Mar. 7, 1793 France declares war on Spain. (Blanning)
- Mar. 9, 1793 Charter supplement to Western Inland Lock Navigation Company authorizes the use of surplus water for manufacturing or irrigation. (JSDavis)
- Mar. 9, 1793 Pennsylvania declares Pocopoco Creek from the falls up to Jan Sherbantje's dam to be a public highway. (PL)
- ca. Mar. 10, 1793 Laborers from New England arrive to build the Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road and the two canals. (CnlCrrnts, Landis)
- Mar. 10, 1793 The French National Convention creates the Revolutionary Tribunal to punish all counter-revolutionary offenses in France with death; there is no appeal from its sentences. (Andress, Lefebvre)
- Mar. 11, 1793 New York act authorizes improving the public highway from Jamaica through the middle of the Hempstead Plains on Long Island. (PL)
- Mar. 12, 1793 The Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, Arts & Manufactures incorporated in N.Y. by Robert R. Livingston (1746-1813), George Clinton (1739-1812), Ezra L'Hommedieu, Josiah Ogden Hoffman (1766-1837), Walter Rutherford (1723-1804), Philip Van Cortlandt (1749-1831), Richard Varick (1753-1831), John Jay (1745-1829), John Stevens (1749-1838), Jeremiah Van Rensselaer (1738-1810), John Delafield (1749-1824), Horatio Gates (1728?-1806), et al. (PL)
- Mar. 14, 1793 James Clarke (1793-1867), future Canal Commissioner and "father" of Pennsylvania's state canal and railroad system, born at Cruckleton's Town, Franklin County, Pa. (NAF)
- Mar. 1793 Britain makes a treaty with Russia to shut its ports against France and prohibit the export of naval stores to France. (Sharrer)
- Mar. 1793 British war-generated financial shocks reach London; over 500 bankruptcies in the city by May; Robert Morris loses \$500,000, leaving him short of cash with which to pay for lands already contracted for. (Chew/JER 25:4, Arnebeck)
- Mar. 18, 1793 French army under Gen. Charles François Dumouriez, the victor of Jemappes, is defeated at Neerwinden in the Austrian Netherlands, which are retaken by the Counter-revolutionaries, who then advance across the border

into France; Dumouriez defects on Apr. 5 rather than face the guillotine for his failure and plots against the radicals in the Convention; the treason of their former War Minister tars the moderate Girondin Party. (Andress, Mercer)

- Mar. 19, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company calls in a further assessment of \$25 per share. (MB)
- Mar. 21, 1793 The French National Convention creates Surveillance Committees in every village, city and neighborhood. (Andress)
- Mar. 25, 1793 Gov. Thomas Mifflin appoints viewers to examine the work on the Juniata River. (PaArch)
- Mar. 30, 1793 Bank of Pennsylvania incorporated with a capital of \$3 million by John Nicholson, John Stanwick, Clement Biddle (1740-1814), John Ross (1770-1834), Albert Gallatin (1761-1849), et al.; controlled by Republicans as counterweight to Bank of North America, which serves only elite merchants; state subscribes \$1 million in lieu of its \$750,000 subscription to the Bank of North America, and the bank becomes the fiscal agent of state; the state names 6 of 13 directors, and the bank is obligated to give the state a permanent line of credit of \$500,000; the Bank of Pennsylvania finances mostly retail merchants and tradesmen, where the older banks had confined their activities to financing foreign trade. (PL, Schwartz/JPE55)
- Spring 1793 John Fitch leaves for France to promote his steamboat, but with his usual luck arrives just in time for the Reign of Terror; he finds he is also unable to promote his invention in England or export a steam engine from England to the U.S. (Shagena)
- Apr. 1, 1793 French National Convention decrees that its members have no immunity if suspected of high treason, opening the way for endless purges and political executions. (Lefebvre)
- Apr. 3, 1793 John Nicholson engages John Nancarrow, who had engaged in mining in England, and Thomas Bedwell to explore and purchase or lease mineral deposits that seem valuable; they inspect mines in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Virginia, Connecticut and present-day Tennessee; Nicholson invests in numerous copper, lead and silver mines. (Arbuckle)
- Apr. 5, 1793 Pennsylvania House votes to impeach Comptroller-General John Nicholson for speculating in “new loan” certificates and certifying them to be assumable and redeemable by the state. (Arbuckle)
- Apr. 6, 1793 French National Convention appoints a Committee of Public Safety of nine members, which in effect becomes a ruling council and from which the

- Girondins are excluded. (Lefebvre, Address)
- Apr. 8, 1793 Pennsylvania declares Chartiers Creek up to David Bradford's mills to be a public highway. (PL)
- Apr. 8, 1793 Pennsylvania authorizes laying out town at Presque Isle (Erie). (PL, Tinkcom)
- Apr. 8, 1793 Edmond Genêt (1763-1834), minister of Revolutionary France, lands at Charleston, S.C., and begins an effort to have the U.S. join the war on Britain; he enlists many Americans as privateers. (EAH)
- Apr. 9, 1793 Bank of Alexandria (Va.) organized. (JSDavis)
- Apr. 10, 1793 Conewago Canal incorporated as a separate company; the contractors of 1792 are given powers of eminent domain to condemn a right of way but not allowed to charge tolls; James Brindley, Superintendent. (PL, CHTP18)
- Apr. 10, 1793 The President, Managers & Company of the Brandywine Canal Navigation incorporated in Pa. to build from the Delaware line up to the Lancaster Turnpike on the East Branch. (PL)
- Apr. 11, 1793 Pennsylvania establishes a loan office with a loan of \$500,000 extorted as the price of the charter for the Bank of Pennsylvania. (PL, JSDavis)
- Apr. 11, 1793 Pennsylvania appropriates a further \_\_\_\_\_ for roads, including \$1,333 for a road from Reading to Presque Isle (Erie); John Nicholson contracts for a road between French Creek and Lake Erie; development is delayed by Indian troubles on the frontier. ( , McKnight, Arbuckle)
- Apr. 11, 1793 President, Managers & Company for Building a Bridge over the River Susquehanna River (at Black Rock 4 miles below Wrights Ferry) incorporated in Pa.; no letters patent issued and not built. (PL, JSDavis)
- Apr. 11, 1793 Philip Schuyler accepts the post of Superintendent of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company and Northern Inland Lock Navigation Company at a salary of £1,000 a year despite poor health, in order to move the projects forward; he hopes to get the occasional advice of William Weston; he also recommends the hiring of a surveyor for the season and an assistant to manage the workmen. (Calhoun)
- Apr. 15, 1793 William Weston begins 12 days of work on the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal. (MB)
- Apr. 1793 Josiah Nottage of Boston, builder of the Charles River Bridge there, arrives with a number of workmen to build the bridges over the Passaic and

Hackensack Rivers on the new road between Paulus Hook and Newark.  
(JSDavis)

- Apr. 1793 Western Inland Lock Navigation Company begins work at Little Falls, N.Y., with nearly 300 laborers. (Whitford)
- Apr. 1793 Gov. Thomas Mifflin appoints Andrew Ellicott (1754-1820), William Irvine (1741-1804), and John Wilkins (1761-1816) to lay out a road from Reading to Presque Isle (Erie).
- Apr. 1793 Philip Schuyler requests the loan of the services of William Weston for the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company.
- Apr. 1793 Government of William Pitt increases money supply, including the issue of notes under £10, thus ending the British credit crisis and flight of specie. (Hague)
- Apr. 17, 1793 Charles Williamson founds the village of Bath, N.Y., having decided to make the Cohocton Valley on the south end of the Pulteney Tract the center of his development; in fact, the land in this section is much less fertile than that farther north. (Martin, Cowan)
- Apr. 18, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company sets priority for William Weston to work on the Tulpehocken side of the summit. (MB)
- Apr. 19, 1793 Pioneer civil engineer Charles Tillotson Whippo (1793-1858) born in Washington County, N.Y., the sixth child of James Whippo (1760-1832) of Scots descent, and Hannah Wood Whippo (1771-1838) a Quaker and sister of Jethro Wood, inventor of the first cast-iron plow; he studies medicine under his maternal uncle Dr. John Thompson, but later becomes a civil engineer on the Erie and Pennsylvania canals. (BioSketchesLawrenceCo)
- Apr. 20, 1793 Proprietors of the Locks & Canals on Connecticut River begin work on a bypass canal at South Hadley, Mass., under the direction of Benjamin Prescott of Northampton; about a quarter of the stock has been taken by Dutch bankers. (JSDavis)
- Apr. 22, 1793 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company contracts with Arthur Donaldson of Philadelphia to dig three sections of canal at 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, and at Spring Mills. (MB)
- Apr. 22, 1793 Pres. Washington proclaims U.S. neutrality in any European War. (avalon.law)
- Apr. 26, 1793 Surveyor John Adlum (1759-1836) agrees to secure about 500,000 acres of land on French Creek and the Allegheny River for land speculator James

Wilson. (Meginness/Lycoming)

- Apr. 29, 1793 James Greenleaf (1765-1843), said to have made a million speculating on the American debt with money advanced by Dutch bankers, returns to his native Boston; he is rumored to be intending to speculate in upstate New York land made cheap by the fall of William Duer and his associates. (Arnebeck)
- Spring 1793 Samuel Morey (1762-1843) operates his first steamboat on the Connecticut River at Fairlee, Vt. at 4 MPH; is 22 feet long with a low wheel. (Shagena)
- Spring 1793 Louis Marie, Vicomte de Noailles (1756-1804), a brother-in-law of the Marquis de Lafayette, and Antoine Omer Talon (1760-1811) (or Omer Antoine??), a criminal prosecutor and member of Louis XVI's secret service, purchase 200,000 acres of land on the Susquehanna River near present-day Towanda from John Nicholson and Robert Morris for the Royalist colony of Azilum, a refuge for well-bred French refugees from the Revolution; they insist on clearing both Pennsylvania and Connecticut claims. (Pula, Chernow)
- Spring 1793 A company of troops is assigned to "Mead's Block House" (Meadville) to protect settlers in the French Creek Valley in northwestern Pennsylvania. (HistCrawfrdCo)
- May 1, 1793 Tontine Coffee House opens at the northwest corner of Wall & Water Streets in New York City; it becomes the principal meeting place of merchants, and its upstairs rooms serve as the home of the stock exchange. (Stokes)
- May 4, 1793 France fixes grain prices and begins a controlled economy in an effort to combat war-induced inflation and shortages. (Lefebvre)
- May 5, 1793 William Weston sends models of canal-digging implements and instructions for laying out the canal levels to the two New York canal companies, but condemns the use of wooden locks and says a personal examination is necessary to locate the locks. (Calhoun)
- May 9, 1793 Robert Morris writes to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company complaining of the conduct of William Duncan, the company's commissary. (MB)
- May 9, 1793 French Convention declares neutral ships that comply with British Orders-in-Council are subject to seizure. (Lefebvre)
- May 10, 1793 Philadelphia land speculator Archibald McCall (1727-1799) patents (?) 14 tracts of coal lands in the Shamokin Basin; the westernmost 7 tracts, in the

valley of Coal Run between Mount Carmel and Shamokin, eventually pass to PRR ownership via the Philadelphia & Sunbury Railroad and the Shamokin Valley & Pottsville Railroad, forming the core of its anthracite coal operations at Shamokin. (P&S Rept, SV&P MB)

- May 13, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board calls for getting writs of *quod damnum* against Michael Ley, George Spangler, Leonard Immells, Michael Ramler, Leonard Ramler, the heirs of Thomas Bassler, and Simon Bassler, to condemn a right of way across their lands; authorizes employing counsel to defend the company's rights against those who oppose it. (MB)
- May 15, 1793 Western Inland Lock Navigation Company begins construction.
- May 1793 John Nicholson is planning a manufacturing village at the Falls of Schuylkill, including the manufacturing of low price cottons and hosiery; Nicholson supports English immigrant William Pollard, who has received a U.S. patent for a water frame in 1791; Pollard begins to build a factory of 1,000 spindles at the Falls. (Arbuckle)
- ca. May 1793 Mechanic John Hall has become an alcoholic and is unable to work on John Stevens's steam engine project, which is abandoned. (DuBois)
- May 1793 Moses Beal begins stagecoach service from Albany to Canajoharie via Schenectady. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- May 17, 1793 Public meeting organized by Dr. George Logan (1753-1821) at the Prince of Wales Tavern in Philadelphia denounces turning roads over to incorporated companies with the right of condemnation and eminent domain. (Scharf)
- May 19, 1793 At a meeting at the State House (Independence Hall), Republican John Nicholson is appointed to a committee to draft a welcoming declaration to Citizen Genet. (Arbuckle)
- May 19, 1793 Sloop *Detroit*, first U.S. merchant vessel on the upper Great Lakes, is launched on the River Rouge near Detroit.
- May 22, 1793 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Navigation Company opens subscription books; Robert Morris is first to subscribe; all the stock is subscribed within five days; par value of shares is \$200 but only a small down payment is required, and difficulty in collecting subsequent installments cripples the company. (Nolan/Hocker)
- May 23, 1793 After protests, France exempts U.S. vessels from its order of May 9 for seizure of ships carrying goods to or from the Coalition allies. (McMaster)

- May 24, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board hears report that 300 men are at work, and that William Weston pays them every two weeks; allows Weston time to work on the Conewago Canal. (MB)
- May 30, 1793 Democratic Society of Pennsylvania organized by Anti-Federalists including John Nicholson and Alexander J. Dallas (1759-1817) with David Rittenhouse as Pres.; its constitution calls for aid to democratic France in her struggles with the European monarchies. (Arbuckle)
- May 31, 1793 William Pollard complains to John Nicholson of the difficulty of obtaining workmen to build and work in their projected cotton mill. (Shelton)
- June 2, 1793 Under threats of force from National Guard units loyal to the Paris Commune, the National Convention expels 29 moderate members, including the 22 leaders of the Girondins. (Andress)
- June 5, 1793 Pa. appoints agents to investigate Thomas Wright and Thomas Dyer's work on the upper Lehigh River, which has not been completed. (PaArch)
- June 8, 1793 William Pitt adds grain to the contraband list and strengthens the blockade; Orders-in-Council call for seizing all neutral ships carrying flour and grain to French ports; the British government initially pays for seized cargoes, but stops in Aug. 1794. (Lefebvre, McMaster, Mostert, Sharrer)
- June 10, 1793 The radical Jacobin Party gains control of the Committee of Public Safety. (EncycBrit)
- June 14, 1793 Public directors of the Bank of Pennsylvania elected, including Walter Stewart, Godfrey Haga (1745-1825), John Ross, Samuel Howell and Charles Pettit (1736-1806); John Barclay (1749-1816) elected Pres. (Arbuckle)
- June 14, 1793 Samuel Wallis writes to James Wilson warning that they stand to lose 60,000 acres of land unless Wilson provides money. (CSmith)
- June 1793 When William Moore Smith, attorney for the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company, and Timothy Matlack meet with the sheriff of Dauphin County and a jury to condemn a right of way through the lands of Michael Ley, they are met by a large force collected by Ley and his son armed with clubs who oppose issuing the writs to call the jury; the sheriff refuses to give Matlack the names of the gang; report of the jury is sent to the Supreme Court, but in the meantime, landowners refuse to allow entry onto their land. (MB)
- June 1793 A party of about 45 settlers from Allegheny City, Pa., descend the Ohio

River to the Big Beaver and up in and the Mahoning to the site of Youngstown, then return and settle on both sides of the Mahoning in Pennsylvania. (Durant)

- June 18, 1793 Second meeting for Chesapeake & Delaware Canal and improving the Susquehanna below Middletown held at Wilmington under auspices of Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation; Maryland insists that Pennsylvania improve the Susquehanna River from Wrights Ferry to the Maryland state line as the price of its assent. (Gray)
- June 21, 1793 An army of ex-slaves and French revolutionary soldiers enters Cap François in Sante Domingue and begins a two-day sack and massacre. (McMaster, Heintl)
- June 22, 1793 Proprietors of the Middlesex Canal incorporated in Massachusetts to build a canal from the Merrimack River above present-day Lowell to the Mystic River at Medford; is to bring the lumber and agricultural trade of the Merrimack Valley to Boston; backers include Attorney-General James Sullivan (1744-1808) and Loammi Baldwin (1745-1807) of Woburn, Sheriff of Middlesex County, who become Pres. and VP. (JSDavis, CHTP7)
- June 23, 1793 Thousands of French planters and royalists manage to escape from Cap François, Sante Domingue, on U.S. merchant vessels, after the town falls to a combination of black and French revolutionary armies; 130 vessels carry about 5,000 refugees to the Chesapeake ports; the refugee fleets also carry yellow fever to the U.S. (Heintl, McMaster)
- June 27, 1793 France closes the stock exchange. (Lefebvre)
- July 9, 1793 53 vessels with 1,500 refugees from Sante Domingue arrive in Baltimore. (Scharf)
- July 1793 James Greenleaf begins cultivating Robert Morris to form a partnership for land speculation; Greenleaf needs Morris's political connections, and Morris needs cash and believes that Greenleaf has an unlimited credit with Dutch bankers; Morris is hoping to bundle another 1 or 2 million acres for sale to the Dutch, in addition to his Genesee lands. (Arnebeck)
- July 17, 1793 James Wilson secures a £5,013 loan from William Bingham to help him retain his West Branch lands for the moment. (CSmith)
- July 20, 1793 Robert Morris sells 1.3 million acres, being most of the remainder of the old Phelps and Gorham Purchase, embracing the rest of New York State west of the Genesee River, to Theophile Cazenove, representative of the consortium of Dutch bankers who later form the Holland Land Company, retaining a strip 12 miles wide along the entire eastern border; the Dutch now own



almost all of New York west of a line a few miles east of Batavia or about 3.3 million acres; the Holland Land Company also buys 1.5 million acres in northwestern Pennsylvania and two small tracts at Cazenovia and Barneveld in central New York. (hopefarm.com, Flick, Chazanof, Chernow, wiki)

- July 23, 1793 French surrender Mainz to the Prussians. (Lefebvre)
- July 27, 1793 Maximillien Robespierre (1758-1794), leader of the Jacobins or extreme revolutionaries, becomes a member of the Committee of Public Safety. (Lefebvre)
- July 28, 1793 Col. Thomas Bull resigns as Superintendent of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company. (MB)
- July 28, 1793 Allied army led by Ernest Frederick, Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld (1724-1800), takes Valenciennes, opening the road to Paris. (Lefebvre)
- Summer 1793 Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures begins making cotton yarn at Paterson, N.J. (Trumbull)
- Summer 1793 Post Office Dept. transfers the two mails that run to Boston on the inland route between Hartford and Norwich to the Shore Line via New London. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- Summer 1793 Western Inland Lock Navigation Company begins clearing and straightening channel of Wood Creek. (Whitford)
- Aug. 1, 1793 France bans the export of capital. (Lefebvre)
- Aug. 4, 1793 Polly Lear, wife of Pres. Washington's confidential secretary Tobias Lear (1762-1816), is one of the first fatalities in the Philadelphia yellow fever epidemic; brought by refugees fleeing the slave revolution in Sante Domingue (Haiti) and spread by mosquitoes, which breed in stagnant water and are plentiful after a wet spring; epidemic peaks in Sep. and early Oct.; half of the population flees the city; over 5,000 die until frost in late Oct. kills the mosquitoes; casualties include Samuel Powel (1738-1793), owner of the "Powelton" Estate in West Philadelphia, and Herman J. Lombaert, grandfather of the PRR VP of the same name. (AmHrtg, Wood/PMHB 91, Scharf)
- Aug. 6, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company accepts a loan of \$4,000 from Edward Burd. (MB)
- Aug. 15, 1793 France bans the export of many commodities. (Lefebvre)
- Aug. 1793 Financial crisis in London ends after the government issues £2.2 million in

securities to rescue failing firms; however, the collapse of many country banks leads to British investors redirecting some of their money to the U.S. in the form of liberal mercantile credits; the Dutch follow suit, thus creating an export boom in the U.S. (Chew/JER 25:4)

- Aug. 1793 Gen. Andrew Porter of the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Navigation Company has 175 men blasting a cut through the ledge at Ivy Rock and making excavations at Norristown. (Nolan/Hocker)
- Aug. 1793 Alexandria, Pa., laid out in Huntingdon County by Elizabeth Gemmill. (Jordan/Juniata)
- Aug. 21, 1793 Holland Land Company through its agents Herman LeRoy (1758-1842) and William Bayard (1761-1826) buy 464,800 acres of land north and west of the Ohio River and Conewango Creek from James Wilson for £34,860 in specie. (HistCrawfrdCo)
- Aug. 22, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company appoints Isaac Roberdeau Deputy Engineer. (MB)
- Aug. 23, 1793 French National Convention decrees the *levée en masse*, universal conscription and mobilization of the entire population for war; by the spring of 1794, it has fielded armies of over 1 million men. (EncycBrit, Hague)
- Aug. 24, 1793 France suspends the Bank of Discount and all joint-stock companies. (Lefebvre)
- Aug. 25, 1793 Those residents who can do so begin fleeing Philadelphia in large numbers; a total of about 17,000 evacuate, leaving about 23,000 in the city; John Nicholson evacuates to his country estate near Reading. (Scharf, Arbuckle)
- Aug. 25, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company closes its office in Philadelphia because of the yellow fever epidemic; remains closed through Nov. 24, resulting in a suspension of calling in installments. (MB)
- Aug. 29, 1793 Philadelphia merchant Herman Joseph Lombaert (1756-1793), an immigrant from Brabant (now in Belgium) and grandfather of future PRR VP Herman J. Lombaert, dies in the yellow fever epidemic; is eulogized as “a man of remarkable cultivation and accomplishment.” (Wurts Papers)
- Aug. 29, 1793 Counter-revolutionaries surrender the port of Toulon and the French Mediterranean Fleet to the British. (Lefebvre)
- Sep. 2, 1793 Robert Morris informs his partner John Nicholson that he is favorably impressed by the prospects for speculating in Washington, D.C., lots; Morris and Nicholson have formed a partnership with James Greenleaf

(1765-1843), a New England Huguenot with Dutch mercantile and banking connections, to develop the city; as neither Nicholson nor Morris have sufficient funds, they are counting on Greenleaf's ability to raise money in the Netherlands. (Arbuckle, Chernow)

- Sep. 5, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board hears a report that the Supreme Court has approved the valuation of the John Crow and Michael Luker lands, but has thrown out the valuations of May 13 over a technicality in summoning the jury. (MB)
- Sep. 5, 1793 The poor of Paris, mobilized by the Jacobins in the Commune, surround the National Convention demanding severe new measures against food shortages, hoarders, and all enemies of the Revolution; the Committee of Public Safety begins the Reign of Terror, executing suspected enemies of the Revolution; over 2,600 are guillotined in Paris alone between Mar. 1793 and July 1794, but only 15 % of the death sentences are imposed in Paris; most are in areas that are in open rebellion; the total Terror death toll of 30-40,000 is not exceptionally large in an age of great battles, massacres and counter-massacres. (Andress, Lefebvre, EncycBrit)
- Sep. 8, 1793 The French defeat the armies of Frederick Augustus, Duke of York (1763-1827), the second son of George III, in a three-day battle at Hondschoote; however, the French commander Gen. Jean Nicolas Houchard (1739-1793) fails to cut off their retreat and has his head cut off instead. (Lefebvre, wiki)
- Sep. 10, 1793 Pres. Washington leaves Philadelphia for Mount Vernon. (Arnebeck)
- Sep. 11, 1793 French National Convention makes price controls on grain and fodder uniform throughout the Republic. (Lefebvre)
- Sep. 13, 1793 Joseph Shantz or "Johns" (1749-1813), a Swiss emigrant, buys the site of present Johnstown. Pa. (Storey)
- Sep. 14, 1793 A Health Committee is appointed in Philadelphia to raise money to cope with the epidemic and future threat of yellow fever. (McMaster)
- Sep. 1793 Maj. Pierre C. L'Enfant leaves the employ of the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures, having secured a commission to build Robert Morris's mansion in Philadelphia; L'Enfant once again has proved a prima donna who neglects practical matters in the pursuit of fanciful plans; the Morris mansion goes ten times over budget and is never completed; L'Enfant dies in poverty in 1825. (JSDavis, DAB)
- Sep. 1793 Western Inland Lock Navigation Company suspends work, having cleared Wood Creek of fallen timber and shortened its course by 7 miles; company is hampered by failure of subscribers to pay subscriptions, heavy damages

awarded to landowners, and political jealousies against the directors.  
(JSDavis)

- Sep. 17, 1793 Third auction sale of lots in Washington, D.C., draws poor results.  
(Arnebeck)
- Sep. 17, 1793 French National Convention passes the Law of Suspects ordering the detention of all ex-nobles and others suspected of counter-revolutionary activities and opinions; establishes a Committee of General Security to direct the political police and revolutionary justice. (Lefebvre, Andress, EncycBrit)
- Sep. 18, 1793 Cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol laid with Masonic ceremony presided over by George Washington. (Scharf)
- Sep. 20, 1793 British expeditionary force lands in Sante Domingue. (Heinl)
- Sep. 21, 1793 French National Convention passes a Navigation Act barring neutral shipping and making certain imports by sea impossible. (Lefebvre)
- Sep. 23, 1793 James Greenleaf, a Bostonian with strong ties to the Amsterdam banking community, makes a private deal to buy 3,000 Washington, D.C., lots for \$200,000 and build 10 houses a year until 1800. (Arnebeck, Rappleye)
- Sep. 27, 1793 New York City embargoes all commerce with Philadelphia because of the yellow fever epidemic. (Stokes)
- Sep. 29, 1793 French Law of the General Maximum imposes full wage and price controls to cope with war-induced inflation and shortages; the general effect, when combined with requisitions for the army, is to drive most products except bread onto the black market. (Adress, Lefebvre, EncycBrit, Mercer)
- Oct. 7, 1793 Gen. Anthony Wayne leaves Cincinnati with a large, thoroughly drilled army of 2,600 on an expedition against the Miamis. (Esarey, Derleth)
- Oct. 10, 1793 French National Convention declares that the government will remain revolutionary until the peace; implementation of the Constitution of 1793 is postponed indefinitely. (Lefebvre, Andress)
- Oct. 12, 1793 Frost checks Philadelphia yellow fever epidemic by killing mosquitoes that spread the disease; about 1,000 have died since Oct. 1 alone. (AmHrtg)
- Oct. 14, 1793 Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road Company appoints committee to make contracts for portion of road between present-day Coatesville and Lancaster. (Landis)

- Oct. 14, 1793 Jacob Meyers begins first packet service between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, running each way every other week. (HistPitts, Vexler)
- 1793 Line of packet boats begins operating on Ohio River between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati making a round trip in four days. (Doyle, Bogert - don't give date of ad, but suggests either 3/16 or 11/16/93)
- Oct. 14, 1793 George Anshutz (1753-1837), an immigrant from Strasbourg, builds a small iron furnace in the present Shadyside section of Pittsburgh, the first in Allegheny County, to make cannon balls for Gen. Wayne's army; however, there is no good local ore, and attempts to bring ore from the Kiskiminetas Valley prove too expensive; the works are advertised for sale on Dec. 2, 1797; there are no further attempts to build blast furnaces in the county for over 60 years. (HistPitts, Swank, Eavenson, Africa)
- Oct. 1793 Gen. Anthony Wayne fortifies Camp Greenville as winter base for operations against the Miamis. (Derleth)
- Oct.? 1793 Army detachment builds Fort Recovery at site of St. Clair's defeat after burying those bodies that could be found. (Derleth, Sipe)
- Oct. 16, 1793 Marie Antoinette (1755-1793), former Queen of France, is guillotined. (EncycBrit)
- Oct. 24, 1793 France adopts a new Revolutionary calendar of 12 30-day months of 3 10-day weeks, plus a period of 5-6 days at the end of each year; the traditional names of days and months are abolished. (Andress, Lefebvre)
- Oct. 31, 1793 Twenty-two leaders of the moderate Girondin party, including their leader, Jean Pierre Brissot de Warville (1754-1793) and the dead body of one who has already committed suicide, are guillotined at Paris; the Girondins had begun the war and are blamed for its reverses; the more radical Jacobin party is now in full control. (Mercer, Blanning)
- Nov. 2, 1793 Last new cases of yellow fever reported in Philadelphia. (Arnebeck)
- Nov. 2, 1793 James Greenleaf grants a power of attorney to Sylvanus Bourne, the U.S. Vice-Consul in Amsterdam, to sell Washington, D.C., lots or use them as collateral for loans. (Chernow)
- Nov. 6, 1793 Great Britain issues Orders-in-Council interdicting all neutral trade with France and its colonies, including traditional U.S. direct trade with the French West Indies; the order is modified on Jan. 8, 1794 but not before it ruins U.S. commerce; 300 ships trading with the French West Indies are captured. (Tinkcom, Lefebvre, McMaster)

- Nov. 6, 1793 French National Convention decrees that a commune (local government) has the right to outlaw Catholic worship; city and town radicals begin a program of de-Christianization in response to the traditional Church's role in counter-revolution in the south and west. (Lefebvre, EncycBrit)
- Nov. 9, 1793 Robert Morris and John Nicholson agree to join with James Greenleaf in speculating in Washington, D.C., lots; Morris buys 1,500 of Greenleaf's 3,000 lots at £35 per lot; Morris believes that the lots will be more marketable with European investors. (Arnebeck)
- Nov. 9, 1793 Middlesex Canal asks Gen. Henry Knox to help them secure the services of William Weston. (CHTP7)
- Nov. 10, 1793 Pres. Washington returns to Philadelphia from a temporary residence in Germantown during the yellow fever epidemic. (AmHrtg)
- Nov. 10, 1793 The Cathedral of Notre-Dame de Paris is "reconsecrated" to the worship of Reason. (EncycBrit, Lefebvre)
- Nov. 1793 John Nicholson establishes a button works in Philadelphia. (Arbuckle)
- Nov. 1793 George Washington inspects work on Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company's canal on a second visit to the Lebanon area.
- Nov. 16, 1793 James Greenleaf buys a half-interest in a brick-making machine invented by Apollos Kinsley of New York, which he hopes to use to mass-produce bricks for building houses in Washington, D.C. (Arnebeck)
- Nov. 21, 1793 Robespierre denounces atheism as aristocratic and immoral. (Andress)
- Nov. 23, 1793 The Commune of Paris closes the churches. (Lefebvre)
- Nov. 30, 1793 James Greenleaf hires James Simmons, a Philadelphia builder, to build houses in Washington, D.C. (Arnebeck)
- Dec. 5, 1793 Inspectors Timothy Matlack and Jonathan Mifflin report on the work done by Arthur Donaldson, James Lewis, John Strohecker and James Garver on the Schuylkill River. (Powell/Sch)
- Dec. 6, 1793 French National Convention decrees freedom of worship, backpedaling on the de-Christianization movement; the Jacobin faction led by Robespierre is uncomfortable with outright atheism, which it fears will fan religious civil war and alienate foreign support. (Lefebvre, EncycBrit)
- Dec. 10, 1793 John Nicholson, Robert Morris and James Greenleaf form a five-year partnership for purchasing land for resale in Europe; Morris proposes the

formation of a company, the Columbian Society, to raise money from subscribers to build houses for resale at a profit. (Arnebeck)

- Dec. 11, 1793 Farmers of the Lebanon Valley send protest to the Legislature that the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company's charter "disenfranchises freemen of their rights." (HseJrnl)
- Dec. 11, 1793 Rappahannock Company incorporated in Va. to clear the river for navigation above tidewater at Fredericksburg. (PL)
- Dec. 12, 1793 John Nicholson and Robert Morris agree to be equal partners in James Greenleaf's speculations in Washington, D.C., lots. (Arnebeck)
- Dec. 1793 New Brunswick Bridge Company orders the timber of two spans removed to a secure place and calls on the New York stockholders to recommend skilled masons and carpenters to superintend the completion of the work; stockholder John Dennis, Sr., had tried to superintend the work, but had no experience, and the workmen were also unskilled in bridge-building. (Benedict)
- Dec. 19, 1793 French revolutionary forces recapture Toulon, an action in which a Jacobin artillery captain named Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821) plays his first major role; the British and Spanish evacuate by sea. (Lefebvre, Mostert)
- Dec. 19, 1793 Hopkin Thomas (1793-1878), later a pioneer U.S. locomotive designer and machinist, born at Bryn Coch in Glamorganshire, Wales. (fairviewcemeterylist)
- Dec. 24, 1793 John Nicholson, Robert Morris and James Greenleaf contract to buy another 3,000 Washington lots; of the 6,000 lots total, 1,500 are to be in the northeastern part of the District, 428 lots in a more desirable location on the Potomac, and the rest anywhere in the District; however, they do not obtain clear title until the land is paid for, making it impossible to use the land as security for loans and subscriptions; Greenleaf is expected to raise money in Holland; he raises \$190,000 before the war wrecks the possibility of more Dutch investment, but diverts it to his own uses; the partners land on the Potomac is at the confluence with the Anacostia River. (Arbuckle, Arnebeck)
- Dec. 26, 1793 Pennsylvania Assembly refers protest of Lebanon Valley farmers to committee; new petition introduced against Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company. (HsJrnl)
- Dec. 26, 1793 "Myerstown Riots" begin at Myerstown, Lebanon County when a group of young men from the town crash a party of canal men at a local tavern and provoke a brawl in response to a recent insult; canal men break into several

houses looking for their assailants; German residents had long opposed the canal for exercising eminent domain, and fights were frequent because of ethnic differences between German residents and canal workers, who were Scots-Irish or Irish. (Shenk)

- Dec. 27, 1793 Myerstown Riots continue; canal men apply to a constable to arrest townsmen who started the brawl; while the constable wants to handle arrests with local men, about 100 canal men armed with clubs and led by an overseer armed with pistols march on Myerstown and proceeded to intimidate townspeople while seizing and beating the young men they suspected of starting the brawl the previous night. (Shenk)
- Dec. 28, 1793 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company counsel William Moore Smith writes that the jury awards have been exorbitant, totaling £10,937 damages, but it is imperative that the company have all the springs that are to feed the canal in fee simple. (MB)
- Dec. 28, 1793 Bank of Columbia incorporated in Maryland with a capital of \$1 million to operate in the new District of Columbia; supported by John Nicholson and Robert Morris. (JSDavis, Bryan, Arbuckle)
- Dec. 30, 1793 Society for Promoting Improvements in Roads & Inland Navigation holds its last recorded meeting. (MB)
- Dec. 30, 1793 William Weston reports to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company that the lawsuits and jury awards have slowed the work; in the summer had 400 men, but most have gone, and those that remain are working on the towpath; about 4.25 miles of canal prism have been dug; he has narrowed the summit cut to pass only one boat at a time; are to line both sides of the canal with drywall stones to reduce leakage. (MB)
- Dec. 31, 1793 Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) resigns to form the Democratic-Republican party in opposition to the Washington administration; he is succeeded by Edmund Randolph (1753-1813), who is closer to Pres. Washington in his views. (EAH)
- 1793 Northern Inland Lock Navigation Company begins work at Whitehall and between Waterford and Stillwater, N.Y.; spends about \$100,000 without completing any work. (Whitford)
- 1793 Following the advice of his technical advisers Thomas Bedwell and Thomas Town, who have run a glassworks in England, John Nicholson establishes a glass-works in Philadelphia; he imports William Peter Eichbaum (1757-1827) and family, skilled glassblowers from Westphalia; they manufacture window glass, bottles, and glass tubes. (Arbuckle)



- 1793 Philadelphia builds 8,145 tons of shipping, double that built in any other U.S. port; the value of Philadelphia's exports exceed all New England by \$1,717,572 and of New York by \$2,934,370; Philadelphia's exports amount to about 25% of the U.S. total. (Scharf)
- 1793 Jeremiah Leeds (1754-1838) is the first person to settle on Absecon Island, now Atlantic City, N.J., building a log hut at what is now the corner of Arctic & Arkansas Avenues. (Hall)
- 1793? Richard Caton of Maryland joins Charles Williamson in developing the Susquehanna route between Baltimore and western New York; Caton and his partner George Wells establish mills and a wharf at Tioga Point; Caton's father-in-law Charles Carroll of Carrollton (1737-1832), Carroll's son-in-law Robert Goodloe Harper (1765-1825), and other Marylanders buy land in the Genesee Country and northern Pennsylvania; many settlers come from worn-out lands in Charles and Calvert Counties, Md., and from northern Virginia. (Cowan/NYHist)
- 1793 Judge Christopher Hurlbut, Frederick Bartles, Capt. Charles Williamson, et. al., meet at Painted Post, N.Y., to devise ways of improving the navigation of the Chemung, Cohocton, Tioga and Canisteo Rivers; raise \$1,500 to improve the Chemung, the Tioga to the Pennsylvania state line, the Cohocton to Liberty Corners, and the Canisteo to Hurlbut's (Arkport). (EEBrown)
- 1793 Dismal Swamp Canal Company begins cutting the canal with slave labor. (Brown)
- 1793 British "canal mania" peaks with bills for 36 canals submitted to Parliament. (CHTP7)
- 1793 First two Durham boats poled up the Susquehanna and Cohocton Rivers to Bath. N.Y. (Cowan)
- 1793 Town of Geneva, N.Y., platted as headquarters of the New York Genesee Land Company. (EncycNYS)
- 1793 Philadelphia, Lancaster, Middletown, Harrisburg, Carlisle & Shippensburg stagecoach line organized. (Ellis/Evans)
- 1793 Dispatch Line of stages established between Philadelphia and Lancaster. (check Co. hist. for earlier?)
- 1793 French Revolutionary Wars disrupt the trade of Baltimore, which runs to and from Europe via the West Indies, with little direct trade between Europe and Baltimore; after this year, Baltimore stops shipping tobacco to England

and has almost no commodities in demand there. (Browne)

- 1793 Lewis Atterbury (1779-1872), grandfather of future PRR Pres. W. W. Atterbury, emigrates from Northamptonshire, England, to New York City in company with his uncle, Benjamin Bakewell (1767-1844); he later sets up as a merchant in Baltimore. (AttrbryPapers, Cuyler Reynolds)
- 1793 Rev. Frederick Wilbono Geissenhainer (1771-1838), a Lutheran clergyman from Prussia, emigrates to New Hanover Township in Montgomery County, Pa.; he will conduct numerous experiments in combustion and will develop a process for smelting with anthracite coal and the hot blast. (Munsell/Queens, Swank)
- 1793 William Stewart ( - ) lays out the village of Nanticoke, Pa., on what was Lot No. 27 of the First Division of Hanover Township, part of the land given to the Paxton Boys in 1771; it eventually becomes the center of the PRR's Susquehanna Coal Company operation. (Harvey)
- 1793 First settlers locate on the north shore of the Mahoning River in later Lawrence County. (Durant)
- 1793 First post office established at Cincinnati. (HistCinHamCo)
- 1793 Alexander Mackenzie ( - ) of the Northwest Company (fur traders) succeeds in opening an overland route to the Pacific via the lakes and the Fraser River, to what is now Vancouver; however, he notes that the Columbia River is the main stream west of the Rockies, leading to British desires to possess it and to subsequent 19<sup>th</sup> century disputes between Britain and the U.S. over the Oregon Country. (Albright)
- Jan. 2, 1794 Farmers of the Lebanon Valley again petition Pennsylvania Legislature against exercise of eminent domain by canal and turnpike companies; charge that charters are for "private emolument" of a few wealthy citizens and are unconstitutional; resent intrusion both of wealthy Philadelphians associated with the Society for the Improving of Roads & Inland Navigation and the riotous behavior of roving canal workers. (HsJrnl)
- Jan. 4, 1794 Responding to complaint of German residents of Myerstown, Gov. Mifflin orders a judicial investigation; also forwards complaint to Robert Morris of Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company, who in turn forwards it to Superintendent William Weston for action. (MB, Shenk)
- Jan. 4, 1794 Stockholders committee of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company urges that no further installments be paid nor work undertaken until the company hires a competent engineer. (Calhoun)

- Jan. 6, 1794 Charles Gottfried Paleske (1758-1816), a German-born lawyer and Philadelphia representative of the Kingdom of Prussia, is first elected a director of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company; he will keep the company alive during the lean years that follow. (MB)
- Jan. 8, 1794 Britain modifies the Orders in Council to limit seizures of neutral ships to those carrying goods from the French West Indies to Europe or from France to any port; Americans further evade the orders by “broken voyages,” bringing goods to the U.S. and later re-exporting them; the American re-export trade grows to account for 44% of U.S. exports by 1796; the large profits to be made in the re-export trade draw U.S. capital away from land, internal improvements and manufactures. (Chew/JER 25:4)
- Jan. 11, 1794 Property of the New York Manufacturing Society advertised for auction sale. (JSDavis)
- Jan. 11, 1794 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company releases William Weston to the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company for four weeks; surveyor Robert Brooke (1770-1821) gains experience under Weston on the D&S. (MB, Calhoun)
- Jan. 15, 1794 William Weston makes report on Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company’s canal; urges a full canal estimated to cost £308,000 (\$1.2 million); company constructs three-miles of the canal level across the summit from Lechner's mill east of the Lebanon County line to the mouth of Quitapahilla Creek with five locks at the east end, parts of which are completed by the end of 1794, but never filled with water. (GallatinRept, UCanal AR - W’s report was dated 12/30/93)
- Jan. 1794 Western Inland Lock Navigation Company resumes work on a much reduced scale; petitions the Legislature for aid, noting that about one-third of the subscriptions to both the Western and Northern companies have been forfeited for failure to pay. (JSDavis)
- Jan. 1794 Merchant Stephen Girard chairs a meeting at Philadelphia to protest against the British Orders-in-Council. (McMaster)
- Jan. 1794 Robert Morris puts forward his plan for a European version of the Columbian Society; to sell 2,000 shares at \$500 to raise \$1 million for the development of Washington, D.C. (Arnebeck)
- Jan. 11, 1794 First regular line of packet barges established at Cincinnati to run to Pittsburgh; uses 4 armed 20-ton keelboats taking one month for a round trip; barges take 6 months to make a round trip between Cincinnati and New Orleans. (HistCinHamCo, Monette, StdHistPitts - see 1793 - may be just a different line)

- Jan. 19, 1794 Secretary of State Edmund Randolph and Pres. Washington agree to give Greenleaf, Morris and Nicholson title to 1,000 of their Washington lots as a stimulus to help them raise money for their project. (Arnebeck)
- Jan. 20, 1794 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company calls in another assessment of \$25 per share. (MB)
- Jan. 22, 1794 Pennsylvania House committee reports that charges against canal and turnpike companies are baseless. (HsJrnl)
- Jan. 28, 1794 District of Columbia Commissioners discharge Andrew Ellicott and his brothers as surveyors after a year of disputes. (Arnebeck)
- Feb. 3, 1794 William Weston presents a draft of the summit canal and a survey of a canal down Tulpehocken Creek to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company. (MB)
- Feb. 4, 1794 French National Convention abolishes slavery in its West Indian colonies, although they are unable to implement it on all islands; in Sainte Domingue, this leads to a rapprochement between the black insurgents led by Pierre Dominique Toussaint L'Overture (1743-1803) and the French army on the one side against the planters, English and Spanish on the other. (Lefebvre)
- Feb. 5, 1794 John Nicholson agrees with John Campbell to move the machines and operations of the stocking factory from the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures at Paterson to Nicholson's new manufacturing village at the Falls of Schuylkill; by 1795, Paterson has decayed into an agricultural village; Campbell first establishes the Fleecy Hosiery Manufactory at 451 North Front Street; he later helps build the Falls Mill and the Kensington Mill. (Arbuckle)
- Feb. 5, 1794 Pennsylvania declares the Little Juniata River to the head of Logan's Narrows, Standing Stone Creek to the mouth of Laurel Run, and Cocolamus Creek up to the forks to be public highways. (PL)
- Feb. 7, 1794 David Rittenhouse (1732-1796) is elected a manager of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company, in place of Samuel Breck (1771-1862), who refuses to serve; Board authorizes seeking a \$14,000 loan from the Bank of Pennsylvania and preparing a statement to the Legislature on the benefits of the canal and seeking aid. (MB - is there an older Samuel Breck??)
- Feb. 9, 1794 First lots sold at Nanticoke, Pa., later the site of the PRR's Susquehanna Coal Company operations. (Bradsby)

- Feb. 10, 1794 Glamorganshire Canal opens; 24.5 miles from Merthyr Tydfil down the valley of the River Taff to Cardiff with 543-foot fall and 50 locks; it is controlled by Richard Crawshay of the Cyfarthfa Iron Works and improves its access to market. (wiki, HopkinThomasProject)
- Feb. 1794 John Nicholson agrees with Charles Taylor, who has built the Albion Mills in England, to build a steam-engine factory and foundry at the Falls of Schuylkill; John Bowler is make cotton machinery. (Arbuckle)
- Feb. 1794 John Nicholson, Robert Morris and James Greenleaf begin a gigantic four-month land-buying spree, all under 50 cents an acre on easy terms: 195,570 acres in western Virginia; 73,026 acres in Kentucky; 79,015½ acres in western Pennsylvania; 1,265,933 acres in Georgia. (Arnebeck)
- Feb. 1794 The Society for Establishing and Supporting a Turnpike Road from Cepatchit Bridge, in Gloucester, to the Connecticut Line incorporated in R.I., the second incorporated turnpike company and the first in New England; southern New England quickly takes the lead in the incorporation and building of turnpikes, with 3 in R.I., 9 in Mass., and 23 in Conn. by the end of 1800. (JSDavis)
- Feb. 17, 1794 Road ordered laid out between Hoboken and the Newark Road at the present Five Corners on Jersey City Heights. (Shaw)
- Feb. 17, 1794 British build Fort Miami near present Toledo in violation of Treaty of Paris for the purpose of supporting Indian resistance on the northwest frontier; Gov. Simcoe of Upper Canada plots with the Indians to attack the U.S. through the Ohio Country; in the event of declared war, Simcoe urges a bold British and Indian thrust against the U.S. from the northwest, in effect reversing his personal defeat in the Revolution; however, as the struggle with France intensifies, the London government has no desire to open another front, while Washington's government realizes that it is too weak to antagonize the British by entering the war on the side of France, leading eventually to a diplomatic solution. (Purvis, Taylor)
- Feb. 21, 1794 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board approves the form of a petition to the Legislature asking for a state loan of £300,000, or failing that, the state guarantee of such a loan; authorizes preparing condemnation warrants for Berks County. (MB)
- Feb. 24, 1794 Dauphin County Court of Common Pleas makes report on Myerstown Riots; blames Martin Glass of Myerstown for starting the fracas, but acknowledges blame on both sides; Glass and nine other townsmen are tried, and Glass is fined the large sum of £3; nine canal workers are also tried and given lighter fines. (Shenk)

- Feb. 25, 1794 Pa. contracts with Charles Campbell and John Dennison to improve the Conemaugh River from Loyalhanna to Richards Run for £1,760 and the Kiskiminetas River from Loyalhanna to the Allegheny River for £700. (PaArch)
- Feb. 27, 1794 Proprietors of the Upper Locks & Canals on Connecticut River in the County of Hampshire incorporated in Mass. to take over the canal at Montague begun by the Proprietors of the Locks & Canals on Connecticut River in 1793; the division may have been the work of the Dutch investors, who take no part in the new company; the Montague Canal is finished later in the year, and the canal at Millers Falls in 1800. (JSDavis)
- Feb. 28, 1794 Pennsylvania act calls for raising soldiers to defend the northwestern frontier, particularly the work of laying out a town at Presque Isle (Erie) and the roads leading to the east. (McKnight)
- Mar. 1, 1794 Gov. Thomas Mifflin order Capt. Ebenezer Denny (1761-1822) of the Allegheny County militia to protect the surveyors of the roads from Reading to Presque Isle and French Creek to Presque Isle; on arrival at present Franklin, Denny finds the British and Six Nations opposed to Pennsylvanians moving into this territory; Gov. Mifflin then orders the surveyors to go no further than Le Boeuf (Waterford). (McKnight)
- Mar. 4, 1794 Directors of Middlesex Canal order Loammi Baldwin to go to Philadelphia to secure the assistance of William Weston. (CHTP7)
- Mar. 8, 1794 Pennsylvania contracts with John Nicholson to improve French Creek and build a portage road to Presque Isle (Erie) for £800. (SenJrnl)
- Mar. 10, 1794 Loammi Baldwin leaves Boston to examine canals in Pennsylvania and Virginia and to procure the services of an experienced foreign engineer for the Middlesex Canal. (CHTP7)
- Mar. 11, 1794 French decree establishes the École Centrale des Travaux Publics (Central School of Public Works), the world's first modern civil engineering school; it is established in Paris by Gaspard Mongé (1746-1818) and Lazare Carnot (1753-1823), the scientist who is also the Revolution's genius of organization; it is renamed the École Polytechnique a year later and sets the standard for advanced technical training. (EcolePoly)
- Mar. 14, 1794 Patent issued to Eli Whitney (1765-1825) for a cotton gin, a series of rotating combs that quickly separate the seeds from the raw cotton bolls; it immediately renders the heretofore intractable long-staple upland cotton the nation's most valuable export, preferred by the British manufacturers over cotton from their own colonies; the value of land for cotton cultivation across the Southeast soars, as does the value and demand for slaves to work

the cotton plantations.

- Mar. 18, 1794 Merchant Stephen Girard chairs a large protest meeting in the State House Yard in Philadelphia protesting all British actions against the U.S., including interference with trade and supporting Indian attacks on the northwestern frontier. (McMaster)
- Mar. 20, 1794 Congress makes an appropriation for coastal fortifications to protect the mouths of principal rivers and bays. (StatutesatLarge)
- Mar. 22, 1794 New York act authorizes laying out a road (the Genesee Road) from Old Fort Schuyler (Utica) on the Mohawk River to Canandaigua. (PL)
- Mar. 24, 1794 Fourteen French radicals led by editor Jacques Hébert (1757-1794) are guillotined for excessive revolutionary zeal after a show trial, as the Committee of Public Safety attempts to rein in atheist de-Christianization; the Hébertistes have failed in a bid to foment a popular uprising in Paris to purge the Convention of moderates; by executing their heroes, the Committee of Public Safety lose much of the support of the Paris poor and artisans. (Lefebvre, Andress)
- Mar. 24, 1794 Tadeusz Kosciuszko begins a nationwide uprising against the 1793 partition of Poland by Russia and Prussia, which is crushed by Nov. (wiki)
- Mar. 26, 1794 Congress responds to the British Orders-in-Council of Nov. 1793 by declaring an embargo on vessels bound for foreign ports. (Scharf)
- Mar. 27, 1794 After over a dozen American ships have been seized by the so-called Barbary Pirates; raiders operating out of the city-states of Algiers, Tunis and Tripoli, and their crews enslaved for ransom, Pres. Washington signs the Naval Act of 1794, authorizing the building of a Navy of four 44-gun frigates and two 36-gun frigates that will be strong enough to overpower British or French frigates, yet fast enough to outrun ships-of-the-line; built to the design of Joshua Humphreys (1751-1838) of Philadelphia; prior to the Revolution, the British and Portuguese navies had protected American shipping; Portugal had made peace with Algiers and stopped blockading the Mediterranean in 1793; however, a peace treaty with Algiers stops construction. (Mostert, Scharf, wiki)
- Mar. 27, 1794 Denmark and Sweden conclude an alliance for arming 16 vessels to protect neutral trading rights in the Baltic Sea; the Baltic League later expands and threatens British access to Baltic grain. (Lefebvre, Sharrer)
- Mar. 29, 1794 William Smith reports to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board that a bill has been prepared for the Legislature seeking state aid. (MB)

- Apr. 2, 1794 William Weston presents an estimate of \$231,519 for this year's work; Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company will need to raise \$120,649, plus money to repay old loans; Board recommends a loan of \$120,000 and applying to the Legislature to raise \$200,000 by lottery. (MB)
- Apr. 2, 1794 John Nicholson is impeached as Pennsylvania Comptroller-General. (Arbuckle)
- Apr. 2, 1794 Act of Congress calls for the construction of three or four arsenals, including the ones already existing at Springfield, Mass., and Carlisle, Pa., and the construction of a government armory for the manufacture of small arms at each; Springfield, Mass., is chosen first, but Pres. Washington, supported by other members of the Potomac Company, favors the construction of a single large facility at Harpers Ferry, to stimulate development in the Potomac Valley. (StatutesatLarge, MRSmith)
- Apr. 4, 1794 James Wilson contracts with James Davenport, a skilled weaver and merchant, to construct a textile mill on his property at Wilsonville on Wallenpaupack Creek in northeastern Pennsylvania. (CSmith)
- Apr. 5, 1794 Pennsylvania Senate acquits Comptroller-General John Nicholson of corruption charges. (Arbuckle)
- Apr. 5, 1794 Thirteen leaders of the so-called Indulgents who wish to slow the pace of the Revolutionary Terror, including Georges Danton (1759-1794) and Camille Desmoulins (1760-1794) are guillotined as a threat from the right. (Lefebvre, EncycBrit)
- Apr. 8, 1794 Pennsylvania declares Conococheague Creek from the Maryland state line up to Chambersburg to be a public highway. (PL)
- Apr. 11, 1794 John Nicholson resigns as Pennsylvania Comptroller-General to avoid further prosecutions by the House and to avoid exposing Gov. Thomas Mifflin to the investigations. (Arbuckle)
- Apr. 13, 1794 Unemployed sailors demonstrate in Philadelphia against the embargo that has brought foreign trade to a standstill. (Scharf)
- Apr. 14, 1794 John Nicholson reports to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company on a plan for a loan. (MB)
- Apr. 14, 1794 Insurance Company of North America incorporated in Pa. (PL, JSDavis)
- Apr. 15, 1794 Pres. Washington approves six sites for naval shipyards to build each of the six frigates authorized under the Naval Act of 1794: Boston, Portsmouth,



N.H., New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Gosport (Norfolk), Va.  
(wiki)

- Apr. 1794 James River Company begins charging half-tolls on the completed portions of its improvements. (Dunaway)
- Apr. 1794 A convoy of over 100 ships leaves the Chesapeake with much-needed grain for France; the French government has been using its scarce gold reserves over the past year to buy American grain. (Andress)
- Apr. 16, 1794 Loammi Baldwin returns home, having visited the Pennsylvania canals and Potomac Company; has decided to approach William Weston and believes he can make use of Mrs. Weston's desire to visit Boston and mingle in society there. (CHTP7)
- Apr. 16, 1794 An American force leaves Pittsburgh to clear northwestern Pennsylvania of Indian disturbances. (HistErieCo)
- Apr. 17, 1794 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company calls in another \$25 per share; Charles Biddle (1745-1821) resigns as a manager and is replaced by Dr. Thomas Ruston (1742-1811); Board approves a plan for a loan and agrees to William Weston spending a few days on the Conewago. (MB)
- Apr. 18, 1794 District of Southwark south of Philadelphia incorporated with own district commissioners. (PL, Scharf)
- Apr. 18, 1794 Pennsylvania repeals the act creating the Loan Office. (PL)
- Apr. 19, 1794 Britain, the Dutch Republic, and Prussia sign the Hague Treaty against France. (Mercer)
- Apr. 21, 1794 In order to beat the deadline of impending legislation, John Nicholson files for warrants on 202,400 acres in the New Purchase. (Wilkinson)
- Apr. 22, 1794 Lancaster & Susquehanna Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa. to build from Lancaster to Wrights Ferry (Columbia). (PL)
- Apr. 22, 1794 Pa. contracts with James Brady to clear the Conemaugh River between Stony Creek and Richards Run for £350. (PaArch)
- Apr. 22, 1794 Pennsylvania suspends the sale of unseated lands in the New Purchase and Erie Triangle under the 1792 land law; no further warrants are to be issued in the northwestern part of the state except to actual settlers, and all applications not paid for by June 15, 1794 are to be void; thus, the Pennsylvania Population Company must pay on all its warrants immediately or forfeit them. (Hoffman, Arbuckle, Wilkinson)

- Apr. 22, 1794 Pittsburgh incorporated as a borough. (PL, StdHistPitts)
- Apr. 23, 1794 John Nicholson and Robert Morris form the Asylum Company with a capital of \$2.5 million backed by 1 million acres of land on the North Branch of the Susquehanna River, each \$500 share representing 200 acres; other managers include John Keating and Louis Marie, Vicomte de Noailles (1756-1803). (Harvey, Chernow)
- Apr. 25, 1794 Troops advancing up the Allegheny River from Pittsburgh reach Fort Franklin, where they learn that the British are pressing the Iroquois to oppose American settlement at Presque Isle; Pres. Washington does not want to open another front in the Indian wars, and the expedition halts. (HistErieCo)
- Apr. 28, 1794 Admiral Charles Hector Theodat, Comte d'Estaing (1729-1794), a commander in the American Revolution, is guillotined at Paris; the French Navy is a creation of the Crown; many top naval officers are Royalists, and the Terror and subsequent activity leaves the French Navy both figuratively and literally beheaded and thus no match for the Royal Navy. (WwasW)
- Apr. 29, 1794 Denmark and Sweden invite the U.S. to join their alliance of armed neutrals. (Lefebvre)
- Spring 1794 James Greenleaf's builder, James Simmons, begins operations at what becomes known as Greenleaf's Point at the confluence of the Potomac and Eastern Branch (Anacostia River) near 6<sup>th</sup> & N Streets in far southwest Washington, which is still expected to be the commercial part of the city. (Arnebeck)
- Spring 1794 Charles Williamson has a road built from Palmyra to Sodus Point. (French)
- May 1, 1794 John Nicholson and Robert Morris are unable to pay their shares of the \$68,000 installment due on the Washington, D.C., lots; James Greenleaf allows them to write checks on his account, to be covered by money raised in the Netherlands. (Arnebeck)
- May 3, 1794 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company reports that its funds are exhausted. (MB)
- May 6, 1794 The Dutch government approves an arrangement between Sylvanus Bourne, the agent of James Greenleaf, and Daniel & Gulian Crommelin to raise a loan of \$780,000 secured by a mortgage on Washington, D.C., lots; the scheme is not successful, with only \$80,000 subscribed; Greenleaf also applies the little money raised to paying his own expenses. (Chernow)

- May 7, 1794 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company stockholders approve the loan plan. (MB)
- May 7, 1794 Parliament passes an act sought by William Pitt's government suspending the traditional British right of *habeas corpus*, effective May 16; the conservative government sees domestic dissent and reform groups demanding the extension of typically British rights to vote as a Jacobin fifth column; *habeas corpus* remains suspended until July 1795 and again between 1798 and 1801. (napoleon.series.org, Lefebvre)
- May 7, 1794 The French National Convention proclaims Robespierre's doctrine of the Supreme Being and the immortality of the soul; a blend of Deism and republicanism that is his answer to the de-Christianizers. (Andress)
- May 8, 1794 Robert Fulton receives his only British patent, for vertical lifts or inclined planes on canals. (Patnt)
- May 8, 1794 James Greenleaf's agent Sylvanus Bourne announces the loan for Washington, D.C., lots in Amsterdam and opens books; however, the war has upset the Dutch money markets, and interest is now 6% instead of 5%, with other commissions, surcharges and securities. (Arnebeck)
- May 9, 1794 In order to plan and garrison the proposed coastal forts, an Act of Congress authorizes the creation of a Corps of Artillerists & Engineers, up to 992 men; the law also creates the grade of Cadet and establishes a school at West Point for engineers, artillerists and cadets under Col. Rochefontaine, commandant of the Corps; the school is closed in 1796 when the buildings are destroyed by fire. (StatutesatLarge, Hill)
- May 11, 1794 American troops take possession of the forks of French Creek and build a blockhouse below the site of old Fort Le Boeuf. (HistErieCo)
- May 12, 1794 Chief Justice John Jay leaves for England to negotiate a treaty in the hope of averting war; anti-Federalists in Philadelphia parade an effigy of Jay, which is first guillotined and then blown up with gunpowder. (Scharf)
- May 12, 1794 Britain begins crackdowns on republicans and other dissidents, arresting leaders and seizing the papers of republican clubs. (Hague, Lefebvre)
- May 15, 1794 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company committee reports it has been unable to secure a single subscription to the loan; calls in another \$25 per share for July 1. (MB)
- May 18, 1794 French Marshal Jean-Charles Pichegru (1761-1804) defeats a British and Austrian army at Tourcoing in the Austrian Netherlands; the outnumbered British under the Duke of York retreat eastwards. (Black)

- May 24, 1794 Pres. Washington asks Gov. Thomas Mifflin to suspend work on the Presque Isle survey to avoid antagonizing the Six Nations while the western tribes are at war with the U.S. (Tinkcom)
- May 27, 1794 Cornelius Vanderbilt (1794-1877), architect of the first great steamboat and railroad fortune, born at Port Richmond on the north shore of Staten Island, the fourth child of Cornelius Vanderbilt (1764-1832) and Phebe Hand Vanderbilt (1767-1854). (Stiles, VndrbltGen)
- May 27, 1794 Columbian Society organized at Philadelphia with Robert Morris as Pres. (Arnebeck)
- May 29, 1794 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board hears report that the Supreme Court of Dauphin County has condemned the lands of Ley, Bassler, et al., and that work can now proceed. (MB)
- May 31, 1794 Matthew Newkirk (1794-1868), future Philadelphia merchant and Pres. of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad, born at Pittsgrove, N.J., a descendant of a family of Huguenots from Holland. (BiogEncycPa)
- June 1, 1794 British fleet under Admiral Lord Richard Howe defeats a French fleet in the Atlantic, but the large American grain convoy it was escorting escapes. (Hague, Mostert)
- June 4, 1794 British chemist and free-thinker Joseph Priestley (1733-1804) arrives as a refugee in New York; establishes a small expatriate colony at Northumberland, Pa., in Sep. 1794. (DAB)
- June 4, 1794 British capture Port-au-Prince in Sante Domingue, only to be decimated by yellow fever. (Heinl)
- June 5, 1794 Neutrality Act passed restricting aid to Britain or France and making it illegal for U.S. citizens to render military service for foreign powers.
- June 5, 1794 James Wilson contracts with John Page to build sawmills at Wilsonville on Wallenpaupack Creek. (CSmith)
- June 6, 1794 New Brunswick Bridge Company approves a revised plan of the bridge by a Mr. Newton, and appoints a Mr. Gosman and a Mr. Russel, experienced masons of New York, to superintend the stone work and Mr. Newton the carpentry. (Benedict)
- June 8, 1794 Robespierre presides at the Festival of the Supreme Being in Paris. (Lefebvre, Andress)

- June 10, 1794 French Law of 22 Prairial simplifies the procedures of the Revolutionary Tribunal, reducing its size by one-quarter and eliminating defense counsel and all rights for defendants, who may now be condemned to death simply as “enemies of the people”; the pace of executions increases, with 1,376 guillotined at Paris in June and July. (Lefebvre, Andress)
- June 13, 1794 The convoy of 116 ships carrying 24 million pounds of American food to France arrives safely at Brest. (Andress)
- June 1794 Cotton mill of the Society for Establishing Useful Manufacturers finally opens at Paterson, N.J. (JSDavis)
- June 1794 John Nicholson, Robert Morris and James Greenleaf purchase stock in the Potomac Company as part of their investments in Washington lots. (Arbuckle)
- June 16, 1794 J.N. Cumming & Co., headed by Gen. John Noble Cumming (1752?-1821) of Newark, advertises two stage lines between Philadelphia and New York, the Dilligence and the Industry at \$4 fare; Cumming becomes the dominant factor in staging in north Jersey. (Lane)
- June 20, 1794 N.J. act authorizes the Commissioners of the Bridges over the Rivers Passaic & Hackensack to relay the road lately built from Paulus Hook to the Hackensack River and the branch road to the Hoboken Ferry. (PL)
- June 22, 1794 Western Inland Lock Navigation Company contracts with four companies of laborers to dig the canal. (Reynolds)
- June 25, 1794 Watkins & Flint Purchase made in Tioga County, N.Y. (Flick)
- June 26, 1794 French defeat the Austrians at the Battle of Fleurus, forcing them out of the Netherlands and back into Germany, ending the direct threats to France and easing the fears driving the Reign of Terror. (Lefebvre, Blanning)
- June 28, 1794 Postal route established between Pittsburgh and Cincinnati.
- June 29, 1794 Coney Island is already a summer resort for New Yorkers, attracting as many as 4,000 visitors a day. (Stokes)
- June 30, 1794 Miamis under Little Turtle and British from Detroit begin an unsuccessful attack on Fort Recovery. (Esarey, Sipe )
- June 30, 1794 Gabriel P. Van Horne’s mail contract between Philadelphia and Baltimore expires; Postmaster General Timothy Pickering purchases sulkeys and horses with public funds and carries the mail directly to obtain more reliable service than under Van Horne’s monopoly. (Holmes/Rohrbach)

- Summer 1794 Jason Parker, postrider between Canajoharie and Whitestown, begins operating a stagecoach over his route with support from Judge Hugh White and others. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- Summer 1794 Charles Williamson founds Sodus Point, N.Y., as a lake port for the Pulteney Tract; spends over \$20,000. (Cowan, Martin, French)
- Summer 1794 First of two years of bad harvests in Europe, increasing demand for American grain. (Lefebvre)
- Summer 1794 Very short British harvest, although the wheat is of good quality. (Barnes)
- July 1, 1794 John Nicholson asks to be able to borrow the government bonds belonging to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company. (MB)
- July 8, 1794 Conewago Canal Company appoints James Brindley Engineer to take charge of construction. (diary description)
- July 8, 1794 French recapture Brussels. (Mercer)
- July 11, 1794 District of Columbia Commissioners dismiss Samuel Blodgett as Superintendent of the City for continuing with his lottery schemes. (Arnebeck)
- July 13, 1794 William Weston arrives in Boston to assist Middlesex Canal project. (CHTP7)
- July 14, 1794 John Fitzgerald of the Potomac Company writes to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company asking for the service of William Weston to examine the canal at Great Falls, but Weston has gone to Boston. (MB, Kapsch)
- July 15, 1794 A U.S. Marshal attempting to serve writs against whiskey tax opponents in Allegheny County is attacked and fired upon by a mob; the next day, revenue inspector John Neville is besieged in his house, and mob actions continue. (HistAllghnyCo)
- July 1794 Yellow fever, brought on the brig *Zephyr* from the West Indies, devastates New York City through October; 732 people die; also hits Baltimore. (Trager, Chew/JER 25:4)
- July 1794 Gen. Paul Henri Mallet-Prevost (1756-1836), a Huguenot native of Geneva and great-grandfather of PRR VP Sutherland Mallet Prevost (1845-1905), arrives in New York as a refugee, having deserted from the French Army and escaped from arrest by the Jacobin regime. (CInl&RevFmlsPa)

- July 1794 Line of mail boats established on the Ohio River between Wheeling and Limestone (Maysville), Ky., running every two weeks with a post rider connection between Pittsburgh and Wheeling. (HistAlleghenyCo)
- July 1794 The Six Nations are making threatening speeches against the U.S. over encroachment on their last lands and threatening to join the Midwestern and Canadian tribes; forces a halt to surveys and land sales north and west of the Allegheny River. (Wilkinson)
- July 17, 1794 Whiskey Rebellion begins in western Pennsylvania as residents resist the collection of the 1791 federal excise tax on liquor; mob burns the house of the excise collector for Allegheny County. (Tinkcom - or 7/15-16??)
- July 25, 1794 John W. Watkins and Royal R. Flint receive a patent for 325,000 acres surrounding the lower end of Seneca Lake; Watkins settles at the south end of the lake. (Peirce, watkinglen.org)
- July 26, 1794 James Greenleaf writes the District of Columbia commissioners that the Dutch loan has partly succeeded; Robert Morris and John Nicholson then begin writing checks for their land purchases on the expectation that the loan funds will be able to cover them. (Arnebeck)
- July 28, 1794 After receiving reinforcements, Gen. Anthony Wayne resumes his advance from Fort Recovery. (Dunbar)
- July 28, 1794 French radical leader Maximilien Robespierre (1758-1794) and 21 of his closest followers are guillotined without trial, as his former comrades fear that they may be the next to be purged; the Reign of Terror ends; however, the wars continue and French armies continue to advance; with the threat of invasion reduced or eliminated, domestic policies are relaxed; French politics swings to the right, and a "White Terror" of revenge against radicals begins. (EncycBrit)
- July 31, 1794 Pennsylvania contracts with Samuel Boyd and Christian King to improve Susquehanna River from Middletown to mouth of the Juniata with appropriation of £800; work not completed until 1809. (PaSenJrnl 1807/08)
- Aug. 2, 1794 William Weston reports on survey of Middlesex Canal between Merrimack River and Boston Harbor; also loans them the Troughton level; charges \$2,108 for less than three weeks work; Loammi Baldwin gains experience under Weston. (CHTP7, Calhoun)
- Aug. 7, 1794 Pres. Washington orders the Whiskey Rebels to lay down their arms by Sep. 1 and calls for 12,000 militia from four states to put down the Whiskey Rebellion. (Tinkcom)

- Aug. 8, 1794 Gen. Anthony Wayne builds Fort Defiance at the junction of the Maumee and Auglaize Rivers as a forward base in his campaign against the Ohio Indians. (Sipe, Derleth)
- Aug. 10, 1794 William Weston makes a report on the inspection of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company. (Calhoun)
- Aug. 1794 John Nicholson visits Georgetown, D.C., and becomes concerned that James Greenleaf is not putting any real money into their operation in Washington lots. (Arnebeck)
- Aug. 20, 1794 U.S. Army and Kentucky militia under Gen. Anthony Wayne defeats the Miami Confederacy at the Battle of Fallen Timbers south of present-day Maumee, Ohio, with the loss of only 33 men; the Indians are driven back to Fort Miami, still garrisoned by the British, who refuse to open the gates for them or fire on the Americans; ends resistance in the upper Ohio Valley and opens the area to American settlement; also pressures the British into evacuating the forts they still possess in U.S. territory; these developments dissuade the Six Nations from joining the war against the U.S. (Esarey, Sipe, Wilkinson, Dunbar)
- Aug. 1794 Gov. Thomas Mifflin bars all travel between Philadelphia and New York because of yellow fever at the latter place. (Trager)
- Sep. 2, 1794 James Brindley leaves Wilmington, Del., to begin work for the Conewago Canal Company. (diary description)
- Sep. 3, 1794 At a meeting of the Conewago Canal Company Board, John Nicholson sounds out James Brindley on the prospects for linking the Conewago and Susquehanna Canals and/or improving the navigation of the Susquehanna River all the way up to Conewago Falls and of the potential support and opposition to a Chesapeake & Delaware Canal. (diary description)
- Sep. 10, 1794 Ground broken for Middlesex Canal at Billerica, Mass.; unlike canals in N.Y., Pa. and Va., the company experiences little difficulty in getting subscribers to pay their installments or in purchasing land. (CHTP7, JSDavis)
- Sep. 11, 1794 Aaron Levy patents land on the future site of Ralston, Pa.; Michael Gratz and Hyman Gratz also patent land north and south of Ralston. (Meginnis/Lycoming)
- Sep. 1794 James Brindley begins work on the Conewago Canal. (diary description)
- Sep. 18, 1794 French National Convention ceases paying the salaries of civil (juring)



- clergy, thereby completing the separation of church and state. (Lefebvre)
- Sep. 19, 1794 Militia units, including the First City Troop, begin leaving Philadelphia for action against the Whiskey Rebellion. (Scharf)
- Sep. 22, 1794 Pennsylvania authorizes William Wallace to build a toll bridge over the Raystown Branch on the Great Road between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. (PL)
- Sep. 22, 1794 Supplement to Pa. land law limits grants to actual settlers. (Meginness/Lycoming - ClarionCo implies extends 1792 (or 4/1794?) proviso to the part of the New Purchase east of the Allegheny and Conewango - this is probably correct verify PL)
- Sep. 24, 1794 Militia marching west to suppress the Whiskey Rebellion note that 600 laborers are at work on the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company and that 7 miles of canal and 5 locks have been built. (JSDavis)
- Sep. 25, 1794 After commissioners report a failure to negotiate a solution to the Whiskey Rebellion, Pres. Washington orders the militia to advance to western Pennsylvania. (HistAllghnyCo)
- Sep. 27, 1794 Mass meeting at Pittsburgh declares that the area is orderly and no military force is needed. (Tinkcom)
- Sep. 29, 1794 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company calls in another \$25 per share installment for Nov. 1. (MB)
- Sep. 29, 1794 Pennsylvania Society for the Information & Assistance of Emigrants & Persons Emigrating from Foreign Countries formed in Philadelphia with John Nicholson as Pres. (Arbuckle)
- Sep. 30, 1794 Pres. George Washington issues a patent to John Cleves Symmes, Jonathan Dayton and Daniel Marsh for the 248,345 acres of land between the Great Miami and Little Miami Rivers actually paid for; with reservations, the total area covers 311,682 acres. (Bartlow)
- Oct. 1, 1794 Pres. George Washington leaves Philadelphia to command the forces being mustered to suppress the Whiskey Rebellion. (McCauley)
- Oct. 2, 1794 George Washington makes his third visit to the Lebanon, Pa., area on the way to suppress the Whiskey Rebellion; inspects the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company's canal. (LebCoHS)
- Oct. 2, 1794 James Brindley notes that the Susquehanna Canal workers are at one month's arrears in wages; when no further money arrives by Dec., many

quit; work appears to stop by early 1795. (diary description)

- Oct. 3, 1794 Gen. Washington arrives at Harrisburg. (Egle)
- Oct. 4, 1794 Pres. Washington arrives in Carlisle and reviews the troops of the right wing of the army; Washington divides the army at Carlisle, with one part moving directly west and the other taking the Braddock route via the Potomac Valley and Cumberland, where it unites with the left wing coming from Maryland and Virginia. (GWdiary, Tinkcom)
- Oct. 4, 1794 John Nicholson agrees with John Lithgow and William England, British experts in hosiery manufacture to come to manage his complex at the Falls of Schuylkill; Lithgow advises locating the factory inland where boys can be used. (Arbuckle)
- Oct. 11, 1794 Pres. Washington leaves Carlisle for Chambersburg. (GWdiary)
- Oct. 13, 1794 Pres. Washington leaves Chambersburg for Williamsport, Md. (GWdiary)
- Oct. 1794 John Campbell begins cotton spinning at John Nicholson's new Globe Mill near Reading. (Abuckle)
- Oct. 16, 1794 Pres. Washington and his part of the army arrive at Cumberland, Md. (GWdiary)
- Oct. 19, 1794 Pres. Washington leaves for Bedford, Pa., to meet the northern wing of the army. (GWdiary)
- Oct. 21, 1794 Pres. Washington departs Bedford and returns to Philadelphia; the army proceeds westward under the commands of Alexander Hamilton and Gen. Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee. (GWdiary)
- Oct. 22, 1794 Fort Wayne established on the site of the Miami capital of Kekionga by Gen. Anthony Wayne to defend the west end of the Maumee-Wabash portage with Col. John F. Hamtramck (1756-1803) in command. (Fatout)
- Oct. 25, 1794 Prussia abrogates the Treaty of the Hague and withdraws its troops from the Netherlands. (Mercer)
- Oct. 30, 1794 The 46,000 acres of Thomas Willing and Robert Gilmer lands in north-central Pennsylvania are patented to William Bingham. (HistClarionCo)
- Oct. 30, 1794 John Cleves Symmes deeds the whole military range of his Miami Grant, 64,345 acres, to Jonathan Dayton for \$42,897 in military land warrants. (Bartlow)

- 1794 Joseph Ellicott (1760-1826) begins work as a surveyor for the Holland Land Company. (Chazanof - Ellis/Cattaraugus implies these were the lands in Pa.)
- 1794 Fort Industry established by Gen. Wayne at the mouth of the Maumee River near present-day Toledo.
- Nov. 3, 1794 Anthracite iron pioneer David Thomas (1794-1882) born in Glamorganshire, South Wales. (WwasW)
- Nov. 11, 1794 At Treaty of Canandaigua, the Six Nations settle boundaries with the U.S. and confirm the 1789 cession of their last lands in Pennsylvania and clears the way for settlement of the Erie Triangle and the Pennsylvania Population Company lands, however, the wars in Europe preclude any large-scale foreign investment or emigration. (Tinkcom, Arbuckle)
- Nov. 12, 1794 Gen. William Irvine's army arrests 18 "whiskey rebels", including George Robinson, Burgess of Pittsburgh. (HistPitts)
- Nov. 1794 Sylvanus Bourne informs James Greenleaf that although the books have been open for several months, he has raised only \$20,436 on the Washington lot loan, while Greenleaf, Morris and Nicholson have drawn \$600,000 in notes against it. (Arnebeck)
- Nov. 1794 James Greenleaf manages to sell a thirteenth of his share of the Washington lots to Thomas Law, a young Englishman who has made a fortune in India and anticipates settling in the U.S.; he does not realize that the contract obliges him to build on every third lot. (Arnebeck)
- Nov. 16, 1794 Bank of Columbia refuses to cash further notes of John Nicholson, Robert Morris and James Greenleaf. (Arnebeck)
- Nov. 17, 1794 Army departs Allegheny County, having arrested suspected Whiskey rebels; John Nicholson and other large anti-Federalist landowners oppose the Whiskey Rebellion because it presents a threat to their land-holdings and the orderly sale of land; the Army has dispensed about \$800,000 in western Pennsylvania, which causes a business revival and allows distillers to pay the tax; many soldiers come to see the region as a good place to settle and later move there. (Tinkcom, Arbuckle, HistAllghnyCo)
- Nov. 19, 1794 John Jay signs the Jay Treaty between U.S. and Great Britain in London; permits British warships and privateers entry to American ports to refit; secures neutral rights to American shipping; reopens British West Indies to American ships under 70 tons; under peacetime conditions, British ships could outperform their American counterparts, but the U.S. has the edge in wartime; furthermore, with war losses, Britain requires the services of

neutral shipping to sustain its commerce; U.S. captures most of trade between Europe and the Caribbean, including re-export of goods between France and the French West Indies; U.S. exports soar from \$33 million in 1794 to \$94 million in 1801; the tonnage of U.S. shipping engaged in foreign trade more than doubles between 1791 and 1807; flow of U.S. capital into foreign trade accelerates, further starving internal improvements; France and French sympathizers in the U.S. view the Jay Treaty as quasi-alliance with Britain against France, a betrayal of the Revolutionary War Franco-American alliance and the return of the U.S. to quasi-colonial subservience to Britain. (Browne, Mostert)

- Nov. 24, 1794 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board authorizes the sale of government bonds held by it at any price more than they paid for them. (MB)
- Dec. 1, 1794 Virginia act permits anyone building an iron works on the West Fork of the Monongahela River to build a mill dam, providing it has a chute to pass keelboats of 2 tons burden. (PL)
- Dec. 2, 1794 Robert Morris announces that he will not seek another term in the U.S. Senate when his current term ends on Mar. 4, 1795, in order to devote all his time to his land operations. (Wilkinson)
- Dec. 3, 1794 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company Board agrees to conserve capital by cutting wages that have nearly doubled during the fall harvest season; workers are to be employed by contract, not by the day, with wages set at 5s per day. (MB/Shelton)
- Dec. 3, 1794 Pres. Robert Morris reports to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company that Theophile Cazenove has seen the canal and approves the work; Cazenove has asked for a description that can be forwarded to the Netherlands; Board orders William Weston to come and present a report on the state of the company. (MB)
- Dec. 4, 1794 Henri Mallet-Prevost through his secretary, Nicolas Toulaine Defresnoye, purchases land on the Delaware River west of Flemington from Thomas Lowrey, where they will found Frenchtown, N.J. (Snell)
- Dec. 8, 1794 Virginia act appoints trustees to improve the Slate River in Buckingham County. (PL)
- Dec. 14, 1794 Erastus Corning (1794-1872), future businessman and politician of Albany and founder of the New York Central Railroad, born at Norwich, Conn., the descendant of an old Puritan family; the boy injures his hip in a fall at age two and spends most of his life on crutches; his maternal uncle, Troy merchant Benjamin Smith, pays for Corning's education and takes him as a

clerk in 1807; he moves to Albany in 1814. (Neu, Reynolds)

- Dec. 15, 1794 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board authorizes trying to renew the loan from the Bank of Pennsylvania and also securing a new loan; calls in another \$25 per share for Feb. 1, 1795. (MB)
- Dec. 1794 William Weston reports about five miles of Delaware & Schuylkill Canal dug, about half at each end; is to be locked down into the Delaware River by six locks. (Duane, Smith)
- Dec. 1794 Bitter winter begins in France and Britain, leading to food shortages and starvation in France. (EncycBrit, Sharrer)
- Dec. 16, 1794 William Weston issues his last report on Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation; notes that £8,526 has been spent on 4 miles and 16½ chains of canal between Kreitzers and the east end of the summit level, five locks and two bridges completed, and sixth lock and two more bridges nearly done. (MB, Smith)
- Dec. 19, 1794 Virginia act appoints commissioners to lay out a road from the Elk River in Kanawha County to the confluence of the Great Kanawha and Ohio Rivers. (PL)
- Dec. 21, 1794 At a holiday party, Pres. Washington asks Robert Morris for William Weston to view the works of the Potomac Company, whose canal at Little Falls is running over a year behind schedule. (Arnebeck)
- Dec. 22, 1794 Virginia act appoints trustees to improve the Rivanna River for batteaux carrying 6 hogsheads of tobacco from the James River up as far as practicable. (PL)
- Dec. 24, 1794 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board meets with William Weston in attendance; calls in another \$25 per share for Mar. 1, 1795; authorizes applying for \$17,000 in private loans to pay off the men; agrees to Weston viewing the works of the Potomac Company; from this date, Weston is to be considered an employee of the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company. (MB)
- Dec. 24, 1794 Chauncey Rose (1794-1877), founder of the Terre Haute & Indianapolis Railroad, born at Wethersfield, Conn., son of John and Mary Warner Rose. (AmScssflMen, Bradsby/Vigo)
- Dec. 24, 1794 France ends price controls; inflation begins with the end of the controlled economy. (Lefebvre)
- Dec. 26, 1794 Name of county seat of Queen Anne's County, Maryland, changed from

- John Hutchins store to Centreville. (Long)
- Dec. 27, 1794 France invades the Dutch Republic. (Mercer)
- 1794 Nicholas J. Roosevelt and the New Jersey Copper Mine Association buy 6 acres of Josiah Hornblower's land on Second River in present-day Belleville and establish a copper, brass and iron foundry and machine shop under the management of Roosevelt, who names them the Soho Works after those of Boulton & Watt in England; Roosevelt assembles the first team of workmen skilled in steam engineering in the U.S., including James Smallman (1763?-1821), a native of Staffordshire who had worked at the original Soho Works of Boulton & Watt in England. (Weiss&Weiss, Pursell, Flexner)
- 1794 John Fitch conveys his rights in the Fitch-Voight teamboat ferry to John Nicholson; a boat is put through trials at Philadelphia in the fall. (Crisman)
- 1794 Tench Coxe publishes *A View of the United States* in Philadelphia, in which he notes the extensive deposits of anthracite coal on the headwaters of the Lehigh and Schuylkill Rivers and under the whole Wyoming Vallley; also the vast bituminous coal deposits whose northern outcrops are on the West Branch of the Susquehanna River; he recommends the construction of a new manufacturing town on 2,000 acres on the Susquehanna River, where he has large tracts of land, by raising \$500,000 either by a stock company, a lottery or a direct state appropriation. (Cooke, Bradsby)
- 1794 Federal government imposes a two-month embargo of foreign trade, which forces money usually invested in commerce into investment in land. (Wilkinson)
- 1794 Pennsylvania's income from land sales peaks at \$729,120; then falls to under \$80,000 in 1795 and continues to fall until the Embargo of 1808. (Wilkinson)
- 1794 At the urging of Thomas Willing, Robert Morris withdraws from the partnership of Willing & Morris , selling his interest to his former clerk, John Swanwick; Willing does not want to be drawn into Morris's large land speculations. (Young)
- 1794 Jesse Kersey, son-in-law of Moses Coates, begins selling lots fronting the Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road in what will become Coatesville, Pa. (coatesville.org)
- 1794 Jacob Weiss and William Henry, Jr., lay out the town of Lehighton, Pa., on the west bank of the Lehigh River just upstream from Weiss's plantation at Fort Allen; it is intended to serve as a base for the Lehigh Coal Mine

- Company, whose property is to the north and west. (Mathews/Hngfrfd)
- 1794 James Geddes (1763-1838), a native of Carlisle, Pa., settles on the west shore of Lake Onondaga, where he soon develops a salt works. (wiki)
- 1794 George McClure of Bath, N.Y., sends the first ark from the Cohocton River down the Susquehanna River. (Cowan)
- 1794 First recorded ark descends Penns Creek to the Susquehanna and Baltimore. (EEBrown)
- 1794 Surveyor Andrew Ellicott meets Enoch Lewis (1776-1856), a young Quaker mathematics prodigy, whom he engages as an assistant surveyor to join him and Gen. William Irvine in laying out tracts and towns in northwestern Pennsylvania next season. (Futhey)
- 1794 Maryland is the second-ranked state in terms of exports, and Baltimore is the leading port for the export of grain and tobacco. (Bryan)
- 1794 Philip Benner (1762-1832), who has learned the iron trade at Coventry, Chester County, builds Rock Forge on Spring Creek in Centre County; Benner markets his “Juniata” iron in Pittsburgh, shipping it over the mountain by pack horse. (Paskoff, ed)
- 1794 Edward Bartholomew and Greenberry Dorsey build Barree Forge on the Little Juniata River 9 miles northwest of Huntingdon to convert the pig iron of Centre Furnace into bar iron. (Africa, Lytle, Swank)
- 1794 Mail service extended from Pittsburgh to Louisville, operating twice a month.
- 1794 Mail stagecoach service established over Zane’s Trace into the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- 1794 A regular trade in wheat and flour develops from what is now southern Ontario (Upper Canada) down the St. Lawrence River to the port of Montreal; the St. Lawrence is the natural outlet of the entire Great Lakes basin, and for a time enjoys the trade of both the Canadian and American sides of the Lakes. (Aitken)
- 1794 Under orders from \_\_\_, Baron de Carondelet, Governor-General of Spanish Louisiana, Jacques Clamorgan organizes a trading company with a 10-year monopoly of trade with the Indians of the upper Missouri River, with a \$2,000 reward to the first person to see the Pacific Ocean from what is now the U.S. Northwest. (Albright)

- Jan. 1795 Robert Morris accepts John Nicholson's offer to buy back his shares of the Pennsylvania Population Company at cost for \$20,000; as Nicholson has no cash, this is a credit transaction. (Chernow)
- Jan. 16, 1795 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company calls in another \$50 per share for Mar. 15 in an attempt to raise more money. (MB)
- Jan. 19, 1795 French take Amsterdam; soon after, the entire Dutch navy is captured by French cavalry while icebound at its anchorage; Stadholder Willem V (1747-1806) flees to England and later dies in exile in Brunswick. (Mercer, wiki)
- Jan. 27, 1795 U.S. lifts suspension of Pennsylvania settlements at Presque Isle. (Tinkcom)
- Jan. 27, 1795 George Burgett lays out the town of West Boston, later Burgettstown, Pa., in Washington County; it is located about a mile south of the present Burgettstown on the Pan Handle Line. (Crumrine)
- Jan. 28, 1795 Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road finished from West Philadelphia to Spread Eagle Tavern (Strafford). (PaArch)
- Jan. 31, 1795 Alexander Hamilton resigns as Secretary of the Treasury and is succeeded by Oliver Wolcott (1760-1833). (Purvis)
- Feb. 3, 1795 The old Dutch Republic is overthrown and replaced by the Batavian Republic, a French puppet state organized by pro-French Patriot elements on French lines; the French conquest ends the long reign of Amsterdam as an international capital market; the French annex Dutch territory, impose an indemnity of 100 million guilders, and extort loans from Dutch banks to the French government, destroying Dutch commerce and the ability of the Dutch to make further large-scale investments in the U.S. (Andress, Van Winter, Chew/JER 25:4)
- Feb. 5, 1795 John McKee (1746-1807), son of David McKee (1710-1795), advertises the sale of lots in the newly-platted town of McKeesport, Pa., at the confluence of the Youghiogheny and Monongahela Rivers. (HistAllghnyCo)
- Feb. 9, 1795 "President, Managers & Company of the Bank of Delaware" incorporated in Delaware with a capital of \$100,000; first bank in Delaware. (Scharf)
- Feb. 11, 1795 New Brunswick Bridge Company authorizes a further assessment of £7,000; notes that the work done so far is unsatisfactory and will have to be taken down. (Benedict)
- Feb. 12, 1795 Charter supplement to Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company authorizes increase of stock, borrowing money, and charging 6 cents per



ton-mile in toll. (PL)

- Feb. 17, 1795 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board authorizes William Weston to spend a few days on the Conewago; reports that the Bank of the United States and the Bank of Pennsylvania refuse to renew their loans unless some part is paid. (MB)
- Feb. 17, 1795 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company Treasurer Tench Francis reports on an audit of the accounts of the late Superintendent Jonathan Robson; has spent \$15,540. (MB)
- Feb. 18, 1795 Susquehanna Company meets at Athens, Pa., and proceeds to enlarge its claim to the upper Susquehanna Valley; then surveys what will become Bradford County, creating conflicting claims for the entire area. (Harvey)
- Feb. 18, 1795 Anglo-American merchant banker George Peabody (1795-1869), mentor of the Morgan dynasty of bankers, born at South Danvers, Mass. (DAB)
- Feb. 20, 1795 Robert Morris, John Nicholson and James Greenleaf organize the North American Land Company with \$3 million in capital, to which they transfer 6 million acres scattered throughout Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Kentucky, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia in a last scheme to raise funds; title to the land is vested in Thomas Willing of the Bank of the United States, John Nixon of the Bank of North America and John Barclay of the Bank of Pennsylvania as trustees; Morris, Nicholson and Greenleaf each deposit 3,000 shares with the trustees to secure dividends; they value land they have bought for 33 cents an acre at 50 cents, and claim that the company can sell at \$2 an acre to settlers, but they are each obliged to maintain a 10% interest in the company and may not sell their shares at less than \$100; despite a frantic effort to sell the shares in Europe, most of the shares end up in the hands of their creditors in lieu of cash; in effect, the shares take the place of the partners' IOUs, which are heavily discounted; Willing, Nixon and Barclay refuse to serve for fear they may become liable for the company's debts and are replaced by Jared Ingersoll, Frederick A. C. Muhlenberg and Matthew Clarkson. (Arbuckle, LCMCo, Van Winter, Chernow, Rappleye, Arnebeck)
- Feb. 24, 1795 New York Assembly votes to subscribe to the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company and Northern Inland Lock Navigation Company. (Sweet)
- Feb. 25, 1795 Union College, the first non-denominational college in the U.S., is incorporated at Schenectady; John Blair Smith, Pres. (French - verify)
- Feb. 26, 1795 William Bingham elected Federalist Senator from Pennsylvania, succeeding Robert Morris. (Alberts)

- Feb. 27, 1795 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board reports that it has distributed what money it has pro rata among its workmen; agrees to renew its appeal to the Legislature for a £150,000 subscription or loan. (MB)
- Feb. 28, 1795 Massachusetts authorizes Middlesex Canal to extend from Medford to Charlestown on Boston Harbor. (CHTP7)
- Mar. 5, 1795 Chester, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Mar. 8, 1795 Future Philadelphia postmaster and Jacksonian politician James Page (1795-1875) born; Page will initially support the PRR but become an implacable critic once it abandons the narrow goal of funneling export traffic to the port of Philadelphia. (BioEncycPa)
- Mar. 12, 1795 Bedford, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Mar. 13, 1795 “The President, Managers & Company for Erecting a Bridge over the River Delaware at the Borough of Easton” (Easton Delaware Bridge Company) incorporated in Pa. (PL)
- Mar. 16, 1795 Commissioners report to Gov. Thomas Mifflin that the work on the Juniata River is completed to Aughwick Falls. (PaArch)
- Mar. 1795 William Weston finally visits the works of the Potomac Company at Little Falls and Great Falls at the invitation of George Washington and serves as consultant; Weston approves locks at Little Falls but recommends that the Great Falls Canal be continued in a straight line beyond the basin at the mid-point, resulting in the abandonment of some work; Weston is paid £370 or \$1,232 for his services. (Kapsch)
- Mar. 18, 1795 Easton Delaware Bridge Company incorporated in N.J. (PL)
- Mar. 25, 1795 Samuel Morey receives a patent for his steam engine and paddle wheels. (Shagena)
- Mar. 31, 1795 New York State act authorizes a state subscription of 200 shares (\$10,000) each to the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company and Northern Inland Lock Navigation Company. (Sweet, Whitford)
- Early 1795 After a short harvest in 1794 and no surpluses from earlier years, a record cold winter and a late spring, Britain suffers grain shortages and rapid price increases. (Barnes)
- Apr. 1, 1795 Bread riots rock Paris as food supplies fall to new lows. (Mercer)

- Apr. 5, 1795 Prussia and France sign the peace Treaty of Basle; Prussia recognizes the French seizure of German territory west of the Rhine. (Lefebvre)
- Apr. 6, 1795 Schoharie County, N.Y., created from parts of Albany and Otsego Counties. (French)
- Apr. 9, 1795 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board authorizes William Weston to sell the company's teams and send the rest to Philadelphia for sale; the company's stock of black powder is to be sent to Norristown for the use of the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal; Weston appoints seven men to take care of the works, which are effectively abandoned and never brought into use. (MB)
- Apr. 11, 1795 Pennsylvania passes the Intrusion Act against Susquehanna Company settlers continuing to move into Pa. (Harvey)
- Apr. 11, 1795 Lewistown, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Apr. 13, 1795 Lycoming County created from western portion of Northumberland County; county seat at Jaysburg. (PL, Long)
- Apr. 13, 1795 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company approves the request of Gen. Philip Schuyler for William Weston's services on the New York canals; authorizes applying for the right to raise \$400,000 by lottery. (MB)
- Apr. 1795 Only about 50 men employed on the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company, who are having difficulties excavating the hard marble below Norristown. (Blake)
- Apr. 1795 Gen. William Irvine and surveyor Andrew Ellicott resume surveying operations at Presque Isle (Erie). (McKnight)
- Apr. 1795 Last British troops in the continental wars are evacuated from Bremen. (Black)
- Apr. 16, 1795 Bank of North America threatens to sue Robert Morris unless he pays his notes in the hands of the bank. (Young)
- Apr. 17, 1795 Pennsylvania authorizes Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company and Delaware & Schuylkill Canal to raise \$390,000 by lottery; \$50,000 raised on first drawing, but on drawing the second class, found there was no money to pay prizes; S&S Canal had nearly been completed; but work is abandoned soon after, and no part of it is ever brought into use. (PL, Duane)
- Apr. 17, 1795 Pennsylvania act exempts residents living along the Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road from paying toll when going about their ordinary

occupations and no alternate road is available; company may widen the road to 68 feet. (PL)

- Apr. 17, 1795 Somerset County, Pa., created from portion of Bedford County between Allegheny Mountain and Laurel Hill; county seat at Somerset. (PL, Long)
- Apr. 17, 1795 Pennsylvania authorizes a deviation in the Bedford-Pittsburgh Road between Turtle Creek and Pittsburgh. (PL)
- Apr. 18, 1795 Weekly mail service established between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. (HistPitts)
- Apr. 18, 1795 Pennsylvania act authorizes Gen. William Irvine and Andrew Ellicott to lay out town sites at the mouth of French Creek (Franklin), the mouth of Conewango Creek (Warren), Fort LeBoeuf (Waterford) and Presque Isle (Erie). (Tinkcom, Schenck, Newton)
- Apr. 1795 Proprietors of the Locks & Canals on Connecticut River open the South Hadley Canal with an inclined plane on Connecticut River in Mass; built by Lt. Ariel Cooley (1756-1822); the first successful canal in New England. (bio.umass.edu, JSDavis, CHTP21)
- Apr. 25, 1795 John Nicholson promises shareholders in the Asylum Company a \$30 annual dividend, pledging one-third of the total shares as security; Robert Morris has already withdrawn from the company and sold his shares to Nicholson for \$135,377. (Chernow)
- Apr. 27, 1795 Federalist John Jay (1745-1829) is elected Gov. of New York, defeating Republican Robert Yates; the present incumbent, Republican George Clinton, has declined to run. (Sobel)
- Spring 1795 About 200 men from Gen. Anthony Wayne's army take possession of Presque Isle (Erie) and build a blockhouse. (HistErieCo)
- Spring 1795 Maj. Isaac Craig (1742-1826) and Gen. James O'Hara (1752-1819) build the first glass works in Pittsburgh on north side of Allegheny River; the works are built and superintended by William Peter Eichbaum, lately employed at John Nicholson's abortive glassworks at the Falls of Schuylkill; Eichbaum prospers in Pittsburgh and his son William Eichbaum (1787-1866) becomes postmaster and is City Treasurer at his death; with abundant coal, Pittsburgh later becomes a center of glass-making. (HistAlleghenyCo - StdHistPitts has 1797?)
- Spring 1795 Conrad Rice, a blacksmith from Lancaster County, is the first to settle on the site of Indiana, Pa. (Stewart)

- Spring 1795 Jeremiah Morrow (1771-1852), a native of Gettysburg, Pa., arrives in the Little Miami Valley of Ohio, where he will serve as Governor and U.S. Senator and help found the Little Miami Railroad.
- May 7, 1795 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board authorizes William Weston to go to New York as the employee of the New York canals as soon as possible. (MB)
- May 1795 William Weston is engaged by the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company for 4 years, and work resumes; makes an extensive report on a survey from Troy to Cayuga Lake, estimating cost at £189,497; Benjamin Wright (1770-1842), later Chief Engineer of the Erie Canal and other large projects, works as a surveyor under Weston. (Whitford, Calhoun)
- May 11, 1795 Little Eaton Tramway opens in Derbyshire, Eng.; built by James Outram; engineering biographer Samuel Smiles later spreads the erroneous story that the words tramway or tramroad are derived from Outram's name; the name is now believed to derive from the Low German *traam*, a beam or shaft; the earliest discovered usage of "tramroad" occurs in Oct. 1798 in South Wales. (James, OED, Marshall)
- May 14, 1795 Gov. Thomas Mifflin approves an amended lottery scheme for the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company and Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company. (MB)
- May 14, 1795 Benjamin Stites receives deeds for about 10,000 acres in the vicinity of Lebanon and Deerfield, Ohio. (Morrow/Warren)
- May 1795 Potomac Company opens 2-mile canal with locks around Little Falls of the Potomac west of Washington on the Maryland side. (Arnebeck, Sanderlin)
- May 1795 James Greenleaf drops out of the Washington, D.C., development scheme, taking notes from Nicholson and Morris for over \$1 million. (Rappleye)
- May 16, 1795 The Dutch sign the Treaty of The Hague with France, paying a huge indemnity, surrendering territory and consenting to a French garrison until a general peace settlement. (Lefebvre, Blanning)
- May 21, 1795 Petersburg, Pa., laid out on the Juniata River at the mouth of Shavers Creek by Dr. Peter Shoenberger (1782-1854), for whom it is named; Juniata Forge is built at the same site. (Africa) must be George??. Swank has Peter, Sr.?
- May 22, 1795 After two days of violent protests and bread riots fail to ignite a mass uprising against the Convention, the National Guard surrounds the poor neighborhoods on the eastern side of Paris to awe them into submission. (Lefebvre, EncycBrit)

- May 29, 1795      Circular issued “To all those interested in the navigation of the River Susquehannah” down to the Pennsylvania state line. (Majewski)
- June 3, 1795      James Findlay and Barnabas McCormick are killed and scalped about 6 miles south of Meadville in the last Indian revenge killing in northwestern Pennsylvania. (HistCrawfrdCo)
- June 12, 1795      Potomac Company Board advertises for contractors to build the new direct line of the Great Falls Canal as recommended by William Weston; when no offers appear, it decides to build the canal with the company’s own forces; also orders preparations for improving the navigation of the Shenandoah River, but nothing done. (Kapsch)
- June 1795      John Nicholson pays the workers at his button works at the Falls of Schuylkill in books, which they are obliged to sell in order to buy food and clothing; as his situation worsens, Nicholson is increasingly forced to pay his men in store goods; Thomas Flood quits as head of the foundry in fear of physical reprisals from the workmen. (Shelton/PMHB 106)
- June 1795      Soldiers discharged from Gen. Anthony Wayne’s army begin settling at Fort Hamilton, now Hamilton, Ohio. (Bartlow)
- June 24, 1795      Senate ratifies the Jay Treaty; though America gains few concessions, exports to British Empire triple over five years. (Purvis)
- June 27, 1795      The British Fleet succeeds in landing a French Royalist force on the Quiberon Peninsula in Brittany. (Lefebvre)
- June 29, 1795      Peaceful protests in favor of manhood suffrage and an end to the war are held near London. (Mercer)
- July 5, 1795      John Nicholson writes to John Fitch declining to advance him any more money and wishing he had never heard of him. (Arbuckle)
- July 11, 1795      James Wilson writes to Philip Nicklin & Co. in London giving them a power of attorney to sell lands to English investors; he lists 450,000 acres in Pennsylvania in 8 counties. (CSmith)
- July 1795      The Pulteney Associates learn that Robert Morris is selling lands in the Morris Reserve in the Genesee Country, which are pledged to secure their \$50,000 overdue loan; in Oct., they file for an injunction barring further sales for three years. (Chernow, Rappleye)
- July 1795      Jan & Wilhelm Willink inform Robert Morris that they cannot dispose of the 1,000 shares of North American Land Company he has sent them.

(Chernow)

- July 1795 Yellow fever epidemic strikes New York City, brought from the West Indies; 732 die before it abates in Oct. (Burrows/Wallace)
- July 21, 1795 Anglo-Royalist invasion of the French mainland at Quiberon in Brittany fails. (Andress, Lefebvre)
- July 22, 1795 Spain signs a peace treaty with France at Basle; France withdraws from Spanish territory in return for the Spanish part of Santo Domingo (now the Dominican Republic). (Blanning, Lefebvre)
- July 25, 1795 A meeting of Philadelphia Republicans in the State House Yard denounces the Jay Treaty; however, some Republicans give lukewarm support to the treaty because British seizures or open war with Britain would imperil their flour trade with France and the French West Indies; the Jay Treaty, coming after the Whiskey Rebellion causes John Nicholson to move to the Federalist side as they are the protectors of property; however, Nicholson remains somewhat true to his humble and populist roots, keeping the common touch and remaining affable and collegial with the artisans and workmen he hires, lacking the aristocratic hauteur of William Bingham and other Federalist grandees; he also acts as a benefactor to African Americans, mingles with them and refuses to participate in the slave trade, despite the certainty of profit. (Arbuckle)
- July 27, 1795 Land at Fort Hamilton, now in Ohio, sold to Jonathan Dayton (1760-1824) and Israel Ludlow (1765-1804) of N.J.; they lay out the village of Fairfield (now Hamilton), but the plat is not filed until Apr. 28, 1802. (Bartlow)
- July 28, 1795 Edwin Augustus Stevens (1795-1868), sixth son of John Stevens and Rachel Cox Stevens, born at "Castle Point," Hoboken, N.J.; unlike his father and brothers, Edwin becomes skilled in organization and financial management, and is later the architect of the family's fortune and the Camden & Amboy Monopoly. (DAB, Turnbull, White)
- July 30, 1795 Heavy rains cause flooding along the Middle Atlantic seaboard; they continue well into Sep. 1795, increasing the incidence of yellow fever, malaria and other mosquito-borne diseases. (Arnebeck)
- July 31, 1795 Tench Coxe publishes a letter in the *Philadelphia Gazette* denouncing the Jay Treaty and going over to the Republicans. (Cooke)
- Summer 1795 Proprietors complete toll bridges over Hackensack and Passaic Rivers between present Jersey City and Newark; built by Josiah Nottage, engineer of the Charles River Bridge near Boston; connecting road (now Newark Avenue) is built on foundation of transverse logs covered with earth and

gravel to cross the Jersey Meadows; it becomes the main artery of traffic and helps Newark surpass Elizabethtown as the chief town of northern New Jersey. (Lane Clayton/Berger [Bergen?] has 1795 for Hack R built by Samuel Ogden - JSDavis citing NwkGaz has both opened before 2/4/95)

- Summer 1795 Meeting held in Harrisburg for securing subscriptions to improve the navigation of the Susquehanna River between Wrights Ferry and the Maryland state line; not successful. (JSDavis)
- Summer 1795 Stagecoach begins running between Albany and Skeensborough Landing at the south end of Lake Champlain via Troy, Fort Edward and Fort Ann. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- Summer 1795 British grain prices are at famine levels, the highest since the bad harvest years in the reign of Elizabeth I; Parliament bans grain exports. (Barnes, Sharrer)
- Summer 1795 Oliver Evans and merchant miller Thomas Ellicott (1738-1799) author *The Young Mill-wright and Miller's Guide*, the first American textbook on water mills; it is designed to promote Evans's large semi-automated flour mills and underscores the economic importance of large merchant flour mills built along the Fall Line in the Middle Atlantic States; in line with his sponsorship of all forms of industrialization, John Nicholson advances \$1,000 to enable its publication, which Evans never repays. (Bathe, Hunter, Arbuckle)
- Aug. 3, 1795 Treaty of Greenville; twelve Indian nations are forced to give up claims to 28,000 square miles lying south and east of a line run up the Cuyahoga River from Lake Erie to Fort Laurens, then southwesterly past Fort Loramie to Fort Recovery near the head of the Wabash River and southwestwardly to a point on the Ohio River opposite the mouth of the Kentucky River, including a triangular sliver of what is now southeastern Indiana; the treaty line runs from the mouth of the Kentucky River to Fort Recovery and then due north; Indian titles to the Vincennes Tract and Clark's Grant are also declared extinguished; also includes the cession of 16 parcels containing the sites of current or former forts and trading posts, including Detroit, Michillimackinac and six square miles at the mouth of the Chicago River; also the right of travel between them, across major portages and down rivers to Lake Erie or the Mississippi; southwestern portion of Ohio opened for settlement. (IndLndCessions, Hubbard, Dunbar, FactsStates)
- Aug. 3, 1795 With the formal end of Indian hostilities, Pennsylvania land law, persons holding warrants on the frontier now have two years to file prevention certificates and make improvements; Attorney-General Jared Ingersoll (1749-1822) has ruled that prevention certificates only allow more time to meet the settlement requirements, and no patents are to be issued until



actual settlement; a large number of justices of the peace are appointed by Gov. Mifflin in the affected areas to sign the certificates, most of whom are nominated and approved by the big land speculators. (Wilkinson)

- Aug. 5, 1795 New Yellow fever epidemic strikes New York City. (Stokes)
- Aug. 5, 1795 Future Ohio steamboat captain and railroad entrepreneur Jacob Strader (1795-1860) born in Mansfield Township, Warren County, N.J. (findagrave)
- Aug. 10, 1795 Pennsylvania contracts with William Koch and George Rousch to improve the Schuylkill River above Reading; appropriates £600; work completed. (SenJrnl)
- Aug. 13, 1795 Convention held at Harrisburg for removing obstructions in the Susquehanna River from Wrights Ferry to the Maryland state line. (HistJuniata/Mifflin)
- Aug. 14, 1795 Congress approves the Jay Treaty after fierce debate; Pres. Washington signs it on Aug. 18. (history.com)
- Aug. 14, 1795 Williamsburg, Pa., in the Juniata Valley, platted by surveyor Patrick Cassidy for Jacob Ake (1754?-1838). (Africa)
- Aug. 17, 1795 Bank of Delaware organized; Joseph Tatnall (1740-1813) Pres. (Scharf)
- Aug. 20, 1795 Robert Field Stockton (1795-1866), future Commodore, Senator and Pres. of the Delaware & Raritan Canal, born at Princeton, N.J., the son of Sen. Richard Stockton (1764-1828) and Mary Field Stockton; grandson of Richard Stockton (1730-1781), a signer of the Declaration of Independence. (CongBio, WwasW)
- Aug. 20, 1795 John Cleves Symmes transfers to Gen. Jonathan Dayton (1760-1824), Gen. Arthur St. Clair, Gen. James Wilkinson and Col. Israel Ludlow (1766-1804) all his land in the seventh and eighth ranges between the Little Miami and Great Miami Rivers. (Drury)
- Aug. 22, 1795 The French National Convention finally produces a new Constitution calling for a five-man executive Directory, a bicameral legislature and property qualifications for suffrage. (Andress, Lefebvre)
- Aug. 31, 1795 Pa. Gov. Mifflin bars commerce with New York City because of the yellow fever. (Stokes)
- Sep. 2, 1795 Connecticut Land Company, an association of 58 subscribers, agrees to purchase the bulk of the Western Reserve in present-day Ohio from

- Connecticut on credit for \$1.2 million; excepts the Firelands and a salt tract in the Mahoning Valley. (EncycClvIndHist)
- Sep. 4, 1795 Joint Board of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company and the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company reports that all lottery tickets have been sold. (MB)
- Sep. 5, 1795 Connecticut Land Company adopts articles of association. (EncycClvIndHist)
- Sep. 12, 1795 Somerset, Pa., laid out by Adam Schneider and Peter Ankeny. (Blackburn)
- Sep. 1795 Group of businessmen unsuccessfully attempt to form a company capitalized at \$300,000 to build a turnpike between Paulus Hook and Philadelphia. (JSDavis, Lane)
- Sep. 1795 John Bowler, whom John Nicholson has brought to the U.S. to build textile machinery, absconds with his \$10,000 advance to Cork, Ireland. (Arbuckle)
- Sep. 1795 John Nicholson dissolves his partnership with William Pollard at the Falls of Schuylkill; Nicholson has spread his capital too thin and is unable to maintain cash flow to make regular wage payments. (Shelton/PMHB 106)
- Sep. 16, 1795 Britain forces the surrender of the Dutch colony at the Cape of Good Hope with the forced acquiescence of the deposed Dutch Stadholder Willem V, in whose name they are supposedly acting, in order to deny France the gateway to the Indian Ocean. (Lefebvre, Mostert)
- Oct. 1, 1795 James River Company begins charging full tolls on its combination of canals and sluice navigation. (Dunaway)
- Oct. 1, 1795 France annexes the Austrian Netherlands (Belgium). (Blanning)
- Oct. 5, 1795 Randolph County, Northwest Territory, created from part of St. Clair County with county seat at Kaskaskia; St. Clair county seat established at Cahokia. (Long)
- Oct. 20, 1795 Pennsylvania contracts with John Nicholson to build a canal and locks on the west side of the Schuylkill at the Falls above Philadelphia; appropriates £400, but the work is not completed (PaArch); Nicholson had hoped to develop a factory complex at the Falls. (Arbuckle)
- Oct. 22, 1795 France establishes the School of Public Services for military and civil engineers, forerunner of the Ecole Polytechnique, the first modern engineering school. (Lefebvre - see above)

- Oct. 27, 1795 Treaty of San Lorenzo with Spain establishes U.S. right to navigate the Mississippi River to its mouth and fixes border between U.S. and Spanish territory west of the Mississippi and in Florida. (avalon.law)
- Oct. 29, 1795 Antiwar and bread rioters attack the carriage of George III as he is going to address the opening of Parliament, breaking its windows with stones and nearly succeeding in pulling him out; it becomes the pretext for crushing dissidents and counter-rampages by “Church & King” mobs against republicans. (Barnes, Taylor)
- Oct. 30, 1795 Commissioners for Bridges over the Rivers Passaic & Hackensack petition the N.J. Legislature for incorporation. (JSDavis)
- Nov. 2, 1795 Toll bridge opens across Raritan River at Albany Street, New Brunswick; cost \$86,965; because of the high initial cost, its return on investment is only 2.58%; the bridge has 12 spans including a draw at the deepest point of the river to allow vessels to use Raritan Landing upstream. (Benedict, JSDavis)
- Nov. 3, 1795 The French Directory is organized; the leading figure among the Directors is Jean-Nicolas-Paul-François Barras (1755-1829), a former aristocratic officer turned radical turned moderate, who cares only for his own position and lining his pockets. (Andress)
- Nov. 4, 1795 Dayton, Ohio, platted by Israel Ludlow for a group of eastern investors, including Congressman Jonathan Dayton (1760-1824) of Elizabethtown, N.J. (Drury)
- Nov. 4, 1794 After rioters stone the king’s carriage and insult George III and William Pitt on Oct. 29, Britain outlaws all seditious assemblies and publications. (Hague, Lefebvre)
- Nov. 10, 1795 John Thomson (1769-1844), the father of J. Edgar Thomson, and David Lummis (d. 1804) arrive at Market Street wharf in 17.5-foot schooner *White Fish*, which they have built at Presque Isle (Erie) during the summer and sailed 947 miles, including five portages totaling 29 miles around Niagara Falls, the falls of the Oswego, between Oneida Lake and the Mohawk River, the Little Falls, and Schenectady to Albany, rounding Cape May on Nov. 4; Thomson and Lummis had been engaged to survey lands for the Holland Land Company in northwestern Pennsylvania and chose to return in this fashion to demonstrate the potential of the route. (PADA 3/22/28, Scharf)
- Nov. 10, 1795 Matthias William Baldwin (1795-1866), pioneer locomotive builder, born at Elizabethtown, N.J.; son of a carriage maker. (DAB)

- Nov. 17, 1795 Western Inland Lock Navigation Company opens short canal with 5 locks around the Little Falls of the Mohawk. (Whitford)
- Dec. 1, 1795 Piankatank Canal Company incorporated in Virginia to open the navigation of the Piankatank River (aka the Dragon Swamp). (PL)
- Dec. 3, 1795 Commissioners report last section of Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road completed and ready to take tolls; first U.S. macadamized toll road; route (present U.S. 30) helps influence later route of PRR; road has 9 toll gates and about 60 taverns. (PaArch, Landis)
- Dec. 5, 1795 Virginia act appoints commissioners to improve the navigation of Quantico Creek. (PL)
- Dec. 10, 1795 Virginia act consents to the Bank of the United States opening branches in Virginia over much opposition. (PL, Starnes)
- Dec. 14, 1795 John Bloomfield Jervis (1795-1885), noted civil engineer, born at Huntington, Long Island, the descendant of Yankees who had settled in eastern Long Island; the family relocates to Fort Stanwix (Rome) in 1798. (Jervis/FitzSimons)
- Dec. 1795 Parliament offers bounties for grain, including imports from the U.S. (Sherrer)
- Dec. 17, 1795 Fairfax & Loudoun Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Va. to build from Alexandria to the Little River; first turnpike company incorporated in Va.; no work done under this charter. (JSDavis)
- Dec. 17, 1795 Matildaville Company incorporated in Va.; includes the power to build a turnpike between Alexandria and the Great Falls of the Potomac, which is to be the site of the town of Matildaville. (JSDavis)
- Dec. 21, 1795 Upper Appomattox Company incorporated in Virginia to open the navigation of the Appomattox River above tide. (PL)
- Dec. 22, 1795 Potomac Company Board invites Capt. Christopher Myers, an English engineer, to meet them to discuss his proposal to take over the long-vacant post of Chief Engineer. (Kaspch)
- Dec. 23, 1795 William Weston reports to Western Inland Lock Navigation Company recommending slackwater down the Oswego River as the banks are too steep for a canal. (Whitford)
- Dec. 23, 1795 Virginia acts authorize laying out a wagon road from Morgantown to the Ohio River at the mouth of Grave Creek; appropriate \$500 to repair the road

from the Savage River to Morgantown. (PL)

- Dec. 24, 1795 Maryland act authorizes a lottery for raising \$50,000 to improve the Susquehanna River; no money is to be spent on the Susquehanna Canal. (Johnston)
- Dec. 24, 1795 Bank of Baltimore incorporated in Maryland with \$1.2 million in capital; the state's second bank. (Blandi, JSDavis)
- Dec. 26, 1795 Virginia act appoints trustees for opening a turnpike between Alexandria and the Little River at Aldie (now U.S. 50). (PL)
- Dec. 31, 1795 Bank of England adopts a policy of limiting discounts and reducing its note issue to fight the loss of specie and stabilize wartime prices at home. (Clapham)
- 1795 John Stevens writes to John Nicholson seeking information on the Fitch-Voight teamboat for possible use on his ferry between New York and South Amboy; Fitch offers to build one for Stevens in the summer of 1795 but fails to carry through. (Crisman - get date from Turnbull)
- 1795 John Nicholson moves his glass-works and button factory from Philadelphia to the Falls of Schuylkill. (Arbuckle)
- 1795 To raise much-needed cash, Robert Morris sells his interest in 1,721,327 acres of Pennsylvania land held jointly with John Nicholson to Nicholson at cost. (Chernow)
- 1795 John Nicholson and Robert Morris sell 3,465 acres in Northampton County (head of the Lehigh River?) to Thomas Wright at 9d per acre. (Chernow)
- 1795 Joseph Buck (1753-1803), et al., buy the Union Mill Pond and lay out the town of Millville, N.J., about 3 miles downstream at the head of tidewater on the Maurice River at a place formerly known as Shingle Landing; Buck does not carry out his plan of bringing the water to the village site, but builds mills at the pond. (Cushing)
- 1795 Isaac Pennock (1767-1824) builds the Federal Slitting Mill on Buck Run, about 4 miles south of present Coatesville, Pa.; it is later renamed Rokeby Rolling Mill and burns down in 1864. (Swank - coatesville.org has by 1793)
- 1795 Abraham Howe, a brick maker, builds the first reliably documented railroad in the U.S., a self-acting plane with wooden rails of 2'-0" gauge on Beacon Hill, Boston; used to reduce the height of Beacon Hill by 20 feet to build the new State House. (RRGaz, Gamst)

- 1795 Frederick Bartles, who has a mill dam at the outlet of Mud Lake on the Cohocton River 5 miles east of Bath, sends the first rafts down the Cohocton to the Susquehanna River by releasing water from his millpond. (EEBrown)
- 1795 First rafts sent down the North Branch of the Susquehanna River from as far north as Unadilla, N.Y. (EEBrown)
- 1795 Subscription books opened in N.J. to raise \$300,000 to build a turnpike road between New York and Philadelphia; not successful. (Durrenberger)
- 1795 Williamsport, Pa., laid out by Michael Ross (1760?-1819). (Meginness/Lycoming)
- 1795 The "Club of Six" Dutch banking houses builds a storehouse at the site of present-day Warren, Pa., at the mouth of Conewango Creek; supplied by keelboats from Pittsburgh. (Schenck)
- 1795 The "Club of Six" of Dutch bankers post an agent at Meadville, Pa. (HistCrawfrdCo)
- 1795 Because of its superior port and banking facilities, the value of Maryland's exports now exceed those of Virginia, \$5,811,280 to \$3,490,041, whereas in 1791 Virginia's exports were worth \$3,130,865 to Maryland's \$2,239,691. (Starnes)
- 1795 James River Company canal and sluice navigation opens between Broad Rock and Richmond, completing the line between Richmond and Westham, Va.; the lower canal is 3.5 miles long to a basin on Shockoe Hill, without a direct connection to the river below the falls. (Dunaway)
- 1795 Freedom Forge built by William Brown and William Maclay on Kishacoquillas Creek above Lewistown, Pa.; the first iron works in what is now Mifflin County; later property of the Logan Iron & Steel Company and the Standard Steel Works, a subsidiary of the Baldwin Locomotive Works. (Swank)
- 1795 Erie, Pa., laid out at Presque Isle by Maj. Andrew Ellicott and Gen. William Irvine. (Sipes)
- 1795 Bellefonte, Pa., laid out in the Nittany Valley by James Harris (1755-1825?) and his father-in-law James Dunlop (1727?-1821). (Linn/Centre)
- 1795 Mail keelboat service established between Wheeling and Cincinnati in four relays, taking 6 days downstream and 12 days upstream. (Scott)

- 1795 Capt. Absalom Martin, a Revolutionary War veteran from New Jersey, lays out the village of Jefferson on land he has acquired on the Ohio River in present Belmont County; his son will enlarge the village and rename it Martin's Ferry in 1835. (ATMcKelvey)
- 1795 Benjamin Vaughan (1751-1835), the oldest son of British West Indian merchant Samuel Vaughan (1720-1802), emigrates to America with other members of his family; he is accompanied by John Merrick (1766-1862), who has been trained as a Unitarian minister and who acts as tutor to his children; Merrick will marry Vaughan's sister Rebecca Vaughan (1766-1851) and settle in Hallowell, Maine, a town founded by the family of his mother-in-law, Sarah Hallowell Vaughan (1727-1809); they become the parents of first PRR Pres. Samuel Vaughan Merrick (1801-1870). (MassHS, NCAB)
- 1795 Job Atterbury (1757-1804), the great-grandfather of PRR Pres. William Wallace Atterbury, emigrates to New York with his younger sons; he settles in Savannah, Ga., where he dies of yellow fever; his son Benjamin Bakewell Atterbury (1792-1834) settles in Pittsburgh, founding an Atterbury line there. (Cuyler Reynolds, HistAllghnyCo)
- 1795 Harford, Hill & Co. build the first iron works at Nant-y-Glo at the head of the Ebbw Valley in South Wales; they are unsuccessful until 1811, when they are purchased by Joseph Bailey (1783-1858). (nantyglo.com)
- 1795 Incensed at the Jay Treaty, France seizes over 300 American ships in one year. (Pula)
- 1795 Congress grants 24,000 acres to the French settlers who have been bilked by the Scioto Company. (Dunbar - verify - same as Gallipolis?)
- 1795 Capt. James Piggott is granted a ferry license across the Mississippi River by the Court of Common Pleas of St. Clair County, Ill. (Wallace)
- Jan. 1, 1796 County seat of Burlington County, N.J., moved from Burlington to Mount Holly. (Long)
- Jan. 1, 1796 Population of Pittsburgh is 1,395. (PRRMN)
- Jan. 4, 1796 Potomac Company hires Capt. Christopher Myers, an English engineer, as Chief Engineer. (Kapsch)
- Jan. 11, 1796 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company orders William Weston to return; Weston goes to the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company. (MB)
- Jan. 12, 1796 John Hewitt (1777-1857), trained at Boulton & Watt's Soho Works, arrives

at Philadelphia from Liverpool; he goes to work at Nicholas J. Roosevelt's Soho Works as a pattern maker; his son, Abram Stevens Hewitt (1822-1903) becomes a prominent ironmaster, railroad promoter and politician in the 19<sup>th</sup> century; another Boulton & Watt workman, James Smallman (1763?-1821), emigrates on the same ship and also comes to work for Roosevelt; Smallman in turn trains a German college student, Charles Stoulinger (1775-1816); together, they form the first corps of U.S. steam engine builders. (Nevins, Pursell)

- Jan. 1796 Isaac Robb lays out the village of West Newton on the Youghiogeny River southeast of Pittsburgh. (Albert)
- Jan. 21, 1796 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company drafts a new memorial to the Legislature. (MB)
- Jan. 25, 1796 Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures at Paterson, N.J., orders its Superintendent to discontinue all lines of manufacture as soon as possible; Society collapses because of want of capital and business acumen and discontinues operations; the population of Paterson falls from about 500 to 43. (JSDavis, Hunter, Trumbull)
- Feb. 1, 1796 William Weston reports that six miles of Delaware & Schuylkill Canal are completed, three at each end, but failure to collect subscriptions has brought work to a halt; \$221,710 spent. (Duane)
- Feb. 5, 1796 William Bingham sells 1 million acres of his Maine lands to Baring Brothers, the British merchant banking house. (Alberts)
- Feb. 5, 1796 A stagecoach leaving Philadelphia this day takes 5 days to reach Baltimore because of bad roads and weather. (Ashmead)
- Feb. 5, 1796 Town of South Hempstead, N.Y., renamed Town of Hempstead; it includes much of the eastern part of the Borough of Queens, including the Rockaway peninsula. (French)
- Feb. 9, 1796 Greene County, Pa., created from southern portion of Washington County; county seat at house of Jacob Kline. (PL, Long)
- Feb. 9, 1796 Bank of Delaware incorporated; first incorporated bank in the state of Delaware other than the temporary charter issued to the out-of-state Bank of North America. (JSDavis)
- Feb. 12, 1796 Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road Company issues \$300,000 in additional stock. (Landis)
- Feb. 13, 1796 The "Club of Six" Dutch banking houses, hitherto united in pursuing U.S.



investments, particularly land, from the Hollandsche Land Compagnie (Holland Land Company) as a joint stock company instead of tenants in common; it takes possession of 1.3 million acres west of the Genesee River in New York, and 900,000 acres east of the Allegheny River and 499,660 acres west of the Allegheny River in northern Pennsylvania. (Evans)

- Feb. 1796 The French Directory places Napoleon Bonaparte in command of the Army of Italy, with which he intends to seize all the Habsburg possessions south of the Alps. (Mostert)
- Feb. 19, 1796 French government discontinues the use of *assignats* (paper money), which inflation has rendered worthless. (Lefebvre)
- Feb. 24, 1796 Robert Fulton, an artist with no practical experience of the subject then living in England, sends a letter to Gov. Mifflin describing his new system of small canals and inclined planes and recommending it as suitable for Pennsylvania; says (unrealistically) that boats can operate at 6 MPH and cut freight charges from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia to 21 shillings a ton; demands Mifflin help him get a monopoly grant from Congress and royalties for its use; accompanied by letter of introduction from the painter Benjamin West. (Rdg)
- Feb. 24, 1796 Lancaster & Susquehanna Turnpike Road Company receives letters patent. (JSDavis)
- Feb. 26, 1796 Pennsylvania declares Spring Creek from its mouth to Logans Creek in Mifflin (now Centre) County and Tuscarora Creek up to Thomas Beale's mill in Mifflin County to be public highways. (PL)
- Mar. 1, 1796 Robert Fulton, an artist with no actual experience of canal building, publishes *A Treatise on the Improvement of Canal Navigation ...* in England; includes many impractical designs for inclined planes and lifts; recommends very narrow canals for 5-ton boats, trains of boats, etc.; includes as an appendix his letter to Gov. Mifflin suggesting a system of narrow canals between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh; Fulton's fanciful *Treatise* causes a great deal of mischief and buttresses unrealistic expectations among American canal promoters for over 30 years. (Philip, *Treatise*)
- Mar. 12, 1796 Benjamin Henry Latrobe (1764-1820) arrives at Norfolk, Va., from England after a rough crossing; Latrobe has suffered a period of personal turmoil sparked by the death of his first wife and the fall-off in building projects and stifling of liberal principles among the intellectuals caused by the French wars; unlike William Weston, Latrobe settles permanently in America, one of the first, and certainly best professionally-trained British engineers and architects to do so; he has studied under the famous John

Smeaton (1724-1792) in England; for the next two years, his base is in Richmond, Va.; his skills are much in demand, and he receives important commissions, including finishing the exterior of Thomas Jefferson's State Capitol at Richmond. (Hamlin, DAB)

- Mar. 13, 1796 George Washington's secretary Tobias Lear sends Thomas Jefferson a report of work done by the Potomac Company; states that boats with 100-120 bbls. of flour can now pass from New Creek, 12 miles above Cumberland, to the Great Falls, and the navigation is good between the foot of Great Falls and Little Falls; the canal and locks at Little Falls have been in use for 8 months; the canal leading to the locks at Great Falls is completed, and the locks themselves are the main work remaining; projects a gross income of 11% on a capital of £78,000; one lock has also been built on the Conococheague. (AHR 28)
- Mar. 14, 1796 Town of Rome, N.Y., incorporated from part of the Town of Steuben. (French)
- Mar. 15, 1796 Company for Opening the Navigation of the Assanpink Creek incorporated in New Jersey to improve navigation northeastward from Trenton about 16 miles to a timber tract; after money spent clearing creek bed found that when water is high enough for boats, the current is too rapid. (PL, JSDavis, Lane, Thompson)
- Mar. 15, 1796 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company grants John Nicholson the same rate as paid Mr. Dickinson, \$909 for 1 acre and 76 perches of his land at the Falls of Schuylkill. (MB)
- Mar. 1796 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania places a lien of \$180,000 against John Nicholson's property to recover \$100,000 not accounted for during his tenure as Comptroller-General. (Arbuckle)
- Mar.? 1796 Bank of England restricts credit, leading Pennsylvania merchants to call in their loans and make capital scarce. (Smith - verify)
- Mar. 1796 The Bank of England's contraction has reached the U.S., causing a credit contraction in the U.S. and squeezing land speculators who are working on easy credit and hoping for quick resales. (CSmith)
- Mar. 16, 1796 Pennsylvania grants the Seneca war chief Cornplanter several tracts of land in gratitude for his services in the years immediately after the Revolution; includes 303 acres at what is now the east side of Oil City. (Newton, Babcock)
- Mar. 18, 1796 Steuben County, N.Y., created from the southeastern corner of Ontario County with a county seat at Bath. (Cowan)

- Mar. 18, 1796 Town of Painted Post, later Corning, N.Y., incorporated. (French)
- Mar. 28, 1796 Lancaster, Elizabethtown, Middletown & Harrisburg Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa.; no work under this charter, and it is later divided into two separate projects. (JSDavis, PL, Durrenberger)
- Mar. 29, 1796 Huntingdon, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Spring 1796 Improvements of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company permit introduction of 15-ton Durham boats on the Mohawk, Onondaga and Seneca Rivers, replacing 1.5-ton bateaux; transportation costs westbound from Schenectady to Seneca Falls drop from \$75-100 per ton to \$32 per ton. (EWatson)
- Apr. 1, 1796 New York act authorizes the Northern Inland Lock Navigation Company to employ an engineer to report on opening the navigation of the Hudson River between Albany and Meadow Creek north of Troy with a donation of £3,000 towards the £4,000 estimated cost; also provides for extending the improvement north to Mill Creek, where the company's work proper is to begin. (PL, JSDavis)
- Apr. 4, 1796 Gap, Newport & Wilmington Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa.; no work done under this charter for failure of Delaware to incorporate its portion of the road. (PL, JSDavis, Durrenberger)
- Apr. 4, 1796 Pennsylvania act authorizes laying out several state roads, appropriating \$2,000 for roads from the Bald Eagle's Nest (Milesburg) to Erie and from Northampton (Allentown) to the mouth of the Tioga River, \$4,000 for a road from Pittsburgh to Le Boeuf (Waterford), and \$500 for Joseph Horsefield to clear timber from the road between Hellertown and Wilkes-Barre. (PL, McKnight)
- Apr. 4, 1796 Uniontown, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Apr. 11, 1796 New York City leases the Paulus Hook ferry to John Holdron for three years at £300 and the Hoboken Ferry to Joseph Smith at £120; lessees are to keep two large boats for transporting livestock and carriages and two rowboats for passengers; are to operate from sunrise to 9:00 PM from May 1 to Oct. 1. (Stokes)
- Apr. 11, 1796 New York act authorizes a state loan of £15,000 (\$37,500) to Western Inland Lock Navigation Company in return for a mortgage on their property at Little Falls. (Sweet, Whitford)
- Apr. 11, 1796 Gen. Napoleon Bonaparte begins a French campaign against the Austrians

and their allies in Italy. (Mercer)

- Apr. 13, 1796 Gov. Thomas Mifflin appoints Gen. William Irvine, Joseph Ellicott (substituting for his brother Andrew), and George Wilson commissioners to lay out a road from the Bald Eagle's Nest (south end of Nittany Mountain, now Milesburg) to Erie; Irvine returns home, leaving Ellicott and Wilson to do the work. (McKnight)
- Apr. 15, 1796 John Reily advertises the West Chester, Strasburg and Lancaster stagecoach line, running weekly. (Ellis/Evans)
- Apr. 20, 1796 Following peace with Algeria, Congress abandons work on three of the six frigates under construction; construction of the *U.S.S. United States*, *Constellation* and *Constitution* is allowed to continue at Philadelphia, Baltimore and Boston. (wiki)
- Apr. 25, 1796 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Navigation Company settles accounts with William Weston and releases him from his contract.
- Apr. 25, 1796 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company grants William Weston leave to work on the New York Canals effective Apr. 28. (MB)
- Apr. 27, 1796 John Noble Cumming receives the mail contract for his stagecoaches; adds Mail Line with maximum of six passengers running through New York to Philadelphia in under 24 hours for \$8.00. (Lane)
- Apr. 29, 1796 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company orders John Thomas, Jr., at Lebanon to dispose of all bricks. (MB)
- May 10, 1796 Napoleon defeats the Austrians at Lodi, opening the way to the conquest of northern Italy. (Mostert)
- May 13, 1796 Ad for Lancaster Stage Despatch reports Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road Company almost finished. (Landis)
- May 13, 1796 John Nicholson and Robert Morris dissolve their partnership with James Greenleaf and buy his share of the Washington lots under a plan negotiated in July 1795; Morris and Nicholson pay Greenleaf \$681,904 payable in four installments through 1799; the first two installments are covered by cancelling his debts of \$318,501 to the North American Land Company; however, the two partners are still obligated to provide the funds for completing the public buildings; they are now embroiled in a project that will lead both to bankruptcy. (Chernow, Arbuckle, Arnebeck)
- May 15, 1796 After Napoleon enters Milan, Sardinia signs a peace ceding Savoy and Nice to France. (Lefebvre, Blanning)

- May 16, 1796 Despatch Line of stages of Slough, Downing & Dunwoody begins running between Philadelphia and Lancaster through in one day on alternate days; connecting service established twice a week between Lancaster and Shippensburg via Harrisburg.
- May 17, 1796 Congress authorizes Pres. Washington to contract with Ebenezer Zane (1747-1811) to build a road (“Zane’s Trace”) from a point opposite Wheeling through present Zanesville, Lancaster and Chillicothe, Ohio to a point opposite Maysville, Ky., now Aberdeen, Ohio, by Jan. 1, 1797; as partial payment, Zane is granted tracts of land where the road crosses the Muskingum, Hocking and Scioto Rivers; Zane’s Trace follows Native American trails for part of its distance and is little more than a horse and foot path until 1804; Chillicothe is the only settlement on the Trace when it is first built. (Graham.Muskingum, wiki, OHS, Sarchet - Jordan has Zane d. 11/1812?? - verify)
- May 18, 1796 Land Act of 1796 divides federal territorial lands received under the Treaty of Greenville (excluding the Virginia military reserve) into townships six miles square and into 640-acre sections to be sold at auction at minimum of \$2 per acre, payable in one year; all navigable streams are to be exempt from sale as public highways; no sales under one section; land offices to be established in Pittsburgh and Cincinnati; restrictions and high credit requirement result in few sales. (EAH, Hubbard, Dunn)
- May 24, 1796 Robert Morris pays a debt of \$93,000 claimed by the Federal Government from his work with the Secret Committee during the Revolution for goods purchased in France with a note secured by land he has already sold to Talleyrand. (Chernow, Rappleye)
- May 28, 1796 John Nicholson and Robert Morris agree to buy James Greenleaf’s 10,000 shares of the North American Land Company for \$1.15 million in their notes. (Chernow)
- June 1, 1796 Tennessee enters the Union as the 16<sup>th</sup> State. (EAH)
- June 2, 1796 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company gives a half-barrel of black powder to Robert Brooke (1770-1821), Deputy Engineer of the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company. (MB)
- June 5, 1796 The Kingdom of Naples and Sicily signs an armistice with France. (Mostert)
- June 11, 1796 Land speculator Nathaniel Gorham (1738-1796) dies at Charlestown, Mass., possibly from the strain of his financial difficulties. (WwasW)

- June 1796 Glass workers employed by John Nicholson at the Falls of Schuylkill refuse to accept notes in payment of wages when they learn he has cash. (Shelton/PMHB 106)
- June 24, 1796 The Papal States sign an armistice with France. (Mostert)
- Summer 1796 Good harvest alleviates privations and unrest in England; famine remains in Ireland. (Lefebvre)
- Summer 1796 Samuel Morey tests a small steamboat with a wheel at the stern for Robert R. Livingston, Edward Livingston and John Stevens; Robert Livingston offers Morey \$7,000 for right to operate on Hudson River and between New York and Amboy, but Morey refuses; Stevens then forms partnership with Nicholas J. Roosevelt and brings in Robert R. Livingston. (Flexner)
- July 2, 1796 France annuls the Treaty of Amity & Commerce of 1778 and declares all U.S. ships bound for British ports are subject to search and seizure; U.S. marine insurance rates soar as ships are boarded and plundered. (Purvis, Chew/JER 25:4)
- July 4, 1796 First public sale of lots in Williamsport, Pa. (Meginness/Lycoming)
- July 4, 1796 Fifty-two men of the Connecticut Land Company led by Gen. Moses Cleaveland (1754-1806) establish Port Independence (now Conneaut, Ohio), having traveled up the Mohawk and then via Oswego, Niagara and Buffalo; the Connecticut Land Company has bought the 3 million-acre Connecticut Western Reserve in northeastern Ohio and sent the party to divide it into townships; this is the advance guard of what will become a great Yankee diaspora spreading across the upper part of the Midwest along the Great Lakes and their tributary rivers; the Yankees maintain strong cultural and economic ties to the centers of Yankee culture in New England and New York, promote public schools and extremely high rates of literacy, promote internal improvements linking them to eastern markets, and develop a market-oriented wheat-cattle-sheep-dairy farming economy; this puts them in opposition to the “Butternuts” who settle the southern parts of the Old Northwest from the upper South by following the Ohio-Mississippi Rivers and their tributaries, who remain rural, Southern, and localist in outlook and develop a corn-hog-whiskey-sweet potato economy; the “Butternuts”, also called “Buckeyes” in Ohio, “Hoosiers” in Indiana, and “Suckers” in Illinois, take their name from their homespun garments dyed brown with the oil of walnut or butternut trees. (Trumbull/Mahoning, McPherson, Howe)
- July 4, 1796 British evacuate Fort Niagara. (Schenck)
- July 11, 1796 An advance column under Capt. Moses Porter takes possession of Detroit

from the British in accordance with the Jay Treaty with England; Fort Lernoult is renamed Fort Detroit; U.S. flag raised in Michigan for the first time; the British build Fort Malden on the Canadian side of the Detroit River as a base for their fur traders and Indian allies. (Dunbar)

- July 14, 1796 British evacuate Fort Ontario at Oswego, N.Y. (Schenck)
- July 1796 French government resolves to return to a specie basis. (Lefebvre)
- July 1796 Angered by American approval of the Jay Treaty, France begins a crackdown on neutral American ships in the Caribbean; over 300 ships are seized over the ensuing year, threatening ruin to many merchants in Philadelphia and other East Coast ports. (Chernow)
- July 22, 1796 Connecticut Land Company surveyors under Gen. Moses Cleaveland land at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River, future site of Cleveland; remain through Oct. 18.
- July 23, 1796 Connecticut Land Company survey party led by Moses Warren completes laying out the bounds of New Connecticut in the Western Reserve and begins dividing it into townships. (Trumbull/Mahoning)
- Summer 1796 Fort Hamilton on the Great Miami River is abandoned by the government and the property sold at auction. (Bartlow)
- Aug. 2, 1796 Isaac Roberdeau resigns as Deputy Engineer of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company until such time as work can resume. (MB)
- Aug. 4, 1796 Two-day public sale of lots in the new towns of Erie and Waterford conclude at Carlisle; many are purchased by the Harrisburg & Presque Isle Land Company. (HistErieCo)
- Aug. 6, 1796 Potomac Company Board orders Chief Engineer Myers to examine Payne's Falls, the Spout, and Shenandoah Falls as sluices have a tendency to silt up. (Kapsch)
- Aug. 13, 1796 Gen. Anthony Wayne arrives at Detroit, where he stays until Nov. (Dunbar)
- Aug. 15, 1796 Wayne County created in Northwest Territory from parts of Knox and Hamilton Counties and unincorporated area comprising all land west of the Cuyahoga River; county seat at Detroit; includes all the Lower Peninsula and the eastern end of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, and parts of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. (Long, Johnson/Cuyahoga)
- Aug. 1796 John Nicholson stops development of Matildaville at the Great Falls of the

Potomac River for lack of funds and the inability to settle the issue of water rights for the mills with the Potomac Company; the land is eventually surrendered to the Potomac Company. (Arbuckle)

- Aug. 19, 1796 France concludes an alliance with Spain, eventually forcing the Royal Navy to evacuate the Mediterranean. (Lefebvre)
- Aug. 22, 1796 British evacuate Fort Michilimackinac; removal of the last British garrisons finally opens the Great Lakes route to western settlement; prior to this time, the main routes for emigrants to the Mississippi Valley have been through southern Pennsylvania and northern Virginia, down the Valley of Virginia and through the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky, or around the southern end of the Appalachians through Georgia and Alabama; at the same time, Americans from the Middle Atlantic States continue to move into Upper Canada (Ontario) north of Lake Erie at the rate of 2,500 per year, until by 1811, they comprise about 60% of the population; however, they are mostly poor small farmers, as the British government refuses to make large land grants or encourage to immigration of well-educated people or entrepreneurs who might serve as leaders of a rebellion; Upper Canada is remote from markets and has a lower standard of living. ( , Mills, Taylor - Dunbar has U.S. taking possession 9/1?)
- Aug. 22, 1796 John Nicholson leaves Philadelphia for Washington with a cashless plan to continue the work at the capital city; Nicholson and Morris are to assume the District commissioners debts to the Bank of Columbia in return for title to lots, scrip to be issued against each lot, the scrip carrying title to the lot to be sold to local buyers; Nicholson remains at Washington, directing the partners' affairs with his usual energy. (Arnebeck)
- Aug. 26, 1796 Joseph Parkison (1740?-1834) lays out the town of Williamsport, later Monongahela City, Pa., at the former Parkisons Ferry on the Monongahela River. (Crumrine)
- Sep. 2, 1796 Robert Morris leaves Philadelphia for 10 weeks in Washington, D.C. (Young)
- Sep. 16, 1796 Augustus Porter begins laying out the plat of Cleveland. (Johnson/Cuyahoga)
- Sep. 20, 1796 About 2,000 people attend an elaborate county fair, complete with a race course and theater, staged by Charles Williamson at Bath, N.Y., to provide civilized entertainment for would-be purchasers; however, only a relatively small number of Southern slaveholders settle in the area, and with the end of Native American resistance, the stream of settlement is soon diverted to western lands; Williamson bills these extravagant improvements to the Pulteney Associates, which serves to warn other foreign land developers to



watch their agents' expenses. (Martin)

- Sep. 24, 1796 J. N. Cumming & Co. adds the Endeavor Line of stages between New York and Philadelphia. (Lane)
- Sep. 29, 1796 John Nicholson and James Greenleaf begin a newspaper war in Philadelphia, accusing each other of dishonesty in all their prior transactions; the value of Nicholson's and Robert Morris's notes, of which there are about \$1 million in circulation, collapses to next to nothing. (Arnebeck)
- Oct. 3, 1796 Stockholders of the Society for Establishing Useful Manufacturers decline to dissolve the company and elect a new Board, which retains office for 18 years; the population of Paterson declines to 43; the company is revived in 1813 as a lessor of water power to others. (JSDavis)
- Oct. 4, 1796 Rumors circulate in Philadelphia that John Nicholson and Robert Morris will not return to the city from Washington, thus absconding on their debts; the ever-optimistic Nicholson still believes that the potential of Washington will rescue them. (Arnebeck)
- Oct. 5, 1796 Spain declares war on England. (Mostert)
- Oct. 10, 1796 Northern Inland Lock Navigation Company petitions the State of Vermont for a subscription of \$12,500; when this fails, the work is completely abandoned after the expenditure of about \$100,000. (JSDavis)
- Oct. 14, 1796 Bank of Baltimore organized; George Salmon, Pres. (Scharf)
- Oct. 17, 1796 Survey of Cleveland completed. (Vexler - Johnson/Cuyahoga has map dated 10/1)
- Oct. 18, 1796 Proprietors of the Locks & Canals on the Merrimack River open a navigation canal bypassing the Pawtucket Falls; later the site of Lowell; Loammi Baldwin, Sr. (1745-1807) consulting engineer; the canal is abandoned for navigation purposes by 1850, and the company controls the very valuable water power to the Lowell mills; it later engages in machine and locomotive manufacture. (JSDavis, CHTP7, Hunter)
- Oct. 24, 1796 New York City Council passes an ordinance limiting use of the Cortlandt Street slip to the boats of the Paulus Hook ferry. (Stokes)
- Oct. 24, 1796 Land Office opens in Pittsburgh; Bezaleel Wells (1763-1846) and James Ross (1762-1847) of Pittsburgh purchase the lands that become Wells and Steubenville Townships in Ohio. (Heald)

- Oct. 24, 1795 Russia, Prussia and Austria convene for the purpose of extinguishing Poland as an independent state; its remaining territory is divided among Russia, Prussia and Austria, and it does not regain its independence until after World War I; Polish intellectuals and revolutionaries are forced to emigrate across Europe and some to America; many join Napoleon's armies. (wiki - verify date)
- Fall 1796 Road commissioners Joseph Ellicott and George Wilson reach the Allegheny River 3 miles below present Tionesta, where they are forced to stop by loss of horses, low provisions and the lateness of the season; the road passes to the north of the later turnpike and U.S. 322. (McKnight)
- Nov. 4, 1796 Robert Morris and John Nicholson, then in Washington, receive news from Philadelphia of moves to have their property seized by the sheriff for their debts. (Arnebeck)
- Nov. 14, 1796 Robert Morris leaves Washington for Philadelphia, traveling via Frederick, York and Lancaster to avoid Baltimore, where there are outstanding writs against him, and manages to defeat the designs of his creditors for the moment. (Arnebeck)
- Nov. 15, 1796 France breaks off diplomatic relations with the U.S. over the fallout from the Jay Treaty.
- Nov. 1796 The Royal Navy intercepts an American ship, the *Olive Branch*, carrying arms to Vermont to be used to foment a French uprising in Quebec coupled with a French invasion by sea in 1797; the discovery causes the French government to cancel the invasion. (Taylor)
- Nov. 17, 1796 Robert Morris returns to Philadelphia from Washington, where he attempts to quiet their creditors; he now panics over the size of his and Nicholson's debts and the destruction of their credit. (Chernow)
- Nov. 17, 1796 Tsarina Catherine II (Catherine the Great) of Russia (1729-1796) dies and is succeeded by her mentally unstable son as Paul I (1754-1801); he has little interest in the alliance with England against France. (Lefebvre)
- Nov. 22, 1796 Robert Morris advises John Nicholson to abandon his mining and manufacturing enterprises as wasting his money. (Arbuckle)
- Nov. 29, 1796 Bank of North America declines to accept a mortgage on the property of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company to settle its debt and is holding the money deposited from the lottery as hostage. (MB)
- Nov. 30, 1796 Brooke County, Va. (now W.Va.), created from part of Ohio County. (rootsweb)

- Dec. 2, 1796 Virginia act authorizes a lottery to raise \$6,000 to repair the roads leading from Winchester through Romney to Morgantown, from Winchester through Hardy County to Morgantown, and others. (PL)
- Dec. 8, 1796 Supreme Court Judge and land speculator James Wilson is arrested for debt by the Sheriff of Philadelphia; Robert Morris is threatened that he will be next. (Chernow)
- Dec. 1796 Pres. John Barclay (1749-1824) is discovered to have embezzled \$150,000 from the Bank of Pennsylvania; Gov. Thomas Mifflin has taken \$15,000 through the cashier, who is his son-in-law. (Arbuckle)
- 1796 It is discovered that Pres. \_\_\_ of the Bank of Pennsylvania has diverted \$100,000 to his own use, causing a string of bank runs in Philadelphia. (Rappleye)
- Dec. 10, 1796 Future PRR Superintendent and militia General Augustus Louis Roumfort (1796-1878) born in France. (Appletons)
- Dec. 13, 1796 Quantico Company incorporated in Virginia with a capital of \$20,000 to improve Quantico Creek up to Dumfries. (PL)
- Dec. 13, 1796 Virginia act appoints commissioners to improve the navigation of the Pigg River, a tributary of the Staunton (Roanoke) River, for batteaux carrying 3,000 lbs. from the Staunton River to the Washington Iron Works in Franklin County. (PL)
- Dec. 1796 Rash of failures of major land speculators begins in Philadelphia; John Nicholson and Robert Morris stay concealed in their houses to avoid process servers; brings an end to all improvement projects begun under their patronage, plus their work at Washington, D.C. (Arbuckle)
- Dec. 19, 1796 France breaks off peace negotiations with England. (Lefebvre)
- Dec. 21, 1796 William Bingham sells 300,000 acres of land in McKean and Potter Counties to Omer Talon for \$80,000; Talon resells it to John Keating (1760-1853). (McKean/Elk)
- Dec. 25, 1796 French fleet trying to land 15,000 troops at Bantry Bay in southwest Ireland and assist the rebellion against British rule is dispersed by a storm; the French had been invited by the secret Society of United Irishmen, formed mostly by Presbyterians from Belfast, middle-class radicals who envision an independent non-sectarian republic on an American or French model; the fleet is accompanied by one of the Irish leaders, Theobald Wolfe Tone, a Protestant lawyer. (Hague, Kee)

- Dec. 30, 1796 Maryland act authorizes laying out the town at Denton, Caroline County. (PL)
- Dec. 31, 1796 Baltimore, Md., incorporated as a city, but Tidewater planters who dominate the Legislature at Annapolis refuse to grant the city its own courts. (PL, Browne)
- Dec. 31, 1796 “President, Directors & Company of the Washington Turnpike Road” (Washington Turnpike Road Company) incorporated in Maryland to build between Baltimore and Washington, but does no work; first turnpike company incorporated in Md. (PL, Blandi)
- 1796 Electoral College casts a majority vote for John Adams as Pres.; Thomas Jefferson, the Republican candidate, gets only three fewer votes and becomes VP; Adams, an old-fashioned 18<sup>th</sup> century country Whig, has never approved of Alexander Hamilton’s urban, commerce-oriented economic program; Hamilton has worked behind the scenes to advance the candidacy of Thomas Pinckney instead of Adams, creating a fatal rupture in the Federalist Party. (Burrows/Wallace - verify date)
- 1796 Economic boom in Britain peaks. (Kindleberger)
- 1796 U.S. exports reach \$59 million, up from \$19 million in 1791, six times the total colonial trade with Britain in 1775. (Chew/JER 25:4)
- 1796 Good harvests in France for the first time in several years. (Lefebvre)
- 1796 First U.S. business depression. (Wyckoff)
- 1796 First daily mail coach service offered between New York and Philadelphia via the Paulus Hook-Trenton route. (Lane)
- 1796 Federal Street Ferry in present-day Camden is connected by road along the river to intersect the road from Burlington to the Cooper’s Point Ferry. (Prowell)
- 1796 William Weston surveys for a canal around the great falls of the Mohawk River at Cohoes; cost estimated at \$250,000; Weston also superintends the rebuilding of the locks at Rome, German Flats and Little Falls in stone. (Sweet)
- 1796 James Wilson sells the forges and 2,200 acres at future Birdsboro, Pa., to John Louis Barde (1756-1799), a Swiss-born former British Army officer; on his death, it passes to his son-in-law Matthew Brooke (1761-1822). (Montgomery)

- 1796 Lewis Reese and Isaac Thomas build a furnace just above the Schuylkill Gap in Sharp Mountain on what would later be the south side of Pottsville, Pa. (Montgomery)
- 1796 Joseph Ellicott reports to the Holland Land Company that the land it has purchased in northwestern Pennsylvania is of poor quality. (Chazanof)
- 1796 Jonathan Titus ( -1857) and his uncle Samuel Kerr move from Frankstown, Pa., and settle on the site of future Titusville, Pa. (HistCrawfrdCo)
- 1796 William Todd and David Todd lay out a town on the bank of the Allegheny River at the mouth of Buffalo Creek; as they declare that the waterfront will constitute a free landing for all river traffic, it is called Freeport. (Smith/Armstrong)
- 1796 John Parker ( - ), for whom Parker City is later named, comes from Washington County to northwestern Pennsylvania as a deputy surveyor; he surveys much of norther Butler and Armstrong Counties west of the Allegheny River and settles in what is now Parker Township of Butler County in 1797. (Smith/Armstrong)
- 1796 Isaac Roberdeau, sometimes assistant to William Weston, writes the first manuscript treatise on canal construction by an American. (Kapsch)
- 1796 James River Company begins improving the river with sluice navigation from Lynchburg through the Blue Ridge to Crow's Ferry at the mouth of Looney Creek, 220 miles above Richmond. (Dunaway)
- 1796 Persons, including Stephen Decatur, Sr., begin traveling to Cape May, N.J., for summer recreation. (Alexander)
- 1796 Paoli Tavern enlarged to serve traffic on Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road about 19 miles from Philadelphia; named for Corsican patriot Gen. Pasquale Paoli (1726-1807). (PhlInq)
- 1796 William McDonald (1758?-1845) and Andrew Fisher Henderson start a regular line of sloops between Baltimore and Frenchtown, connecting with stages for New Castle, Del. (Shomette - NB: Scharf has Thomas Henderson op packet boats on same route starting in 1775!)
- 1796 Weekly stagecoach service begins between Philadelphia and Easton, Pa. (Scharf)
- 1796 Moses Beal, Ananias Platt and Jason Parker combine their stagecoach interests into the "Western Mail Stages" between Albany/Troy and

Whitestown, N.Y. (Flick)

- 1796 Zachariah Poulson publishes *A Description of the River Susquehanna, with Observations of the Present State of its Trade and Navigation, and their Practicable and Probable Improvements*; the West Branch is presently navigable for 10-ton boats for 150 miles above Sunbury (?); the Juniata is navigable for 120 miles from its mouth. (HistJuniata/Mifflin)
- 1796 First commercial timber raft descends from the West Branch of the Susquehanna River. (Tonkin)
- ca. 1796 Huntingdon Furnace built on Warriors Mark Run by Mordecai Massey, judge John Gloninger of Lebanon and ironmaster George Anshutz. (Swank)
- 1796 Philipsburg, Pa., founded by Henry Philips (1767-1800), one of three English brothers who have emigrated to the U.S.; the site is too remote for successful development. (Sipes - verify from county history)
- 1796 William Barclay Foster, Sr. (1779-1855), a native of Virginia, arrives in Pittsburgh from Canonsburg, where he enters a business partnership with Ebenezer Denny. (Wilson)
- 1796 James O'Hara, Quartermaster-General of the Army, discovers that salt can be shipped from the Onondaga salines near Syracuse to Pittsburgh more cheaply than from Baltimore; is carried by way of Erie and Waterford; traffic continues until the War of 1812. (Albert)
- 1796 Maj. Moses Van Campen leads a group of settlers from Luzerne County, Pa., to what is now the Town of Almond, N.Y., the first permanent white settlement in Allegany County, N.Y. (Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- 1796 With the defeat of the Indians, the population of Cincinnati has grown to over 1,600. (Trumbull/Mahoning)
- 1796 Chillicothe, Ohio, founded in the Virginia Military District. (Vexler)
- 1796 Fur trader John Kinzie moves his trading post from the Maumee River in present day Fort Wayne to the St. Joseph River in present Michigan. (WwasW - check)
- 1796? Gen. Anthony Wayne dies at Erie, Pa., on his way home from Detroit. (Dunbar - check where buried)
- Jan. 2, 1797 William Garrett elected Treasurer of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company, replacing Tench Francis. (MB)

- Jan. 2, 1797 Bank of Baltimore, the third bank in Baltimore, opens. (Chew/JER 25:4)
- Jan. 1797 Road laid out along the Juniata River between Lewistown and Huntingdon, Pa. (HistJuniata/Susq)
- Jan. 16, 1797 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company grants the request of the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company for William Weston's services this season. (MB)
- Jan. 20, 1797 Maryland act extends the time for completing the Susquehanna Canal to Dec. 1, 1805. (Johnston)
- Jan. 20, 1797 Maryland act authorizes the establishment of a turnpike road from Baltimore through Frederick and Elizabethtown to Williamsport. (Scharf)
- Jan. 29, 1797 British Navy finally abandons the Mediterranean. (Mostert)
- Feb. 4, 1797 John Nicholson is served with a writ on the suit of a Baltimore creditor and taken to Georgetown, Md., where he is finally released on bail. (Arnebeck)
- Feb. 7, 1797 County seat of Greene County, Pa., moved to Waynesburg. (Long)
- Feb. 14, 1797 British fleet under Sir John Jervis (1735-1843) destroys a Spanish fleet off Cape St. Vincent before it can join the French. (Hague, DNB)
- Feb. 1797 John Nicholson returns to Philadelphia. (Oberholtzer)
- Feb. 25, 1797 Word that a French army of 1,400 formed by an American named Tate has landed in Wales sparks a financial panic in London, although Tate and his troops are soon captured. (Kindleberger, Lefebvre)
- Feb. 27, 1797 British Order-in-Council suspends specie payments, which are not resumed until 1821; the Bank of England's specie reserves have fallen to £1.086 million through war loans to the government, but merchants agree to accept Bank of England notes at par, and the economy recovers by the end of the year; bank reserves exceed £4 million by Aug. 1797; however, the suspension, coupled with French privateering, severely impacts American speculators in land and securities and cuts off credit to U.S. merchants trading with Europe, creating the Panic of 1797; British merchants stop credits to Americans once it is clear that bills of exchange coming back from American can't be converted into specie; U.S. trade with the West Indies is relatively unaffected by the suspension. (Lefebvre, Van Winter, Chew/JER 25:4)
- Mar. 2, 1797 French Directory authorizes the seizure of neutral ships, particularly American; French raiders cripple the U.S. West Indian trade, the one sector

not affected by the British suspension; as a result, the long boom in U.S. exports ends, the volume and value of U.S. exports falls, as do wholesale prices for agricultural products, creating a commercial depression in the coastal cities. (Mercer, Chew/JER 25:4)

- Mar. 4, 1797 Pennsylvania declares Fishing Creek in present-day Centre County to be a public highway from the mouth to Banks Run. (PL)
- Mar. 7, 1797 New Jersey act incorporates lessees of road and bridges between Paulus Hook and Newark as Proprietors of the Bridges over the Rivers Passaic and Hackensack; oldest company in PRR system; acquires bridges over Passaic and Hackensack Rivers and a turnpike road between them across the Jersey Meadows completed in 1795; forms an improved road between Paulus Hook (Jersey City) and Newark; grant includes a local monopoly of bridging both rivers; the enterprise is very prosperous and pays annual dividends averaging over 10% until 1811; it also draws continuous complaints that the bridges are under-maintained. (Digest, JSDavis)
- Mar. 7, 1797 Peter Colt resigns as Superintendent of the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures; Colt obtains employment on the New York canals, but returns to Paterson about 1814. (Trumbull, Hunter)
- Mar. 10, 1797 Capital of New York State moved from New York City to Albany. (Reynolds)
- Mar. 1797 John Nicholson returns to Washington. (Oberholtzer)
- Mar. 1797 James Greenleaf begins another newspaper war against John Nicholson and Robert Morris, casting doubts on the legitimacy of their titles over 9 million acres of back country land and to their Washington lots. (Arnebeck)
- Mar. 1797 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania secures a judgment of \$110,391 against John Nicholson. (Arbuckle)
- Mar. 1797 John Nicholson forms the Pennsylvania Land Company based on his Pennsylvania real estate, which he values at \$4 million. (Chernow, Wilkinson)
- Mar. 1797 Maryland act authorizes commissioners to lay out a turnpike road from Baltimore through Frederick and Elizabeth Town (Hagerstown) to Williamsport. (Scharf - verify PL)
- Mar. 17, 1797 New York act appropriates £3,000 to improve Hudson River between Albany and Troy with wing dams; William Weston, Chief Engineer. (PL, Whitford)



- Mar. 17, 1797 New York act authorizes Western Inland Lock Navigation Company to borrow \$200,000; original wooden locks had to be rebuilt in stone by William Weston. (Whitford)
- Mar. 17, 1797 New York act, secured by Philip Schuyler extends the rights of aliens to hold land in New York for 20 years, providing the Holland Land Company, owned by aliens, advance \$250,000 to the Western Inland Lock Navigation Company, controlled by Schuyler, either as a loan or stock purchase; the Holland Land Company refuses to give the money. (Chazanof)
- Mar. 18, 1797 Robert Morris creates the Pennsylvania Property Company in a last-ditch effort to save his own Pennsylvania lands from sheriff's sales; conveys to James Biddle and William Bell, trustees, various lands in Pennsylvania, including his country houses at "The Hills" and "Trout Spring," 2,500 acres at Morrisville, and 464,398 acres in Mifflin, Northumberland, Westmoreland, Bedford, Greene, Northampton and Luzerne Counties in 7 blocks, valued at \$907,236. (Chernow)
- Mar. 21, 1797 New York passes a new road law creating three-member county highway commissions to coordinate the town commissions and oversee the disbursement of state road funds. (Seavoy, PL)
- Mar. 24, 1797 Sunbury, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Mar. 28, 1797 Cayuga Bridge Company incorporated in N.Y. to build a long toll bridge over the outlet of Cayuga Lake; the location is later occupied by the Auburn & Rochester Railroad. (PL)
- Mar. 28, 1797 New York act authorizes using \$2,100 in lottery money to improve the Great Genesee Road from Old Fort Schuyler (Utica) to the Genesee River. (PL)
- Mar. 29, 1797 Robert Fulton, still in England, prepares a memo "Thoughts on the Delaware & Raritan Canal Act" making suggestions based on English canal laws and practice. (Philip)
- Mar. 29, 1797 Mohawks cede their claim to 2,000 square miles of tribal lands in New York.
- Apr. 1, 1797 Albany & Schenectady Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y.; no work done under this charter. (PL)
- Apr. 1, 1797 New York State passes its first law regulating salt production at the Onondaga Salt Reservation; Surveyor-General Simeon DeWitt lays out the 15,000-acre Salt Reservation (most of it is later sold in 1822 and 1827); lots are leased to salt manufacturers in return for a tax and regulation of salt

prices; the area around present Syracuse grows into the nation's major salt-producing center; salt and gypsum are exchanged for coal with the Wyoming Valley; the salines produce 11.5 million tons of salt between 1797 and 1917. (wiki, French, USGS)

- Apr. 4, 1797 Gov. Thomas Mifflin is informed that John Nicholson has neglected his contract to improve French Creek and build a portage road to Erie; the road is completed, but not the river; unless the work is finished this year, the state will sue. (PaArch, SenJrnl)
- Apr. 11, 1797 Work on the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal is still going on under Assistant Engineer Robert Brooke. (MB)
- Apr. 15, 1797 British sailors of the Channel Fleet at Spithead successfully strike for better living and working conditions and increase pay; because of the war, more educated people have been drawn into naval service; the pay of marines and officers has been raised in the face of wartime inflation, but not that of common seamen. (Mostert)
- Apr. 1797 Robert Morris, John Nicholson and James Greenleaf approach five of their leading creditors, Henry Pratt, John Ashley, Thomas Willing Francis, John Miller and Jacob Barker to settle on their notes at 5 shillings to the pound to be raised by selling a portion of their land and pledging shares in the Pennsylvania Property Company, Pennsylvania Land Company and Washington lots; the five trustees represent holders of almost \$2 million of Morris's and Nicholson's notes and attach their Washington property, halting construction operations. (Arnebeck)
- Apr. 18, 1797 With Napoleon moving on Vienna, Austria signs the preliminaries of the Peace of Leoben with France, ceding the Southern Netherlands and all territory west of the Rhine; this leaves Britain alone at war with France. (Mostert)
- Apr. 21, 1797 The Admiralty agrees to the demands of the strikers, but they demand an act of Parliament embodying pay raises. (Mostert)
- May 1, 1797 Stagecoach line established from Harrisburg to Winchester, Va., via Chambersburg, Hagerstown, Williamsport and Martinsburg. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- May 2, 1797 Potomac Company Board fires Chief Engineer Christopher Myers for extravagance and misuse of company funds. (Kapsch)
- May 7, 1797 Navy strikers refuse a order to put to sea in pursuit of the French; *H.M.S. London* is seized from its commander, Vice Admiral Sir John Colpoys (1742?-1821), a harsh officer, with loss of life. (Mostert)

- May 10, 1797 *U.S.S. United States*, the first of the 44-gun heavy frigates and the first warship of the new Navy to be built in Philadelphia, is launched. (Fowler)
- May 12, 1797 Sailors of the British North Sea Fleet mutiny at the Nore in the Thames Estuary; one of the commanders is William Bligh (1754-1817) of *Bounty* fame, who is driven from his ship by mutiny a second time; their demands are more extreme than those of the strikers at Spithead. (Mostert)
- May 13, 1797 The Navy strike at Spithead is settled after Parliament passes a bill increasing pay, and over 100 officers deemed too harsh, including Vice Admiral Colpoys are removed from the ships. (Mostert)
- May 16, 1797 Pres. Adams calls special session of Congress to deal with threat of war with France. (avalon.law)
- May 16, 1797 Articles of association drawn up for the Havre-de-Grace Company by Dutch investors to hold 750 acres, including the town site, originally purchased by James Greenleaf. (Van Winter)
- May 28, 1797 Oliver Evans informs a desperate John Nicholson that he cannot repay the \$1,000 loan used to publish his book. (Bathe)
- May 29, 1797 The bulk of the North Sea fleet at the Nore refuses an order to put to sea against the Dutch. (Mostert)
- May 31, 1797 Pres. Adams appoints Charles Cotesworth Pinckney (1746-1825), John Marshall (1755-1835) and Elbridge Gerry (1744-1814) to secure a commercial treaty with France. (Pula, avalon.law)
- June 3, 1797 Upon being informed of his glass workers' demand for money wages, John Nicholson orders the closing of his glass works at the Falls of Schuylkill, the last surviving element of his manufacturing complex; the sheriff has begun attaching the tools and other moveable property, including the bottles produced at the glass works; the stocking and button factories, foundry and store have been closed earlier to cut costs; Nicholson has been unable to maintain a steady flow of cash wages; most of the skilled mechanics that Nicholson had recruited have to scrounge for a living, and several die in debt rather than moving into the managerial class as they had hoped. (Shelton/PMHB 106)
- June 6, 1797 Potomac Company contracts with Leonard Harbaugh, who had built the ill-constructed K Street Bridge over Rock Creek in Washington, to superintend the construction of locks at Great Falls. (Kapsch, Arnebeck)
- June 1797 Samuel Morey of Connecticut tests a small sidewheel steamboat at

Bordentown, N.J.; he runs it to Philadelphia and back and exhibits it at Philadelphia. (Flexner)

- June 1797 Col. James O'Hara and Maj. Isaac Craig build the first glassworks at Pittsburgh, employing William Eichbaum as engineer and superintendent; uses local bituminous coal; establishes Pittsburgh as a center of the glass industry. (Eavenson - see above)
- June 16, 1797 The last of the mutineers at the Nore surrender; many escape to France or Holland; 30 leaders are hanged. (Mostert)
- June 26, 1797 Robert Morris, John Nicholson and James Greenleaf agree with their five principal creditors to create the Aggregate Fund, the five trustees to provide security for the speculators' debts by selling or mortgaging the Washington, D.C. lots, but leaving them with their debts to building contractors. (Chernow, Arnebeck)
- Summer 1797 John Nicholson returns to Pennsylvania and takes up residence with Robert Morris at his country house "The Hills." (Oberholtzer)
- July 3, 1797 Georgetown Bridge Company completes the first Falls Bridge, the first bridge across the Potomac River, at Little Falls above Georgetown; designed by Timothy Palmer. (wiki, Harrison)
- July 7, 1797 Britain resumes peace negotiations with France. (Lefebvre)
- July 10, 1797 Adams County, Northwest Territory, created from parts of Hamilton and Washington Counties with a county seat at Manchester (Ohio). (Long)
- July 1797 Bank of the United States moves from Carpenters Hall into the new neoclassical bank building at 3<sup>rd</sup> Street below Chestnut, designed by Samuel Blodgett (1757-1814). (Scharf, AIAGuide)
- July 1797 Holland Land Company agent Theophile Cazenove employs Joseph Ellicott as chief surveyor of its New York lands; Ellicott and Augustus Porter begin by surveying the northern boundary west along Lake Ontario, the Niagara River and Lake Erie. (Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- July 1797 Moses Warren, a surveyor for the Connecticut Land Company, and Seth Pease survey the historic Portage Path, running 8 miles between the head of boating on the Cuyahoga to the head of boating on the Tuscarawas River, the main Indian portage between Lake Erie and the Ohio River in eastern Ohio. (Perrin)
- July 29, 1797 Jefferson County, Northwest Territory (future Ohio), created from the northern part of Washington County with a county seat at Steubenville.

(Long)

- July 29, 1797 Future steamboat owner and railroad entrepreneur Daniel Drew (1797-1879) born at Carmel, N.Y. (WwasW)
- Summer 1797 Robert Morris retreats to his country house, "The Hills," on the east bank of the Schuylkill three miles above Philadelphia, where he remains until his arrest for debt in Feb. 1798. (Chernow)
- Aug. 7, 1797 Potomac Company offers to surrender its rights on the Shenandoah River to any new company that can improve it for carrying 50 bbl. of flour in three years. (Kapsch)
- Aug. 1797 Lucas Sullivant (1765-1823?), a native of Virginia and deputy surveyor of the Virginia Military District of Ohio, lays out Franklinton, Ohio, on the west bank of the Scioto River opposite the site of present-day Columbus; Sullivant becomes the first permanent resident. (Miller, Taylor, Lee/Columbus)
- Aug. 15, 1797 Capt. James Piggott petitions the Spanish commandant Lieutenant Gov. Zenon Trudeau of St. Louis for the exclusive right of ferriage to a ferry landing below Market Street, which is granted. (Scharf, Wallace)
- Aug. 17, 1797 New yellow fever epidemic hits Philadelphia; 1,292 people killed before frosts in late October; the government evacuates the city, and many merchants take up temporary residence in Wilmington; the fever also strikes Baltimore; the recurring bouts of yellow fever in 1797-1798 cause ships to avoid the stricken ports and inhabitants to flee into the countryside, exacerbating the Panic of 1797 and further crippling economic life of the ports. (Scharf, Chew/JER 25:4)
- Aug. 1797 John Nicholson makes his escape from Robert Morris's country house, "The Hills," one step ahead of the sheriff and goes into seclusion in his own house in Philadelphia; as the yellow fever is in the neighborhood, no one comes near him. (Oberholtzer)
- Aug. 25, 1797 First lots sold in Steubenville, Ohio, laid out by Bezaleel Wells and James Ross (1762-1847) of Pittsburgh on the site of Fort Steuben, established in 1786 and destroyed by fire in 1790. (steubenvillelibrary.com)
- Aug. 30, 1797 Future locomotive builder Charles Danforth (1797-1876) born at Norton, Mass. (WwasW)
- Sep. 1797 U.S. Supreme Court Justice and land speculator James Wilson is arrested by a creditor and jailed at Burlington, N.J. (CSmith)

- Sep. 4, 1797 At the behest of three French Directors, Gen. Pierre Augereau (1757-1816) sends troops into the Assembly and arrests royalist and moderate deputies who favor a Bourbon restoration; the republicans then take a harder line in peace negotiations; the Directory becomes in effect a dictatorship. (Lefebvre, Mostert)
- Sep. 15, 1797 At the Treaty of Big Tree at present-day Geneseo, the Seneca release claim to 3.3 million acres in western New York to Robert Morris for \$100,000 in stock of the Bank of the United States; the Seneca retain 200,000 acres of their ancestral lands in six reservations along Allegheny River and the major creeks; Morris then transfers his rights to the Holland Land Company; the once-powerful Iroquois are now confined to reservations or have fled to Canada, and all of central and western New York is open to settlement. (Chernow, Purvis, hopefarm.com, Chazanof, Flick)
- Sep. 1797 William McClellan and Samuel Spingler establish the Lancaster, York and Baltimore Stage Line, running through in two days, weekly. (Ellis/Evans)
- Sep. 30, 1797 Great Genesee Road opens from Fort Schuyler (Utica) to Geneva; first stagecoach leaves Fort Schuyler and arrives in Geneva three days later. (Flick)
- Oct. 2, 1797 Douglas, Vandervoort & Co. establish the Federal Line of stagecoaches between New York and Philadelphia at \$4.00 fare in competition with J.N. Cumming & Co.; rate war ensues lasting til about 1800. (Lane)
- Oct. 3, 1797 Western Inland Lock Navigation Company opens a 1.75-mile canal with 2 locks linking the Mohawk River and Lake Oneida at Rome, N.Y., forming an imperfect water communication between Schenectady and Lake Ontario. (Whitford)
- Oct. 11, 1797 British destroy the Dutch navy in the Battle of Camperdown off the Dutch coast as it tries to unite with the French fleet for an invasion of Ireland. (Hague, Mostert)
- Oct. 18, 1797 Land speculator James Greenleaf is imprisoned for debt; Greenleaf hopes to claim protection of Pennsylvania's insolvency law for a small debt and bail himself out; Robert Morris's lawyers discover that Greenleaf has claimed to be a citizen of Rhode Island and thus not protected by Pennsylvania law, so that he must serve 6 months. (Van Winter, Arnebeck)
- Oct. 18, 1797 District of Columbia commissioners begin selling Robert Morris's and John Nicholson's lots at auction; they bring only a little more than 3 cents a square foot. (Arnebeck)
- Oct. 18, 1797 Future Indiana merchant and railroad entrepreneur Samuel Hanna (1797-

1866) born in Scott County, Ky.; the family moves to Dayton, Ohio, in 1804. (Poinsatte)

- Oct. 18, 1797 After Napoleon's army advances to within 75 miles of Vienna, France and Austria sign Treaty of Campo Formio, breaking up the First Coalition and leaving only England at war with France; Austria cedes most of North Italy, the Austrian Netherlands (modern Belgium), and the west bank of the Rhine to France; in return, Austria is given the 1,000-year old Venetian Republic. (Lefebvre, Blanning, Mostert)
- Oct. 21, 1797 Frigate *U.S.S. Constitution*, later known as "Old Ironsides," launched at the Boston Navy Yard. (OfficialChronicle)
- Oct. 1797 Second Connecticut Land Company survey party returns to Connecticut leaving a small settlement at Cleveland led by Lorenzo Carter.
- Nov. 2, 1797 Philadelphia City Councils appoint a committee to examine methods of supplying the city with water. (AddressofD&S)
- Nov. 9, 1797 First six-mile section of Middlesex Canal opens between Concord, Mass., and the Merrimack River. (CHTP7)
- Nov. 1797 Holland Land Company Chief Surveyor Joseph Ellicott completes a preliminary survey of the south shores of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie in western New York. (Chazanof)
- Nov. 22, 1797 Gov. Thomas Mifflin opens Conewago Canal; first in Pennsylvania; is one mile long on west bank of Susquehanna near York Haven with two lift locks; permits boats to ascend from Wrights Ferry (Columbia) to Middletown; James Brindley, Chief Engineer; total cost of \$102,000 vs. an original estimate of \$20,000; the canal has very substantial brick locks; however, most traffic continues to run the falls in arks. (Letters to Wm. Penrose, EEBrown, Gibson)
- Dec. 8, 1797 Robert R. Livingston writes to Nicholas J. Roosevelt noting that he is planning to order a steam engine for his steamboat project in England but will give the commission to Roosevelt; however, Livingston demands that the boat use water jet propulsion, while John Stevens wants a screw propeller and Roosevelt wants paddle wheels. (Pursell, DuBois)
- Dec. 9, 1797 In his annual message, Gov. Thomas Mifflin calls attention to bringing fresh water to Philadelphia via the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal as a guard against yellow fever outbreaks. (AddressofD&S, Blake)
- Dec. 9, 1797 The entire block bounded by 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, Chestnut & Walnut Streets, containing Robert Morris's unfinished mansion, is sold at auction to

William Sansom, Joseph Ball, John Reed and Standish Forde; some of the expensive carvings are used in other buildings around the city. (Young. Chernow)

- Dec. 14, 1797 France repudiates a portion of the national debt. (Lefebvre)
- Dec. 1797 Having secured his release from jail in Burlington, N.J., U.S Supreme Court Justice James Wilson flees south to Edenton, N.C., hoping to winter there and put his affairs in order. (CSmith)
- Dec. 1797 Birmingham, Huntingdon County, Pa., laid out on the Little Juniata River 7 miles west of Huntingdon by John Cadwalader as a manufacturing town. (Jordan/Juniata)
- Dec. 17, 1797 Timothy Palmer receives a patent for his bridge design. (PtntIndx)
- Dec. 17, 1797 Pioneer Erie Canal engineer Porteous R. Root (1797-1882) born in upstate New York. (findagrave)
- Dec. 20, 1797 At a meeting with city officials, the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company proposes to use its canal to feed a reservoir north of Broad & Callowhill Streets, with the water flowing thence in an open canal in Broad Street from which it could be turned to flush the east-west streets. (AddressofD&S, Blake)
- Dec. 28, 1797 Playing to fears generated by the latest yellow fever epidemic, the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company offers to supply the City of Philadelphia with water for a £50,000 stock subscription; the City rejects this, and the company rejects the City's proposition to buy the water right only. (MB, Blake, AddressofD&S)
- Dec. 29, 1797 Robert R. Livingston, Nicholas J. Roosevelt and John Stevens form a partnership to build a steamboat. (DuBois)
- Dec. 29, 1797 Waynesburg, now Waynesboro, Pa., laid out by John Wallace. (HistFranklinCo)
- 1797 New York surpasses Philadelphia as chief U.S. port in terms of both imports and exports. (Albion)
- 1797 Wholesale wheat prices in Baltimore have fallen 17%. (Chew/JER 25:4)
- 1797 Potomac Company completes a temporary inclined plane at the Great Falls to lower cargoes from the canal to the river below the Falls; it remains in service until the flight of lift locks can be finished in 1802. (Kapsch)



- 1797 Three stage coaches now operated daily between New York and Philadelphia via Paulus Hook and Trenton. (Lane)
- 1797 Daily except Sunday stagecoach service begins between New York and Boston operating via the inland route and the shore route on alternate days. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- 1797 Dunnachey, Bicknell & Co., the new mail contractors on the Philadelphia-Baltimore route, begin running six days a week. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- 1797 Stage coach lines established from Baltimore to Emmitsburg and Chambersburg via Taneytown. (Scharf)
- 1797 Benjamin McCarty, a Quaker from Bucks County, lays out the village of Pennsborough, Pa., later Muncy. (Meginness/Lycoming)
- 1797 John Miles (1778-1829) and Joseph Miles (1780-1841) establish the Milesburg Iron Works in present Centre County, Pa. (Linn/Centre)
- 1797 John Barnett (1754-1838) settles at Port Barnett near the site of later Brookville and begins lumbering and rafting the lumber to Pittsburgh; the first settler in Jefferson County. (Scott/JeffCo)
- 1797 Philadelphia capitalists send Francis King, a Quaker who came to Philadelphia from London in 1795, on an exploring venture as his agent for land in northwestern Pennsylvania; the trip involves considerable hardship, as the area is largely wilderness; on the strength of his report, French emigre (?) merchant John Keating ( - ) buys 297,428 acres of land in McKean, Potter and Clearfield Counties for the Ceres Company. (Ellis/Cattaraugus, McKean/Elk, wiki)
- 1797 Commissioners appointed to lay out a road from Somerset, Pa., to Cumberland, Md. (Blackburn)
- 1797 Elisha Brooks establishes the first salt furnace on the Kanawha River in what is now West Virginia. (Ambler)
- 1797 John Young (1763-1825) purchases Township 2, Range 2 of New Connecticut and founds Youngstown, Ohio; at the head of navigation on the Mahoning River, it enjoys superior connections to and from Pittsburgh and is the point in New Connecticut most accessible from the East. (Trumbull/Mahoning)
- 1797 Youngstown, Ohio, founded by John Young, who had purchased a large tract from the Connecticut Land Company.

- 1797 Daniel C. Cooper (1773-1818) lays out the Mad River Road leading north from Cincinnati through Dayton. (wiki, Drury)
- 1797 North West Company, a fur-trading concern, builds the first lock at the Sault Ste. Marie, 38 x 9 x 9 foot lift, on the Canadian side to pass bateaux to and from Lake Superior. (Dickinson)
- 1797 Engineer William Jessop (1745-1814) surveys for a horse railway between Liverpool and Manchester for Liverpool merchants and manufacturers smarting under the 50-year monopoly of the Bridgewater Canal. (Rolt)
- 1797 British break the resistance of the United Irishmen in Ulster. (Kee)
- 1797 Three U.S. commissioners sent by Pres. Adams to negotiate a diplomatic solution to the continuing seizure of American ships, are kept waiting and then informed by three French officials that the price of the resumption of diplomatic relations will be a large "loan" to the French Directory and a large bribe to Foreign Minister Charles Maurice de Talleyrand-Périgord (1754-1838), the so-called "XYZ Affair." (Mostert)
- 1797 Irish-American leaders identified with the United Irishman movement form the American Society of United Irishmen in Philadelphia; through continuing immigration, about 12% of the population of Philadelphia is Irish, of which 75% are Protestant and 25% Catholic; in the present mood, all identify themselves as "Irish" no matter what religion or part of the island they come from and are united by a republican and anti-aristocratic and anti-British outlook. (Taylor)
- Jan. 5, 1798 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company rejects the City of Philadelphia's terms that it give half the water in the canal for the supply of the city. (MB)
- Jan. 10, 1798 The Marine Insurance Company of Alexandria incorporated in Virginia. (PL)
- Jan. 11, 1798 Robert Coleman (1748-1825) purchases the two-thirds interest in Cornwall Furnace and one-half interest in the Cornwall Ore Banks from the estate of Curtis Grubb (1733?-1789) for £37,200; Coleman already owns a one-sixth interest in the ore banks, one of the largest and richest iron ore deposits in the Northeast. (Horle)
- Jan. 12, 1798 Virginia act appoints trustees to improve the navigation of the Staunton (Roanoke) River from Booker's Ferry to the mouth of the Pigg River. (PL)
- Jan. 1798 William Weston returns from New York to the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company and submits plans for a 30 x 3 x 20 canal in Philadelphia. (AddressofD&S)

- Jan. 18, 1798 French Directory passes a new law authorizing the seizure of any neutral ship carrying the smallest amount of British goods or obeying British regulations, leading to the “Quasi-War” between the U.S. and France; also begins more rigorous enforcement of domestic French laws against the possession of British goods. (Lefebvre, Mostert)
- Jan. 20, 1798 Charter supplement extends the deadline for the Proprietors of the Susquehanna Canal to complete their canal to Dec. 1, 1805; may increase their stock by 10 shares of £1,000 each; the act also declares the Susquehanna River from tidewater to the Pennsylvania state line to be a public highway. (PL)
- Jan. 20, 1798 Elizabethtown Turnpike Road Company and Reisterstown Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Maryland. (JSDavis, Blandi)
- Jan. 22, 1798 Robert R. Livingston suggests the use of a horizontal wheel in a well under the keel to his steamboat partners. (Shagena)
- Jan. 23, 1798 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company makes a counter-offer to the City of Philadelphia that it buy half of its forfeited shares. (MB)
- Jan. 23, 1798 Shenandoah Company incorporated in Virginia to improve the navigation up to \_\_\_. (PL)
- Jan. 23, 1798 Virginia act exempts the turnpike roads leading from Alexandria to Ashby’s Gap, Snickers Gap and Vestal Gap in the Blue Ridge Mountains from using local levies of donated road labor. (PL)
- Jan. 29, 1798 First drawing of lots for townships in the eastern part of the Western Reserve held by members of the Connecticut Land Company. (Trumbull/Mahoning)
- Jan. 30, 1798 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company appoints a committee to investigate John Nicholson’s transactions with the company and settle his accounts. (MB)
- Jan. 30, 1798 Connecticut Land Company orders the laying out of the so-called “girdled road” between the Pennsylvania state line and Cleveland. (Trumbull/Mahoning)
- Jan. 31, 1798 City of Philadelphia committee proposes that the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company sell the city half of its water for £50,000 or that the city buy 75% of the canal shares. (Blake)
- Early 1798 With the Bank of England in suspension for the duration of the war, interest

rates on British state securities double from 3% to 6%; Dutch interest rates reach 10% and French interest rates 34%. (Chew/JER 25:4)

- Feb. 7, 1798 Future broker and financier Edward Robert Biddle (1798-1876), who will become an early promoter of the Reading and Lehigh Valley Railroads, is born at Philadelphia, the son of Clement Biddle (1740-1814) and Rebecca Cornell Biddle (1755-1831) and the younger brother of Clement Cornell Biddle (1784-1855) and Thomas Biddle (1776-1857). (picton.us/biddle)
- Feb. 10, 1798 Using the murder of a French emissary in Rome as a pretext, Gen. Louis Alexandre Berthier (1753-1815) marches into Rome, arrests Pope Pius VI (1717-1799), converts the Papal States into the Roman Republic, and loots Rome of its art treasures; Pius dies under house arrest in France in 1799. (Blanning, Mostert - McBrien has 2/15??)
- Feb. 15, 1798 Robert Morris enters the Prune Street debtor's prison in Philadelphia as a result of suits brought by George Eddy and the Bank of North America; his total debts are \$2.9 million. (Young, Arbuckle, Rappleye, Arnebeck)
- Feb. 16, 1798 Lansingburgh, N.Y., at the head of navigation of the Hudson River, incorporated as a village. (PL)
- Feb. 18, 1798 Pennsylvania contracts with William Elliott to improve Raystown Branch of the Juniata to McGaugheys Mill three miles above Bedford and also Dunning's Creek; appropriation of £600. (PaSenJrnl 1807/08)
- Feb. 18, 1798 John F. Tracy (1798-1875), who will become a leading capitalist of Erie, Pa., and play leading roles in its transportation and industrial development, born at Scipio, N.Y. (findagrave)
- Feb. 21, 1798 John Nicholson's lands at the Falls of Schuylkill are sold by the sheriff. (MB)
- Feb. 23, 1798 Rockland County, N.Y., created from the southern part of Orange County. (French)
- Feb. 23, 1798 Napoleon abandons his plans for the invasion of Britain. (Lefebvre)
- Feb. 27, 1798 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company Board resolves for Dr. William Smith, D.D., and William Young to have the water brought from Robert Morris's land at Springettsbury into the canal; the land has been assigned to the Bank of North America. (MB)
- Feb. 27, 1798 Lehigh Navigation Company incorporated in Pa. in interest of the Lehigh Coal Mine Company to improve the navigation of the Lehigh River so that coal may be floated to market. (PL)

- Mar. 3, 1798 President, Managers & Company for Erecting a Bridge over the River Delaware at or near Trenton (aka the Trenton Delaware Bridge Company) incorporated in N.J.; for some time, this is the oldest company in the PRR system. (PL, C&C)
- Mar. 6, 1798 John Nicholson forfeits his shares in the Lehigh Coal Mine Company. (Arbuckle)
- Mar. 12, 1798 In a pre-emptive strike, British authorities arrest many Irish ringleaders of the United Irishmen plotting rebellion in Dublin. (Hague, Taylor)
- Mar. 15, 1798 Oneida County, N.Y., created from part of Herkimer County. (French)
- Mar. 1798 Holland Land Company Chief Surveyor Joseph Ellicott sends Adam Hoops as advance agent to arrange the supplies needed for the summer's surveying campaign. (Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- Mar. 1798 Holland Land Company Chief Surveyor Joseph Ellicott begins a full-scale survey of their 3.3 million acres in western New York with 150 men, laying out the boundaries of the Indian reservations and dividing the rest into towns of six miles square; Ellicott himself begins with the East Transit Line, the eastern boundary of the tract, running from the Pennsylvania state line to Lake Ontario, which is laid out with a transit manufactured by Benjamin Ellicott in Philadelphia; principal surveyors are Augustus Porter, Benjamin Ellicott, David Ellicott, George Burgess, Richard M. Stoddard, John Thomson (1769-1844), father of PRR Pres. J. Edgar Thomson, James Dewey, Aaron Oakford, Jr., Seth Pease, James Smedley, George Eggleston and William Shepard, who lay out the townships, ranges and reservations; Thomson is in charge of the survey party at present-day Buffalo; they manage to get the valuable site of Buffalo excluded from the Indian reservations. (Ellis/Cattaraugus, Chazanof, HPSmith, French)
- Mar. 1798 Benjamin Henry Latrobe first comes from Richmond, Va., to Philadelphia to arrange to supervise the construction of his design for the bank building of the Bank of Pennsylvania on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. (DAB)
- Mar. 1798 Fugitive Supreme Court Justice James Wilson is again arrested in Edenton, N.C., on a warrant obtained from another of his creditors, Pierce Butler of S.C.; he suffers from malaria over the summer. (CSmith)
- Mar. 16, 1798 "President, Directors & Company for Erecting a Permanent Bridge over the River Schuylkill at or near Philadelphia" (Schuylkill Permanent Bridge Company) incorporated in Pa. to build a bridge to replace the old floating bridge at Market Street; Judge Richard Peters (1744-1828), Pres.; William Weston draws plans for piers for what is planned as a stone arch bridge as

his last commission in the U.S. (JSDavis, Powers, Scharf)

- Mar. 16, 1798 Pennsylvania declares Pine Creek from the West Branch of the Susquehanna River up to the third fork in Lycoming County to be a public highway. (PL)
- Mar. 21, 1798 Pennsylvania declares Ohio River and Allegheny River and major tributaries to be public highways; include Beaver River up to first fork, Conewango Creek to the New York state line, French Creek to Le Boeuf, the Conneaut Outlet up to Conneaut Lake, Oil Creek up to main fork, Red Bank (Sandy Lick) Creek to the second fork, Causawago Creek to the main forks, and Tobys Creek (Clarion River) to the second fork. (PL)
- Mar. 21, 1798 Wayne County, Pa., created from the northeastern part of Northampton County; county seat at Milford. (Long)
- Mar. 26, 1798 County seat of Lycoming County, Pa., moved from Jaysburg to Williamsport. (Long)
- Mar. 26, 1798 Schenectady, N.Y., incorporated as a city. (PL)
- Mar. 27, 1798 On a petition of Robert R. Livingston (1746-1813) a powerful landowner, politician and dilettante inventor, New York revokes John Fitch's steamboat monopoly and gives a 20-year grant to Livingston; providing that he build a boat of 20 tons burden capable of operating at 4 MPH against the current of the Hudson River within one year. (PL, Stokes, Shagena)
- Mar. 27, 1798 Congress appropriates money to complete the frigates *U.S.S. United States*, *U.S.S. Constitution* and *U.S.S. Constellation*. (StatutesatLarge)
- Mar. 29, 1798 Germantown & Reading Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa. to run from Front Street in Philadelphia via Germantown to Reading; no work done under this charter. (PL, JSDavis)
- Mar. 30, 1798 New York act regulating the Onondaga salt springs orders laying out a village called Salina for workers and administrators. (PL)
- Mar. 31, 1798 James Greenleaf is released from debtor's prison, having found a way to settle debts of \$9 million. (Van Winter, Rappleeye)
- Apr. 2, 1798 New York act secured by Aaron Burr eliminates the ban on aliens holding real estate in New York; must secure title by Apr. 1, 1801; Burr had disbursed \$10,500 from the Holland Land Company, owned by aliens, to grease the skids for this act. (PL, Cowan, Chazanof)
- Apr. 3, 1798 Pres. Adams reports to the Senate on the so-called "XYZ Affair", in which

three agents of the French Directory, Jean Conrad Hottinguer (1764-1841), Lucien Hauteval and Pierre Bellamy, identified in the report only as "X", "Y" and "Z", have demanded £50,000 in bribes from U.S. envoys as the price of improved relations; the news further increases tensions between Anglophile (Federalist) and Francophile (Republican) factions in government; Adams' popularity increases when he is seen as getting tough with the French and standing up to foreign insults. (EAH, avalon.law)

- Apr. 3, 1798 Old Fort Schuyler, N.Y., incorporated as the village of Utica. (PL)
- Apr. 4, 1798 Western Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from the Town of Watervliet to Cherry Valley; no work done under this charter. (PL)
- Apr. 4, 1798 Trenton Delaware Bridge Company incorporated in Pennsylvania. (PL)
- Apr. 4, 1798 Pa. act provides for greater enforcement of penalties for avoiding tolls or damaging Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Company. (Landis)
- Apr. 4, 1798 Pennsylvania act establishes penalties for evading tolls on the Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road, for defacing or destroying milestones or signposts and authorizing the company to establish scales to ascertain the weight of wagons. (PL, JSDavis)
- Apr. 5, 1798 Niagara Canal Company incorporated in N.Y. by Benjamin Prescott, Elkanah Watson, Charles Williamson, Thomas Morris, et al., to build a canal around Niagara Falls; cost is estimated at \$1 million for boats of 70 tons; nothing is done. (Sweet, Whitford)
- Apr. 1798 Robert R. Livingston (44%), John Stevens (44%) and Nicholas J. Roosevelt (12%) form a new partnership to build a steamboat under Livingston's grant; Livingston wastes much time and money with his dilettante's ideas. (Shagena)
- Apr. 1798 New Castle, Pa., laid out by John Carlyle Stewart (1765?- ), who with his brothers-in-law has come from New Castle, Del. (Durant)
- Apr. 1798 Britain stages a new round of arrests of dissidents. (Hague)
- Apr. 20, 1798 Managers of the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company inspect the work between Philadelphia and Norristown. (MB)
- Apr. 20, 1798 Responding to French provocations and the "XYZ Affair," Congress authorizes the creation of a provisional army of 10,000 men and of a Navy Dept. (Fowler, Mostert)
- Apr. 27, 1798 Congress authorizes the construction or purchase of 12 warships of 12-22

guns to bring the Navy up to strength and stop the predation by French privateers on U.S. commerce with the West Indies. (StatutesatLarge, Chew/JER 25:4)

- May 8, 1798 Riots in Philadelphia between pro-French and pro-British mobs.
- May 18, 1798 Last leader of the Irish rebellion, Lord Edward Fitzgerald (1763-1798), is wounded resisting arrest in Dublin and dies in prison on June 4; the plans for the uprising scheduled for May 23 are seized by the authorities; on the same day, French General Napoleon Bonaparte, who was supposed to have supported the rebellion, sails from Toulon for the conquest of Egypt, a first step in a plan to conquer the Middle East and separate Britain from its colonies and trading posts in India. (wiki, Hague, Mostert, Lefebvre)
- May 23, 1798 Irish rebels begin an uprising in Wicklow and Wexford on schedule, not realizing that their leaders have been taken and that Napoleon is not coming to their aid. (Hague)
- May 28, 1798 Congress authorizes U.S. warships to capture any armed French vessels lying off the coast for the purpose of preying on American commerce. (Scharf)
- June 5, 1798 A British fleet under Horatio Nelson (1758-1805) enters the Mediterranean for the first time in two years on an offensive against Napoleon. (Mostert)
- June 9, 1798 Robert Morris's Morrisville, Pa., property is sold to George Clymer and Thomas FitzSimons for £41,000 at sheriff's sale. (Chernow)
- June 13, 1798 Congress passes an act suspending American commerce with France. (Scharf, avalonproject)
- June 17, 1798 Congress passes a new Naturalization Act, increasing the period of naturalization from 5 to 14 years; aimed at recent British and Irish republicans who have fled William Pitt's repressive measures and the failed Irish rebellion, many of whom have settled in New York and Philadelphia. (StatutesatLarge, Shankman)
- June 20, 1798 Assistant Richard M. Stoddard and others begin the surveying of east-west lines dividing the Holland Land Purchase into ranges, starting at the southwestern corner. (Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- June 21, 1798 Irish rebellion is put down at Vinegar Hill near Wexford before French aid can arrive. (Mercer)
- June 25, 1798 Pres. John Adams signs the Alien Friends Act, which permits the Pres. to deport or imprison foreign nationals acting as spies or subversive agents.



(StatutesatLarge)

- June 25, 1798 Pres. John Adams signs an Act to Authorize the Defense of the Merchant Vessels of the U.S. against French Depredations. (avalon.law)
- July 1, 1798 Napoleon's invasion force arrives off Alexandria in Egypt. (Mostert)
- July 2, 1798 Steamboat inventor John Fitch (1743-1798) commits suicide at Bardstown, Ky., after a long string of financial failures. (DAB)
- July 2, 1798 Dr. Joseph Browne proposes to supply New York City with drinking water drawn from the Bronx River. (Blake)
- July 6, 1798 Pres. John Adams signs the Alien Enemies Act, which permits him to imprison or deport any resident aliens who are citizens of a country with which the U.S. is at war. (StatutesatLarge, avalon.law)
- July 7, 1798 Congress repeals the 1778 treaty of alliance with France. (avalon.law)
- July 9, 1798 Congress authorizes U.S. warships and armed merchantmen to attack and capture armed French vessels wherever found in the Atlantic and Caribbean. (Mostert, avalon.law)
- July 9, 1798 To finance the expected war with France, Congress orders a valuation of lands, houses and slaves for a wealth-based tax. (DAB)
- July 11, 1798 As part of its mobilization for a naval war with France, Congress creates the United States Marine Corps. (StatutesatLarge, Mostert)
- July 14, 1798 Sedition Act forbids public criticism of government and is used to prosecute inflammatory anti-administration editors; the backlash helps bring the Republicans to power. (avalon.law, EAH)
- July 14, 1798 Congress passes a direct tax of \$2 million on land and dwellings to be apportioned among states by population. (Tinkcom)
- July 1798 Ebenezer Slocum buys land at the future site of Scranton, Pa., which becomes known as Slocum Hollow. (Munsell)
- July 16, 1798 Congress authorizes completing the three remaining frigates authorized by the Naval Act of 1794, the *U.S.S. President* (44 guns), *Congress* (38 guns) and *Chesapeake* (38 guns). (StatutesatLarge, Fowler)
- July 21, 1798 In the Battle of the Pyramids, Napoleon defeats the pre-modern army of the Mamelukes, the military caste that rules Egypt as a dependency of the Ottoman Empire, then moves on to occupy Cairo. (Mostert)

- July 28, 1798 Future LIRR Pres. James H. Weeks (1798-1879) born. (StAndewsCem)
- July 31, 1798 Another yellow fever epidemic hits New York City, killing 2,086 through October, when the frost kills mosquitoes. (Stokes, Burrows/Wallace)
- Summer 1798 Joseph Ellicott realizes that if the boundaries of the Buffalo Creek Indian reservation, which is to be 7 miles wide, are laid out as straight east-west lines, they will intersect the State reservation along the Niagara River and cut off the Holland Land Company from a harbor on Lake Erie; he bargains with William Johnston, who has an Indian grant of 2 square miles at the mouth of the creek, to talk the Indians into leaving the site of future Buffalo out of the Reservation. (HPSmith)
- Aug. 1, 1798 Admiral Horatio Nelson destroys Napoleon's fleet at Aboukir Bay near Alexandria, ending the French's Navy's effectiveness in the Mediterranean and trapping Napoleon in Egypt. (Hague)
- Aug. 2, 1798 New yellow fever epidemic hits Philadelphia; 3,645 fatalities; 75% of the population flees the city; Congress moves to Trenton. (Arnebeck, Scharf, Blake)
- Aug. 3, 1798 Judge Turhand Kirtland completes the survey for a road from the Grand River to Youngstown, Ohio, and proceeds to help John Young lay out the town of Youngstown. (Trumbull/Mahoning)
- Aug. 6, 1798 Secretary of War of James McHenry orders Joseph Perkin ( -1806) as Superintendent to Harpers Ferry to begin preliminary surveys for erecting the new Federal armory. (MRSmith)
- Aug. 6, 1798 Second French fleet sails to aid the Irish rebels, not knowing they have already been defeated. (Mercer)
- Aug. 10, 1798 First New York law declaring rivers to be public highways; covers outlets of all major lakes; provides for \$25 fines for obstructing navigation; includes the Canisteo River from its mouth to the Big Marsh; the Chenango River from its mouth to the forks and the west branch to the upper line of the Town of Virgil; the Conhocton River from its mouth to Bath; the Genesee River from the Great Falls (Rochester) to Canaseraga Creek; the Canaseraga to the south line of Township No. 7, Range No. 7 in Ontario County; the Susquehanna River (North Branch) from the Pennsylvania state line to Lake Otsego; and the Tioga River in N.Y. (PL)
- Aug. 1798 John Nicholson enters debtor's prison in Philadelphia. (Arbuckle)
- Aug. 1798 Engineer James Brindley, late of the Conewago Canal, arrives in Harpers

- Ferry to design the Harpers Ferry power canal for the armory. (Kapsch)
- Aug. 17, 1798 Robert R. Livingston writes to Nicholas J. Roosevelt, blaming his engine for the failure of their steamboat; Roosevelt and his staff blame Livingston's scheme of water jet propulsion. (Pursell)
- Aug. 20, 1798 Ross County, Northwest Territory, created from parts of Adams, Hamilton and Washington Counties with a county seat at Chillicothe. (Long - Doyle has 1797)
- Aug. 21, 1798 Supreme Court Justice and land speculator James Wilson (1742-1798) dies after suffering a stroke in a small tavern at Edenton, N.C., whither he has fled to escape his creditors; his son, Bird Wilson, is still trying to settle his affairs in 1852. (DAB, Smith, Wilkinson - Meginness says found dead of overdose of laudanum, which is a story spread by Samuel Wallis, who was ruined in ventures with Wilson)
- Aug. 23, 1798 Anna Louisa Bingham (d. 1848), daughter of William Bingham, marries Alexander Baring (1774-1848), son of the head of the British banking house of Baring Brothers, cementing an Anglo-American merchant banking alliance; the Baring connection helps Bingham avoid the collapse that effects most U.S. land speculators. (Alberts, Smith)
- Aug. 27, 1798 French Gen. Jean Joseph Amable Humbert (1755-1823) proclaims an Irish republic. (Mercer)
- Sep. 6, 1798 Nicholas J. Roosevelt suggests sidewheel propulsion as the easiest method of working a steamboat. (Shagena)
- Sep. 8, 1798 Lord Cornwallis captures the small French force that had landed in support of the Irish rebels; William Pitt increases the crackdown on dissent. (Lefebvre)
- Sep. 10, 1798 Benjamin Franklin Bache (1769-1798), publisher of the radical Republican newspaper the *Aurora* and grandson of Benjamin Franklin, dies in Philadelphia in the yellow fever epidemic; Bache's widow marries William Duane (1760-1835), who has been persecuted for his democratic views in Britain, Ireland and India, and who continues the paper as the North's leading Democratic-Republican organ. (WwasW, Shankman)
- Sep. 1798 Pennsylvania Population Company builds the 30-ton sloop *Washington* at the mouth of Four-Mile Creek; first sailing ship built on the south shore of Lake Erie. (HistErieCo)
- Sep. 29, 1798 Moravian missionary John Heckewelder found the mission settlement of Gnadenhütten, Ohio. (Mansfield)

- Oct. 2, 1798 Last British units evacuated from Sainte Domingue by Admiral William Bligh (1754-1817) of Mutiny on the *Bounty* fame, after Britain negotiates a peace treaty with Pierre Dominique Toussaint L'Overture (1743-1803), now leader of the slave revolt, recognizing the independence and neutrality of Haiti. (Heinl, Mostert)
- Oct. 6, 1798 Future State Senator and Pres. of Cumberland Valley Railroad Charles Bingham Penrose (1798-1857) born at Frankford, Pa. (Wilson)
- Oct. 14, 1798 West Branch land speculator Samuel Wallis (1730-1798) dies of yellow fever at Philadelphia; he had contracted the disease returning from a visit to North Carolina to try to collect debts due from James Wilson; Wilson's failure results in Wallis losing his extensive holdings on the West Branch of the Susquehanna River. (Meginness/Lycoming)
- Oct. 1798 Swansea Canal opens from the port of Swansea in South Wales up the Tawe Valley to Abercraf (16.5 miles) facilitating the development of mineral resources, including the iron works at Ynyscedwyn and Ystalyfera. (wiki)
- Oct. 23, 1798 Toussaint L'Overture enters Cap François after the last agents of the Directory have embarked for France, concluding the first successful African American slave revolt. (Heinl)
- Nov. 4, 1798 Robert R. Livingston writes to James Watt attempting to buy a steam engine for his steamboat project. (Pursell)
- Nov. 12, 1798 Following the latest yellow fever epidemic, the Philadelphia City Councils create a new joint committee on water supply. (Blake)
- Nov. 1798 Benjamin Henry Latrobe wins a commission as architect for the Bank of Pennsylvania and relocates to Philadelphia, where he finds the society more intellectually stimulating than among the Virginia plantation gentry, although as a political liberal with a French name, he is attacked by the Federalists; the bank is the first major Greek Revival building in the U.S.. (Hamlin)
- Nov. 1798 William Johnston begins the manufacture of salt on a small scale using natural seeps at present Saltsburg, Pa.; operation is extremely sporadic. (HistIndCo)
- Nov. 19, 1798 Irish leader Theobald Wolfe Tone (1763-1798), who had been captured in a naval battle with the French invasion fleet off Ulster, commits suicide while awaiting execution; the uprising is completely crushed, and many Irish patriots flee to the U.S. (Mercer, Watkins)

- Nov. 20, 1798 Naval "quasi-war" with France begins with French capture of *U.S.S. Retaliation* off Guadeloupe; this is the last loss suffered by a revived U.S. Navy which captures 93 French ships in the next two years. (EAH, Purvis)
- Nov. 26, 1798 A Neapolitan army commanded by the Austrian Karl von Mack occupies Rome in a bid to dislodge the French from central Italy; it is quickly routed, and the French march south towards Naples. (Lefebvre, Mostert)
- Dec. 1, 1798 County seat of Adams County, Northwest Territory, changed from Manchester to Adamsville. (Long)
- Dec. 7, 1798 Joseph Ellicott and company complete the location of the Transit Line, the eastern boundary of the Holland Land Company purchase; Holland Land Company surveys suspended for the winter. (Chazanof, Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- Dec. 10, 1799 Maryland subscribes for an additional 100 shares of the Potomac Company for total of £13,000, allowing work to continue. (Sanderlin - verify date)
- Dec. 10, 1798 John Curwen, Sr., of Montgomery County patents 350 acres at the mouth of Andersons Creek on the West Branch of the Susquehanna River and lays out Curwensville, although there is no development there until after 1812. (Aldrich)
- Dec. 12, 1798 Future Main Line transporting merchant Edmond/Edmund Godfrey Dutilh (1798-1886) born at Philadelphia; son of French expatriate merchant Etienne [Stephen] Dutilh (1751-1810). (ancestry.com)
- Dec. 17, 1798 New York Mayor Richard Varick asks William Weston to examine for an aqueduct to bring fresh water to the city from the Bronx River. (Stokes)
- Dec. 21, 1798 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company presents a memorial to the Legislature for aid in completing the canal; elements of the city government are opposed as they fear the canal wants to be the sole means of supplying the city with water. (AddressofD&S)
- Dec. 21, 1798 British ships commanded by Horatio Nelson evacuate the Neapolitan royal family and court to Sicily to escape the French. (Mostert)
- Dec. 24, 1798 New York City Council adopts Dr. Joseph Browne's proposal to bring water from the Bronx River, but as a city project; orders surveys to be made by William Weston. (Blake)
- Dec. 28, 1798 Benjamin Henry Latrobe issues his *View of the Practicability and Means of Supplying the City of Philadelphia with Wholesome Water*; his plan calls for a Watt-type steam engine to pump water from the Schuylkill River at Chestnut Street into a gravity tunnel under Chestnut and Broad Streets to a

second pumping station in Centre Square equipped with an elevated tank from which it can flow by gravity throughout the city; the tank and one set of engines are disguised inside a circular classical temple in the square. (DAB, Gibson, Blake - or 12/29? verify actual report - is in title)

- Dec. 29, 1798 Second Coalition against France formed in London by Britain, Austria, Russia, Naples and Portugal; Russia agrees to provide 45,000 men in return for a British subsidy. (Mercer, Mostert)
- Dec. 31, 1798 American trustees convey 3.3 million acres of the Holland Purchase to Willem Willink, Nicholas Van Staphorst, Pieter Van Eeghen, Hendrick Vollenhoven and Rutger Jan Schimmelpennick as joint tenants. (Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- Late 1798 John Stevens and Nicholas J. Roosevelt test the small steamboat *Polacca* on the Passaic River near Soho Works (Belleville); makes at least one trip to New York with Stevens, mechanic James Smallman, and two others. (Lane)
- 1798 Tuckerton, N.J., founded by Ebenezer Tucker. (Miller)
- 1798 Cotton already accounts for half of New York City's domestic exports; with their superior banking and insurance facilities and facility for handling international bills of exchange, and the relative paucity of Southern banks, mercantile ties and markets for imported consumer goods, New York merchants engross an ever-growing share of the cotton trade; New York ships run cotton from Southern ports to England and bring imported manufactures to New York, from which they are distributed up and down the coast. (Burrows/Wallace)
- 1798 Value of Baltimore's exports exceeds that of Philadelphia's; continues through 1800.
- 1798 Proprietors of the Susquehanna Canal (Md.) begin clearing a channel through the Turkey Hill Falls on the east shore of the Susquehanna under Col. Frederick Antes of Philadelphia; work interrupted by law of Pennsylvania. (1802 Rept)
- 1798 Frederick Bartles, a Pennsylvanian settled at Mud Lake, N.Y., sends over 100,000 board feet of lumber down the Cohocton and Susquehanna Rivers through to Baltimore. (Cowan)
- 1798 New York Surveyor General Simeon DeWitt lays out the village of Salina, now part of Syracuse, at Salt Point on Lake Onondaga; he engages local salt operator James Geddes to lay out the streets; under DeWitt's patronage, Geddes becomes a trained surveyor and then one of the country's first civil engineers. (wiki)

- 1798 First New York state roads laid out from Conewagas (?) on the Genesee River to the mouth of Buffalo Creek on Lake Erie and to Lewiston on the Niagara River. (French)
- 1798 Holland Land Company opens the Transit Store House at the site of present Stafford, Genesee County, to supply the survey teams running the Transit Line. (French)
- 1798 John Nicholson forced out as Pres. of the Pennsylvania Population Company for inability to redeem his notes issued for the purchase of shares. (Arbuckle)
- 1798 Judah Colt (1761-1832), agent of the Pennsylvania Population Company, builds the first road in present Erie County from North East to the forks of French Creek (Wattsburg). (HistErieCo)
- 1798 Francis King ( -1817), an English Quaker, settles at the site of Ceres, Pa., on Oswayo Creek near the New York state line, as the agent for landowner John Keating; the isolated settlement is 140 miles from the nearest post office at Williamsport. (Leeson, Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- 1798 John Dunlop (1770-1814) builds Bellefonte Forge in Centre County, Pa. (Swank)
- 1798 The Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends sends Joel Swayne, Halliday Jackson and Henry Simmons as missionaries to the Seneca Indians; they are the first white settlers in present Cattaraugus County, N.Y., locating first in the present Town of South Valley on Indian land, but relocating in 1803 to a nearby tract purchased from the Holland Land Company. (Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- 1798 Congress sets aside the Military Land District in the Northwest Territory (present southeastern Ohio) to be surveyed into townships for Revolutionary War veterans. (Sarchet)
- 1798 Zane's Trace is cleared as far as present Cambridge, Ohio. (Sarchet)
- 1798 Zane's Trace improved as wagon road between point opposite Wheeling and point opposite Maysville, Ky., via Zanesville, Lancaster and Chillicothe. (Marvin - NO no wagon reached Cambridge until 1806!! \_ OhioHS says 1804)
- 1798 William Church, great-grandfather of future PRR Lines West Secretary Samuel Harden Church and founder of the family in America, emigrates from Ulster to Lancaster County, Pa. (NCAB)

- 1799 Daniel Jackson of Warren, Pa., runs the first lumber raft down the Allegheny River.
- Jan. 5, 1799 A committee reports on the possibility of using the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal to supply the City of Philadelphia with water; propose that the state commissioners buy 1,000 shares of the Canal Company. (MB)
- Jan. 12, 1799 Pennsylvania Senate committee recommends completion of Delaware & Schuylkill Canal as best means to supply Philadelphia with clean water, which is demanded as a remedy for recurring yellow fever epidemics; however, it also endorses the proposal to enlarge the city's powers to tax for public improvements, including the rival plan by Benjamin H. Latrobe for a steam pumping station. (Scharf, Blake)
- Jan. 1799 Bank of England begins issuing large quantities of small notes to replace specie as a circulating medium; serves to restore confidence and credit. (Clapham, Chew/JER 25:4)
- Jan. 19, 1799 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company issues a pamphlet, over the signature of committee chairman William Sansom but supposedly authored by Dr. William Smith, on supplying the City of Philadelphia with water and attacking Latrobe's plan for steam pumps; the company calls on the state to grant it the duties on auctions, the house built for Pres. Washington and its lot, and as much stock of the Bank of Pennsylvania as needed to complete the canal. (MB, AddressofD&S, Blake, Hamlin)
- Jan. 21, 1799 Benjamin H. Latrobe issues his own pamphlet against the views of the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company and in favor of a steam pumping plant. (Pam)
- Jan. 22, 1799 Capital of Northwest Territory established at Cincinnati. (Long)
- Jan. 23, 1799 French army under Jean Étienne Championnet (1762-1800) occupies Naples; many of the Neapolitan aristocracy and intelligentsia, disgusted by the coarse habits of the Bourbon Court of Ferdinand IV (1751-1825) and his Habsburg Queen Maria Carolina (1752-1814), vengeful sister of the guillotined Marie Antoinette, embrace the French and their secular republicanism; with French backing, they proclaim the Parthenopean Republic. (Lefebvre, Mostert)
- Jan. 24, 1799 Henry W. Abbott of Philadelphia patents a stove for burning Virginia coal. (Scharf)
- Jan. 29, 1799 A committee of residents of Southwark, Northern Liberties and Moyamensing petition that the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company be



granted the half of all auction sale duties to provide the City of Philadelphia with a permanent water supply, with the other half going to the City for a temporary supply in the interim. (MB)

- Jan. 31, 1799 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company offers to transfer all its stock to the City of Philadelphia at cost for the use of supplying water to the city and ask the Legislature to use the money from the sale of the President's House for that purpose. (MB)
- Jan. 31, 1799 American trustees transfer the 300,000-acre balance of the Holland Purchase to Willem Willink, Willem Willink, Jr., Jan Willink and Jan Willink, Jr. as joint tenants. (Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- Feb. 4, 1799 New York Mayor Richard Varick informs the City Council that William Weston has arrived in the city to survey for an aqueduct from the Bronx River. (Stokes)
- Feb. 7, 1799 Philadelphia City Councils vote to float a loan of \$150,000 to build a water supply system. (Blake)
- Feb. 7, 1799 Fabrizio Cardinal Ruffo (1744-1827) lands in Calabria with no money or weapons to organize the *Sanfedismo* (Holy Faith) guerilla army of conservative peasants, clergy and brigands to expel the French from southern Italy. (wiki)
- Feb. 9, 1799 U.S. 38-gun frigate *U.S.S. Constellation* out of Baltimore, commanded by Commodore Thomas Truxtun (1755-1822), defeats the French frigate *L'Insurgente* off Nevis in the West Indies in the first major naval action of the Quasi-War and the first major victory by the new U.S. Navy; by the end of the year, U.S. warships are conveying merchantmen as far as the Dutch East Indies, operating in the Indian Ocean for the first time. (Mostert, Scharf, wiki)
- Feb. 9, 1799 Act of Congress gives Pres. Adams the power to restore trade with parts of France or its colonies as conditions warrant. (avalon.law)
- Feb. 9, 1799 Greensburg, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Feb. 19, 1799 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company prepares a memorial to the Legislature asserting its prior charter rights and asserting that they will be able to supply the city of Philadelphia with water. (MB)
- Feb. 25, 1799 Congress appropriates \$50,000 to build two repair yards for the new Navy Dept.; a second act appropriates \$1 million to build six 74-gun ships-of-the-line and six 18-gun sloops-of-war; the first sum proves too small, so part of the shipbuilding money is diverted to build the shipyards; with the

settlement of the Quasi-War and the rise to power of the Jeffersonian Republicans, the 74's are never finished. (StatutesatLarge, Fowler, Scharf)

- Mar. 1, 1799 N.Y. act repeals the 1796 appropriation for the Hudson River and appoints new commissioners to improve the river from Troy to Lansingburgh; appropriates \$3,750 in local taxes and \$1,250 in private subscriptions. (PL)
- Mar. 2, 1799 Philadelphia City Councils make a final decision to proceed with Benjamin H. Latrobe's pumping plan. (Blake)
- Mar. 4, 1799 Future Canal Commissioner John A. Gamble (1799-1878) born in present Clinton County, Pa.; son of James Gamble and Margaret Armstrong Gamble. (Meginness/Lycoming)
- Mar. 5, 1799 Pennsylvania Legislature begins three days of hearing the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company's request for the proceeds of the auction duties to complete the canal and against the City's bill to receive the auction duties for its steam pump system. (Blake)
- Mar. 7, 1799 Anti-tax protesters in the Lehigh Valley and northern Bucks and Montgomery Counties led by John Fries (c. 1750-1818), a Federalist, liberate 23 of their number held captive by the U.S. Marshal at Bethlehem. (Tinkcom)
- Mar. 8, 1799 Future Pennsylvania political boss and PRR ally Simon Cameron (1799-1889) born at Maytown, Lancaster County, Pa.; son of Charles Cameron ( - ), a tailor, and Martha Pfoutz Cameron. (Ellis/Evans, CongBio)
- Mar. 12, 1799 Ground broken for the first part of the Centre Square Water Works in Philadelphia; underground conduit runs from Chestnut Street and Schuylkill River under Chestnut & Broad Streets to a steam pumping station and elevated reservoir in Centre Square, now the site of City Hall; the engines are to be built by Nicholas J. Roosevelt at his Soho Works to the design of Benjamin Henry Latrobe. (Scharf, Pursell, Gibson)
- Mar. 12, 1799 Pres. John Adams orders Pennsylvania tax protesters to submit and orders troops sent from Lancaster to suppress "Fries Rebellion"; tax protests soon end and protesters submit voluntarily. (FrsReb)
- Mar. 12, 1799 Austria declares war on France, having goaded the Directory into sending troops across the Rhine; with Napoleon isolated in Egypt, the French armies are unsuccessful. (Mostert)
- Mar. 14, 1799 William Weston reports favorably on a plan to supply New York City with fresh water from the Bronx River with a combination of canals and iron pipes. (Stokes, Blake)

- Mar. 15, 1799 Pennsylvania Legislature defeats the bill to grant the proceeds of auction duties to the City of Philadelphia to finance its steam pump water system. (Blake)
- Mar. 15, 1799 First Company of the Great Western Turnpike Road incorporated in N.Y. to build from Albany to Cherry Valley, the main road leading west from the city. (PL)
- Mar. 27, 1799 Poughkeepsie, N.Y., incorporated as a village. (French)
- Mar. 29, 1799 New York grants a new steamboat monopoly to Robert R. Livingston, Nicholas J. Roosevelt (his mechanic) and John Stevens (his brother-in-law) for 20 years from June 1, 1799. (PL, Petition of Livingstons)
- Mar. 29, 1799 Richard Davis Wood (1799-1869), a future PRR director and founder of a multifaceted industrial empire that will evolve into the Wawa convenience store chain, is born at Greenwich, in present Cumberland County, N.J.; son of West Jersey Quakers Richard Wood (1755-1822) and his second wife, Elizabeth Bacon Wood (1776-1826). (WdFmlyPprs, Wood)
- Apr. 1, 1799 Militia units leave Lancaster to put down Fries Rebellion. (Mathews/Hngfrd)
- Apr. 1, 1799 Postmaster General Joseph Habersham establishes a government-owned mail line between Philadelphia and Baltimore using sulkies because of the poor service rendered by Dunnachey, Bicknell & Co.; William Evans continues to operate the Baltimore-Alexandria leg; regular government stagecoaches begin running in May; the government line continues to operate until 1818. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- Apr. 1, 1799 Daily mail coach lines established between Baltimore and Alexandria and between Baltimore and Philadelphia. (Scharf)
- Apr. 1, 1799 County seat of Wayne County, Pa., moved from Milford to Wilsonville. (Long)
- Apr. 2, 1799 New York act “for supplying the City of New York with pure and wholesome water” incorporates “The President & Directors of the Manhattan Company” through the actions of Aaron Burr and other Republicans; although its primary purpose is to provide the city with clean drinking water and 2,000 of 40,000 shares may be subscribed by the city; it is allowed to employ its surplus capital dealing in securities or in banking, thus creating a Republican bank to counter the Federalist Bank of New York and the Bank of the United States. (PL, Stokes, Trager)

- Apr. 3, 1799 Pa. act moves the state capital from Philadelphia to Lancaster effective the first Monday of Oct. 1799; Lancaster is chosen as a compromise between partisans of Wrights Ferry (Columbia) and Harrisburg. (Scharf)
- Apr. 4, 1799 Pennsylvania passes the Compromise Act recognizing Connecticut claims of actual settlers in place before the Decree of Trenton; Pennsylvania claimants are to be compensated with land or money. (Harvey)
- Apr. 5, 1799 Pennsylvania declares Dunkards Creek up to the main fork to be a public highway. (PL)
- Apr. 6, 1799 Pennsylvania Senate defeats the bill to grant the auction duties to the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company to finish its canal. (Blake)
- Apr. 6, 1799 French retreat back across the Rhine. (Mostert)
- Apr. 8, 1799 Pennsylvania act authorizes a state road from Newberry towards Painted Post, N.Y. (Meginness/Lycoming)
- Apr. 10, 1799 Pennsylvania declares the Little Schuylkill River to be a public highway from George Roush's sawmill up to Jacob Shelley's sawmill. (PL)
- Apr. 10, 1799 Pennsylvania act appropriates \$5,000 for improving the road from Milesburg to Erie, to be paid from the sale of reserved lands and lots in the towns of Erie, Franklin, Warren and Waterford. (McKnight)
- Apr. 11, 1799 Manhattan Company holds its first meeting; Samuel Osgood, John B. Coles and John Stevens are appointed a committee to report on the best means of supplying the city with water. (Stokes)
- Apr. 11, 1799 Pennsylvania declares Fishing Creek from the mouth to the forks in Northumberland (now Columbia) County to be a public highway. (PL)
- Apr. 26, 1799 William Weston reports to the Manhattan Company recommending the use of iron water pipes and submitting costs for a steam pumping engine, well and reservoir. (Stokes)
- Apr. 29, 1799 Nicholas J. Roosevelt writes to the Manhattan Company committee offering to build a steam engine capable of raising 2 million gallons a day for \$15,000. (Stokes)
- Apr. 29, 1799 Austro-Russian army commanded by Marshal Aleksandr Vasilievich Suvorov (1730-1800) enters Milan; the French have already withdrawn from Naples. (Mostert)
- May 6, 1799 Committee of the Manhattan Company accepts a revised offer from

Nicholas J. Roosevelt to provide a steam engine capable of raising 300,000 gallons per day for \$9,500; committee then recommends acceptance by the full company; recommends in favor of reopening the pre-Revolutionary well and pumping site near the Collect Pond and in favor of wooden pipes.. (Stokes)

- May 7, 1799 Merchant and speculator William Duer (1747-1799) dies in debtors' prison in New York City; he is the ancestor of future PRR Electrical Engineer John Van Buren Duer. (JSDavis)
- May 14, 1799 First drawing of the New York State Road Lottery held at Albany. (Reynolds)
- May 15, 1799 Manhattan Company resolves to employ its surplus capital by opening an office of discount and deposit. (Stokes)
- May 1799 Society of Friends opens the Westtown Boarding-School near West Chester for the education of their children of both sexes. (Futhey)
- May 1799 Soldiers beat Irish-born radical William Duane (1760-1835), editor of the Philadelphia *Aurora*, the leading U.S. Republican newspaper; Duane is prosecuted under the Sedition Act, but the trial is suspended when he begins publishing intercepted letters detailing collusion between the Federalists and the British ambassador and government in Canada. (Taylor)
- May 1799 Benjamin Tappan, Jr. (-1857), son of Benjamin Tappan of Northampton, Mass., one of the proprietors of the Western Reserve, sets out to settle his father's land in what is now Ravenna Township, Ohio, in company with David Hudson (-), the soon-to-be founder of Hudson, Ohio; after a very difficult journey along the lakes and up the Cuyahoga River, they arrive at their respective destinations; Tappan is obliged to cut a road from present Boston, Summit County, to present Ravenna. (Perrin, HistPrtgCo)
- May 17, 1799 Western Inland Lock Navigation Company pays a 3% dividend. (Reynolds)
- May 20, 1799 Napoleon breaks off the siege of Acre in Palestine, after appalling losses inflicted by the Ottoman Turkish defenders and a small British naval force led by Admiral Sir William Sydney Smith (1764-1840), who has managed to capture all of Napoleon's siege artillery as it was being sent forward by sea; Napoleon's advance on Constantinople is blocked, and he returns to Egypt. (Mostert)
- May 23, 1799 City of Philadelphia contracts with Nicholas J. Roosevelt of the Soho Works to build two twin steam engines for its water supply system. (Blake)
- June 1, 1799 Original association to build a bridge over the Raritan River incorporated as

the Proprietors of the New Brunswick Bridge. (JSDavis)

- June 4, 1799      Austrians reoccupy Zurich. (Lefebvre, Blanning)
- June 1799      Steamboat of John Stevens and Nicholas J. Roosevelt, with the first U.S. non-condensing, double-acting steam engine built by Charles Stoudinger, James Smallman and John Hewitt, runs from Belleville, N.J., down the Passaic River to New York and back at a speed of about 3.5 MPH; the vibrations of the engine wrack the boat and open pipe seams; the trip is not a success. (Nevins)
- June 18, 1799      Jacobins in the Councils backed by the generals force a reorganization of the French Directory and move the government to the left. (Lefebvre)
- June 19, 1799      The Parthenopean Republic collapses as the *Sanfedismo* army of Cardinal Ruffo, aided by the British fleet, secures the surrender of Naples. (wiki)
- June 20, 1799      John Holland Barney (1752-1840), the older brother of Commodore Joshua Barney, and James Bryden establish the Dilligence Line of stages between Baltimore and Alexandria and begins a rate war with William Evans, his former partner on the Philadelphia-Baltimore line. (ColHS 50)
- June 22, 1799      Russia pledges additional troops for an invasion of Holland in return for further British subsidies. (wiki)
- June 24, 1799      Horatio Nelson returns in force to Naples, where he ends a truce between the Parthenopean republicans on one side and Neapolitans loyal to King Ferdinand IV on the other; over the next months, all who had sided with the French, including many aristocrats and high officials, are summarily executed by the Royalists. (Mostert)
- June 26, 1799      Pres. Adams reopens U.S. trade with the ports of Cap François and Port Republicain (formerly Port-au-Prince) in Sante Domingue, effective Aug. 1. (avalon.law)
- July 3, 1799      Swiftsure Line of stagecoaches established between Paulus Hook and Philadelphia via Old York Road through Coryell's Ferry (Lambertville), Somerville, Scotch Plains, Springfield and Newark. (Lane, Holmes/Rohrbach)
- July 3, 1799      Gov. Thomas Mifflin contracts with Samuel Miles (1738/40-1805) and Roger Alden of Philadelphia to build the state road from Milesburg to Erie, located in 1796-97, for \$5,000. (McKnight)
- July 12, 1799      Parliament passes the Combination Act outlawing the formation of labor unions. (Mercer)

- July 19, 1799 Benjamin Henry Latrobe is elected a member of the American Philosophical Society. (Hamlin)
- July 25, 1799 Napoleon destroys a large Ottoman army making an amphibious landing at Aboukir in the Nile Delta. (Mostert)
- July 26, 1799 Pennsylvania contracts with Benjamin Wistar Morris (1762-1825), a member of the Pine Creek Company, to build the road from Newberry towards Painted Post, N.Y.; the road is finished early in 1800. (Meginness/Lycoming)
- Aug. 1, 1799 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company appoints a committee to report on the condition of both canal companies and the managers of Lottery No. 2. (MB)
- Aug. 13, 1799 An Anglo-Russian force under Frederick Augustus, Duke of York (1763-1827), embarks on an attack on the Netherlands to restore the House of Orange. (Mostert)
- Aug. 1799 John Nicholson enters debtor's prison in Philadelphia. (Arbuckle, Rappleye)
- Aug. 1799 Heavy rains in Great Britain mark beginning of several years of bad harvests, shortages and inflation. (Hague)
- Aug. 1799 Financial collapse in Hamburg after the Bank of Amsterdam stops advances; repercussions spread to the London market. (Lefebvre, Van Winter)
- Aug. 22, 1799 Daniel McElherren lays out the settlement of Pultney one mile below the site of present Bellaire, Ohio. (ATMcKelvey)
- Aug. 22, 1799 Napoleon leaves Egypt for France, having squandered his forces in a futile conquest of Egypt and a campaign into Palestine; he leaves Gen. Jean Baptiste Kléber (1753-1800) in command and arrives in Paris on Oct. 16. (Mostert)
- Aug. 27, 1799 The British force lands in Holland. (Lefebvre)
- Aug. 30, 1799 The British take the surrender of half the entire Dutch navy without a fight after Orangist sailors mutiny; the Russians arrive as reinforcements; however, the bulk of the population is not eager for a restoration of Stadtholder Willem V. (wiki, Lefebvre)
- Sep. 1, 1799 Bank of the Manhattan Company opens at a site that is later 40 Wall Street

in New York. (Stokes)

- Sep. 1, 1799 Future stagecoach proprietor Lucius Whitham Stockton (1799-1844) born at Flemington, N.J.; son of Lucius Whitham Stockton (1771-1808) and grandnephew of stagecoach proprietor John Noble Cumming (1752-1821). (wikitree)
- Sep. 1, 1799 David Hudson begins clearing the settlement of Hudson, Ohio. (Perrin)
- Sep. 27, 1799 The Russians are defeated at Zurich and driven out of Switzerland, a result they blame on the desertion of their Austrian allies; the Second Coalition begins to disintegrate. (Lefebvre, Mostert)
- Sep. 27, 1799 Marshall Suvorov forces the French to withdraw from the Papal States, but learning of the defeat at Zurich, withdraws and goes into winter quarters in Bavaria; the French are pushed back into the area around Genoa. (Mostert)
- Oct. 6, 1799 The Anglo-Russian army is defeated at Castricum in the Netherlands. (wiki)
- Oct. 8, 1799 Moderate Democratic-Republican Thomas McKean (1734-1817) elected Gov. of Pennsylvania, replacing non-partisan Thomas Mifflin; cements a growing Jeffersonian majority in Pennsylvania. (Tinkcom)
- Oct. 16, 1799 Napoleon returns to Paris, where he is drawn into a plot by Talleyrand to overthrow the Directory, which has proved incompetent as well as corrupt; Talleyrand wants a strong military figure to force reforms. (Mostert)
- Oct. 18, 1799 Frederick Augustus, Duke of York, signs the Convention of Alkmar, granting an armistice, and evacuates the Netherlands; the British retain the captured Dutch ships. (Lefebvre)
- Oct. 19, 1799 Future anthracite coal pioneer Lewis Audenried (1799-1873) born at Maiden Creek, Berks County, Pa. (Munsell/Schuylkill)
- Oct. 21, 1799 Benjamin H. Latrobe spends three days trying to bring water into the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal and measure seepage. (MB)
- Oct. 22, 1799 James Brindley leaves Harpers Ferry after completing his work and returns to Philadelphia; the armory goes into production around 1800; most of the skilled gunsmiths come from Pennsylvania; however, the site is unhealthy and plagued by malaria, and the local residents live in isolation and have pre-modern work habits. (MRSmith)
- Oct. 22, 1799 Russia withdraws from the Second Coalition. (Lefebvre)
- Oct. 29, 1799 Seaford, Del., laid out by John Hooper, Thomas Hooper and John Tennant.



(Scharf)

- Nov. 1, 1799 Capital of Pennsylvania moved from Philadelphia to Lancaster. (Long)
- Nov. 2, 1799 New Jersey abolishes the requirement that stagecoach operators need to purchase licenses, enacted in 1786, retroactive to Jan. 1, 1798, the Treasury to make refunds. (PL)
- Nov. 9, 1799 Napoleon Bonaparte overthrows the Directory in a *coup d'etat*. (Mostert)
- Nov. 14, 1799 Manhattan Company advertises the completion of the first phase of its water supply system using a horse-powered pump. (Blake)
- Nov. 16, 1799 Benjamin H. Latrobe reports to the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company that he has repaired the banks and managed to get 9 to 20 inches of water in the canal. (MB)
- Nov. 28, 1799 Frigate *U.S.S. Philadelphia* is launched at the yard of Joshua Humphreys, a gift of the citizens of Philadelphia to the new Navy. (Scharf)
- Dec. 1, 1799 County seat of Adams County, Northwest Territory, changed from Adamsville to Washington. (Long)
- Dec. 3, 1799 Pennsylvania Legislature convenes in Lancaster, marking the transfer of the capital from Philadelphia; Lancaster was chosen after partisans of Harrisburg and Wrights Ferry (Columbia) had fought to a draw for two years; the move removes the government from certain port-related sources of income at Philadelphia, and Gov. Mifflin notes in his opening message that state taxes will be necessary for the first time. (Scharf)
- Dec. 7, 1799 Maryland incorporates the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Company conditional on Pennsylvania agreeing to clear the Susquehanna below Columbia. (PL)
- Dec. 12, 1799 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company authorizes a final settlement with Assistant Engineer Robert Brooke. (MB)
- Dec. 13, 1799 Northwest Territory enacts a revised road law permitting county commissioners to levy a road tax as an alternative to calling on the donation of citizen labor. (PL)
- Dec. 14, 1799 George Washington (1732-1799) dies at Mount Vernon. (WwaW)
- Dec. 15, 1799 A new government, the Consulate, is proclaimed in France with three Consuls as executives and three elected legislative bodies; Napoleon Bonaparte takes the title of First Consul and expands his powers into that of

military dictator. (Mostert)

- Dec. 18, 1799 Pennsylvania Gov. Thomas McKean removes 24 Federalist office holders. (Tinkcom)
- Dec. 22, 1799 Pennsylvania Gov. Thomas McKean awards the post of Secretary of the Land Office to Tench Coxe, who has led his election campaign; McKean aims to make a clean sweep of the Land Office to root out the corruption that ran rampant under Gov. Mifflin and Surveyor General Daniel Brodhead. (Cooke)
- Dec. 24, 1799 City of Philadelphia signs a second contract with Nicholas J. Roosevelt to lease a lot of land on the Schuylkill River and the surplus power of the Schuylkill River pumping station to operate a rolling mill. (Blake)
- Dec. 25, 1799 Napoleon extends peace feelers to George III and the Emperor Francis to buy time for reconstruction, but these are rejected; Napoleon then resolves to carry the war to the Empire by invading Italy. (Mostert)
- Dec. 25, 1799 Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin (1770-1840), a Russian nobleman who has become a Catholic priest, holds his first Mass in his new church at the religious colony (which he later names Loretto) on the headwaters of Clearfield Creek due west of the future site of Altoona; the site has been given to the Church by Michael McGuire (d. 1793) a Catholic settler from Maryland with the object of establishing a full Catholic community west of the Allegheny Mountain; Gallitzin's name is later given to the town where the PRR crosses the summit. (demetriusgallitzin.org)
- Dec. 31, 1799 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company Board authorizes applying to the Legislature for a loan to pay the debt to the Bank of North America and improve the bed of Swatara Creek; also bringing suit against John Thorne, Jr., and others, for embezzlement of company property. (MB)
- 1799 Pennsylvania and Maryland reach a compromise whereby Pa. assents to the clearing of the Susquehanna River below Wrights Ferry and Maryland consents to the charter of the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal. (verify Brown says law of this year makes it illegal to clear below Wrights Ferry)
- 1799 William Weston returns to England, having made sufficient moneys to retire, although many of his projects remain incomplete; last project was advice and design of piers for Schuylkill Permanent Bridge Company. (DAB, Kirby)
- 1799 Potomac Company has completed clearing the river bed as far as Georges Creek, 28 miles above Cumberland but cannot achieve year-round passage of boats with 50 bbl. of flour as per charter. (Bacon-Foster)

- 1799 Francis Patterson (1765-1845) and family including his wife Ann Graham Patterson (1772-1857) and son, the future Gen. Robert Patterson (1792-1881), arrive at Morton, Delaware County; Patterson has been a general in the defeated army of the United Irishmen and had been sentenced to be hanged, which was commuted to banishment; they are the parents of future PRR Pres. William Chamberlain Patterson. (CInl&RevFmlsPa, Watkins)
- 1799 Enoch Lewis (1776-1856) begins a teaching career at the Quaker's Westtown School near West Chester; he teaches there, or at his own academies at Radnor and Wilmington, Del., until 1836, when he resumes work as a surveyor and engineer. (Futhey)
- 1799 Berkhard (?) Moser settles on the site of Tamaqua, Pa., and builds a sawmill. (Munsell)
- 1799 Philadelphia merchant Louis Anastasius Tarascon, who had come from France in 1794, sends two of his clerks, Charles Brugiere and James Berthoud, to examine the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers from Pittsburgh to New Orleans to see if ships can be built and loaded at Pittsburgh and sailed directly to the West Indies. (PRRMensNews)
- 1799 After years of mutual antipathy with the Virginia's Republicans, the Bank of the United States opens a branch in Norfolk with a capital of \$600,000. (Starnes)
- 1799 Paul Busti (1749-1824) replaces Theophile Cazenove as resident agent for the Holland Land Company at Philadelphia. (Chazanof)
- 1799 Party under Benjamin Ellicott completes the West Transit Line, the central meridian of the Holland Land Purchase, 32 miles west of the East Transit Line laid out in 1798; other parties complete the division into ranges and townships. (Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- 1799 Value of Maryland's exports peak at \$16,299,609. (Bryan)
- 1799 Ebenezer Zane's son-in-law John McIntire lays out the town of Westbourne on Zane's land where Zane's Trace crosses the Muskingum River; it is renamed Zanesville in 1801. (wiki - some have 1797)
- 1799 A group of settlers from Washington County, Pa., led by Ephraim Quinby and Richard Storer, are the first to locate on the site of Warren, Ohio, which is named for its surveyor, Moses Warren; it becomes for a time the principal settlement in the entire Western Reserve. (Trumbull/Mahoning)
- 1799 Deacon David Hudson, from Bradford (?), Conn., founds Hudson, Ohio.

(Allen)

- 1799 Poor harvests in Britain require the export of £3.5 million in specie to purchase foreign grain. (Lefebvre)
- 1799 Because of war and conquest, the reserves of the Bank of Amsterdam have fallen to 1.5 million florins, down from 13 million florins in 1793. (Lefebvre)
- 1799 There are now 50 merchant flour mills within 18 miles of Baltimore; 36 large merchant mills within 40 miles of Wilmington, Del. (Sharrer)
- 1799 Anthracite coal discovered at the future site of Carbondale, Pa., near the head of the Lackawanna Valley. (Harvey - verify)