

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

By Christopher T. Baer

1800 to 1809

May 2015 Edition

All data subject to correction and change

- Jan. 2, 1800 Former Pennsylvania Gov. and proponent of internal improvements Thomas Mifflin (1744-1800) dies a bankrupt alcoholic at age 56. (Sobel)
- Jan. 3, 1800 Maryland authorizes state loan of \$30,000 to the Proprietors of the Susquehanna Canal, of which \$5,000 is to be spent clearing the river. (PL)
- Jan. 4, 1800 Virginia act appoints trustees to improve Smith's River from the North Carolina line up to Blue Falls. (PL)
- Jan. 6, 1800 James C. Fisher is now Pres. of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company; managers now include Henry Drinker, Jr. (1757-1822), Elliston Perot (1747-1834), Samuel Magaw, William Read, George Roberts, Jr., and John Steinmetz; committee reports that the company now has only \$13,327 of liquid assets and the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company \$6,224, against \$217,000 in liabilities; propose that delinquent subscribers pay up or forfeit their shares and that a joint committee be appointed to liquidate the debts of both companies. (MB)
- Jan. 6, 1800 William Young elected Pres. of the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company; Ebenezer Hazard (1744-1817) and Peter S. Du Ponceau join the Board; other directors are Ebenezer Large, Elias Boudinot, James Vanuxem, and William Montgomery, Jr. (MB)
- Jan. 7, 1800 Virginia act appoints trustees to improve the Staunton (Roanoke) River as far as Linville Creek, and the Blackwater River as far as Hill & Company's forge. (PL)
- Jan. 1800 Baltimore Branch of the Bank of the United States extends credit, ending the financial crisis and rash of failures that had begun in the fall of 1799. (Browne)

- Jan. 1800 Following a bad harvest in 1799, wheat is at 100 s. per quarter in Britain. (Barnes)
- Jan. 1800 Gouverneur Morris arranges to surrender 1.5 million acres of Robert Morris's Genesee land to the Holland Land Company in return for a \$1,500 annuity to Robert's wife, Mary Morris, which is her sole support. (Chernow)
- Jan. 16, 1800 Oliver Evans (1755-1819), living and working in Philadelphia for some time, files a specification with the Patent Office covering an "improvement of stoves and grates," which he applies to a kiln drier for grain. (Bathe)
- Jan. 20, 1800 Virginia act declares the Monongahela River from the Pennsylvania state line to the West Fork, the Tygarts Valley River to John Nusum's mill, the West Branch to Edward Jackson's mill and Elk Creek to George Jackson's mill, all to be public highways; appears to be the state's first legislation declaring non-tidal streams to be public highways. (PL)
- Jan. 22, 1800 Adams County, Pa., created from the western part of York County with county seat at Gettysburg. (PL, Long)
- Jan. 25, 1800 Virginia act authorizes opening a road through Hampshire and Berkeley Counties (now W.Va.) to Washington, D.C. (PL)
- Feb. 3, 1800 Richard Fanning Loper (1800-1880), a sea captain who will also design an early propeller and run a line of freight steamboats on the Delaware & Raritan Canal, born at Stonington, Conn. (LibCong)
- Feb. 5, 1800 Dudley Sanford Gregory (1800-1874), future mayor of Jersey City and Counsel of the New Jersey Railroad & Transportation Company, born at Redding, Conn. (CongBio)
- Feb. 13, 1800 Centre County created from parts of Huntingdon, Lycoming, Mifflin and Northumberland Counties with county seat at Bellefonte. (PL, Long)
- Feb. 19, 1800 Pennsylvania act declares Shavers Creek up to James Crawford's mill in Huntingdon County a public highway. (PL)
- Feb. 27, 1800 John Stevens, Robert R. Livingston (1746-1813) and Nicholas J. Roosevelt (1767-1854) sign an agreement to build a steamboat with a 16-inch double-acting piston and stern paddles. (DuBois)
- Feb. 28, 1800 John Stevens, Robert R. Livingston and Nicholas J. Roosevelt sign a 20-year partnership to operate a steamboat. (DuBois)

- Mar. 1, 1800 Pennsylvania declares the Schuylkill River to be a public highway from Norwegian Creek (future Pottsville) up to the crossing of the Catawissa Road. (PL)
- Mar. 7, 1800 Frankford, Pa., now within the city limits of Philadelphia, incorporated as a town. (PL)
- Mar. 12, 1800 Crawford County, Pa., created from part of Allegheny County with county seat at Meadville; Armstrong County created from parts of Allegheny, Lycoming and Westmoreland Counties lying south of the Clarion River but without full organization; Beaver County created from parts of Allegheny and Washington Counties but without full organization; Butler County created from part of Allegheny County but without full organization; Mercer County created from part of Allegheny County but without full organization; Venango County created from parts of Allegheny and Lycoming Counties north of the Clarion River without full organization; Warren County created from parts of Allegheny and Lycoming Counties without full organization; Erie County created from part of Allegheny County without full organization. (PL, Long)
- Mar. 13, 1800 Pennsylvania act authorizes an appropriation of \$600 for a road from McConnellsburg to the state road on top of Rays Hill in Bedford County, and authorizes Isaac Meason and Zachariah Connell to build a toll bridge over the Youghiogheny River at Connellsville. (PL)
- Mar. 14, 1800 N.Y. act authorizes raising \$13,000 by lottery for improving the navigation of the Hudson River from Waterford to Lansingburgh. (PL)
- Mar. 15, 1800 Pennsylvania act establishes inspection and standards for flour made from corn and rye, those items having become significant exports. (PL)
- Mar. 15, 1800 Pennsylvania act appropriates \$450 for a road from David Beale's in Mifflin County over the mountains to George McMullin's in Shermans Valley in Cumberland County. (PL)
- Mar. 1800 Judge Christopher Hurlbut sends the first arks down the Canisteo River with wheat brought overland in winter from the Genesee Country; the Canisteo is narrow and full of riffles and can only be navigated by small rafts and arks Hurlbut builds a storehouse at Arkport to store goods until the spring freshets; Swing & Patterson send the first ark of wheat down the Cohocton from 5 miles below Bath. (Cowan/NYHist, EEBrown)
- Mar. 25, 1800 Newburgh, N.Y., incorporated as a village. (PL)
- Mar. 28, 1800 City of Philadelphia sells site and floating bridge at Market Street to Schuylkill Permanent Bridge Company for \$40,000. (PubLdgr)

- Mar. 31, 1800 The Pulteney Association has the title to its lands transferred to Sir William Pulteney and removes Charles Williamson as its New York agent because of his extravagance and replaces him with Robert Troup (1757-1832), a New York lawyer; Williamson has spent \$1 million in improvements, including roads, a race track and hotel, but received only \$150,000 in land sales. (Martin, Chazanof)
- Spring 1800 Major flood in the Susquehanna watershed after 72 hours of steady rain falls on a heavy snow pack. (HazReg)
- Apr. 1, 1800 Seneca Road Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from Utica to Canandaigua by turnpiking the old Genesee Road; becomes the main east-west road in central New York State. (PL)
- Apr. 1, 1800 Susquehanna Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from a point on the Connecticut state line at Salisbury to Wattle Ferry (Unadilla) on the North Branch of the Susquehanna River. (JSDavis)
- Apr. 4, 1800 In the wake of the depression of 1797-1800, Congress enacts the first Federal Bankruptcy Law, applicable only to merchants and traders, partly to enable financier Robert Morris to leave Philadelphia debtor's prison. (EAH)
- Apr. 4, 1800 Mohawk Turnpike & Bridge Company incorporated in N.Y. to build a bridge across the Mohawk at Schenectady and a turnpike thence to Utica. (PL)
- Apr. 9, 1800 Hother Hagé (1800-1872), future civil engineer in Pennsylvania, born at Copenhagen, Denmark, the son of Jens Friedrich Hagé and Gertrude Heitmann Hagé; at age 14, he graduates from the Royal University of Copenhagen. (BioDauphin)
- Apr. 9, 1800 Connecticut Land Company closes the sale of 15,560 acres, including the site of Youngstown, Ohio, to John Young (1763-1825) for \$16,085. (Trumbull/Mahoning)
- Apr. 15, 1800 New Pennsylvania Gov. Thomas McKean fires Surveyor-General Daniel Brodhead on complaints of irregularities in the management of the Land Office; Brodhead has been lax in the performance of his duties, which has facilitated the designs of the big land speculators. (Wilkinson)
- Apr. 23, 1800 Post route established from Wilkes-Barre to Canandaigua via Wyalusing, Athens, Newtown (Elmira) and Bath. (Bradsby)
- Apr. 28, 1800 Republicans sweep New York City and State elections, guaranteeing that the state's electoral votes will be cast for Thomas Jefferson; the victory is

orchestrated by Aaron Burr, who is rewarded with the vice presidential nomination; Pres. John Adams blames Alexander Hamilton and his British sympathies for the loss of New York. (Burrows/Wallace)

- Apr. 28, 1800 Congress finally accepts the cession of Connecticut's claim to jurisdiction over the Western Reserve lands in Ohio, retaining only the land title. (Long)
- May 1, 1800 Santee Canal opens between White Oak Bluff on the Santee River to the Biggins Church on the Cooper River above Charleston in South Carolina; the first summit canal between two drainage basins in the U.S., 22 miles, built under the supervision of Saxon-born engineer Johann Christian Senf (1754?-1806); enables the small boats used on the Santee River system to reach Charleston without putting to sea or transshipment. (Kapsch)
- May 7, 1800 Congress divides Northwest Territory along the line of the 1795 Greenville Treaty running from the mouth of the Kentucky River to Fort Recovery and then straight north to Canada; the eastern part is the Northwest Territory (Ohio & eastern Michigan) with capital at Chillicothe and the western part the Indiana Territory with a capital at Vincennes; the boundary is fixed by the lobbying of Arthur St. Clair, whose base is in Cincinnati; the Northwest Ordinance had suggested a line north from the mouth of the Great Miami, which would have placed Cincinnati at the western edge of the Northwest Territory and divided the well-settled territory around the city. (Thorpe, Long)
- May 10, 1800 New Land Act sponsored by William Henry Harrison (1773-1841) of Ohio reduces the minimum federal land purchase from 640 to 320 acres and extends payment period from 1 year to 4 years; land offices established at Cincinnati, Chillicothe, Marietta and Steubenville; increases immigration to Ohio Valley and 1 million acres sold in 1800-1802; liberal credit provisions encourage speculation in Western land. (EAH)
- May 12, 1800 Future Chief of Engineers Joseph G. Swift (1783-1865) appointed a cadet in the Corps of Artillerists & Engineers. (DAB)
- May 13, 1800 Elizabeth Willing Powel, widow of Samuel Powel (1738-1793), begins construction of a new "Powelton House" on present 32nd Street in West Philadelphia; the Powelton Estate will become the PRR's West Philadelphia yards and terminals. (Wood/PMHB 91)
- May 1800 William Scott establishes a stage coach line running from Lancaster through York and Gettysburg to Hagerstown and Frederick, Md. (Gibson)
- May 19, 1800 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company Board reports that it has agreed to a final settlement with William Weston, by which he is to receive a tract of land acquired from Samuel M. Fox for the right of way, plus a promissory

note for \$1,000 due in six months. (MB)

- May 19, 1800 George W. Neff (1800-1850), first Pres. of the Little Miami Railroad, born at Frankford, Pa.; he graduates from the College of New Jersey (Princeton) in 1818, and then reads law with Horace Binney (1780-1875), one of the leaders of the Philadelphia bar. (HistCinHamCo)
- May 21, 1800 Pres. John Adams pardons John Fries (1750-1818), who had been sentenced to hang for treason by a Federalist-dominated court; Adams's leniency splits the Federalist ranks (the Hamiltonians wanted Fries executed), while the memory of Fries's Rebellion extinguishes the Federalist party in Pennsylvania outside a few wealthy centers in the southeast and in Pittsburgh and makes dedicated Jeffersonian Republicans of the Germans and other farming groups. (FriesReb)
- May 26, 1800 First boat arrives in Charleston from Pinckney Court House via the Santee Canal. (Kapsch)
- May 30, 1800 U.S. government recognizes the land titles of the Connecticut settlers in the "Firelands" in the northwestern part of the state; in return, the government of the Western Reserve transfers jurisdiction to the U.S. (cityofbellevue.com)
- June 3, 1800 Pres. John Adams arrives in Washington marking the transfer of the Federal government from Philadelphia. (Arnebeck)
- June 14, 1800 Napoleon defeats the Austrians at the Battle of Marengo in northern Italy, regaining the momentum and forcing them to abandon Piedmont and Lombardy; on the same day, Gen. Jean Baptiste Kléber (1753-1800), commander of French occupation forces, is assassinated in Cairo. (Schom, Mostert)
- July 1, 1800 First public land sale registered at Steubenville Land Office. (Doyle)
- July 4, 1800 Thomas Pim Cope of the Philadelphia Watering Committee arrives at the Soho Works of Nicholas J. Roosevelt at present-day Belleville, N.J., to inspect the boring of the cylinders for the low-pressure pumping engine; Cope concludes from his conversations with Roosevelt that Latrobe has covered up the delays in building the engines and that Latrobe and Roosevelt have contracted to use the extra power of the Schuylkill pumping engine. (Cope, Bathe, Hamlin)
- July 4, 1800 Indiana Territory created from part of the Northwest Territory embracing all of modern Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and parts of Michigan and Minnesota; capital at Vincennes; Knox, Randolph and St. Clair become Indiana counties, and Wayne County loses all its land outside the remaining

Northwest Territory; capital of Northwest Territory moved from Cincinnati to Chillicothe. (Long)

- July 10, 1800 Connecticut grants the U.S. jurisdiction over the Western Reserve, which becomes Trumbull County, Northwest Territory (Ohio), created from parts of Wayne and Jefferson Counties; includes all of the Connecticut Western reserve and the Firelands with a county seat at Warren. (EncycClvIndHist, Long, Johnson/Cuyahoga)
- Aug. 1, 1800 Population of New York City is 60,515.
- Aug. 6, 1800 Future pioneer civil engineer Henry McEwen Pettit (1800-1847) born at Centre County, Pa.; son of William Pettit and Anna McEwen Pettit. (ancestry.com)
- Aug. 13, 1800 Future lawyer, Camden & Amboy Railroad Secretary and embezzler Jeremiah Haines Sloan (1800-1845) born. (ancestry.com)
- Aug. 1800 Test of Stevens-Livingston-Roosevelt steamboat is satisfactory with Stevens's paddles, but the vibrations of the heavier engine in a light hull open the joints in the engine; the engine is later sold to Charles Stouder of the Soho Works for use in a sawmill. (DuBois)
- Aug. 1800 Yellow fever hits Baltimore again; 1,197 die. (Chew/JER 25:4)
- Sep. 12, 1800 Future Main Line transporting merchant Jacob Dock (1800-1866) born at Newville, Cumberland County, Pa.; son of Philip Dock (1757-1830) and Elizabeth Killian Dock (1763-1848); the German name was apparently once written with an umlaut and is sometimes rendered as "Duck" in English. (rootsweb)
- Sep. 15, 1800 New York City Council, responding to a petition from Aaron Ogden and Jonathan Dayton, orders the construction of a pier built at the inner side of the Whitehall Street Slip near the Battery as the landing for the Staten Island and Elizabethtown ferries; Mr. Crane has leased the 5 Elizabethtown boats for 3 years; there are now 8 Staten Island boats; the Staten Island ferries have landed at Whitehall Street to this day. (Stokes)
- Sep. 1800 Cayuga Bridge Company opens a long bridge across the outlet of Cayuga Lake. (JSDavis)
- Sep. 30, 1800 U.S. Commissioners sign Treaty of Morfontaine with the French Consulate ending the quasi-war with France; takes effect Dec. 21, 1801; ends French seizure of Baltimore shipping; French Foreign Minister Talleyrand wants a quick peace in order to rebuild France's North American empire by acquiring Louisiana. (avalon.law, Mostert, Browne)

- Oct. 1, 1800 Holland Land Company general agent Paul Busti names Joseph Ellicott to be the local agent residing on the tract. (Ellis/Cattaraugus, French)
- Oct. 1, 1800 Secret Treaty of San Ildefonso transfers Louisiana from Spain to France; one of its clauses bars the future transfer to a third party (i.e., the U.S.) without Spain's consent. (EAH, Thorpe)
- Oct. 14, 1800 Democratic-Republicans score a great victory over the Federalists in Pennsylvania state elections; the Federalists are finished as a political force except in Philadelphia, Delaware, Chester, Lancaster, Adams, Huntingdon and Allegheny Counties. (Tinkcom)
- Oct. 1800 Joseph Ellicott (1760-1826) completes the Great Survey of the Holland Land Company's 3.3 million acres in western New York. (Chazanof)
- Oct. 18, 1800 First cornerstone laid for eastern abutment of Schuylkill Permanent Bridge at Market Street; originally intended to be a three-span stone arch. (Cope Diary, Powers, Shank)
- Oct. 28, 1800 650,000 acres of Pennsylvania lands owned by Robert Morris, including iron works and plantations at Morrisville, offered at bankruptcy sale; also 18,000 acres of John Nicholson's Pa. lands. (Cope Diary)
- Fall 1800 Alexander Brown (1764-1834), his wife and eldest son William Brown (1784-1864) emigrate from Ireland to Baltimore, where he establishes himself as a linen importer and later as the city's most eminent private banker; the elder Brown has run afoul of the British government during the troubles of 1798; his youngest brother, Stewart Brown (1769-) has settled in Baltimore in 1796. (Brown, Scharf)
- Nov. 1, 1800 Philadelphia merchants abandon reckoning by pounds, shillings and pence in favor of dollars and cents. (Scharf)
- Nov. 3, 1800 Aaron Ogden (1756-1839), Jonathan Rhea, Matthias Williamson, Jr. (1752-1836), et al. petition New Jersey Legislature for charter for a turnpike, the first in the state, from Paulus Hook to Trenton; is to run through Bayonne and cross Newark Bay on a long bridge similar to that later built by Central Railroad Company of New Jersey. (Thompson)
- Nov. 4, 1800 Joseph Schantz, anglicized to Johns (1749-1813), a Swiss farmer who had settled in the area in 1793, lays out "Conemaugh," also called Conemaugh Old Town and later Johnstown, at the head of the Conemaugh River. (Storey)
- Nov. 6, 1800 Future civil engineer and railroad president William Henry Swift (1800-

- 1879) born at Taunton, Mass.; son of Dr. Foster Swift and Deborah Delano Swift and younger brother of Joseph Gardner Swift (1783-1865). (WwasW)
- Nov. 10, 1800 Sons of Col. Ebenezer Zane of Wheeling found New Lancaster, Ohio, where Zane's Trace crosses the Hocking River; named for Lancaster, Pa.; shortened to Lancaster in 1805. (Miller, wiki)
- Nov. 12, 1800 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company and Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company Boards resolve to seek extensions of their charters which expire on Sep. 29, 1801 and Apr. 10, 1901, respectively. (MB)
- Nov. 1800 Paul Busti (1749-1824) replaces Theophile Cazenove as American agent of the Holland Land Company at Philadelphia. (wiki - see 1799!)
- Nov. 17, 1800 Congress first convenes in Washington. (EAH)
- Nov. 22, 1800 James Franklin Doughty Lanier (1800-1881), future railroad financier and banker to Lines West, born at Washington, N.C., to an old Huguenot family. (Lanier)
- Dec. 1, 1800 Washington, D.C., officially designated the national capital.
- Dec. 1, 1800 Allegany Turnpike Company incorporated in Va. to build from the head of the Potomac River at the Savage River or Georges Creek to the nearest western river; nothing is done. (JSDavis)
- Dec. 2, 1800 Marietta, Ohio, incorporated as a town in the Northwest Territory. (PL)
- Dec. 5, 1800 Land speculator and patron of industrialization John Nicholson (1757-1800) dies in Philadelphia's Prune Street debtor's prison after suffering a complete mental and physical breakdown; leaves a widow and eight children in poverty, who are aided by a subscription among his friends; he owes his creditors \$12 million; the state has attached his lands and papers and operates a special Nicholson Court between 1806 and 1843 to recover funds. (Arbuckle, Cope Diary)
- Dec. 6, 1800 Athens, Ohio, established as a town and site of a future university on the lands of the Ohio Company in the Northwest Territory. (PL)
- Dec. 6, 1800 Clermont County, Northwest Territory (Ohio) created from part of Hamilton County with county seat at Williamsburg. (Long)
- Dec. 9, 1800 Fairfield County, Northwest Territory (Ohio) created from parts of Ross and Washington Counties with county seat at New Lexington. (Long)

- Dec. 1800 First of Benjamin H. Latrobe's steam pumping engines installed at the Philadelphia Water Works under the supervision of James Smallman (1763?-1821) of the Soho Works. (Pursell)
- Dec. 16, 1800 Russia and Sweden sign an armed neutrality pact to prevent British searches and seizures of neutral shipping in the Baltic; later joined by Denmark and Prussia; Tsar Paul I (1754-1801) seizes 300 British ships and imprisons their crews. (Mostert)
- Dec. 24, 1800 Virginia act declares the Little Kanawha River to be a public highway up to Bulltown in Harrison County. (PL)
- Dec. 26, 1800 First land sale registered at Marietta, Ohio. (Doyle)
- Dec. 28, 1800 Joseph Ellicott arrives at "New Amsterdam" (Buffalo, N.Y.) as the resident agent of the Holland Land Company in western New York; he makes his first land office at the house of Asa Ransom in Pine Grove, now Clarence Hollow in Erie County. (Chazanof, Ellis/Cattaraugus, French)
- Dec. 30, 1800 Maryland act allows persons advancing money to improve the road between Baltimore and Havre-de-Grace to collect tolls. (PL)
- 1800 Because of the ongoing Yankee migration westward, the population of New York State has increased from 340,000 in 1790 to 589,000 and is still rising; by 1810 the increase is nearly 300%. (Burrows/Wallace)
- 1800 The number of merchants listed in New York City directories has increased from 248 in 1790 to over 1,100; ambitious would-be entrepreneurs flood into the city from southern New England, England, Scotland, Ireland, France and Germany. (Burrows/Wallace)
- 1800 Abraham Browning, Sr. (1769-1836), establishes a ferry between present-day Market Street, Camden, and Market Street, Philadelphia. (Prowell, Boyer)
- 1800 Stage coaches first operated between Philadelphia and Long Branch, N.J., via Trenton, Allentown, and Monmouth Court House (Freehold). (Scharf)
- 1800 First regular service by sailing sloops commences between Philadelphia and Cape May; two inns in operation for summer guests, including the future Atlantic Hall, built by Ellis Hughes (1745-1817). (Alexander)
- 1800 Hampton Forge & Furnace built on the Batsto Branch of the Mullica River in the New Jersey Pine Barrens of Burlington County. (Swank)
- 1800 Weymouth Iron Works built on the Great Egg Harbor River 6 miles above

Mays Landing, N.J., by Joseph Ball, Charles Shoemaker, et al.; the tract eventually embraces 80,000 acres, including most of present Weymouth and Hamilton Townships, and much of Mullica and Galloway. (Hall)

- 1800 William Morris, one of the members of the old Norwegian Company, takes a wagon load of anthracite coal from near the site of Port Carbon to Philadelphia, where no one will buy it. (MnrsJrnl, Nolan/Unger)
- 1800 Ebenezer Slocum and Benjamin Slocum build a charcoal iron forge at Slocum Hollow on the site of present Scranton, Pa. (Munsell)
- ca. 1800 Village of Frankstown, Pa., established near the foot of Allegheny Mountain; with the construction of the Main Line of Public Works in the 1830s, it is overshadowed by Hollidaysburg. (Africa)
- ca. 1800 Gen. James O'Hara of Allegheny County, Pa., begins importing salt from Salina (Syracuse), N.Y.; it is hauled to Buffalo by wagon, then by boat to Erie and by ox teams over the old French Road to Waterford, from which it is floated down the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers to Pittsburgh, Wheeling and Marietta; the trade lasts until about 1812, when it is superseded by salt from the Kiskiminetas Valley. (HistCrawfrdCo)
- 1800 Coal discovered on the James Allison Tract in later Chartiers Township, Washington County, Pa.; used by local blacksmiths but not worked on a large scale until the building of the Chartiers Railway in 1874. (Crumrine)
- 1800 Ephraim Cutler (1767-1853), son of Manasseh Cutler of Mass., claims to be the first to drive cattle from the Ohio country to the East; the Scioto and Miami Valleys of Ohio become prime cattle-grazing country. (Mould)
- 1800 Mail service extended west to Vincennes, Ind. (Smith)
- 1800 Postmaster General Joseph Habersham (1751-1815) divides the post offices into "distributing" post offices at hubs where mail is sorted and "common" post offices where mail is merely collected as given out; the system remains in place until replaced by railway post offices with mail sorted en route in the 1860s, and is resurrected in a different form a century later with the present Zip Code system. (John)
- 1800 The value of Maryland's exports is now nearly three times that of Virginia's, \$12,264,331 to \$4,430,689. (Starnes)
- 1800 Population of Louisville, Ky., is only 359. (Klein)
- 1800 Coal production of Great Britain is 11 million tons, up from only 5 million tons in 1760; pig iron production has increased from 30,000 tons to 250,000

- tons over the same period. (Pawson)
- ca. 1800 George W. Geer, later PRR Master of Machinery at Altoona, born in Lower Marion Township near present-day Bryn Mawr. (Africa)
- ca. 1800 Samuel Homfray (1762-1822), Richard Fothergill (1758-1821) and Matthew Monkhouse lease 3,000 acres and begin the Tredegar Iron Works in South Wales. (gracesguide.co.uk)
- Jan. 1, 1801 Post office name of Monmouth Court House, N.J., changed to Freehold. (Ellis, Long)
- Jan. 1, 1801 Great Britain and Ireland are merged into the United Kingdom under the Act of Union, abolishing the separate Irish Parliament in favor of representation in the British Parliament at Westminster; Prime Minister William Pitt hopes to cement the union, and incidentally prevent a repeat of the 1798 uprising and French invasion, by restoring civil rights to Irish Catholics for the first time since the Reformation; George III, who is conventionally pious, believes that his coronation oath demands that he defend the establishment of the Anglican Church; as a result, Irish nationalism becomes almost completely Catholic, with the Ulster Presbyterians and Church of Ireland Anglicans bound to the Union as their only defense against Catholic domination, a division that only begins to subside after two centuries and much sectarian violence. (Taylor, wiki)
- Jan. 10, 1801 William Henry Harrison (1773-1841) arrives at Vincennes and assumes position as Governor of Indiana Territory. (Esarey)
- Jan. 13, 1801 Meeting held at Wilmington, Del., in support of a charter for the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal. (Lincoln)
- Jan. 13, 1801 Sheriff of Northumberland County deeds a number of coal tracts originally owned by John Nicholson and Robert Morris to the First Bank of the United States after sale at foreclosure of a mortgage granted to the Bank; done to eliminate rival claims; the bulk of the lands later pass to Stephen Girard with other assets of the First Bank. (McMaster, Hoffman)
- Jan. 14, 1801 Britain closes its ports to all Russian, Swedish and Danish vessels. (Mostert)
- Jan. 1801 Philadelphia *Aurora* carries a British account describing horse railroads. (Scharf)
- Jan. 1801 Second pumping engine installed at the Centre Square pumping station of the Philadelphia Water Works under the supervision of James Smallman of the Soho Works; Smallman remains in Philadelphia to operate the steam-

powered rolling mill attached to the Schuylkill pumping station; the Centre Square engine is contained in a circular Greek temple designed by Benjamin Henry Latrobe, which creates clearance problems for accessing the machinery, and the elevated storage tank drains every 25 minutes; fuel-wood man maintenance of the engines is expensive. (Pursell, Gibson)

- Jan. 18, 1801 Future Pittsburgh transporting merchant Thomas Shields Clarke (1801-1867) born in Canonsburg, Pa.; son of William Clarke and Agnes Shields Clarke. (StdHstPitts)
- Jan. 19, 1801 Virginia act appoints commissioners to consider how the turnpike roads leading from Alexandria to Snickers, Ashby's and Vestal Gaps in the Blue Ridge Mountains are to be repaired. (PL)
- Jan. 20, 1801 Pres. John Adams appoints John Marshall (1755-1835) Chief Justice of U.S. Supreme Court; Marshall serves for 34 years and authors most of the court's important decisions, most of which use the Constitution to curb state interference with personal rights. (EAH)
- Jan. 20, 1801 Virginia act appropriates \$1,000 to lay out a direct road from Culpeper through Fairfax to Alexandria. (PL)
- Jan. 21, 1801 Delaware act establishes a ferry across the Delaware River at New Castle. (Scharf)
- Jan. 26, 1801 Resolution of the Indiana Territorial Legislature authorizes the Gov. to establish public ferries. (PL)
- Jan. 26, 1801 Future China merchant and railroad investor William Shepard Wetmore (1801-1862) born at St. Albans, Vt., the descendant of an old Connecticut Yankee family. (wiki)
- Jan. 27, 1801 First Philadelphia Water Works placed in service with intake and pumping engine on Schuylkill River at Chestnut Street and main pumping station in Centre Square (Broad & Market Streets); designed by Benjamin Henry Latrobe (1764-1820) with Watt-type engines built by Nicholas J. Roosevelt (1767-1854) at his Soho Works in present-day Belleville, N.J. (Walther, Cope Diary, Blake)
- Jan. 29, 1801 Delaware incorporates Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Company after Pennsylvania agrees to let it copy all colonial land records pertaining to the Three Lower Counties and modify its quarantine laws. (Gray, PL)
- Jan. 31, 1801 Pennsylvania declares Neshannock Creek from its mouth to the junction of Otter and Mill Creeks to be a public highway. (PL)

- Feb. 3, 1801 Indiana Territory Gov. William Henry Harrison recreates Gov. St. Clair's original counties, Randolph, Knox and St. Clair, with new boundaries in an attempt to gerrymander his political enemies; Clark County created from part of Knox with a county seat at Springville. (Long)
- Feb. 9, 1801 Having been mauled by Napoleon in a series of battles, Austria signs the Peace of Lunéville with France, confirming prior French conquests and recognizing French puppet states of the Batavian, Cisalpine and Helvetican Republics; leaves Britain as the sole survivor of the Second Coalition. (Schom, Mostert)
- Feb. 11, 1801 Electoral College finds Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) and Aaron Burr (1756-1836) tied for the presidency, defeating the Federalist candidates, John Adams (1735-1826) and Charles Cotesworth Pinckney (1746-1825); the election is thrown into the House of Representatives, in which the Republicans lack the necessary majority; Alexander Hamilton considers Burr to be the more dangerous of the two. (EAH, Burrows/Wallace)
- Feb. 12, 1801 The President, Managers & Company of the Germantown & Perkiomen Turnpike Road incorporated to build between 3rd & Vine Streets, Philadelphia, and the new stone Perkiomen Bridge (Collegeville). (PL)
- Feb. 16, 1801 William Pitt resigns as First Lord of the Treasury (Prime Minister) over George III's refusal to grant Catholic emancipation in Ireland; because the King soon falls into one of his spells of insanity, a new government cannot be formed until Mar. 14. (wiki, Mostert)
- Feb. 17, 1801 U.S. House chooses Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) to be the third President on the 36th ballot, after moderate Federalist Rep. James A. Bayard (1767-1815) of Delaware breaks ranks and switches his vote to Jefferson; Aaron Burr (1756-1836) becomes VP; Burr, representative of Northern, urban Republicanism, and Jefferson, the leader of the Southern planter version, become bitter enemies; Jefferson's election is the result of the "three-fifths rule" of the Constitution that counts each slave as three-fifths of a person in apportionment; as the slaves have neither the vote nor any other civil rights, the votes of whites in slaveholding areas count for more than those in non-slave areas in national elections and in the electoral college. (EAH, Howe, Taylor)
- Feb. 17, 1801 Hearings on New Jersey Turnpike bill conclude; opposed by Proprietors of Passaic & Hackensack Bridges and shipping interests; no bill reported; proposal also defeated in 1801-02 session; movement switches to many small local turnpikes instead of one large one. (Thompson)
- Feb. 19, 1801 Pennsylvania charters Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Company and, acceding to Maryland's demand, also lifts the ban on persons or companies

clearing the Susquehanna River from Wrights Ferry down to the Maryland state line. (PL)

- Feb. 21, 1801 U.S. Navy purchases the first lots south of Prince Lane in Southwark to establish the Philadelphia Navy Yard; the yard property is sold to the PRR as a freight terminal when the Navy Yard moves to League Island in 1875. (Scharf)
- Feb. 21, 1801 Future Pres. of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad Richard C. Dale (1801-1866) born at Philadelphia; son of Navy Commodore Richard Dale (1756-1826). (BioEncycPa)
- Feb. 22, 1801 King George III suffers a second and more severe episode of insanity, perhaps triggered by the stress over the issue of civil rights for Irish Catholics; modern medical historians theorize that the King suffered from porphyria, a genetically-produced chemical imbalance, whose symptoms can include disorientation and delusions. (DNB, wiki)
- Feb. 23, 1801 Pennsylvania act authorizes the Gov. to seek a loan of \$20,000 from the state's banks. (PL)
- Feb. 27, 1801 Pennsylvania declares Codorus Creek from the Susquehanna River up to the forks in York County and the Conewago Creek up to Bermudian Creek to be public highways and appoints supervisors to see that there are provisions for passing the mill dams. (PL)
- Feb. 27, 1801 Congress assumes authority over District of Columbia; divides it into Washington County (ex-Md.) and Alexandria County (ex-Va.); recognizes state bank charters of the Bank of Columbia (Md.) and the Bank of Alexandria (Va.). (StatutesatLarge, EAH, JSDavis)
- Mar. 3, 1801 Congress passes the Naval Act of 1801 authorizing the sale of all naval vessels except 13 frigates, of which only 6 are to be in active service, and a sharp reduction in the number of naval personnel. (StatutesatLarge)
- Mar. 4, 1801 Thomas Jefferson inaugurated the third President; committed to decreasing the size and expense of the federal government, Jefferson quickly takes advantage of the Naval act and cancels the Navy's plans to construct six 74-gun ships-of-the-line while mothballing most of the frigates; Nicholas J. Roosevelt's Soho Works and the Schuyler Copper Mine had the contract to supply copper bottoms for the ships, resulting in a debt that Roosevelt is not able to settle until 1813; Roosevelt has also lost \$47,000 on the Philadelphia Water Works engines. (Mostert, DuBois, Hamlin)
- Mar. 6, 1801 King George III recovers and is able to resume his duties. (DNB)

- Mar. 14, 1801 William Pitt's resignation as First Lord of the Treasury (Prime Minister) is accepted with the appointment of Henry Addington (1757-1844) as his successor. (Hague, wiki)
- Mar. 14, 1801 John Daugherty plats the town of Springfield, Ohio, for James Demint, a settler from Kentucky. (Steels)
- Mar. 20, 1801 Newburgh & Cochection Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from Newburgh on the Hudson River to Cochection on the Delaware River; with the Cochection & Great Bend Turnpike in Pa., it becomes the main route into the Southern Tier of New York until rendered obsolete by the New York & Erie Railroad in the 1850s. (PL)
- Mar. 21, 1801 Spain's secret return of Louisiana to France is confirmed by the Treaty of Madrid. (EAH, Thorpe)
- Mar. 21, 1801 Flushing & Newtown Turnpike & Bridge Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from Flushing to Newtown, including a bridge over Flushing Creek at Flushing; completed ca. 1804. (PL)
- Mar. 23, 1801 The mentally unstable Tsar Paul I (1754-1801) is assassinated and succeeded by his son Alexander I (1777-1825), ending Napoleon's immediate hope of a Franco-Russian alliance against Britain. (, Barnes)
- Mar. 25, 1801 Thomas Jones Yorke (1801-1882), founder of the West Jersey Railroad, born at Hancock's Bridge, Salem County. (CongBio)
- Mar. 27, 1801 New York act appropriates \$2,000 in lottery money to improve the road from Kingston to Wattles Ferry (Unadilla) on the Susquehanna and \$6,500 to improve the road from Wattles Ferry to Catharines Town in Tioga County. (PL)
- Mar. 29, 1801 Charles Williamson transfers title to the Pulteney Purchase to the Pulteney Associates three days before the deadline for aliens to hold land in New York State. (HistSteubenCo)
- Mar. 31, 1801 "The President, Directors & Company of the Farmers Bank" incorporated at Troy, N.Y., with a capital of \$300,000. (PL)
- Apr. 2, 1801 Troy, N.Y., incorporated as a village. (French)
- Apr. 2, 1801 Admiral Horatio Nelson destroys the Danish Navy at Copenhagen in a pre-emptive strike; ends attempts by the Baltic countries to force an end to British searches of neutral shipping; the moving spirit of the Baltic alliance, the mentally unstable Tsar Paul I, has been assassinated on Mar. 23; his successor Alexander I lifts the embargo on British shipping, which has hurt

Russia's aristocratic landowners. (Hague, Mercer, Mostert)

- Apr. 6, 1801 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company sells two farms in Dauphin County and uses the proceeds to pay its debt of £5,310 to the Bank of North America. (MB)
- Apr. 6, 1801 N.Y. act authorizes raising an additional \$10,000 by lottery to improve the navigation of the Hudson River between Albany and Waterford. (PL)
- Apr. 6, 1801 First land sale registered at Cincinnati. (Doyle)
- Apr. 8, 1801 Mohawk Turnpike & Bridge Company authorized to build a branch north of the main road passing through Johnstown. (PL)
- Apr. 1801 Daily line of stage coaches established between Trenton and Philadelphia. (HistBurlMercer)
- Apr. 1801 Spain invades Portugal, bringing it into the French sphere of influence. (Blanning)
- Apr. 21, 1801 Joseph Vandegrift establishes a daily stage between Trenton and Philadelphia. (Woodward)
- Apr. 27, 1801 Republican former Gov. George Clinton (1739-1812) is elected Gov. of New York, defeating Federalist Stephen Van Rensselaer (1764-1839), popularly known as "The Patroon," the wealthiest man and largest landholder in the state; the Burr, Clinton and Livingston Republican factions unite for the contest in the wake of Jefferson's victory, but soon split apart; the Federalists are never able to win the governorship again and must make alliances with the more conservative Republicans. (JHammond, Fox)
- May 4, 1801 Samuel Vaughan Merrick (1801-1870), first Pres. of PRR, born near Hollowell, Maine, the son of John Merrick (1766-1862), a sometimes Unitarian minister, and Rebecca Vaughan Merrick (1766-1851); she is the daughter of British West Indian merchant Samuel Vaughan (1720-1802) and Sarah Hallowell (1727-1809) of Boston. (DAB, MassHS)
- May 4, 1801 Second Company of the Great Western Turnpike Road incorporated in N.Y. to build from Cherry Valley through Cooperstown to the Chenango River in Sherburne. (PL)
- May 9, 1801 Future Cumberland Valley Pres. Frederick Watts (1801-1889) born at Carlisle, Pa.; son of lawyer David Watts (1764-1819) (BioEncycPa)
- May 21, 1801 Surrey Iron Railway incorporated in England to build from a wharf on the

- Thames above London to Croydon, Surrey; first public railway to be incorporated in Great Britain, as opposed to colliery lines. (James)
- May 27, 1801 William Cook (1801-1865), future Chief Engineer of the Camden & Amboy Railroad, born at Hightstown, N.J. (MtHolHrld)
- June 23, 1801 Union Iron Works goes into operation as the first furnace in the Rhymney Valley of South Wales; built by David Evans, Thomas Williams, John Ambrose, and Richard Cunningham of Bristol. (butetownhistory)
- July 7, 1801 Pennsylvania contracts with Col. Frederick Antes (1764-1801) to improve the Susquehanna River from Wrights Ferry down to the Maryland state line with appropriation of £12,126; Christian Hauducoeur supervises the work in Maryland. (PaSenJrnl 1807/07, Kapsch)
- Summer 1801 Trials of Livingston-Stevens-Roosevelt steamboat reveals that the double-acting piston causes too much vibration. (Shagena)
- Aug. 1801 Gen. Daniel Brodhead sells the site of future Beaver Falls, Pa., then called Brighton, to David Hoopes of Chester County, for Hoopes, Townsend & Co. for the water power; they build a sawmill and grist mill. (Richard)
- Aug. 1801 William Strickland (1788-1854) enters the office of Benjamin Henry Latrobe, where he works until the summer of 1805. (Hamlin)
- Aug. 24, 1801 Democratic-Republican Edward Livingston (1764-1836) succeeds Federalist Richard Varick (1753-1831) as Mayor of New York City. (Vexler)
- Aug. 26, 1801 Robert Morris released from debtor's prison under the new bankruptcy law, impoverished and in broken health. (Rappleye)
- Sep. 2, 1801 Last French troops in Egypt surrender to British and Ottoman forces and embark for France. (Mostert)
- Sep. 5, 1801 First stone of eastern pier of Schuylkill Permanent Bridge at Market Street laid. (Powers)
- Sep. 7, 1801 Belmont County, Northwest Territory (Ohio), created from parts of Washington and Jefferson Counties with county seat at Pultney. (Long)
- Sep. 1801 Thomas Pim Cope resigns from the Watering Committee after numerous quarrels with Benjamin Henry Latrobe, whom he believes is using his position to feather his nest at the city's expense. (Hamlin)
- Sep. 1801 Pres. Thomas Jefferson revives the military school of the Corps of

Artillerists & Engineers at West Point, but it is small and ineffective.
(Corps of Engrs, Hill)

- Sep. 20, 1801 Col. Frederick Antes (1764-1801), who has the contract to improve the Susquehanna River, dies at Lancaster; his nephew, the British engineer Benjamin Henry Latrobe (1764-1820), assumes the work.
(Annals Buffalo Valley; Pa Sen Jnl 1807/08)
- Sep. 29, 1801 Treaty of Madrid ends war between Spain and England's ally Portugal and closes Portuguese ports to British shipping.. (Mercer)
- Oct. 1, 1801 Britain signs preliminary articles of peace with France, to be effective Oct. 22; Britain agrees to return all her conquests except Ceylon and Trinidad to France, Holland and Spain; France is to withdraw its troops from the Papal States and Naples; since 1793, the Royal Navy has doubled in size, while the French has been cut in half by losses. (Hague, Mostert)
- Oct. 1801 With the British blockade lifted, Napoleon prepares to reconquer Sante Domingue as a staging base for reasserting French power in Louisiana; Sante Domingue had accounted for half of France's oceanic commerce, which Napoleon hopes to recover. (Heinl, Mostert)
- Oct. 8, 1801 Napoleon signs a treaty with Russia. (Mercer)
- Oct. 30, 1801 First mail service in the Western Reserve established between Pittsburgh and Warren, Ohio, via Canfield and Youngstown. (Trumbull/Mahoning)
- Nov. 24, 1801 Albany & Schenectady Turnpike Company organized. (Reynolds)
- Nov. 24, 1801 Benjamin H. Latrobe makes report on improvement of Susquehanna below Wrights Ferry; has built a channel on the east side to Bald Friar Falls and then on west side to tidewater; suggests a channel on the east side from Columbia to Chickies Rocks; estimates work will require \$100,000 over five years (PropSusCanal AR)
- Nov. 27, 1801 Soho Company incorporated in N.J. by Nicholas J. Roosevelt, Arent J. Schuyler, John Stevens, Robert R. Livingston, Samuel Corp and James Casey. (Pam)
- Dec. 3, 1801 Robert R. Livingston arrives in Paris as minister plenipotentiary to negotiate free passage of U.S. shipping on the Mississippi River past French New Orleans; later expands into negotiation of Louisiana Purchase; Livingston's departure ends his partnership in steamboat experiments with John Stevens and Nicholas J. Roosevelt but eventually brings him into contact with Robert Fulton. (Dangerfield, Philip)

- Dec. 6, 1801 Future Camden & Atlantic Railroad Pres. John Chalmers DaCosta (1801-1875) born at Philadelphia. (findagrave)
- Dec. 14, 1801 Invasion force headed by Napoleon's brother-in-law Gen. Victor-Emanuel Leclerc (1772-1802) and 21,000 seasoned troops sails for Sante Domingue. (Mostert, Heintl)
- Dec. 21, 1801 Maryland act repeals the 1787 turnpike road act and orders the Baltimore County Levy Court to have roads leading north and west from city finished. (PL)
- Dec. 23, 1801 Staunton, Va., incorporated as a town. (PL)
- Dec. 31, 1801 "President & Directors of the Baltimore & Harford Bridge Company" incorporated in Maryland to build bridges over the Big Gunpowder, Little Gunpowder and Winter's Run on the post road between Baltimore and Havre-de-Grace. (PL)
- Dec. 31, 1801 Allegheny Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Maryland. (Blandi - or Allegany??)
- Dec. 31, 1801 Maryland act authorizes a lottery to raise \$2,000 to improve the Eastern Branch of the Potomac (Anacostia River) to Bladensburg. (PL)
- 1801 Loosening of British credit has ended the depression in the ports of the Atlantic Coast; U.S. exports have rebounded to \$93 million, or nearly twice the value in 1797; however, exports per capita peak this year, and the sustained growth of the 1790s is over; wholesale prices of export commodities such as wheat remain volatile without real growth through the War of 1812; exports cease to be the prime mover in U.S. economic growth, even before the Embargo. (Chew/JEH 25:4)
- 1801 Willett Mott begins the first stagecoach service between Flushing, N.Y., and the Brooklyn ferry. (Munsell/Queens)
- 1801 First direct Camden-Cape May stage coach line established, running via Winslow, Malaga, Port Elizabeth and Dennis Creek. (Boyer)
- 1801 Schuylkill Permanent Bridge Company decides to build a wooden bridge instead of the stone arches originally planned; engages Timothy Palmer (1751-1821) of Massachusetts, who had built several large bridges in New England; bridge is three spans of total 550 feet in length to be built on the existing piers, divided into two passageways; later used by PRR. (Shank, Powers)
- 1801 James River Company completes its sluice navigation from Lynchburg

through the Blue Ridge to Crow's Ferry, 220 miles above Richmond; begins improving the bed of the river from Lynchburg down to Westham and also improving the Rivanna and North Rivers. (Dunaway)

- 1801 Oliver Evans builds a small high-pressure steam engine with a 6-inch cylinder and 18-inch stroke at his shop on Market Street, where he uses it to grind plaster of paris (gypsum) for sale and to saw stone. (Bathe - note that this is from Evans's own memoirs, whose accuracy have been questioned by revisionist historians; the first public account is from Feb. 1803)
- 1801 Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce founded at meeting at City Tavern. (Scharf)
- 1801 Future banker Robert Garrett, age 18, moves from Washington County, Pa., to Baltimore, where he becomes a clerk in a house trading in western produce. (Williams)
- 1801 Schooner *Amity* of 120 tons, built at Pittsburgh by John A. Tarascon, Brothers, James Berthoud & Co. and sent to New Orleans; with Louis A. Tarascon, a French merchant of Philadelphia, begin a triangular trade to Philadelphia, France and the West Indies; imported French goods carried from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh by wagon at 8 cents per pound; by 1804 are building ships of 400 tons. (PittsDir, 1849, PRRMN, Doyle - StdHistPitts has 4/1803 with ship *Pittsburgh*)
- 1801 Weekly post rider established between Erie and Pittsburgh via Waterford, Meadville and Franklin. (HistErieCo, HistCrawfrdCo)
- 1801 First post road established between Pittsburgh and Cleveland. (Gephart)
- 1801 Rafting of sawed lumber from the upper Allegheny River in northwestern Pennsylvania begins. (Babcock)
- 1801 George Throop, Levi Highly and Charles Kane open the first iron works in the Champlain District on the Bouquet River in Essex County, N.Y. (Swank)
- Jan. 1, 1802 Meeting held in Philadelphia chaired by Thomas Leiper (1745-1825), tobacconist and owner of stone quarries on Crum Creek, to organize the Pennsylvania Improvement Company, combining inland navigation with banking; fails to secure incorporation and a \$10,000 subscription from the Legislature. (Scharf)
- Jan. 1, 1802 Cincinnati incorporated as a town in the Northwest Territory and designated the territorial capital; population is about 700. (PL, Condit)

- Jan. 4, 1802 Chillicothe (Ohio), incorporated as a town in the Northwest Territory. (PL)
- Jan. 13, 1802 Virginia again grants the Potomac Company the right to improve the Shenandoah River by locks and dams, on the North Branch to the mouth of Smith's Creek and on the South Branch to Castlereas in Rockingham County, but the company refuses to accept the act because it calls for a reduction of tolls after seven years. (PL, Kapsch)
- Jan. 15, 1802 Residents of Georgetown petition Congress against a bridge across the Potomac River lower down at Alexander's Island, later built as the Long Bridge. (Larson/JER 7:4)
- Jan. 18, 1802 Detroit incorporated as a town in the Northwest Territory. (PL)
- Jan. 20, 1802 Manchester Turnpike Company incorporated in Va. to build from Manchester opposite Richmond to Falling Creek on the Buckingham Road to serve the coal mines; first successful incorporated turnpike company in Virginia. (PL)
- Jan. 23, 1802 Jonathan Zane authorized to build a toll bridge over the Muskingum River in the Northwest Territory. (PL)
- Jan. 28, 1802 "President, Directors & Company of the Little River Turnpike Company" incorporated in Va. to build from Duke Street in Alexandria to the ford on the Little River (Aldie). (PL)
- Jan. 28, 1802 Virginia act fixes the eastern terminus of the Allegheny Turnpike Company at one mile below the mouth of Georges Creek. (PL)
- Jan. 29, 1802 First units of French invasion force arrive off Sante Domingue. (Heinl)
- Feb. 1, 1802 Virginia act authorizes opening a road from the head of the James River or Jacksons River across the Allegheny Mountain to the head of navigation on the Kanawha River. (PL)
- Feb. 2, 1802 Future civil engineer and railroad entrepreneur Moncure Robinson (1802-1891) born in Richmond, Va., to an old Virginia family. (WwasW, Osborne)
- Feb. 1802 Great Falls bypass canal and locks of the Potomac Company open. (Kapsch)
- Feb. 1802 A new graded road opens down Coal Hill at Pittsburgh, easing the delivery of coal from the mine. (Eavenson)
- Feb. 22, 1802 Canonsburg, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)

- Feb. 22, 1802 Ten-Mile Creek up to Jacob Adam's mill dam in Greene County, Pa., declared a public highway. (PL)
- Feb. 27, 1802 Gov. David Hall (1752-1817) of Delaware declares the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Company act operative. (Gray)
- c. Feb. 1802 Robert R. Livingston meets Robert Fulton, then in Paris to sell his submarine and torpedo proposals to the French government; they agree to collaborate on Livingston's steamboat project. (Philip)
- Mar. 3, 1802 Boat with first cargo to pass the Great Falls Canal of the Potomac Company arrives in Georgetown with a cargo of flour and whiskey from Williamsport, Md., having taken three days; with the canal open, the flour traffic of the upper Potomac River triples; a typical boat is 60 x 8 and carries 100-150 bbl. (Kapsch)
- Mar. 12, 1802 Zadok Cramer (1773-1814), newly arrived in Pittsburgh, publishes the first edition of *The Ohio & Mississippi Navigator*, a guide to flatboatmen navigating the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers; it goes through multiple editions; two earlier editions, covering only the Ohio River, are mentioned, but no copies survive. (carnegielibrary, HistPitts)
- Mar. 1802 New line of stagecoaches begins running between Petersburg, Va., and Charleston, S.C.; previously, stagecoach service from the North ended at Petersburg. (Scharf)
- Mar. 16, 1802 Congress establishes the Army Corps of Engineers, which is to be stationed at West Point, N.Y., and also constitute the U.S. Military Academy to provide for the training of cadets, previously trained with their units; opens July 4; for many years the only U.S. college for training engineers; the Corps of Engineers devotes its time entirely to coastal fortifications and the Academy; Pres. Thomas Jefferson favors engineering training but opposes professional armies, so the institution is under-staffed and under-funded until after the War of 1812. (Hill, McDougall)
- Mar. 23, 1802 Charters of Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company and Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company extended for five years, but the power of the Delaware & Schuylkill to collect and supply water to the City of Philadelphia is repealed. (PL)
- Mar. 24, 1802 Richard Trevithick and Andrew Vivian of Great Britain patent the application of a high-pressure steam engine to carriages. (Patnt, ARJ)
- Mar. 25, 1802 Peace of Amiens ends the war between France and Great Britain; Britain retains Ceylon and Trinidad, but surrenders Malta and the Cape of Good

Hope; France surrenders Naples but continues its continental blockade of British trade; with peace, U.S. exports are nearly halved and capital flows back into internal improvement projects; since the preliminary peace, Napoleon has been developing his plans for revived colonies in America and India; he also fails to grant full independence to his satellite republics. (Schom, Gray, Mercer)

- Mar. 29, 1802 Beaver, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (Richard)
- Mar. 30, 1802 A new Albany & Schenectady Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. (PL)
- Mar. 30, 1802 Genesee County, N.Y., created from all that part of Ontario County lying west of the Genesee River and a north-south line through the junction of the Genesee and Canaseraga Creek; includes the whole western part of the state; most of the land is owned by the Holland Land Company, and it moves its headquarters from Clarence Hollow to Batavia, which becomes the county seat; the bill is secured through the political efforts of the Land Company's resident agent Joseph Ellicott. (French, Ellis/Cattaraugus, Chazanof)
- Apr. 5, 1802 County seat of Wayne County, Pa., moved from Wilsonville to Milford. (Long)
- Apr. 5, 1802 Pennsylvania act authorizes Marcus Hulings to build a toll bridge over French Creek at Franklin. (PL)
- Apr. 5, 1802 N.Y. declares the east branch of the Chenango River to be a public highway from the forks at Sherburne to the junction with the west branch at Chenango Forks; also the Unadilla River from its mouth to the forks; also the Cohocton River from Bath to a point 20 miles further upstream; also Mud Creek from the Cohocton River to Bartle's mill dam; also Little Lake and Mud Lake and the strait that connects them. (PL)
- Apr. 6, 1802 Pennsylvania passes a revised General Highway Act fixing the road tax at ½ cent per \$1 of valuation. (PL)
- Apr. 1802 John Matthews and Ebenezer Buckingham lay out the village of Coshocton, Ohio. (NNHill)
- Apr. 19, 1802 Plat of Youngstown, Ohio, recorded. (wiki)
- Apr. 26, 1802 Jeffersonian Republicans carry the New York State elections, but the campaign provokes a split between Aaron Burr and his followers on one side and the Clinton and Livingston factions on the other. (JHammond)

- Apr. 28, 1802 Zanesville, Ohio, platted by Jonathan Zane and John McIntire on land granted in 1800 by Ebenezer Zane. (Graham/Muskingum)
- Apr. 30, 1802 Enabling act preparing Ohio for statehood transfers eastern Michigan to Indiana Territory; Federal government retains title to all unsold lands except one section per township set aside for educational purposes; 3% of the net proceeds of public land sales are to be set aside as a fund to build roads between Ohio and waters emptying into the Atlantic; the Republicans are anxious to replace the Federalist territorial government with a Republican state one; competition begins between partisans of a road to Philadelphia via Pittsburgh, to Baltimore via the Potomac, or the James River-Kanawha route. (EAH, Larson)
- May 1, 1802 Paulus Hook ferry again leased to John Holdron for 3 years at \$2,125 per year, the Hoboken ferry to Garrett Couwenhoven at \$250, and the Weehawken ferry to Charles and Philip Earl at \$50. (Stokes)
- May 3, 1802 Washington, D.C. incorporated as a city with an elected city council but a mayor appointed by the President; residents may not vote in federal elections or be represented in Congress. (StatutesatLarge)
- May 10, 1802 Future civil engineer Horatio Allen (1802-1889) born at Schenectady, N.Y., son of Dr. Benjamin Allen, Prof. of Mathematics & Natural Philosophy at Union College and Mary Benedict Allen. (DAB)
- May 20, 1802 Napoleon restores slavery throughout the French West Indies. (Heinl)
- May 21, 1802 Elisha Boudinot acquires from the East Jersey Proprietors a tract of 53.5 acres lying under water in Harsimus Cove; Boudinot sells it to Nathaniel Budd on Jan. 2, 1804; part of it later becomes the property of the Long Dock Company and is used by the Erie Railroad. (Winfield)
- June 8, 1802 Gen. Leclerc has Pierre Dominique Toussaint L'Overture (1743-1803), the leader of the Sainte Domingue revolt, arrested at a parley and immediately sent to imprisonment in the French Alps, where he dies on Apr. 7, 1803. (Heinl)
- June 9, 1802 County seat of Clark County, Ind., moved from Springville to Jeffersonville. (Baird)
- June 1802 Napoleon secretly begins organizing an expedition to seize Louisiana from Spain and diverts reinforcements from Gen. Leclerc, whose troops are being ravaged by yellow fever. (Heinl)
- June 23, 1802 Land at Jeffersonville, Ind., sold to trustees who lay out the town. (Baird)

- June 26, 1802 Dr. Samuel Magaw elected Pres. of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company, replacing James C. Fisher, resigned. (MB)
- Summer 1802 John Stevens experiments with a steamboat using a single high-pressure turbine to drive a screw propeller; operates up to 4 MPH. (Flexner)
- July 2, 1802 Future locomotive builder William Norris (1802-1867) born at Baltimore. (AmScssflMen)
- July 4, 1802 U.S. Military Academy opens at West Point, N.Y. (EAH)
- July 4, 1802 Yellow fever again strikes Philadelphia, brought as before on a ship from Sainte Domingue. (Scharf)
- ca. July 1802 Nathaniel Budd builds a dock in Harsimus Cove at about 8th & Provost Streets and begins an unsanctioned ferry to New York. (Winfield)
- July 19, 1802 Eleuthère Irénée du Pont (1771-1834) arrives at a mill site he has purchased on the Brandywine Creek four miles west of Wilmington, Del., where he will begin the manufacture of gunpowder as the head of E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Company; the du Pont family, led by the Revolutionary politician and physiocrat Pierre Samuel du Pont de Nemours (1739-1817), has come to the U.S. as refugees from Napoleon in 1800. (AmScssflMen)
- July 22, 1802 New York embargoes commerce with Philadelphia because of yellow fever there. (Stokes)
- Aug. 1, 1802 Seat of Clark County, Indiana Territory, changed from Springville to Jeffersonville. (Long)
- Sep. 8, 1802 The Proprietors of the Susquehanna Canal open their canal above Port Deposit, running up to a point near the Pennsylvania state line; governors of Maryland and Pennsylvania ride through it; the canal is designed and built by James Brindley (1745-1820). (AR, Kapsch)
- Sep. 14, 1802 First PRR Treasurer George Vaux Bacon (1802-1855) born. (ancestry.com)
- Oct. 10, 1802 Robert Fulton and Robert R. Livingston sign formal partnership agreement to build a steamboat for Hudson River service. (Stokes, Philip)
- Oct. 12, 1802 Future Chief of Engineers Joseph G. Swift and Simon M. Levy of Maryland are the first second lieutenants commissioned at West Point; considered the first graduating class. (Cullum, DAB)
- Oct. 15, 1802 Spain formally transfers Louisiana to France. (Mostert)

- Oct. 16, 1802 Spain abolishes the right of Americans to deposit goods brought down the Mississippi River for transshipment at New Orleans. (EAH)
- Oct. 26, 1802 Pioneer civil engineer Sylvester Medbury (1802-1887) born at New Berlin, N.Y. (ancestry.com)
- Nov. 2, 1802 Gen. Victor-Emanuel Leclerc (1772-1802) dies of yellow fever in Sainte Domingue; his successor Gen. Donatien-Marie-Joseph de Vimeur Vicomte de Rochambeau (1755-1813), son of the Revolutionary War general, resumes the war after the sick season with great atrocities against the Haitians. (Heinl)
- Nov. 1802 Maj. Adam Hoops (-) of Albany and David Heuston send Benjamin Van Campen, 24, a resident of Van Campen's settlement in present Allegany County, as surveyor to scout lands on the Allegheny River in the southern part of the Holland Purchase; as there are no roads, he proceeds south to King's Settlement (Ceres, Pa.), and descends the Allegheny River. (Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- Nov. 16, 1802 Enoch White Clark (1802-1856), future founder of a Philadelphia banking dynasty, born at Easthampton, Mass., the son of a small mill-owner and descendant of William Clark who emigrated to Massachusetts Bay around 1630. (NCAB)
- Nov. 20, 1802 Leonard Harbaugh reports to Potomac Company Board that he has completed a sluice in Swindley's Mill Dam on Conococheague Creek in an attempt to open it to navigation. (Kapsch)
- Nov. 22, 1802 N.J. act authorizes the laying out of a road from the main road to Paulus Hook to Nathaniel Budd's dock at Harsimus Cove and authorizes Budd to operate a ferry to New York. (Winfield)
- Nov. 29, 1802 Ohio Convention meeting at Chillicothe adopts the state's first Constitution. (Thorpe)
- Dec. 2, 1802 Raritan Navigation Company incorporated in N.J. to improve Raritan River to Bound Brook and beyond; not organized. (PL)
- Dec. 6, 1802 Kentucky Insurance Company incorporated by residents of Lexington for the purpose of insuring cargoes floated down the Mississippi River. (Duke)
- Dec. 9, 1802 Nathaniel Budd petitions New York to legalize his new ferry between New York and Paulus Hook with its N.J. landing some distance north of the old ferry operated by Maj. Hunt. (Stokes)
- Dec. 18, 1802 Marine Insurance Company of Norfolk incorporated in Va. (PL)

- Dec. 23, 1802 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company calls on Benjamin R. Morgan for advice on preventing the sheriff's sale of all the bed of the canal, towpath, feeders, etc., which is set for Dec. 28 at Lebanon; it appears that the sale was stopped or that the property was bought in. (MB)
- Dec. 25, 1802 First stone of the western pier of the Schuylkill Permanent Bridge at Market Street laid. (Powers)
- 1802 Town of Fall River, Mass., created from part of the earlier Town of Freetown; it is located at the falls of the Quequechan River, which is the outlet of the Watuppa Lakes and drops 129 feet at the site, ensuring that it will become a center of textile and iron manufacture; it is easily supplied with cotton, coal and other raw materials and able to distribute its manufactures via the coasting trade. (OfficialChronicle)
- 1802 Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures begins leasing water power at Paterson, N.J., to private manufacturers. (Trumbull)
- 1802 Land office of the Holland Land Company moved to Batavia, N.Y. (Ellis/Cattaraugus)
- ca. 1802 Mail service extended from Canandaigua, N.Y., to Niagara. (Young/Chautauqua)
- 1802 Work on Delaware & Schuylkill Canal revived briefly but soon suspended.
- 1802 Frederick Graff experiments with burning Lehigh coal in a stove at the Centre Square Water Works. (Munsell/Luz)
- 1802 Stagecoaches from Philadelphia go no further than Shippensburg in the Cumberland Valley; travel further west to Pittsburgh is on foot or horseback. (Scharf)
- 1802 Oliver Evans builds his first steam engine for sale, intended for a Mississippi River steamboat to ply between New Orleans and Natchez; however a spring flood in 1803 wrecks the hull in which it was to be installed and it is sold for use in a sawmill instead. (Bathe)
- 1802 Stage route laid out between Erie and Cleveland. (Williams/Ashtabula)
- 1802 Work begins on a road from Warren, Ohio, to Cleveland. (HistPrtgCo)
- 1802 "Old Salt Road" laid out between the mouth of Ashtabula Creek and Austinburg. (Williams/Ashtabula)

- 1802 Edward Payne lays out the Aurora Road from Painesville to Chillicothe, Ohio. (Perrin)
- 1802 Coal first shipped from Pittsburgh to Cincinnati. (Storey/Cambria)
- 1802 Charles Shoemaker, George Ashbridge, Morris Robinson, John Paul and Joseph M. Paul built Weymouth Furnace on the Great Egg Harbor River about 6 miles from Mays Landing, N.J. (Swank - see 1800)
- c. 1802 Aaron Bloss settles at Peters Camp, later Blossburg, in Tioga County. (McKnight)
- 1802 John Dunlop builds Logan Furnace 3 miles south of Bellefonte, Pa. (Swank)
- 1802 Hoopes, Townsend & Co. build a forge and furnace on the west side of the Beaver River at Beaver Falls, Pa.; it is abandoned about 1826. (Swank)
- 1802 Jeffrey Scaife (1774-1846), an immigrant from Yorkshire, establishes a tin and japanned ware factory in Pittsburgh, founding a Pittsburgh business dynasty. (HistPitts)
- 1802 New Castle, Pa., laid out by J. C. Stewart, who has come to the region from New Castle, Del., in 1798. (McKnight)
- 1802 Mercer and Youngstown Road laid out. (Durant)
- 1802 Col. James McMahan and Edward McHenry from Pennsylvania make the first permanent settlement in what is now Chautauqua County, N.Y., at later "Cross Roads" in the Town of Westfield. (Young/Chautauqua)
- 1802 Middletown, Ohio, platted by Stephen Vail (1739-1808), a Quaker from New Jersey; many of the settlers of this area are from northern New Jersey. (Bartlow)
- 1802 Indian agency established at Fort Wayne. (Poinsatte)
- 1802 Jeffersonville, Ind., laid out at the Falls of the Ohio opposite Louisville on a plan suggested by Thomas Jefferson. (Esarey)
- 1802 Lexington Insurance Company incorporated in Kentucky; it acquires banking privileges surreptitiously and becomes the first bank west of the Allegheny Mountains. (Huntington - verify PL)
- 1802 Pioneer Pennsylvania civil engineer Robert Faries (1802-1864) born. (AmrensofRylDscnt)

- 1802 Frederick Graff of the Centre Square Water Works in Philadelphia makes successful trials of Lehigh coal in a large stove at the Bank of Pennsylvania and also under the engines at the Centre Square Water Works; notes the necessity of a strong draft of air from below to ignite the coal. (Harvey)
- 1802 Thomas Murdock installs the first gas lights using illuminating gas that is a by-product of the coking of coal at the Soho Works of Boulton & Watt near Birmingham. (Williamson/Daum)
- 1802 Merthyr (Penydarren) Tramroad opens from Merthyr Tydfil to the Glamorganshire Canal at Abercynon (8.5 miles); controlled by the Dowlais, Plymouth and Penydarren Iron Works, who resent that the Crawshays of the rival Cyfarthfa Iron Works control the canal. (HopkinThomasProject)
- 1802 A new Naturalization Act lowers the residency requirement from the 14 years set by the Federalists in 1798 to 5 years; Irish immigration surges and swells Republican ranks in the Northeast U.S. (Taylor - verify Statutes)
- Jan. 4, 1803 Va. Legislature passes act dropping toll reduction provision in Potomac Company's grant to improve the Shenandoah River; company accepts. (Kapsch)
- Jan. 11, 1803 Democratic-Republican Edward Tiffin (1761-1829) elected the first Gov. of Ohio. (Sobel)
- Jan. 1803 Meeting held at the Golden Swan tavern for the purpose of organizing a Lehigh Coal Company. (Scharf)
- Jan. 18, 1803 In a secret message to Congress, Pres. Jefferson states his desire to open communication with the Pacific Ocean via the Missouri River, even though the purchase of Louisiana has yet to be consummated. (Albright)
- Jan. 22, 1803 Lancaster & Susquehanna Turnpike Road completed between Lancaster and Columbia and licensed to take tolls; transportation costs to Philadelphia cut to \$1.35 per bbl.; contributes to growth of Columbia as main transshipment point and influences subsequent location of Main Line of Public Works. (PaArch, Livingood, EEBrown)
- Jan. 29, 1803 Virginia act fixes the location of the James & Kanawha Road from the mouth of Dunlaps Creek (Covington) through Greenbrier Court House (Lewisburg) to the Great Falls of the Kanawha and appropriates \$3,000. (PL)
- Jan. 30, 1803 On the strength of reports from Benjamin Van Campen, Adam Hoops and David Heuston purchase about 20,000 acres along the Allegheny River from the Holland Land Company; this is the first land purchase in present

Cattaraugus County; he has a clearing made on the site of present Olean, the object being to create a transshipment point at which emigrants from New York and New England can float down the Allegheny/Ohio to new homes in the West. (Ellis/Cattaraugus)

- Jan. 30, 1803 The French official newspaper prints a report of its agent that Egypt is weak and ripe for conquest; this prompts Britain to hesitate from withdrawing from Malta as required under the Peace of Amiens. (Mostert)
- Feb. 7, 1803 The President, Managers & Company of the Conococheague Navigation incorporated in Pa. to improve the channel and rebuild the mill dams with locks and chutes from Chambersburg down to the Maryland state line. (PL)
- Feb. 11, 1803 The President, Managers & Company of the Easton & Wilkesbarre Turnpike Road incorporated in Pa. (PL)
- Feb. 15, 1803 Oliver Evans (1755-1819) first publicly announces his successful production of the first American high-pressure steam engine (about 5 HP) at his shop on 9th & Market Streets in Philadelphia in the *Aurora*. (DuBois, Bathe, Ferguson)
- Feb. 15, 1803 Oliver Evans describes for the Lehigh Coal Mine Company his experiments burning Lehigh coal in a closed stove designed to draw all the air from below through the mass of coal until it is completely ignited. (Munsell/Luz, Harvey)
- Feb. 1803 John Stevens complete two copper-tube, high-pressure boilers at the works of the Manhattan Company in New York. (DuBois)
- Feb. 16, 1803 New Lisbon, Ohio, laid out by Lewis Kinney. (McCord)
- Feb. 18, 1803 John Stevens writes to his brother-in-law Dr. John Redman Coxe (1773-1864) in Philadelphia for information on Evans's high-pressure engine; finds Evans uses an old-fashioned pot-type boiler suitable for a stationary engine and not something like Stevens's water-tube boiler; Evans is free with information, but is soon embroiled in a letter war of recriminations with Stevens. (Shagena, DuBois - Bathe give the date of Stevens letter from OE's account as 2/7 and a second of 2/16)
- Feb. 19, 1803 Ohio admitted to the Union as the 17th state with a capital at Chillicothe; Arthur St. Clair has lost power, and with no one to defend Cincinnati's interest, the boundary between Ohio and the Indiana Territory is shifted east from the 1795 Greenville Treaty line to a line north from the mouth of the Great Miami River; the Northwest Territory is abolished, effective Mar. 1, and the portions in present-day Lower Michigan are transferred to the Indiana Territory. (WwasW, Long, Doyle)

- Feb. 25, 1803 Pioneer civil engineer Alonzo Livermore (1803-1888) born at Wilmington, Vt. (geni.com)
- Feb. 26, 1803 Oliver Evans advertises that he has a small high-pressure engine which can be seen at his shop grinding plaster of paris. (Aurora, Pursell)
- Mar. 1, 1803 A line of mail stagecoaches is established successfully between Petersburg, Va. and Savannah via Fayetteville and Charleston. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- Mar. 1, 1803 Wayne County, Indiana Territory, created from portions of Knox and St. Clair Counties, plus previously unincorporated area; covers parts of modern Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin, plus nearly all of modern Michigan; county seat at Detroit. (Long)
- Mar. 4, 1803 Having served as a militia captain in the Revolution, first coroner of Franklin County (1784) and a state representative; John Rea (1755-1829), grandfather of future PRR Pres. Samuel Rea, begins the first of three successive terms as a Republican Congressman from Franklin County. (CongBio)
- Mar. 6, 1803 His friend Pres. Jefferson offers Benjamin Henry Latrobe the post of Surveyor of Public Buildings at Washington, including the task of completing the Capitol. (Hamlin)
- Mar. 7, 1803 Dearborn County, Indiana Territory, created with a county seat at Lawrenceburg. (Long)
- Mar. 8, 1803 Pennsylvania act establishes the seat of Butler County at Butler on a site offered by the Cunningham family, once agents for Robert Morris, and Robert Graham. (HistButlerCo)
- Mar. 9, 1803 Secretary of War Henry Dearborn orders an expedition to determine the suitability of establishing a frontier garrison on the site of Chicago. (CHTaylor)
- Mar. 15, 1803 Britain refuses to evacuate Malta in contravention of Peace of Amiens. (Mercer)
- Mar. 1803 Pennsylvania Society for the Encouragement of Useful Arts & Manufactures organized in Pa. and revived after a period of inactivity; Dr. Benjamin Rush, Pres., and Tench Coxe, John Kaighn, Dr. Caspar Wistar and Anthony Morris, VPs; Samuel Wetherill made Chairman of the Manufacturing Committee. (Scharf - verify - not inc.)
- Mar. 16, 1803 Newark, Ohio, is laid out by Gen. William C. Schenck, who names it for his

birthplace, Newark, N.J.; he is also acting as the agent for John Noble Cumming and John Burnet. (NNHill/Licking)

- Mar. 19, 1803 “The President, Directors & Company of the New York State Bank” incorporated at Albany with a capital of \$460,000, plus another \$120,000 to be subscribed by the state; it is chartered as a Republican bank in contrast to the other, Federalist banks. (PL, JHammond)
- Mar. 21, 1803 Chambersburg, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Mar. 22, 1803 Newtown Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from Newtown (Elmira) to the head of Seneca Lake; no work under this charter. (PL)
- Mar. 23, 1803 Pennsylvania Legislature passes a bill over the veto of Gov. Simon Snyder permitting any person to build a mill dam across a stream designated a public highway provided it does not impede the navigation or passage of fish; persons can be sued for up to \$50 damages, but the initiative must come from the persons adversely affected. (PL)
- Mar. 24, 1803 The President, Managers & Company of the Frankford & Bristol Turnpike Road incorporated in Pa. to build from Front Street & Germantown Road in Philadelphia to Morrisville. (PL)
- Mar. 24, 1803 The President, Managers & Company of the Cheltenham & Willow Grove Turnpike Road incorporated in Pa. to build from the Rising Sun Tavern (4th & Vine Streets in Philadelphia?) through Willow Grove and Hatboro to Red Lion (New Hope?) on the line of the Old York Road. (PL)
- Mar. 24, 1803 The President, Managers & Company of the Downingtown, Ephrata & Harrisburg Turnpike Road incorporated in Pa. to build from the Lancaster Pike at Downingtown to Harrisburg. (PL)
- Mar. 28, 1803 Portion of Northern Liberties Township lying east of 6th Street between Vine Street and Cohocksink Creek is incorporated as the District of Northern Liberties. (PL)
- Mar. 28, 1803 *Charlotte Dundas*, a steam towboat built by William Symington (1764-1831) for Thomas, Lord Dundas of Kerse, operates on the Forth & Clyde Canal in Scotland towing two vessels at about 2 MPH, but the canal company bars further tests because its wash damages the banks of the canal. (wiki, Flexner)
- Mar. 30, 1803 Indiana County, Pa., created from parts of Lycoming and Westmoreland Counties but without full organization. (PL, Long)
- Apr. 1, 1803 Pennsylvania act declares the West Branch of the Schuylkill River up to

- Thomas Reed's sawmill and the West West Branch for a further 6 miles to be a public highway. (PL)
- Apr. 1, 1803 Pennsylvania act declares that the \$1,000 for the road between Turtle Creek and Pittsburgh not yet spent is to be spent on improving the part of the road from the house of Joseph Springer to Pittsburgh. (PL)
- Apr. 3, 1803 Canandaigua & Bath Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from Bath to the Genesee Turnpike in Canandaigua. (PL)
- Apr. 4, 1803 Third Company of the Great Western Turnpike Road incorporated in N.Y. to build from the First Great Western Turnpike in Cherry Valley to the Seneca Turnpike at Manlius. (PL)
- Apr. 4, 1803 Pennsylvania declares Pymatuning Creek from its mouth to its source to be a public highway. (PL)
- Apr. 5, 1803 New York act "relative to a steam boat" transfers the 1798 grant to Robert R. Livingston, Nicholas J. Roosevelt, and John Stevens, to Robert R. Livingston and Robert Fulton; the grant is extended for two years to 1823, but the petitioners are still required to produce a boat of 20 tons capacity capable of operating against the current of the Hudson River at 4 MPH. (PL, Ward, Medberry)
- Apr. 6, 1803 N.Y. declares the east branch of the Chenango River to be a public highway from Chenango Forks to Wheeler's Mill in Hamilton; also the Otselic River or middle branch of the Chenango up to the bridge at Cincinnatus. (PL)
- Apr. 11, 1803 John Stevens receives a patent for a water-tube boiler with force pump. (Shagena)
- Apr. 15, 1803 The President & Directors of the Miami Exporting Company, located in Cincinnati, is incorporated in Ohio by German immigrant Martin Baum (-) as a trading company with a capital of \$100,000; its primary original purpose is to reduce the expense of transportation to New Orleans; however, it is allowed to issue notes payable to bearer that it can redeem with the notes of other banks; it begins issuing the first bank notes in Ohio, which it proves unable to redeem. (PL, Huntington, Lee/Columbus, HistCinHamCo)
- Apr. 19, 1803 Spain reopens New Orleans to U.S. commerce. (EAH)
- Apr. 26, 1803 Napoleon begins a brief occupation of the Netherlands in contravention of the Peace of Amiens. (Mercer)
- Apr. 30, 1803 U.S. emissaries Robert R. Livingston and James Monroe sign the Louisiana

Purchase treaty, retroactive to Apr. 30; France sells Louisiana Territory to U.S. for \$27.3 million; adds 828,000 square miles of land, gives U.S. complete control of the Mississippi River and port of New Orleans, and ends French government presence on the North American continent; Napoleon is forced to sell by his defeat at the hands of the former slaves in Haiti and by the worsening situation in Europe; the sale violates the Treaty of San Ildefonso between France and Spain, which does not provide for resale, and neither Spain nor Britain recognize the Purchase. (Thorpe, Howe)

- Apr. 30, 1803 Franklin County, Ohio, created from part of Ross County and unincorporated area with county seat at Franklinton. (Long)
- May 1, 1803 Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Company organized at Wilmington; Joseph Tatnall (1740-1813), a Wilmington merchant miller, Pres.; Benjamin H. Latrobe, Cornelius Howard of Maryland and John Thomson, father of J. Edgar Thomson, appointed engineers and surveyors. (Gray - Scharf has 5/9)
- May 1, 1803 Butler County, Ohio, created from part of Hamilton County with county seat at Hamilton; Columbiana County, Ohio, created from part of Jefferson County with county seat at house of Mathias Lowry; Greene County, Ohio, created from parts of Hamilton and Ross Counties, plus non-county area with county seat at the house of Owen Davis; Montgomery County, Ohio, created from part of Hamilton County and non-county areas with county seat at Dayton; Warren County, Ohio, created from part of Hamilton County with county seat at the house of Ephraim Hathaway. (Long)
- May 13, 1803 Frankford & Bristol Turnpike Road Company receives letters patent. (PaArch)
- May 18, 1803 Great Britain declares war on France over Napoleon's continued military operations; U.S. exports rebound and capital flows to internal improvement projects stop. (Mostert, Gray)
- May 18, 1803 Bank of Pennsylvania opens a branch in Lancaster. (Ellis/Evans)
- May 20, 1803 Benjamin H. Latrobe delivers a paper on steam engines to the American Philosophical Society in which he dismisses the idea of a steamboat on the grounds that the (Watt-type) engine and its fuel would be too heavy, that the rocking of the engine would weaken the boat, etc.; he fiercely attacks his rival Oliver Evans and the notion of high-pressure steam engines. (Bathe, Hamlin)
- May 23, 1803 Napoleon informs his government of his plan for a cross-Channel invasion of England. (Schom)

- June 2, 1803 Merchants Bank opens for business in New York City; does not receive a charter until Mar. 1805; the partnership agreement is drawn up by Alexander Hamilton; the push for a charter is opposed by the Republican-sponsored New York State Bank and by the Clinton Republicans. (Trager, JHammond)
- June 7, 1803 Territorial Governor William Henry Harrison signs the Treaty of Fort Wayne with nine tribes more precisely recognizing U.S. ownership of the Vincennes Tract ceded by Treaty of Greenville in 1795; U.S. gains over 1 million acres, while the Indians get a promise of 150 bu. of salt a year; Harrison's actions sow deep resentment among Native Americans. (IndLndCessions, Derleth, Vexler)
- June 7, 1803 John Thomson (1769-1844), surveyor and farmer of Springfield Township, Delaware County, marries his second cousin Sarah Levis (1776-1859) in the Second Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia, although Sarah's parents are still Quakers, she is no longer a member of the Society of Friends. (genealogy.com)
- June 21, 1803 Downingtown, Ephrata & Harrisburg Turnpike Road Company receives letters patent. (PaArch)
- July 4, 1803 In a letter to Meriwether Lewis, Pres. Jefferson states the purpose of the upcoming expedition into the Louisiana Territory as finding the source of the Missouri River and the most convenient water passage from there to the Pacific Ocean. (Albright)
- July 7, 1803 Pa. appoints a new agent to examine the work on the Juniata River from the mouth to Aughwick Falls. (PaArch)
- July 14, 1803 Soldiers under the command of Lt. James Strode Swearingen leave Detroit on an expedition to Chicago. (CHTaylor)
- July 15, 1803 Butler County (Ohio) Commissioners accept the offer of Israel Ludlow (- 1804) for land for the county seat at Hamilton. (Bartlow)
- July 1803 Boston merchant Thomas Handasyd Perkins (1764-1854) sends Ephraim Bumstead (-1805) as the first year-round American agent in charge of its Canton office in China; as Bumstead's assistant, he sends his nephew John Perkins Cushing (-); he takes over when Bumstead falls ill and through systematic and almost monomaniacal devotion to management makes Perkins & Co. the most successful and profitable U.S. China trading house; Perkins is fortunate to draw the attention of a young Chinese clerk of similar temperament, Wu Bingjian, known to westerners as Houqua (- 1843), who will become the leading Chinese merchant at Canton and for a time probably the richest commoner in the world; Perkins and his kin, the

- Forbes brothers, will manage Houqua's investments in the U.S. (Haddad)
- July 17, 1803 Yellow fever appears at New York City. (Scharf)
- July 18, 1803 New York City Council approves Nathaniel Budd's application for a new ferry from Cortlandt Street to a point between Paulus Hook and Hoboken; Budd has obtained a N.J. charter and spent \$2,000-2,500 and promised to run two sail boats to the one operated by John Holdron on the Paulus Hook ferry. (Stokes)
- July 25, 1803 John Dougherty (1803-1886), future inventor of the section boats used on the Pennsylvania Main Line of Public Works, born at McVeytown, Pa.; son of Edward Dougherty (1766-1841), a tailor, and Margaret Stackpole Dougherty (1770?-1832). (werelate.org)
- July 26, 1803 Surrey Iron Railway opens between Wandsworth and Croyden; first public freight railway in Britain, as opposed to colliery lines; built by engineer William Jessop (1745-1814). (Marshall)
- Aug. 1, 1803 Potomac Company agrees to improve the navigation of the Monocacy River if residents loan the company \$1,500. (Kapsch)
- Aug. 3, 1803 A meeting is held at the countinghouse of John Welsh to draw up articles of association for The Philadelphia Bank with a capital of \$1 million, based on the organization of the Merchants Bank of New York. (Wainwright)
- Aug. 3, 1803 Gen. Joseph C. Vance is ordered to lay out the town of Xenia, Ohio, as the seat of Greene County on land provided by Col. John Paul (1758-1830), a native of Germantown, Pa. (Robinson)
- Aug. 4, 1803 Future canal engineer, banker and furnace owner Bethuel Boyd Vincent (1803-1876) born at Erie; son of John Vincent (1772-1860). (HistErieCo)
- Aug. 4, 1803 Seat of Greene County, Ohio, changed from the house of Owen Davis to Xenia. (Long)
- Aug. 5, 1803 Philadelphia suspends water transportation to New York and establishes a quarantine on travelers from New York to prevent the spread of yellow fever. (Wainwright)
- Aug. 7, 1803 In Treaty of Vincennes, Indians recognize U.S. ownership of the Vincennes tracts captured during the Revolutionary War. (wiki)
- Aug. 9, 1803 Robert Fulton and Robert R. Livingston hold official public demonstration of an experimental steamboat on the Seine at Paris, towing two barges at 3 MPH; experiment comes to nothing as Napoleon is obsessed with invading

- England and dismissive of commercial domestic improvements. (Philip)
- Aug. 10, 1803 Philadelphia Board of Health declares an embargo and quarantine against New York City to prevent the spread of yellow fever. (Scharf)
- Aug. 10, 1803 First public sale of lots in the newly-platted town of Butler, Pa., held. (HistButlerCo)
- Aug. 13, 1803 In the Treaty of Vincennes, Gov. William Henry Harrison gets Kaskaskia Indians to cede over 7 million acres of land in central Illinois, consisting of most of the land south and east of the Illinois River and Kankakee Rivers, excepting the Little Wabash Valley in the southeast. (IndLndCessions, Derleth)
- Aug. 16, 1803 Trenton-Delaware Bridge Company receives letters patent. (Wilson)
- Aug. 16, 1803 Philadelphia Bank begins business as an unincorporated association with a capital of \$1 million; \$100 shares are designed to appeal to merchants of modest means who have gone into business since the start of the Napoleonic wars; the other Philadelphia banks refuse to accept its notes; George Clymer (1739-1813), Pres.; directors include John Welsh, Elisha Kane, and Jacob Shoemaker; the other banks refuse to accept its notes. (Wainwright, Schwartz/JPE55)
- Aug. 17, 1803 Army arrives and begins construction of Fort Dearborn at the mouth of the Chicago River. (CHTaylor)
- Sep. 5, 1803 Daniel C. Cooper, now the proprietor of Dayton, Ohio, agrees to provide lots for the seat of Montgomery County. (Drury)
- Sep. 12, 1803 Lewis Atterbury (1779-1872), grandfather of future PRR Pres. William Wallace Atterbury, marries Catherine Boudinot (1781-1877), daughter of Elisha Boudinot (1749-1819) and Catherine Smith Boudinot (1750-1797) and niece of Elias Boudinot (1740-1821) former Pres. of the Continental Congress; Pres. Atterbury will consider the Boudinots his most illustrious ancestors and name his country house "Boudinot Farm.". (NJHS, AttrbryPapers)
- Sep. 12, 1803 Yellow fever appears at Philadelphia; about 120 die before the frost kills mosquitoes in mid-Oct. (Scharf, Wainwright)
- Sep. 14, 1803 Potomac Company orders surveys for improvement of the Shenandoah River, whose principle obstacles to navigation are a series of falls near its junction with the Potomac; Potomac Company turns more to improving the Shenandoah, which drains a rich grain-growing valley, than on the route to the West, which offers little traffic; also spends money clearing the

Monocacy and Conococheague in the Maryland portion of the Great Valley. (Sanderlin)

- Sep. 1803 Isaac Thomas and Lewis Reese complete Greenwood Forge on an island in the Schuylkill River on the south side of present Pottsville, Pa.; it uses ore from Coleman's Cornwall ore banks. (Nolan/Unger)
- Sep. 20, 1803 Trenton Delaware Bridge Company organized. (MB)
- Sep. 24, 1803 Bridge builder Theodore Burr (1771-1822) of Schenectady attends meeting of Trenton Delaware Bridge Company and presents his plan. (MB)
- Oct. 1, 1803 Trenton Delaware Bridge Company appoints Theodore Burr Principal Architect and selects his plan over one similar to Timothy Palmer's Schuylkill Permanent Bridge. (MB)
- Oct. 16, 1803 Robert Stephenson (1803-1859), son and successor to British locomotive manufacturer George Stephenson (1781-1848), born. (Rolt)
- Oct. 21, 1803 Benjamin Henry Latrobe makes first report on surveys for Chesapeake & Delaware Canal; sea-level cut would be prohibitively expensive; John Thomson, father of J. Edgar Thomson, assists in surveys. (Gray)
- Oct. 26, 1803 Congress ratifies the Louisiana Purchase. (Pula)
- Oct. 29, 1803 DeWitt Clinton succeeds Edward Livingston as Mayor of New York City. (Vexler)
- Nov. 1, 1803 Seat of Columbiana County, Ohio, changed from the house of Mathias Lowry to New Lisbon. (Long)
- Nov. 4, 1803 DeWitt Clinton resigns from the U.S. Senate to be U.S. Attorney General for the District of New York; it proves a tactical error, as it takes him away from the center of national power at a time when he is beginning to crave the presidency. (CongBio, JHammond)
- Nov. 7, 1803 Beaver and Butler Counties, Pa., fully organized ending attachment to Allegheny County; county seats at Beaver and Butler; Erie and Mercer Counties fully organized ending attachment to Crawford County; county seats at Erie and Mercer. (Long)
- Nov. 1803 Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Board adopts part of the location of the "Upper Route" from Elk River to Christiana River above Wilmington. (Gray)
- Dec. 4, 1803 Last French troops evacuate Sainte Domingue, which becomes the

- independent nation of Haiti. (Heinl)
- Dec. 12, 1803 Napoleon announces the organization for his invasion of England as troops begin massing in the Pas de Calais; Napoleon must build an entire fleet of landing craft, plus port facilities and heavy fortifications to protect against bombardments from the British fleet that controls the Channel. (Schom)
- Dec. 12, 1803 Potomac Company hires Leonard Harbaugh to superintend the construction of five short bypass canals and locks on the lower Shenandoah River starting near Harpers Ferry. (Kapsch)
- Dec. 12, 1803 Pittsburgh Branch of the Bank of Pennsylvania organized with John Wilkins, Jr., as Pres. (StdHistPitts)
- Dec. 19, 1803 Congress repeals the Bankruptcy Act of 1800. (attorneybankruptcy.net)
- Dec. 20, 1803 U.S. takes formal possession of Louisiana from the French at New Orleans. (Pula, Thorpe)
- Dec. 22, 1803 Future Superintendent of the Allegheny Portage Railroad Joseph Wheeler Patton (1803-1880) born at Bellefonte, Pa.; son of Benjamin and Phoebe Patton. (HistofCumbriandCo)
- Dec. 24, 1803 Clark County Court licenses Davis Floyd and John Owens as pilots at the Falls of Ohio. (Baird)
- Dec. 31, 1803 Middlesex Canal completed between the Merrimack River at Chelmsford (later Lowell) and Charlestown on Boston Harbor; first successful canal of any size in the North and thus a model for subsequent canal engineers. (Kirkland, CHTP7)
- 1803 Village of New Babylon established in the Town of Huntington on the south shore of Long Island. (Bayles/Suffolk)
- 1803 Joshua Cooper leases the Federal Street Ferry at present-day Camden to Richard Thorne for 8 years. (Prowell)
- 1803 David C. Wood (1781-1859) builds Cumberland Furnace on the Manumuskin Creek; later in the year, he buys 12,000 acres of land at present Millville, including the Union Mills, with James Lee and Edward Smith. (RDWoodCo)
- 1803 Benjamin Wright surveys Mohawk River from Fort Stanwix to Schenectady for Western Inland Lock Navigation Company. (Whitford)
- 1803 Col. Peregrine Fitzhugh moves from Maryland to Sodus Point, N.Y., with a

retinue of 40 family members and slaves; Dr. Thomas G. Lawson, an Englishman, settles a mile from the Point, but abandons his plantation in 1805. (French)

- 1803 Buffalo, N.Y., laid out by Joseph Ellicott for the Holland Land Company; officially called New Amsterdam but popularly known as Buffalo, probably a corruption of *beau fleuve*. (Chazanof has completed in 1804)
- 1803 First ark of staves and shingles sent down the Chenango River from Sherburne, N.Y., to Baltimore. (EEBrown)
- ca. 1803 Pennsylvania opens a state road, now U.S. Route 6, across the entire width of the state south of the New York state line. (HistErieCo - HistClarionCo says section in Clarion County completed in 1806)
- 1803 Kittanning, Pa., laid out. (Smith/Armstrong)
- 1803 Mercer, Pa., laid out by John Findley, William Mortimore and William McMillan, trustees for John Hoge of Washington County, who owns large tracts in the vicinity. (McKnight)
- 1803 Value of Maryland's exports bottom at \$5,078,062; Baltimore trade stagnates, partly because of a shortage of banking capital, about \$2 million; Philadelphia has \$10 million and New York \$6.5 million in banking capital. (Bryan)
- 1803 James River Company's canal carries about 14,000 tons of bituminous coal from the Richmond Basin mines to tidewater annually between 1803 and 1806. (Eavenson)
- 1803 George Beckwith is the first settler on the site of Ashtabula, Ohio. (Williams/Ashtabula)
- 1803 First mail route established between Warren and Cleveland via Austinburg. (Williams/Ashtabula)
- 1803 Roads opened from Franklinton (Columbus) to Lancaster, to Newark, and to Springfield, Ohio. (Lee/Columbus)
- 1803 Road opened between Springfield and Dayton, Ohio. (Steels)
- 1803 Salem, Ohio, settled by Pennsylvania Quakers.
- Jan. 1, 1804 Harry Heth (d. 1821) and Andrew Nicolson form a partnership to work the coal mines at Deep Run and Chesterfield in the Richmond Basin. (Eavenson)

- Jan. 2, 1804 David Lewis elected Pres. of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company; Ebenezer Hazard (1744-1817) elected Pres. of the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company; as internal improvement projects are shelved after the end of the Peace of Amiens, both companies hold only perfunctory meetings into 1806. (MB)
- Jan. 4, 1804 Branch of Bank of Pennsylvania opens in Pittsburgh; first bank at Pittsburgh with John Wilkins, Jr., as Pres. and John Thaw (1779-1866) as teller; Thaw, a member of an old Philadelphia Scots-Irish family has just arrived in Pittsburgh, where he and his family will become leaders of the business community. (Holdsworth)
- Jan. 5, 1804 Richmond Turnpike Company incorporated in Va. to build from Richmond to the Deep Run or Duval's Coal Pits in Henrico County and thence to the Three-Notched Road, which leads west toward Charlottesville. (PL)
- Jan. 7, 1804 Maryland act allows the Proprietors of the Susquehanna Canal to quadruple their tolls in return for ceasing to charge half-tolls on persons using the river channel. (PL)
- Jan. 9, 1804 Pittsburgh Branch of the Bank of Pennsylvania opens for business. (StdHistPitts)
- Jan. 17, 1804 Virginia act changes the route of the James & Kanawha Road across the mountains. (PL)
- Jan. 18, 1804 Virginia act appoints trustees to open the Hardware River from the James River up to the Forks. (PL)
- Jan. 19, 1804 Seat of Belmont County, Ohio, changed from Pultney to St. Clairsville. (Long)
- Jan. 24, 1804 Citizens of New Brunswick petition the N.J. Legislature for canal and/or slackwater navigation across the state between the Raritan and Delaware Rivers. (Cranmer)
- Jan. 24, 1804 Richmond & Columbia Turnpike Company and Staunton Turnpike Company incorporated in Virginia; are to form a continuous road from Richmond to Staunton in the Valley; neither is built in this form. (PL)
- Jan. 30, 1804 Virginia Legislature charts the Bank of Virginia with a capital of \$1.5 million of which \$300,000 is to be held by the state; Virginia adopts the Scottish system of a large central office (at Richmond), and branches at Lynchburg, Norfolk, Fredericksburg and Petersburg; the Bank of Alexandria having been ceded to the District of Columbia, this is the first

bank in Virginia, and this is the pattern for all Virginia banks until 1851; stockholding is limited to those who were citizens as of the end of the Revolution to guard against control by foreigners; no stockholder is to have more than 30 votes, the Richmond office is to have 14 directors and the other branches 13 each; the bill is designed to ensure that the bank will be under the control of the Republican planter oligarchy and to prevent the emergence of a separate class of bankers as in Britain or the North; Philip Norborne Nicholas (1775?-1849), Pres. (PL, Starnes, Malone/JER 7:1)

- Jan. 30, 1804 Pa. declares Le Boeuf Creek to be a public highway from Waterford up to Brotherton's Mills. (PL)
- Feb. 1, 1804 Farmers in Middlesex and Somerset Counties, N.J., petition the Legislature against a canal between the Raritan and Delaware Rivers as apt to flood lands, block the shad run, while being hampered by lack of water in summer and ice in winter. (Cranmer)
- Feb. 4, 1804 John B. Coles (1760-1827), a New York flour merchant, buys the northern part of what is known as the Duke's Farm inland and north of Paulus Hook in what is now lower Jersey City and has it laid out into lots. (Winfield, McLean)
- Feb. 6, 1804 Merchant, land speculator and banker William Bingham (1751-1804) dies at Bath, England, probably the richest man in the U.S.; he is survived by two daughters who have married members of the Baring family of British bankers; Bingham's Estate continues in existence, holding vast quantities of real estate, until 1964, when it is distributed among 315 heirs. (Alberts)
- Feb. 6, 1804 The Union Insurance Company of Philadelphia and The Phoenix Insurance Company of Philadelphia incorporated in Pa. to deal in marine insurance. (PL)
- Feb. 6, 1804 Pennsylvania act declares Wysox Creek up to Jacob Myer's mill dam a public highway. (PL)
- Feb. 13, 1804 Pennsylvania declares Clearfield Creek up to the forks at Great Elk Lick and Sinnemahoning Creek to Driftwood to be public highways. (PL)
- Feb. 13, 1804 The President, Managers & Company of the Erie & Waterford Turnpike Road incorporated in Pa., by Col. Thomas S. Foster, et al. (PL, HistErieCo)
- Feb. 13, 1804 Richard Trevithick (1771-1833), son of a mine manager in Cornwall and independent inventor of the high-pressure steam engine, places world's first operational railroad locomotive in service on the Pen-y-Darren tramway at Merthyr Tydfil, Wales; it has a single U-shaped return flue or firetube, and a single horizontal cylinder connected to a flywheel, and smooth, flangeless

wheels for running on the flanged rails. (Dickinson, Rolt)

- Feb. 14, 1804 Oliver Evans receives a U.S. patent for his high-pressure steam engine. (Bathe)
- Feb. 1804 New Jersey Legislature defeats bill for a turnpike between Paulus Hook and Trenton. (Lane)
- Feb. 1804 James Smallman, formerly with Nicholas J. Roosevelt's Soho Works, becomes an independent steam engine builder in Philadelphia. (Pursell)
- Feb. 1804 Benjamin Henry Latrobe appointed Chief Engineer of the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal at a salary of \$3,500. (DAB, Hamlin)
- Feb. 1804 Ohio passes its first general road act using money from the Three Percent Fund; appoints 16 commissioners to lay out 16 separate roads, cleared to a width of 56 feet. (Gephart - verify PL)
- Feb. 1804 Ohio act requires three days of road labor by all males between the ages of 18 and 50. (Gephart - verify PL)
- Feb. 17, 1804 New Jersey act creates an association to build a toll bridge over the Rahway River at the house of William Edgar. (PL)
- Feb. 18, 1804 Newark Banking & Insurance Company incorporated in N.J., by John Noble Cumming (1752-1821), Silas Condict, David D. Crane, Luther Goble and William Halsey with a capital of \$225,000. (PL)
- Feb. 19, 1804 Future civil engineer Robert Pettit (1804-1878) born at Philadelphia.
- Feb. 20, 1804 *Philadelphia Evening Post*, quickly renamed the *Freeman's Journal* begins publication as the organ of the Tertium Quids, moderate Jeffersonians, who oppose the radical city democrats led by Dr. Michael Leib (1760-1822) and their paper, William Duane's *Aurora*; Pennsylvania Jeffersonians are already divided into radical and conservative factions, the latter including Gov. McKean, Mathew Carey, Tench Coxe, Alexander J. Dallas, Stephen Girard, Manuel Eyre and Samuel Wetherill; while both groups believe in economic development, the Quids are more tolerant of inequality and protective of property rights; the radicals believe that inequality comes only from special privileges and can be controlled by direct democracy. (Shankman)
- Feb. 21, 1804 Richard Trevithick's locomotive makes the run required by the £535 bet made by ironmaster Samuel Homfrey (1761-1822) of Pen-Y-Darren with Anthony Hill of Plymouth Iron Works that it can haul 10 tons of iron the length of the Pen-Y-Darren tramway; it hauls 10 tons of iron, 70 men and 5

empty cars for 9.5 miles at 5 MPH; is a technical success but the 5-ton weight breaks the flanged rails on several occasions, and its tall stack and projecting flywheel require the cutting back of brush and the like; the locomotive is used sporadically into July, but a London delegation never keeps its promise to view it; it is then used as a stationary engine. (Dickinson, Rolt)

- Feb. 22, 1804 Lawyer Anthony Dey (1777-1859) agrees to purchase Paulus Hook and its ferry right from Cornelius Van Vorst (1728-1818) for a \$6,000 annuity. (MB)
- Feb. 24, 1804 Union Bank of Maryland organized as a partnership with a capital of \$3 million. (Bryan)
- Mar. 1, 1804 Muskingum County, Ohio, created from parts of Fairfield and Washington Counties with county seat at Zanesville. (Long)
- Mar. 4, 1804 Postmaster Gideon Granger writes to Philadelphia-Lancaster stagecoach proprietor John Tomlinson offering \$6,000 a year if he will operate a mail twice a week between Lancaster and Pittsburgh, once with a stagecoach and once with a sulkey or on horseback. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- Mar. 5, 1804 The Philadelphia Bank incorporated after opposition by Bank of Pennsylvania and after offering what amounts to a bribe of \$135,000, allowing the state to subscribe to \$300,000 (one-sixth of the capital), and granting the state a line of credit; the Philadelphia Bank is supported by the city democrats as more accommodating to tradesmen and mechanics, rather than only to merchants like the Bank of Pennsylvania and the Bank of the United States; the offering of a cash payment for a bank charter becomes widespread during the antebellum era; the Bank of Pennsylvania had offered a counter-bribe of \$200,000 to block the charter. (PL, Scharf, Shankman, DAdams)
- Mar. 5, 1804 Oliver Evans advertises that he is ready to build steam engines at his smith's shop adjoining his millstone factory at 9th & Market Streets in Philadelphia. (Aurora, Pursell)
- Mar. 5, 1804 Pittsburgh incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Mar. 5, 1804 Somerset, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Mar. 5, 1804 The President, Managers & Company of the Bustleton & Smithfield Turnpike Road incorporated in Pa. to build from Oxford to the Buck Tavern in Southampton Township. (PL)
- Mar. 5, 1804 The Chestnut Hill & Springhouse Turnpike Company incorporated in Pa. to

build from Chestnut Hill to Springhouse Tavern in Montgomery County.
(PL)

- Mar. 5, 1804 The President, Managers & Company of the Lancaster, Elizabethtown & Middletown Turnpike Road incorporated in Pa. (PL)
- Mar. 5, 1804 The President, Managers & Company of the Union & Cumberland Turnpike Road incorporated in Pa. to build from the west side of Laurel Hill near Uniontown to the Maryland state line in the direction of Cumberland. (PL)
- Mar. 5, 1804 Pennsylvania declares an additional part of Connedoguinnet Creek from the Cove fording to the Franklin County line to be a public highway; also Moshannon Creek from its mouth to the forks 5 miles above Philipsburg. (PL)
- Mar. 9, 1804 U.S. flag raised for the first time in St. Louis and Americans take control of the town; marks the formal transfer of French Louisiana, stretching from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains. (Hoig)
- Mar. 12, 1804 Boat load of 80 bbls. of flour descends the Monocacy Creek from William's Mill four miles from Frederick, Md., to Georgetown; first recorded descending freshet navigation of the Monocacy; Potomac Company claims it has opened navigation for 40 miles at cost of \$2,799; these improvements are practically obliterated by 1827. (Kapsch)
- Mar. 14, 1804 Pennsylvania act appropriates \$1,500 for a road over Tuscarora Mountain into Shermans Valley in Cumberland County between Run and Hunters Gaps, to intersect the road to Carlisle. (PL)
- Mar. 14, 1804 Village of Rossville, Ohio, now a part of Hamilton, is platted on the west side of the Great Miami River by Jacob Burnet, et al.; named for John Ross of Pittsburgh. (Bartlow)
- Mar. 19, 1804 The Susquehanna & York Borough Turnpike Company incorporated in Pa. to build from Wrightsville to York. (PL)
- Mar. 19, 1804 The President, Manager & Company of the Susquehanna & Lehigh Turnpike Road incorporated in Pa. to build from the Lehigh River near the mouth of Nesquehoning Creeek to a point opposite Berwick on the North Branch of the Susquehanna River. (PL)
- Mar. 20, 1804 Alarmed by movements to establish towns at Paulus Hook, John Stevens advertises a four-day auction of 800 lots at Hoboken to begin at the Tontine Coffee House in New York on Apr. 9. (Winfield)
- Mar. 20., 1804 New York act relieves the Susquehanna Turnpike Company from building

the part of its road east of the Hudson River. (PL)

- Mar. 24, 1804 Highland Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build on the east bank of the Hudson River through the Hudson Highlands from Mount Pleasant through Peekskill to Fishkill; no work done under this charter. (PL)
- Mar. 26, 1804 Anthony Dey takes possession of Paulus Hook and the ferry rights from Cornelius Van Vorst in return for an annuity of \$6,000. (Winfield)
- Mar. 26, 1804 Cambria County, Pa., created from parts of Huntingdon and Somerset Counties but without full organization and county seat at Beulah; Clearfield County created from parts of Huntingdon and Lycoming Counties but without full organization; Jefferson County created from part of Lycoming County but without full organization; McKean County created from part of Lycoming County but without full organization; Potter County created from part of Lycoming County but without full organization; Tioga County created from part of Lycoming County but without full organization. (Beitel, Long, Gable)
- Mar. 26, 1804 Congress divides the Louisiana Purchase at the 33rd parallel into the Territory of Orleans (roughly the present State of Louisiana) with its own government, and the District of Louisiana, which is administered as part of Indiana Territory. (Esarey, Thorpe, FactsStates)
- Mar. 26, 1804 Land Act of 1804 reduces the minimum purchase from a full section for \$1,280 to a quarter section of 160 acres at \$80 and the minimum cash payment from \$350 to \$16 or \$1.64 per acre; federal land offices are established at Detroit, Vincennes and Kaskaskia; the new prices bring an influx of actual settlers instead of just speculators. (StatutesatLarge, Heald)
- Mar. 27, 1804 Pa. appoints agents to view work on the Susquehanna River between Middletown and the mouth of the Juniata under the 1794 Boyd & King contract. (PaArch)
- Mar. 29, 1804 The President, Managers & Company of the Coshecton & Great Bend Turnpike Road incorporated in Pa. to build from Coshecton on the Delaware River to the New York state line near Great Bend; with the Newburgh & Coshecton Turnpike in New York, forms a direct route from the Hudson River to the Southern Tier across the northeast corner of Pennsylvania. (PL)
- Mar. 29, 1804 Morrisville, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Mar. 29, 1804 Seneca County, N.Y., created from part of Cayuga County. (French)
- Mar. 31, 1804 New York act authorizes the state to invest any surplus in the stock of the

Bank of New York State. (PL)

- Mar. 31, 1804 New York act authorizes laying out a state road from Salina (near Syracuse) to a point near the mouth of the Genesee River. (PL)
- Mar. 31, 1804 Future New York Central Railroad Pres. [Elkanah] Dean Richmond (1804-1866) born at Barnard, Vt. (WwasW, AmScssflMen)
- Apr. 2, 1804 Pennsylvania act appropriates \$600 for a road through Igoe's Narrows in Huntingdon County. (PL)
- Apr. 2, 1804 Viewer John Fleming reports the completion of the Pennsylvania state road from Milesburg to Erie, begun in 1799; the road is poorly laid out and built and passes north of present U.S. 322, but serves to open settlement of northwestern Pennsylvania; freight from Philadelphia to Port Barnett on the Allegheny River is \$6 per 100 lbs. and takes 4 weeks. (McKnight)
- Apr. 3, 1804 Pennsylvania act grants the proprietors of the Conewago Canal the right to collect tolls. (PL)
- Apr. 3, 1804 Pennsylvania declares Catawissa Creek to be a public highway as far up as Cherington's Mill. (PL)
- Apr. 3, 1804 Pennsylvania declares Big Fishing Creek from the mouth of Little Fishing Creek up to Jonathan Colby's mill dam to be a public highway. (PL)
- Apr. 4, 1804 N.Y. act permits improving the navigation of rivers in Steuben County by county supervisors through local taxes. (PL)
- Apr. 6, 1804 N.Y. act authorizes raising and additional \$20,000 by lottery to improve the navigation of the Hudson River between Albany and Troy. (PL)
- Apr. 7, 1804 Susquehanna & Bath Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from the end of the Ulster & Delaware Turnpike on the North Branch of the Susquehanna River to Bath in Steuben County. (PL)
- Apr. 11, 1804 New York act bans unincorporated banking associations from issuing notes; exempts the Mercantile Company of Albany and the Merchants Bank at New York until May 7, 1805, to give them time to close up their affairs; the Republican-controlled Legislature has refused to charter any Federalist banks since taking power in 1800, leaving Federalists no option but to form private banks; these are now to be driven out of business. (PL, Seavoy)
- Apr. 15, 1804 Noted surveyor and cartographer Joseph F. Mangin completes the plat of Paulus Hook for Anthony Dey and associates; contains 1,344 lots; over half the land is marsh or under water; the intent, never executed, is to build a

tidewater canal along the western boundary between South Cove and Harsimus Cove. (Winfield, Shaw, McLean)

- Apr. 16, 1804 Cornelius Van Vorst leases the Paulus Hook ferry to Maj. David Hunter for an additional 2 years from May 1, 1805. (Winfield)
- Apr. 18, 1804 Anthony Dey conveys to Abraham Varick the tract at Paulus Hook that he has purchased from Cornelius Van Vorst. (Winfield)
- Apr. 19, 1804 Abraham Varick conveys the two waterfront blocks between York and Grand Streets and ferry rights at Paulus Hook to Anthony Dey, Richard Varick and Jacob Radcliff (1764-1844); the ferry is then moved from Grand Street to York Street. (MB, McLean, Van Winkle)
- Apr. 20, 1804 Abraham Varick conveys the rest of Paulus Hook to Anthony Dey, Richard Varick and Jacob Radcliff as a separate tract; this land is to be sold, while the associates reserve the valuable ferry and wharves. (McLean)
- Apr. 21, 1804 Future merchant John Johnston (1781-1851) arrives in New York from Greenock, Scotland; through the brother of his Scotch employer, he obtains a clerkship in the counting house of James Lenox & William Maitland, private bankers and East India merchants and fellow immigrants from Galloway; within four years he is making small trades of his own, and in 1809-1811 makes two voyages to India as supercargo for Lenox & Maitland. (DeForest)
- Apr. 23, 1804 Aaron Burr, running as an Independent Republican, is defeated in his bid for Gov. of New York by the regular Republican Judge Morgan Lewis (1754-1844); Burr has sought the support of the Federalists, which makes him a pariah to the Republicans, while the Federalist leader Alexander Hamilton detests Burr and undermines him behind the scenes; Burr is now a man without a party and seeks revenge against Hamilton. (Sobel, JHammond)
- Apr. 27, 1804 John Marshall completes the first log cabin in the village of Xenia, Ohio. (Broadstone)
- Apr. 28, 1804 Robert R. Livingston writes to John Stevens introducing Robert Fulton and outlining his steamboat plans; letter was to have been carried by Fulton but was mailed. (DuBois, Shagena)
- Apr. 29, 1804 Robert Fulton leaves Paris for London to push his plan for submarines and torpedoes. (Shagena)
- Spring 1804 Robert Hoops (-1815), brother of Maj. Adam Hoops, settles on his land at what is now Olean, N.Y.; he names the settlement "Hamilton"; Adam Hoops soon suffers financial reverses, and is unable to meet mortgage

payments; the land reverts to the Holland Land Company, a portion later passing to Ebenezer F. Norton; this serves to discourage settlers until about 1810. (Ellis/Cattaraugus)

- May 2, 1804 Work begins on the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal. (Scharf)
- May 4, 1804 Newark Banking & Insurance Company organized by Elisha Boudinot, Pres., William S. Pennington, John Noble Cumming, David D. Crane, Silas Condit, et al. (Atkinson)
- May 5, 1804 New proprietors of Paulus Hook advertise the sale of lots and proposals to build wharves; New York State claims all land to the low-water mark on the N.J. shore, and New York City decides that no wharves can be built at Paulus Hook without its consent. (Stokes)
- May 7, 1804 Henry Addington's British government falls. (Mostert)
- May 10, 1804 John Strickland, a carpenter and father of future architect and engineer William Strickland, is appointed construction foreman of the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal; work begins on the canal feeder between Elk Forge, Pa., and Glasgow, Del., under Benjamin H. Latrobe, Chief Engineer. (Hamlin, Gray)
- May 10, 1804 William Pitt returns as British Prime Minister. (DNB)
- May 14, 1804 Meriwether Lewis (1774-1809) and William Clark (1770-1838) leave St. Louis on a mission to explore the Louisiana Purchase and reach the Pacific. (Mercer)
- May 15, 1804 Auction of first lots at Paulus Hook has to be postponed for want of a map. (Winfield)
- May 1804 John Cox Stevens and Robert L. Stevens travel between New York and Hoboken in the small screw steamboat *Little Juliana*.
- May 1804 William McDonald and Andrew Fisher Henderson of Md. establish a through packet line between Philadelphia and Baltimore with four boats on the Chesapeake to Frenchtown and three on the Delaware from New Castle. (BaltAm, Scharf, Holmes - may have run earlier)
- May 18, 1804 Napoleon is proclaimed hereditary Emperor of the French. (Hague, wiki)
- May 19, 1804 New York City asserts the claim of New York State to all underwater land up to the high water mark on the New Jersey shore and the City's jurisdiction over building wharves at Paulus Hook. (McLean)

- May 20, 1804 Anthony Dey, Richard Varick and Jacob Radcliff contract to have two wharves built at Paulus Hook stretching out to deep water. (McLean)
- May 20, 1804 Isaac Ridgeway Trimble (1804-1888), future civil engineer and Confederate general, born, probably in what is now Monongalia County, West Virginia, the child of Pennsylvania Quakers who had moved first to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia and then to western Pennsylvania; the family moves to Ohio in 1806; in 1810, Trimble is orphaned at the age of six, when both parents die of fever; Trimble is raised by his older siblings, especially his brother David Trimble (1782-1842), who becomes a successful lawyer and Congressman from Kentucky. (Tucker - earlier sources give a birthdate of May 15, 1802 at Culpeper, Va.)
- May 21, 1804 Cornerstone of Trenton Delaware Bridge laid; Theodore Burr designs a series of tied arches made of laminated wood with the deck suspended on vertical iron eyebar chains; there are 5 spans of 203, 198, 161, 186 and 203 feet; each span consists of 5 parallel trusses separating two roadways 11 feet wide and two outside sidewalks of 4'-6"; the entire bridge will be covered by a roof of cedar shingles and has an elaborate arched entry at each end; the sides of the bridge are left open to reduce the wind load. (JSDavis, Griggs)
- June 12, 1804 First auction sale of lots at Paulus Hook (Jersey City) held. (McLean)
- June 1804 Chesapeake & Delaware Canal fixes its route as between the Christiana River and Welch Point at the junction of Back Creek and the Elk River. (Hamlin)
- June 16, 1804 Alvin Adams (1804-1877), founder of Adams Express Company which will have the lucrative PRR express contract, born at Andover, Vt., the son of Jonas and Phoebe Hoar Adams and a descendant of Henry Adams of Braintree, who is also the American founder of the presidential Adams family; Adams is orphaned at an early age. (DAB)
- June 25, 1804 John Thomson and Sarah Levis Thomson, future parents of J. Edgar Thomson, are expelled from the Society of Friends by the Chester Monthly Meeting for marrying contrary to discipline. (CMM)
- June 26, 1804 New York City Common Council passes a resolution promising to cooperate with improvements at Paulus Hook. (McLean)
- June 30, 1804 Britain passes a new Corn Law fixing a high duty of 24 s. 3d. when wheat is below 63s. per quarter, falling to 6d. when over 66s. per quarter; the act is practically inoperative because a decade of poor harvests and high prices begins the same summer. (Barnes)

- Apr. 1805 Good Intent Line established; first through stage line between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh and first regular stage over Allegheny Mountain; runs through once a week in 7 days; speed west of mountain averages 2 MPH. (see July 1804? - Scharf says 8/1804 from hotel of John Tomlinson)
- July 1, 1804 Canadian fur trader John Kinzie (1763-1828) moves his trading post from St. Joseph to the north side of the mouth of the Chicago River, occupying the hut originally built by Jean Baptiste Point du Sable in 1794. (Smith, CHTaylor)
- July 4, 1804 John Tomlinson & Co. of Philadelphia begins advertising a weekly mail stage coach between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh (possibly begun June 29), departing Tomlinson's at the sign of the Spread Eagle on Market Street, Philadelphia, on Friday and Pittsburgh on Wednesday; continues to operate a daily line between Philadelphia and Lancaster and as far as Chambersburg on Tuesdays; runs via Harrisburg and Chambersburg through in 7 days for \$20 fare. (PADA, McKnight; StdHistPitts)
- July 11, 1804 James Patton (1804-1880), future brother-in-law and mentor of PRR Pres. Tom Scott, born at Fort Loudon, Pa.; son of Matthew Patton (1776-1845) and Ann McFarland Patton (1779-1816). (rootsweb)
- July 11, 1804 Aaron Burr mortally wounds Alexander Hamilton (1757-1804) in a duel fought at Weehawken, N.J.; the death of Hamilton and the retirement of John Jay leave the New York Federalists without a leader. (DAB, JHammond)
- July 15, 1804 New stagecoach line begins running through between New York and Albany in 3 days with an \$8 fare. (Reynolds)
- Aug. 1804 First regular stagecoach line begins operating between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh via Lancaster, Harrisburg, Bedford and Greensburg; weekly, running through in about seven days at cost of \$20 plus \$8.20 for meals. (Scharf, Durrenberger - or 4/1805? see above)
- Aug. 1804 Farmers Bank of Maryland organized as a partnership at Annapolis, with a branch at Easton with a capital of \$1.2 million. (Bryan)
- Aug. 18, 1804 At the Treaty of Vincennes, Gov. William Henry Harrison purchases claims of the Delawares to the land north of the Ohio River lying south of the Vincennes Tract and the Vincennes-Clarksville Road and as far west as the Wabash River. (IndLndCessions)
- Aug. 21, 1804 Rev. Eliphalet Nott (1773-1866) elected Pres. of Union College at Schenectady. (Reynolds)

- Summer 1804 Oliver Evans issues a prospectus for the formation of “The Experiment Company,” whose stockholders are intended to finance his experiments with steam engines and the construction of a steam wagon in return for a share of the profits; nothing comes of it. (Bathe)
- Summer 1804 The first two prototype gunboats ordered to be built for the Navy by Pres. Jefferson are launched; Congress gradually approves the construction of over 200 in many small lots in lieu of large ships; designed for river and harbor defense, the gunboats are barely seaworthy and prove useless even for coastal defense. (Fowler, Mostert)
- Sep. 17, 1804 Future National Road Commissioner and Pennsylvania Canal Commissioner William Hopkins (1804-1873) born. (Searight)
- Sep. 26, 1804 Oliver Evans writes to Pres. Elliston Perot of the Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike Road Company proposing to build steam wagons to carry 100 bbl. of flour at 1-3 MPH; the offer is not accepted. (Bathe)
- Oct. 1, 1804 New line of stage coaches inaugurated (?) between Paulus Hook and Philadelphia, including the “Mail Pilot,” “Dilligence,” and “Commercial” lines. (Stokes)
- Oct. 1, 1804 Louisiana Purchase territory is formally organized as the Territory of Orleans (most of the present State of Louisiana) and the District of Louisiana. (wiki)
- Oct. 1804 Riot between laborers on the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal and local residents growing out of a horse race at Elkton; one killed and 30 wounded. (Hamlin)
- Oct. 8, 1804 Bank of Virginia opens at Richmond; it and the branch of the Bank of the United States at Norfolk are the only two banks in the state. (Starnes)
- Oct. 9, 1804 Tertium Quids fail to unseat Dr. Michael Leib, who wins reelection to Congress on the basis of votes from working class Southwark and Northern Liberties; the victory emboldens the city democrats to push more radical reforms, particularly attacking life tenure for judges and reliance on the common law. (Shankman)
- Oct. 11, 1804 Richard Varick, Anthony Dey and Jacob Radcliff divide their property at Paulus Hook into 1,000 shares. (MB)
- Oct. 1804 Riot between Chesapeake & Delaware Canal workers and citizens of Elkton, Md. (Gray)
- Oct. 27, 1804 William Johnston makes the first purchase of a lot at Buffalo, N.Y.

(HPSmith)

- Oct. 29, 1804 Cadiz, Ohio, laid out by Zaccheus A. Beatty and Zaccheus Biggs. (Eckley)
- Nov. 3, 1804 Gov. William Henry Harrison makes the Treaty of St. Louis with the Sauk & Fox by which they cede all claims to 50 million acres consisting of all land north and west of the Illinois and Fox River in northwestern Illinois and southern Wisconsin. (IndLndCessions)
- Nov. 6, 1804 Austria and Russia form a secret alliance against France. (Mercer)
- Nov. 10, 1804 Associates of the Jersey Company incorporated by a group of New York and New Jersey Federalists, including Richard Varick (1753-1831), Anthony Dey (1777-1859), Gen. John Noble Cumming, William S. Pennington (1757-1826) and Elisha Boudinot (1749-1819); charter drafted by Alexander Hamilton; lays out the City of Jersey (Jersey City) on Paulus Hook which it had purchased from the Van Vorst family; owns real estate and ferry rights, including riparian rights to offshore land under water; income from the ferry is to pay the annuity on the Van Vorst mortgage; after 1888 the oldest company in the Pennsylvania Railroad system; Boudinot is the great-grandfather of future PRR Pres. W W. Atterbury. (MB, C&C, McLean)
- Nov. 12, 1804 John Tomlinson & Co. increase frequency of Philadelphia-Pittsburgh mail stage coach to twice a week, leaving Philadelphia Tuesdays and Fridays and Pittsburgh Wednesdays and Saturdays. (PADA)
- Nov. 13, 1804 New Jersey act authorizes the Newark Bank & Insurance Company to open a branch at Paulus Hook with the consent of the Associates of the Jersey Company; this branch becomes known as The Jersey Bank and is formed to participate in the New York money market. (PL)
- Nov. 14, 1804 Trenton & New Brunswick Turnpike Company incorporated to build on a direct line (now U.S. Route 1 and George Street in New Brunswick). (PL)
- Nov. 28, 1804 U.S. House debates a petition from the citizens of Georgetown, Md., to build a dam between Mason's Island and the Virginia shore downstream from Georgetown; following a recent ice jam, the current has cut a new channel west of Mason's Island, while the old channel in front of Georgetown is silting up; the dam will force the water back into the old channel. (Larson/JER 7)
- Nov. 29, 1804 Philadelphia Board of Health contracts with Oliver Evans to build a steam dredging machine. (Bathe)
- Dec. 1, 1804 Newark Turnpike Company incorporated to build from western line of the

property of the Associates of the Jersey Company (Warren Street) to the Hackensack River; state is to subscribe \$12,500, only N.J. subscription to a turnpike. (PL, Lane, McLean)

- Dec. 1, 1804 New Jersey Navigation Company incorporated in New Jersey to build a canal between the Raritan and Delaware Rivers via Assanpink Creek and Millstone River; combination of river improvements and a one-mile cut between Assanpink Creek and Stony Brook; first appearance of this project; estimate of \$100,000 is beyond the means available; there are few subscriptions, despite the backing of wealthy Federalists William Paterson, John Neilson, John N. Simpson, John Bayard and James Ewing; doubts (realistic ones) about the success of using the natural stream beds, competition from other projects, and the renewal of war between England and France combine to kill the project within a year. (PL, Gallatin, Lane, Cranmer)
- Dec. 1, 1804 Germantown & Perkiomen Turnpike Road Company completed from Philadelphia to Perkiomen Bridge (Collegeville) and licensed to take tolls. (PaArch)
- Dec. 2, 1804 Napoleon crowns himself Emperor of the French in an elaborate ceremony in the Cathedral of Notre Dame. (Schom)
- Dec. 2, 1804 Spain declares war on England. (Schom)
- Dec. 3, 1804 Trenton Banking Company incorporated in N.J. with a capital of \$300,000. (PL)
- Dec. 9, 1804 Kentucky Insurance Company authorizes to issue notes based on its assets. (Duke)
- Dec. 10, 1804 Associates of the Jersey Company organized; Richard Varick, Pres.; other Trustees (directors) are Jacob Radcliff, W.W. Woolsey, James Thompson, David B. Ogden, William Halsey, Alexander C. McWhorter, William S. Pennington and Isaac H. Williamson. (MB, McLean - see below)
- Dec. 13, 1804 John Wilkins, Jr., Henry Baldwin and William Gazzam of Pittsburgh issue a circular in favor of building a turnpike from Erie to Waterford, linking the Allegheny River system with Lake Erie. (HistCrawfrdCo)
- Dec. 15, 1804 Pioneer civil engineer George T. Olmstead (1804-1876) born at Montezuma, N.Y. (ancestry.com)
- Dec. 17, 1804 Citizens of Alexandria petition for a bridge across the Potomac River at Alexander's Island that will become the Long Bridge. (Larson/JER 7)

- Dec. 19, 1804 Ohio Canal Company incorporated in Kentucky to build around the Falls of the Ohio at Louisville; possibly done to forestall construction of a canal on the Indiana side of the river. (Fatout)
- Dec. 21, 1804 Trenton & New Brunswick Turnpike Company opens books. (Benedict)
- Dec. 21, 1804 New Brunswick Bridge Company subscribes for \$10,000 of Trenton & New Brunswick Turnpike stock, nearly 1/6 total. (Thompson)
- Dec. 24, 1804 Associates of the Jersey Company organized; Richard Varick, Pres. (MB)
- Dec. 29, 1804 Associates of the Jersey Company appoint Joseph F. Mangin to be Surveyor; Anthony Dey to be agent in New York, and William S. Pennington to be agent in New Jersey; subscribe \$750,000 to The Jersey Bank, which is to establish a bank at Jersey City. (MB)
- 1804 John Stevens establishes a machine shop at Hoboken to support his steam navigation inventions; becomes nucleus of later Camden & Amboy and PRR Marine Shops. (Watkins)
- 1804 John and Robert L. Stevens launch *Little Juliana*, a small open boat with twin screws moved by high-pressure steam; made a few trips but unable to make boiler joints to take the pressure. (Lane)
- 1804 Frankford & Bristol Turnpike Road completed as far as Poquessing Creek. (Battle)
- 1804 Pioneer civil engineer Benjamin Aycrigg (1804-1895) born at what is now Paramus, N.J.; graduates from Columbia College in New York in 1827 before joining the engineer corps of the Lehigh Canal. (RyW)
- 1804 Surveyor Samuel Preston (1756-1834), agent for Philadelphia merchant Henry Drinker's lands in northeastern Pennsylvania, discovers coal on the headwaters of the Lackawanna River at present-day Carbondale. (Swank)
- 1804 Ironmaster George Ege (1748-1829) builds Schuylkill Forge on the Little Schuylkill River just above present Port Clinton, Pa. (Montgomery)
- 1804 Arks and rafts with cargoes worth \$500,000 pass from the North Branch down the Susquehanna River. (EEBrown)
- 1804 John Jordan, a hunter, is the first to settle at the second fork of the West Branch of the Sinnemahoning, now Driftwood. (McKnight)
- 1804 William Boyd sends an ark load of bituminous coal from present-day Clearfield to Columbia, beginning a regular trade from that point; another

- ark is sent from a mile above Clearfield. (Swank, Eavenson)
- 1804 First of the Tyrone Forges built by John Gloninger and George Anshutz; later includes a slitting mill and nail factory. (Swank - Africa has ca. 1805)
- 1804 Juniata Forge built at Petersburg by Samuel Fahnestock and George Shoenberger (1757-1815). (Swank, Africa)
- 1804 John Hayden builds Fairchance Furnace on Georges Creek 6 miles south of Uniontown, Pa.; acquired by John and Andrew Oliphant in 1805. (Swank)
- 1804 Coal discovered near present-day Frostburg, Md., in the mountains west of Cumberland, by a Mr. Riser. (Eavenson)
- 1804 John Anderson (1770-1840) builds the first hotel at Bedford Springs, one mile south of Bedford, Pa., as a health resort. (PaHrtge)
- 1804 Joseph McClurg establishes Pittsburgh Foundry; first iron-working establishment in western Pennsylvania; located on the northeast corner of Smithfield Street & 5th Avenue. (PittsDir, HistPitts, Swank - StdHistPitts has completed announced 2/12/1806)
- 1804 Mail stagecoach service established between Pittsburgh and Wheeling via Washington, Pa. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- 1804 Matthew Hubbard (1783-1869) arrives at Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio, as agent for his father Nehemiah Hubbard. (Williams/Ashtabula, ashtcohs.com)
- 1804 Ohio improves and widens Zane's Trace to 20 feet, making it passable by wagons from Wheeling to Chillicothe, although many stumps remain in the center of the road. (OHS - was a state tax auth 1803 - check PL)
- 1804 Road laid out from the mouth of Yellow Creek in Ohio, along the Ohio River to the Pennsylvania state line. (Doyle)
- 1804 Ohio state road built along the Ohio River from Steubenville to Yellow Creek. (Doyle)
- 1804 Village of New Philadelphia, Ohio, platted by John Knisely. (Mansfield)
- 1804 First cattle from Ohio driven overland to market in Baltimore; this trade will grow to large proportions until diverted to the railroads in the 1850s. (Gephart)
- 1804 Daniel Eaton builds the Hopewell Furnace, the first blast furnace in Ohio, on the west side of Yellow Creek about 1.25 miles from its junction with

the Mahoning River near Youngstown in what is now Poland Township; it is abandoned by 1810. (Swank, Trumbull/Mahoning)

- ca. 1804 Regular mining of bituminous coal in Ohio begins at a point opposite Wheeling. (Eavenson)

- Jan. 1, 1805 Market Street Bridge over Schuylkill River opens in Philadelphia; built by Schuylkill Permanent Bridge Company to replace the floating bridge in use since 1778; cost is over \$250,000; designed by Timothy Palmer (1751-1821); includes allegorical figures representing “Agriculture” and “Commerce” by William Rush, a noted carver of figureheads; the bridge is covered to protect the arches from weather at the insistence of Pres. Richard Peters, creating the first covered bridge in the U.S.; lasts until 1875 and is later used by PRR. (Scharf, Allen, Powers)

- Jan. 1, 1805 Harm J. Huidekoper (1776-1854) becomes agent of the Holland Land Company at Meadville, Pa. (HistCrawfrdCo)

- 1805 Holland Land Company sends Harm Jan Huidekoper (1776-1854) to be its agent for its lands in northwestern Pennsylvania; he settles at Meadville. (HistClarionCo)

- Jan. 1, 1805 Congress orders a land office established at Vincennes, Ind. (Esarey)

- Jan. 1, 1805 First postmaster appointed at St. Louis. (Scharf)

- Jan. 2, 1805 Pioneer civil engineer William Rogers Hopkins (1805-1876) born. (NAF)

- Jan. 4, 1805 Assemblyman Jacob Holgate of Philadelphia introduces a petition for the incorporation of a company to improve the entire Schuylkill River; opposed by residents upriver as a plot by Philadelphians to tax the farmers for using the river. (Powell/Sch)

- Jan. 5, 1805 Maryland act authorizes a lottery to raise money for improving the navigation of Corsica Creek in Queen Anne’s County. (PL)

- Jan. 7, 1805 Elias Boudinot (1740-1821), Joshua Gilpin and Turner Camac (1751-1830) join the Board of the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company. (MB)

- Jan. 9, 1805 John Stevens writes to Nicholas J. Roosevelt describing his scheme for underwater tunnels to be built in sections of wooden tubes, similar to barrels, to be joined and sunk to bottom; proposes one between Hoboken and Manhattan. (DuBois)

- Jan. 10, 1805 Lynchburg, Va., incorporated as a town. (PL)

- Jan. 11, 1805 Congress creates Michigan Territory (excluding the Upper Peninsula west of the Ohio-Indiana line) from that part of Indiana Territory north and west of a line drawn through the southern point on Lake Michigan, then up the center of the lake and straight north to Canada; capital at Detroit, effective June 30; Pres. Jefferson appoints territorial officers on a party basis split between New Englanders and Virginians; most prove inept with no sympathy for the habits of the French residents, and are often at loggerheads among themselves. (Thorpe, Buley, Long, Dunbar)
- Jan. 12, 1805 Maryland act authorizes construction of several turnpike companies; Baltimore & Frederick Town Turnpike Road Company to Boonesborough and Williamsport on the Potomac River; Baltimore & Reisterstown Turnpike Road Company to Westminster in direction of Petersburg, Pa.; Baltimore & York Town Turnpike Road Company to the state line in direction of York. (PL)
- Jan. 12, 1805 "The Pres. & Directors of the Union Bank of Maryland" incorporated by Republicans in opposition to Bank of Maryland; incorporation of a pre-existing joint stock association headed by William Winchester; capital of \$3 million. (PL, Blandi, Browne)
- Jan. 12, 1805 "The Farmers Bank of Maryland" incorporated in Maryland with capital of \$200,000 with offices at Annapolis and Easton. (PL, Blandi)
- Jan. 12, 1805 Union Insurance Company of Maryland incorporated. (Blandi)
- Jan. 12, 1805 Future civil engineer Antes Snyder (1805-1861) born; son of future Pa. Gov. Simon Synder. (findagrave)
- Jan. 1805 Combined move of city and rural democrats to impeach three Federalist judges of the Pennsylvania State Supreme Court for anti-democratic views fails of a necessary two-thirds majority in the Legislature. (Shankman)
- Jan. 16, 1805 Virginia act appoints a superintendent to finish the James River & Kanawha Road. (PL)
- Jan. 17, 1805 Future civil engineer and lawyer John P. Baily (1805-1874) born in Chester County, Pa.; son of Jacob Baily (1775-1854) and Elizabeth Parker Baily, one of the original Delaware Valley Quaker families. (Futhey)
- Jan. 17, 1805 Gen. Benjamin Hovey asks Congress for a grant of 25,000 acres in Indiana to finance the construction of a canal around the Falls of the Ohio. (Fatout)
- Jan. 19, 1805 State of Maryland authorizes raising up to \$50,000 by lotteries to improve the navigation of the Susquehanna River from the head of the Susquehanna Canal to Columbia. (PL)

- Jan. 19, 1805 Falls Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Md. to build from Caton's lime kiln down valley of Jones Falls to Baltimore. (PL)
- Jan. 31, 1805 Trenton & New Brunswick Turnpike Company organized. (Benedict)
- Jan. 31, 1805 Virginia Marine Insurance Company incorporated at Norfolk, Va. (PL)
- Feb. 1, 1805 Richard Varick, Jacob Radcliff and Anthony Dey deed land east of Greene Street, Jersey City, plus ferry rights to the Associates of the Jersey Company. (MB)
- Feb. 1, 1805 Philadelphia *Aurora* notes that the Paulus Hook ferries are frequently blocked by ice, delaying the mails; they are clumsy horse-boats and incapable of breaking the ice. (Stokes)
- Feb. 1, 1805 Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Company petitions Pennsylvania for aid. (Pam)
- Feb. 4, 1805 Rep. Joseph Clay (1769-1811) of Pa. reports a bill in favor of a bridge across the Potomac at Alexander's Island, later the Long Bridge, which had been blocked by Georgetown interests since 1802. (Annals of Cong, Larson/JER 7:4)
- Feb. 11, 1805 Seat of Warren County, Ohio, changed from the house of Ephraim Hathaway to Lebanon. (Long)
- Feb. 14, 1805 Steubenville, Ohio, incorporated as a town. (PL)
- Feb. 15, 1805 Harmony Society organized in Pennsylvania by the followers of the German pietist and mystic Johann Georg (George) Rapp (1757-1847) and his future adopted son Frederick (Reichert) Rapp (1775-1834) who have emigrated to Pennsylvania with their leaders after suffering persecution by the Lutherans of their native Württemberg; the members place all their goods in the common ownership of the society and later adopt a policy of celibacy, expecting the Second Coming within their lifetimes (they view Napoleon and his wars as the Antichrist of Revelation); their first religious commune is on 3,000 acres in Butler County; they later move to the Wabash Valley in Indiana in 1814; unlike many early 19th century communes of religious enthusiasts, the Rappites are skilled farmers and artisans and their leaders will possess exceptionally good business sense; their religion is mystical rather than dogmatic or coercive; unlike the earlier Mennonites and Amish, they embrace modern technology and enjoy refined, if simple, art and architecture; the Society flourishes for 100 years and plays an important role in the development of far western Pennsylvania, including backing the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad. (DAB, Richard,

wiki)

- Feb. 1805 Congress refuses to pass a bill extending Oliver Evans's patents on his flour-milling improvements, which are a major source for funding his inventive activity. (Bathe)
- Feb. 1805 James Geddes, a judge and surveyor of Onondaga County, discusses a probable route for a canal from the Mohawk River to Lake Erie with Jesse Hawley, a merchant of Geneva. (Shaw)
- Feb. 18, 1805 Pa. act authorizes a lottery to raise \$20,000 for improving the navigation of the Susquehanna River and its tributaries: \$5,500 for Columbia to Middletown; \$3,300 from Middletown to the Juniata; \$3,200 for Juniata to Northumberland; \$1,000 for Northumberland to Nanticoke; \$1,000 for Northumberland to Anderson's Creek on the West Branch; \$4,000 to clear Juniata River from mouth to Frankstown and \$1,000 for Raystown Branch to Bedford; also \$1,000 for Bald Eagle Creek to Milesburg. (PL)
- Feb. 21, 1805 Future Ohio Gov. and entrepreneur David Tod (1805-1868) born near Youngstown, Ohio. (Sobel)
- Feb. 22, 1805 Dayton, Ohio, incorporated as a town. (PL)
- ca. early 1805 Silas Whitney builds a wooden railroad consisting of a double-track self-acting plane on Beacon Hill at Boston for the purpose of cutting down the hill and filling the adjacent Charles River flats for the Mount Vernon Proprietors; this is the first reliably documented U.S. railroad; it remains in use through 1806 or 1807. (Gamst)
- Mar. 1, 1805 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company drafts a memorial to the Legislature for an extension of its charter. (MB)
- Mar. 1, 1805 Athens County, Ohio, created from part of Washington County with county seat at Athens; Champaign County created from parts of Franklin and Greene Counties with county seat at Springfield. (Long)
- Mar. 2, 1805 "The President, Managers & Company of the Berks & Dauphin Turnpike Road" incorporated to build from Reading to the Downingtown, Ephrata & Harrisburg Turnpike Road at Hummelstown. (PL)
- Mar. 4, 1805 In his annual message, Pres. Thomas Jefferson proposes applying the federal surplus to rivers, roads, canals, arts, manufactures and education in each state proportional to its representation, providing there is an appropriate constitutional amendment limiting the enlargement of federal powers to these projects only. (Larson)

- Mar. 14, 1805 “The President, Managers & Company for the Purpose of Obtaining Slate from Quarries within the County of Northampton” incorporated in Pa.; first organized attempt to develop the Martinsburg slate bed that outcrops southeast of Blue Mountain between the Delaware and Lehigh Rivers. (PL)
- Mar. 7, 1805 Pennsylvania act authorizes the Gov. to appoint commissioners to meet with those of Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky on the improvement of the navigation of the Ohio River. (PL)
- Mar. 19, 1805 Harm Jan Huidekoper buys from the Holland Land Company 23 of its tracts lying east of the Allegheny River. (HistClarionCo)
- Mar. 21, 1805 Pa. Gov. Thomas McKean (1734-1817) makes impolitic remarks, disparaging his radical Jeffersonian Republican opponents, who are working to reduce the Governor's patronage and curtail the powers of (largely holdover Federalist) judges, as "ignoramus" and "clodhoppers," creating a powerful political backlash. (Higginbotham)
- Mar. 25, 1805 “The President, Managers & Company of the Centre Turnpike Road leading from Reading to Sunbury” incorporated in Pa. (PL)
- Mar. 25, 1805 Greencastle, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Mar. 26, 1805 “The President, Directors & Company of the Merchants Bank in the City of New-York” incorporated in New York by Joshua Sands, et al., with a capital of \$1.25 million; it ends a two-year battle between the Federalists, who favored it, and the Republicans who tried to block it; the charter is alleged to have been obtained by bribery; Republican Gov. Morgan Lewis (1754-1844) supports the charter, leading to a split with the Clinton and Livingston factions of the Republican party. (PL, Stokes, Cleveland/Huertas, JHammond)
- Mar. 27, 1805 Belazeel Wells (1763-1846), founder of Steubenville, buys 40 sections in what is then Columbiana County, Ohio, upon which he later lays out the town of Canton; it is good prairie land and likely to be the seat of a new county to be formed after the expansion of white settlement. (Heald)
- Mar. 28, 1805 Fourth Great Western Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from the west end of the Second Great Western Turnpike at the Chenango River in Sherburne to Fabius in Onondaga County. (PL)
- Mar. 28, 1805 Lake Erie Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from Bath through Angelica and passing the head of Chautauqua Lake to a point on Lake Erie; supported by Philip Church (1778-1861), whose family owns 100,000 acres in Allegany County and by Robert Troup of the Pulteney Estate, but opposed by the Holland Land Company; it is completed as far as

- Angelica by 1814 but no further; all but the western 10 miles is declared a public highway in 1832. (PL, Chazanof)
- Mar. 29, 1805 Erie, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Mar. 29, 1805 Pennsylvania act appropriates \$500 to improve the road through the Narrows between Pittsburgh and Beaver, Pa. (PL)
- Apr. 1, 1805 Lancaster, Elizabethtown & Middletown Turnpike Road Company receives letters patent. (PaArch)
- Apr. 1, 1805 Pennsylvania act declares Wiconisco Creek up to Isaac Ferree's mill to be a public highway. (PL)
- Apr. 1, 1805 Pennsylvania act orders Venango County, Pa., fully organized with a county seat at Franklin. (McKnight)
- Apr. 2, 1805 Jersey Bank organized at Jersey City. (McLean)
- Apr. 2, 1805 Ontario & Genesee Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from Canandaigua through Batavia to Black Rock or Buffalo; not built from refusal of the Holland Land Company to finance it. (PL,)
- Apr. 3, 1805 Republican caucus nominates Simon Snyder (1759-1819) of Selinsgrove as candidate to replace McKean as Governor; marks the shift of party control from Philadelphia to the country and creating a party split between radicals and moderates, city and country. (Higginbotham)
- Apr. 4, 1805 Jesse Hawley (1773-1842) of Ontario County, N.Y., proposes a canal from Lake Erie to Utica and down Mohawk River to Albany, beginning the movement that culminates in the Erie Canal. (Whitford)
- Apr. 4, 1805 Pennsylvania act orders all Revolutionary War era state debts to be presented for redemption by Jan. 7, 1806. (Worthington)
- Apr. 4, 1805 Swiftsure Line of stages inaugurated (?) between New York and Philadelphia. (Stokes - no - Swiftsure line began 1799!!)
- Apr. 4, 1805 The Springhouse & Bethlehem Turnpike Company incorporated in Pa. (PL)
- Apr. 4, 1805 Pennsylvania act declares Wyalusing Creek up to the forks to be a public highway; also any part of Tuscarora Creek below the forks not declared a public highway in 1796. (PL)
- Apr. 4, 1805 Pa. appoints an agent to view the work on the Conemaugh and Kiskiminetas Rivers. (PaArch)

- Apr. 4, 1805 Pennsylvania act appoints commissioners for a state road from Blairs Gap through Ebensburg, Indiana, Kittanning, and Butler to the Ohio state line at the Mahoning River. (PL)
- Apr. 4, 1805 Pennsylvania act appoints commissioners for a direct road from Somerset to Greensburg. (PL)
- Apr. 6, 1805 Village of Kingston, N.Y., incorporated. (French)
- Apr. 10, 1805 New York act divides the Mohawk Turnpike & Bridge Company into the Mohawk Bridge Company, to build a bridge over the Mohawk at Schenectady, and the Mohawk Turnpike Company. (PL)
- Apr. 10, 1805 John S. Newman (1805-1882), future Pres. of the Whitewater Canal and Indiana Central Railway, born at Montgomery County, Ohio. (Crts&LwyrsofIndiana)
- Apr. 11, 1805 Britain and Russia form Third Coalition against France. (Mercer)
- Apr. 13, 1805 Oliver Evans issues a sharply-worded letter to John Stevens, replying to a series of letters by Stevens attacking the practicality of many of his steam engine inventions. (Bathe)
- Apr. 15, 1805 Hoboken ferry leased to Peter Voorhis at \$350. (Stokes)
- Apr. 1805 Mail stage coach line extended from Pittsburgh to Wheeling. (PADA)
- Apr. 1805 John Cox Stevens (1785-1857), son of John Stevens, arrives in England to interest Boulton & Watt in his father's high-pressure tubular boiler. (DuBois)
- Apr. 22, 1805 Baltimore & Frederick Town Turnpike Road Company organized; Jonathan Ellicott, Pres. (Williams/Frederick)
- May. 6, 1805 Associates of the Jersey Company approve form of ferry lease. (MB)
- May 6, 1805 County seat of Wayne County, Pa., moved from Milford to Bethany. (Long)
- May 10, 1805 Post office established at Yellow Springs, Ohio, which prior to the coming of the railroad in 1846 is a mere crossroads. (Broadstone)
- May 14, 1805 Name of seat of Fairfield County, Ohio, changed from New Lexington to Lexington. (Long)
- May 26, 1805 Napoleon creates the puppet Kingdom of Italy with himself as King; goes

on to annex Genoa and Piedmont on June 4. (Schom, Mostert)

- May 29, 1805 Ward, Simpson, Rogers & Co. secure the mail contract between Boston and Philadelphia; establish Mail Coach at \$8.00 and Industry Line of stages at \$5.00 between New York and Philadelphia; soon amalgamated with old line as Cumming, Ward & Co. (Lane)
- May 31, 1805 On behalf of his father John Stevens, John Cox Stevens receives a British patent for a system of generating high-pressure steam using a series of small boilers instead of a large one. (Patnt)
- June 2, 1805 Future PRR civil engineer Samuel Wright Mifflin (1805-1885) is born eastern Lancaster County, son of Jonathan Mifflin and Susannah Wright Mifflin of Wrightsville. (SadsburyMoMeet)
- June 8, 1805 Future VP of New Jersey Railroad John Peter Jackson (1805-1861) born at Aquackanonck, N.J. (present-day Passaic), son of Peter Jackson (1777-1859) and Hester Brinckerhoff Jackson. (litchfieldhistsoc, BioEncycNJ)
- June 11, 1805 A fire levels most of Detroit; newly appointed territorial Judge Augustus Elias Brevoort Woodward (-) is a close friend of Jefferson and shares his bent for architectural idealism, and he has also secured a copy of L'Enfant's plan for Washington, D.C., as a guide; he designs a new plan for Detroit with 200 and 120-foot wide radial avenues and large circular parks as the center of each ward, a scheme far too grandiose for a frontier settlement; a later governor, Lewis Cass, alters the plan and narrows most of the streets, although some elements of the original survive. (Dunbar)
- June 15, 1805 Future Chicago entrepreneur and railroad promoter William Butler Ogden (1805-1877) born at Walton, N.Y. (AmScsflMen)
- June 1805 Matthew Boulton refuses to build John Stevens's high-pressure engine. (DuBois)
- June 30, 1805 Creation of Michigan Territory from Indiana Territory takes effect with capital at Detroit; Indiana Territory loses all of the Lower Peninsula and part of the Upper Peninsula. (Long)
- July 3, 1805 One unnamed county created for all of Michigan Territory with county seat at Detroit. (Long)
- July 4, 1805 Treaty of Fort Industry, Ohio, purchases Indian titles for the lands lying west of the Cuyahoga River and north of the Treaty of Greenville line as far west as the western boundary of the Western Reserve 120 miles west of the Pennsylvania state line or the parallel just west of present-day Sandusky; on the same day, the Connecticut Land Company buys the portion of the

Western Reserve west of the Cuyahoga River. (IndLndCessions, Hubbard, Sipe, Trumbull/Mahoning)

- July 8, 1805 Potomac Company directs Leonard Harbaugh to examine the Shenandoah River to the highest practical point of navigation. (Kapsch)
- July 13, 1805 Oliver Evans advertises in *Philadelphia Gazette* that his rebuilt steam dredge *Oruktor Amphibolos* will run around Centre Square at 25 cents for viewers before being launched; the axles had broken under the weight on the first attempt to move it; the workmen replaced them without pay and are to be reimbursed for their labor with the proceeds of the exhibition; Evans enjoys the victory of literally running circles around Benjamin H. Latrobe's heavy low-pressure engines in the water works. (Bathe, Ferguson - however, there are no eyewitness accounts other than Evans's own notice - in an 1811 letter, Evans claims to have moved a wagon with a load equal to 200 bbl. flour with a 5-6 HP engine)
- July 1805 Oliver Evans's steam-powered amphibious dredge, *Oruktor Amphibolos*; moves by steam to the Schuylkill River and by water from the Schuylkill to the Delaware and upstream as far as Beverly at about 4 MPH, taking advantage of the incoming tide; however, by the end of the year, the Board of Health is still complaining about the dredge not working well. (Bathe)
- July 1805 Postmaster General Gideon Granger contracts with Andrew Marshall of St. Clairsville, Ohio, to establish a line of mail coaches over Zane's Trace between Wheeling and Frankfort, Ky.; however, there is no regular service other than post riders west of Wheeling until 1809. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- July 1805 British High Court of Admiralty upholds the British seizure of the American ship *Essex* that had been on a voyage from Barcelona to Havana by way of Salem, Mass.; such broken voyages were a means for neutrals to avoid British reprisals when trading between belligerents and their colonies, pretending that the cargoes were first imports to and then exports from the U.S.; Britain had winked at this process because it sustained its own commerce and wealth, but growing desperation and the envy of British shipowners have forced a change in policy that eventually leads to war with the U.S. (Mostert, Sharrer)
- July 1805 Britain escalates seizures of U.S. ships trading between her European enemies and their colonies in the West Indies; the number of U.S. ships taken as prizes between 1805 and 1807 rises to 469, from only 59 between 1800 and 1805; risk raises prices and profits. (Sharrer)
- July 16, 1805 Mount Vernon, Ohio, platted by Joseph Walker, Thomas B. Patterson and Benjamin Butler (1779-1872). (Hill/KnoxCo)

- July 23, 1805 British Admiralty courts rule that cargoes begin carried in American vessels between French West Indies and France are subject to seizure unless truly bound for an American port; British seizure of U.S. shipping increases. (EAH)
- July 29, 1805 New York City Council offers a premium of \$500 for the first shipment of 10 chaldrons (29.7 tons if the Newcastle chaldron, 16 tons if the London chaldron) of coal brought from a mine within the state within 10 miles of tidewater or the Hudson River; no such coal deposits exist. (Stokes)
- July 29, 1805 Ferry established across the East River between Grand Street, Manhattan, and Williamsburg, by Richard M. Woodhull, a New York merchant who later lays out Williamsburg as a speculative venture. (Stokes, Stiles)
- Aug. 9, 1805 Austria joins Third Coalition against France. (Mercer)
- Aug. 8, 1805 Pioneer railroad contractor and CNJ official John Owen Sterns (1805-1862) born at Billerica, Mass. (RREmply)
- Aug. 20, 1805 Xenia Township created in Greene County, Ohio. (Robinson)
- Aug. 21, 1805 At the Treaty of Grouseland, Gov. William Henry Harrison compels the Delawares, Potawatomis, Miamis and Wea to cede a block of land between the Ohio and White Rivers and between the 1795 Treaty of Greenville line and the Clarksville-Vincennes Road boundary of the 1804 Treaty of Vincennes; completes clearing southern Indiana Territory along the Ohio River of Indian titles. (IndLndCessions)
- Aug. 22, 1805 Indiana Territory road act requires all white males between 21 and 50 to give 12 days a year to work on the roads. (PL)
- Aug. 23, 1805 Future investment banker John Eliot Thayer (1805-1857) born at Lancaster, Mass., the son of the Rev. Nathaniel Thayer (1769-1840) and Sarah Toppan Thayer (1796-1831). (findagrave)
- Aug. 24, 1805 Indiana Canal Company incorporated in Indiana by Benjamin Hovey, Aaron Burr, Jonathan Dayton, Davis Floyd, Samuel C. Vance, and others, to build a canal around the Falls of the Ohio opposite Louisville; like Burr's Manhattan Company, it is given the power to issue bank notes. (Fatout)
- Aug. 24, 1805 Vincennes, Ind., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Aug. 29, 1805 Napoleon orders his army massed on the Channel to decamp and abandons his planned invasion of England after two years and enormous cost; instead, he launches a lightning attack on Austria. (Schom)

- Sep. 1, 1805 Venango County, Pa., fully organized with county seat at Franklin. (Long)
- Sep. 2, 1805 New yellow fever epidemic hits New York City. (Stokes)
- Sep. 3, 1805 William Brown (1784-) joins his father's Baltimore linen importing business as Alexander Brown & Son. (Brown)
- Sep. 7, 1805 George Clymer of Philadelphia deeds 250 acres to be laid out as the town of Indiana, seat of Indiana County, Pa. (HistIndCo)
- Sep. 26, 1805 City of Philadelphia secures an attachment against Nicholas J. Roosevelt and seizes the Lower Engine House of the Water Works. (Blake)
- Sep. 26, 1805 William Ward and John Humphreys agree to lay out Urbana, Ohio. (ChampaignCo/Bowen)
- Oct. 1, 1805 Mail route extended from Niagara to Buffalo Creek, N.Y. (Young/Chautauqua)
- Oct. 8, 1805 Coalition of moderate Republicans, Federalists and Germans reelects Gov. Thomas McKean and defeats insurgent Democratic candidate Simon Snyder by slim margin of 4,766 votes; coalition also gains the House, while Democrats retain one-vote margin in the Senate; McKean carries Philadelphia proper, while Snyder carries the suburbs. (Higginbotham)
- Oct. 20, 1805 Napoleon forces the surrender of a 23,000-man Austrian army under Gen. Karl Mack (1752-1828) at Ulm; the Austrians had made a precipitous advance into Bavaria without waiting for their Russian allies, who now withdraw eastward into Moravia. (Blanning, Mostert, Lieven)
- Oct. 21, 1805 British Navy under Admiral Horatio Nelson (1758-1805) destroys the Franco-Spanish fleet at Trafalgar, securing British dominance of the seas at the cost of his own life; the loss of its navy hampers Spanish trade with the Americas and its overseas colonies, leading to food shortages. (Mostert, wiki)
- Oct. 26, 1805 Oliver Evans publishes *The Abortion of the Young Steam Engineer's Guide*, the hastily-composed section of what he had hoped to be a longer work on the principles of the steam engine and a companion-piece to his earlier *Young Mill-wright and Miller's Guide*; Congress's failure to extend his patents and the expenses of developing his high-pressure engine have left Evans in debt and depressed. (Bathe)
- Oct. 30, 1805 At the Treaty of Vincennes, the Piankishaw cede a tract of land in southeastern Illinois consisting of most of the drainage basin of the Little Wabash River. (IndLndCessions)

- Nov. 3, 1805 Responding to pressure from Russia, Prussia joins the Third Coalition against France. (Schom)
- Nov. 4, 1805 Armstrong County, Pa., fully organized with county seat at Kittanning. (Long)
- Nov. 5, 1805 Abraham Witmer (1748-1818) of Lancaster, a big speculator in back country lands, donates land for the Clearfield County seat (Clearfield) on site of the old Indian village of Chincklacamoose; it is originally called Old Town; the first sawmills are already being built in the area. (Aldrich)
- Nov. 7, 1805 Lewis and Clark expedition reaches the Pacific at the mouth of the Columbia River. (Mercer)
- Nov. 14, 1805 Napoleon enters Vienna. (Schom)
- Nov. 15, 1805 Bezaleel Wells files the plat for the town of Canton, Ohio, named for the Canton estate outside of Baltimore where Wells grew up. (Heald)
- Nov. 20, 1805 Future PRR Treasurer Thomas Thompson Firth (1805-1881) born at Salem, N.J., the descendant of John Firth, who arrived from London in 1705. (Wilson)
- Nov. 21, 1805 New Jersey act appoints Aaron Ogden (1756-1839), William S. Pennington (1757-1826), James Parker (1776-1868), Lewis Condict (1772-1862) and Alexander MacWhorter commissioners to fix the eastern boundary with New York. (PL)
- Dec. 1, 1805 Work on Chesapeake & Delaware Canal abandoned with no usable part completed after funds exhausted and states refuse any aid. (Gray)
- Dec. 1, 1805 Chesapeake & Delaware Canal petitions Congress for a federal subscription without results. (Rept, Gray)
- Dec. 2, 1805 Napoleon defeats the combined Austrian and Russian armies at Austerlitz with great brutality, losing 8,000 men while inflicting 15,000 casualties and taking 12,000 prisoners; Tsar Alexander I has launched an offensive against the advice of his commander, Marshal Mikhail Kutuzov (1747-1813). (Schom, Blanning, Black, Lieven)
- Dec. 10, 1805 First sale of lots at Indiana, Pa. (HistIndCo)
- Dec. 12, 1805 Commissioners report on the Newark Turnpike Company which has completed its road from Jersey City to Hackensack River (present Newark Avenue); with Passaic & Hackensack Bridge Company forms complete toll

road between Jersey City and Newark. (NJCorps)

- Dec. 1805 Crawford *Weekly Messenger* reports that 11 flatboats and 6 keelboats have passed Meadville on the last freshet on French Creek with a total of 2,230 barrels of salt. (Babcock)
- Dec. 1805 Flour selling at \$7.50 per bbl. in Baltimore brings \$18 in Havana. (Sharrer)
- Dec. 16, 1805 Firelands Company of Connecticut orders a survey made of the Firelands in northwestern Ohio, laying it out into townships 5 miles square. (Baughman)
- Dec. 17, 1805 Sen. Uriah Tracy (1755-1807) of Connecticut reports to Congress on examination of routes for a National Road to Ohio; notes most of the commerce of Ohio is with Philadelphia and Baltimore, and very little with the Potomac or Richmond; Pennsylvania is building a road to the Ohio on its own initiative and already has most of the trade, while Maryland has no intention of building west of the mountains as it has no transmontane territory; a bill is thus drafted for a National Road from Cumberland to Wheeling. (Annalsof Cong, Searight)
- Dec. 26, 1805 Austria signs peace with France at Pressburg; Austria loses Venice, Istria and Dalmatia; Bavaria and Württemberg are raised from duchies to kingdoms and given Austrian territory. (Schom)
- Dec. 27, 1805 Senate passes the bill for a National Road; there is opposition in the House, especially from Pennsylvania and Virginia, where some prefer three separate roads. (AnnalsofCong, Larson)
- Dec. 27, 1805 Napoleon decrees the deposition of the Bourbon King Ferdinand IV (1751-1825) of Naples & Sicily, whose territories the French proceed to conquer. (Schom)
- Dec. 29, 1805 Asa Packer (1805-1879), future coal operator and founder of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, born at Mystic, Conn. (AmScssflMen)
- 1805 Baltimore's exports are valued at \$7,601,300; the combined ports of Massachusetts at \$19,000,000; Pennsylvania at \$13,700,000; and New York at \$23,000,000. (Pancake)
- 1805 Albany & Schenectady Turnpike completed, the first in New York State. (Durrenberger - verify)
- 1805 William Havemeyer (1770-1851) and his brother Frederick C. Havemeyer (1774-1828) open a sugar refinery in Vandam Street, New York City, founding one of the city's leading mercantile dynasties; the Havemeyers will play an important role in the Long Island Railroad. (Trager)

- ca. 1805 Samuel Riddle makes the first shipment of bituminous coal from the Broad Top Field from a mine on the Raystown Branch down the Juniata River. (Eavenson)
- 1805 Pennsylvania act names Ebensburg, settled by the Welsh led by Rev. Rees Lloyd, as the county seat. (Gable - verify PL)
- 1805 Buffalo-Erie Road opens, running about 2 miles back from the lake shore. (HistErieCo)
- 1805 Road opened from Sugar Grove, N.Y., on Chautauqua Lake to Warren County, Pa. (Young/Chautauqua)
- 1805 Boating of seasoned lumber begins from Brokenstraw Creek and other streams in northwestern Pennsylvania downriver to New Orleans. (Babcock)
- 1805 Work begins on the Baltimore & Frederick Town Turnpike Road. (Scharf)
- 1805 James River Company completes its sluice navigation between Westham and Lynchburg, completing the whole 220-mile improvement from Richmond to Crow's Ferry; but there are complaints that it has not met the charter requirement of passing boats of one foot draft in lowest water. (Dunaway)
- 1805 Main ditch of the Dismal Swamp Canal is completed, although it lacks locks at either end and a feeder from Lake Drummond; it is used by shallow-draft flatboats for bringing lumber out of the swamp. (Brown)
- 1805 Canan, Stewart & Moore build Etna Furnance in Catherine Township, the first in Blair County, Pa. (Swank)
- 1805 Robert Montgomery and John Struthers build the second charcoal blast furnace in the Mahoning Valley on Yellow Creek just below the Hopewell Furnace; it is abandoned in 1812, when the workers are drafted into the war effort; Montgomery and Struthers also buy the Hopewell Furnace in 1807. (Trumbull/Mahoning)
- 1805 James Riddle of Cincinnati commands the third barge ever to ascend from New Orleans to Louisville. (Smiths)
- 1805 Road laid out between Springfield, Ohio, and Franklinton (Columbus). (Steels)
- 1805 George Holman, Richard Rue and Thomas McCoy, former soldiers with

George Rogers Clark, are the first settlers on the White Water River about 2 miles south of present Richmond, Ind.; the region is settled primarily by Quakers from North Carolina. (Young)

- 1805 Mail service extended westward from Vincennes to Cahokia, Ill. (Smith)
- 1805 Baring Brothers & Co. sends David Parish to the U.S. as its agent. (Carosso)
- 1805 Leading U.S. China merchant Thomas Handasyd Perkins (1764-1854) writes to John Perkins Cushing, his nephew and manager of the office at Canton on the prospects for selling Turkish opium in China; Perkins is frustrated by the British monopoly on selling opium from India; opium is one product that the Chinese will accept (addiction creates a permanent demand) in lieu of silver in payments for exports of tea, porcelain and silk; as taxes on these exports go to the Imperial coffers, the government often turns a blind eye to the trade and to the activities of Chinese smugglers taking opium from Western ships offshore; Perkins does not begin trading in opium until the War of 1812. (Haddad)
- 1805 Richard Trevithick builds a second locomotive for Christopher Blackett of the Wylam Colliery on Tyneside; build with the assistance of John Steel at John Whinfield's foundry at Gateshead; after a test run at the foundry, it is not accepted because it is too heavy, but the idea of locomotive power is spread to the Northumberland and Durham coalfields. (Rolt)
- 1805 A 15-year cold period begins, worst since the 1690s and peak of the "Little Ice Age"; poor harvests and rising prices in Europe are compounded by the Napoleonic Wars; many emigrate to North America. (Fagan)
- Jan. 1, 1806 Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Company again petitions Pennsylvania for aid. (Pam)
- Jan. 2, 1806 Virginia act authorizes raising \$2,000 by lottery for opening a road from the Monongahela Glades to the mouth of Fishing Creek on the Ohio River. (PL)
- Jan. 3, 1806 Virginia act authorizes raising \$6,000 by lottery to open a road from Thornton's Gap in the Blue Ridge to Fairfax Court House on the Little River Turnpike. (PL)
- Jan. 5, 1806 Stephen Satterlee L'Hommedieu (1806-1875), future Pres. of the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton and Atlantic & Great Western Railroads, born at Sag Harbor, N.Y.; the family moves to Cincinnati in 1810. (RyW)
- Jan. 7, 1806 Pennsylvania is practically out of debt and holds treasury assets of \$1.4 million. (Worthington)

- Jan. 11, 1806 Georgetown, Md., residents petition Congress against a bridge across the Potomac River at Alexander's Island. (Larson/JER 7)
- Jan. 13, 1806 Ferdinand IV and his Court again flee Naples for Sicily, to escape a French invasion force. (Mostert)
- Jan. 1806 Exploring expedition commanded by Lt. Zebulon M. Pike (1779-1813) reaches Pokegama Falls (present Grand Rapids, Minn.) on the headwaters of the Mississippi River and at the western end of the undiscovered Mesabi Iron Range. (Walker)
- Jan. 16, 1806 Wheeling, Va. (now W.Va.) incorporated as a town. (PL)
- Jan. 18, 1806 A British expeditionary force wins the Battle of Blaauwberg and compels the Dutch to surrender the Cape of Good Hope colony permanently; the British rule undisturbed for a century, controlling the sea lanes to India. (Mostert, wiki)
- Jan. 23, 1806 British Prime Minister William Pitt (1759-1806) dies. (Hague)
- Jan. 25, 1806 Baltimore & Reisterstown Turnpike Road Company authorized to extend from Westminster to Pa. state line via Emmitsburg towards Hanover, Pa. (PL)
- Jan. 28, 1806 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company committee reports that Lottery No. 3 is not proceeding, as the ticket price is too high; Board orders the lottery cancelled and the monies refunded. (MB)
- Jan. 28, 1806 Chesapeake & Delaware Canal petitions Congress for federal aid. (AnnalsOfCong, Ward)
- Jan. 30, 1806 Trenton-Delaware Bridge Company opens five-span covered bridge over the Delaware River; built by noted bridge designer Theodore Burr, who leads his workmen at the head of the parade that crosses it; later used by PRR; stagecoaches now run through between Jersey City and Philadelphia; bridge contains two wagon ways and two foot paths. (USGaz, Lane, Scharf, Wilson)
- Feb. 1, 1806 Virginia act appoints commissioners to explore for a canal from the Roanoke River to the head of Buffalo Creek and across to the Appomattox River, allowing direct access to the upper Roanoke Valley without descending into North Carolina; such a canal is never built. (PL)
- Feb. 5, 1806 Committee of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company presents their bill to the Legislature and stays at Harrisburg until it passes in an

attempt to convince the public that the project is not dead; the House rejects proposals to grant the company all the tax arrearages for Lancaster and Chester Counties and to convert the Canal Lottery to a state lottery; opposition comes from the line of counties along the Maryland border from Chester west, from Lancaster and York Counties, who fear the canal will intercept and divert the Susquehanna trade above them, and from York County interests who fear it will divert money from the Western Turnpike to Pittsburgh. (MB)

- Feb. 6, 1806 Future telegraph pioneer Henry O'Reilly (1806-1886) is born at Carrickmacross, Ulster; the family emigrates to America in 1816; in later life, he adopts the idiosyncratic spelling "O'Rielly". (WwasW, Thompson)
- Feb. 8, 1806 Future Topographical Engineer Howard Stansbury (1806-1863) born at New York City. (WwasW)
- Feb. 10, 1806 Ohio Canal Company petitions Congress for federal aid in building a canal around the Falls of the Ohio; there is some fear in Congress of a log-rolling deal between Sen. James A. Bayard (1767-1815) of Delaware for the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal and Rep. Henry Clay (1777-1852) of Kentucky for the Ohio Canal Company. (AnnalsofCong, Ward, Larson)
- Feb. 14, 1806 Timothy Burr (1771-1822) of Connecticut patents his Burr truss for bridges, consisting of a curved wooden arch supporting a level floor. (PtntIndex)
- Feb. 15, 1806 Cowed by Napoleon's victories, Prussia deserts the Third Coalition and signs a treaty with France, closing her ports to British goods; Britain declares war on Prussia. (Schom)
- Feb. 20, 1806 Burr and Clinton factions of the New York Republican Party make peace. (JHammond)
- Feb. 20, 1806 Eaton, Ohio, platted by William Bruce. (HistPrebleCo)
- Feb. 24, 1806 Harrisburg & Pittsburgh Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa. with a capital of \$520,000 to build on "Southern Route" via Bedford (U.S. Route 30); capital requirements are too large to attract investors. (PL)
- Feb. 24, 1806 A meeting of urban New York City Republicans is held in Martling's Long Room to denounce the Burr-Clinton alliance; these so-called Martling Men eventually merge into Tammany Hall; they are Burr supporters who are not reconciled to an alliance with Clinton. (JHammond)
- Feb. 26, 1806 Robert Hartshorne deed all the land north of a line drawn through the lighthouse to the federal government. (Moss)

- Feb. 26, 1806 Napoleon makes a treaty with Prussia allowing it to seize Hanover, still ruled by the British royal family, in return for closing its ports to British commerce. (Mostert)
- Mar. 1, 1806 Charter supplement to the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company authorizes the Gov. to subscribe 400 shares but not to be paid in until the canal is done; excludes any affected landowner for serving on an award jury for another to prevent outrageous awards; extends the charter to 1820; the bill has passed the House, 51-21, and the Senate, 18-3; the company's committee urges seeking subscriptions and propagandizing among its supporters on the Upper Susquehanna and Juniata. (PL, MB)
- Mar. 1, 1806 Connellsville and Williamsport, Pa., incorporated as boroughs. (PL)
- Mar. 1, 1806 Geauga County, Ohio, created from part of Trumbull County with county seat at New Market. (Long)
- Mar. 3, 1806 Essex & Middlesex Turnpike Company incorporated to build from Newark to New Brunswick (mostly now N.J. Route 27); roadbed between Newark and Elizabeth is now occupied by PRR main line. (PL)
- Mar. 5, 1806 House committee reports a bill to aid the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Company with the recommendation that it is not expedient to grant aid at this time. (AnnalsofCong)
- Mar. 10, 1806 "The President, Directors & Company for Erecting a Permanent Bridge over the River Schuylkill at or near the Place Usually Called Gray's Ferry" (Grays Ferry Bridge Company) incorporated in Pa. to build a bridge across the Schuylkill River below Philadelphia; not successful. (PL, Scharf)
- Mar. 10, 1806 Gettysburg, Pa., incorporated as a borough.(PL)
- Mar. 11, 1806 Levering & Nelms establish a Baltimore-Philadelphia sailing packet line running twice a week, with the land portage between Fredericktown, Md., and Appoquinimink, Del. (BaltAm)
- Mar. 12, 1806 Oliver Evans buys a lot of ground on North 9th Street near Vine and Ridge Streets on which to build his Mars Works, which will include its own foundry, and blacksmith shop. (Bathe)
- Mar. 13, 1806 Conestogo Lock & Dam Navigation Company incorporated in Pa. to improve Conestoga Creek up to Hostettters Mill; no work done. (PL)
- Mar. 14, 1806 Farmers Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build along the Hudson River from Troy to Hudson; not completed until about 1815. (PL)

- Mar. 1806 Philadelphia Society for the Encouragement of Domestic Manufactures organized with Stephen Girard as Pres. (Scharf - not verified)
- Mar. 1806 Prussia closes its ports and rivers to British commerce. (Barnes)
- Mar. 17, 1806 Charter of Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company extended to Jan. 1, 1820. (PL)
- Mar. 17, 1806 Wilkes-Barre, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Mar. 19, 1806 House committee reports that it is inexpedient to grant aid to the Ohio Canal Company because of the state of the public finances. (AnnalsofCong)
- Mar. 21, 1806 Senate committee reports a bill granting the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal an unspecified amount of land in return for stock. (AnnalsofCong)
- Mar. 21, 1806 U.S. House passes bill for a bridge across the Potomac at Washington, D.C.; bill fails in Senate. (Ward)
- Mar. 21, 1806 New York act authorizes Seneca Road Company to build a branch road from Chittenango running by the Onondaga Salt Springs (present day Syracuse) rejoining the main road at the bridge over the outlet to Cayuga Lake. (PL)
- Mar. 25, 1806 Committee of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company recommends a joint Canal Lottery No. 4 to raise \$3,000. (MB)
- Mar. 28, 1806 Susquehanna & Tioga Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa. to build from Berwick to the New York state line in the direction of Newtown (Elmira). (PL)
- Mar. 28, 1806 Bellefonte, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Mar. 29, 1806 Congress authorizes a federally-funded National Road between Cumberland, Md., and Wheeling, Va. and appropriates \$30,000; Pa. votes against the Cumberland terminus by 13-4 and Virginia by 16-2. (CongGlobe, Ward, RdBldgMd)
- Mar. 30, 1806 Napoleon installs his older brother Joseph Bonaparte (1768-1844) as King of Naples. (wiki, Mostert)
- Mar. 31, 1806 Pennsylvania authorizes state subscription for 100 shares of Erie & Waterford Turnpike Road Company; beginning of regular Pa. state aid to private road companies; the state spreads relatively modest subscriptions around the state, making sufficient difference to get the roads built and giving the state a fairly robust turnpike network after 20 years; unlike the

later system in Virginia, this mixed-enterprise system comes with minimal government oversight. (PL)

- Apr. 2, 1806 A new Highland Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from Kingsbridge through Poughkeepsie to Hudson; road is never completed, and those portions that are turnpiked revert to public highways in 1833. (PL)
- Apr. 2, 1806 New York act authorizes laying out a state road from Schenectady through Fort Hunter and Canajoharie to Utica. (PL)
- Apr. 5, 1806 Thomas Richardson & Co. begins operating the Harlem, Bloomingdale & New York Stage, a local line within Manhattan operating on alternate days via the Harlem Road and the Bloomingdale Road (Broadway). (Stokes)
- Apr. 6, 1806 James Scott and Thomas Hetich establish a weekly stage coach between Chambersburg and Baltimore via Gettysburg. (HistCumbAdams)
- Apr. 7, 1806 Oliver Evans conducts a public experiment melting foundry iron with Lehigh coal in a furnace of his own design. (Bathe - Bathe supposes this to have been some of the coal brought down by William Turnbull)
- Apr. 7, 1806 Allegany County, N.Y., created from the southeastern corner of Genesee County with a county seat at Angelica; the western part of the county is part of the Holland Land Company holdings, while the east is part of the Morris Reserve; at the south and center is a 100,000-acre tract owned purchased by the Church family from W. & J. Willink. (Ellis/Cattaraugus, hopefarm.com, French, Chazanof)
- Apr. 12, 1806 U.S. Senate postpones further consideration of the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal aid bill until Dec. 1806. (AnnalsofCong)
- Apr. 18, 1806 U.S. passes first Non-Importation Act banning the imports of certain minor British goods to protest interference with U.S. neutral shipping; the act is made effective Nov. 15 to allow time for a diplomatic settlement. (EAH, Mostert)
- Apr. 21, 1806 Act of Congress calls for a road from the Indiana/Ohio line near Cincinnati via Vincennes to a point opposite St. Louis. (Searight)
- Apr. 21, 1806 Britain embargoes Prussian trade in retaliation for the closing of Prussian ports. (Mostert)
- Apr. 23, 1806 Washington, D.C. Common Council grants William M. Duncanson the right to operate a ferry from the foot of Maryland Avenue to Alexanders Island near the Virginia shore on a route later occupied by the Long Bridge. (Bryan)

- Apr. 24, 1806 Robert Simpson Cassat (1806-1891), father of future PRR Pres. A. J. Cassatt, born at Wheeling, Va.; son of Dennis Cassat (1776-1808) and Lydia Simpson Cassat (1775-1849). (rootsweb, Mathews)
- Apr. 25, 1806 *H.M.S. Leander*, part of a British blockading squadron lying off Sandy Hook fires on the American coasting sloop *Richard* while in U.S. waters, decapitating the captain's brother and sparking anti-British riots in New York. (Mostert, Burrows/Wallace)
- Apr. 28, 1806 Erie & Waterford Turnpike Road Company receives letters patent. (PaArch)
- Apr. 28, 1806 A coalition of Lewisite Republicans and Federalists wins control of the New York City government. (JHammond)
- May 6, 1806 Salem, Ohio, laid out by John Straughan and Zadok Street; named for Salem, N.J., from which Street has migrated; the area is settled by Quakers. (McCord)
- May 7, 1806 Robert Morris (1734-1806), financier of the Revolution, land speculator and promoter of internal improvements, dies at Philadelphia. (WwasW)
- May 9, 1806 Future iron merchant and financier Jacob P. Jones (1806-1885) born at Merion. (HistPaHospital, PhlInq)
- May 9, 1806 Col. Ebenezer Zane lays out the town of Canton, later Bridgeport, Ohio, opposite Wheeling, Va. (ATMcKelvey)
- May 16, 1806 Britain establishes a naval blockade of the Continent from Brest to Hamburg. (Mercer)
- June 2, 1806 Village of Cambridge, Ohio, platted around the inn and ferry of George Beymer, a settler from Somerset County, Pa. (Sarchet)
- June 6, 1806 Pa. agent reports that all work on the Conemaugh and Kiskiminetas Rivers has been finished. (PaArch)
- June 12, 1806 Suspension bridge pioneer Johan Augustus Roebling (1806-1869) born at Muhlhausen, Prussia; the youngest son of Christoph Polycarpus Roebling (1770-1847), a middle class tobacco manufacturer, and Frederike Dorothea Mueller (1770-1832); he studies architecture and civil engineering at the Konigliche Bau-Akademie in Berlin; he also attends the lectures of the idealistic philosopher Georg Frederick Hegel and develops a metaphysical bent. (DAB, Schuyler, Zink)
- June 14, 1806 Pioneer civil engineer Charles Bezaleel Fisk (1806-1866) born at

Middletown, Conn.; son of John and Mary Fisk.
(Gen&PersonalHistUpperMonValley)

- June 1806 Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Company discharges Chief Engineer Benjamin H. Latrobe. (Gray)
- June 1806 Over 500 bbls. of flour have been sent down the Conococheague Creek from Fiery's Mill to Williamsport on the Potomac. (Kaspch)
- June 1806 Road laid out between Mercer and Franklin, Pa. (Babcock)
- July 12, 1806 Napoleon forms the Confederation of the Rhine, combining 350 German states into 39 states that are buffers and satellites of France, antagonizing Prussia and destroying the 1,000-year-old Holy Roman Empire; Holy Roman Emperor Francis II abdicates on Aug. 6 and becomes Emperor Francis I of Austria. (Schom, Blanning)
- July 19, 1806 Pa. Gov. Thomas McKean appoints commissioners for the Susquehanna River lottery. (PaArch)
- Sep. 3, 1806 Commissioners of the National Road meet at Cumberland; are Sen. Joseph Kerr (-), Deputy Surveyor of the Virginia Military District in Ohio; Thomas Moore (-) of Maryland; Chairman Elie Williams of Hagerstown; Josias Thompson is chief surveyor. (Raitz)
- Sep. 7, 1806 Future transportation entrepreneur James Kennedy Moorhead (1806-1884) born at Dauphin County, Pa.; son of William Moorhead (1774-1817) and Elizabeth Kennedy Young Moorhead (1774-1847). (BioAnnalsofFrnklnCo.)
- Sep. 13, 1806 Detroit incorporated as a city.
- Sep. 14, 1806 Joshua Ward, George Ward, George Hand, Rowland Ellis, Jr., and William Bethell establish a new line of packets and stages between Baltimore and Philadelphia, landing at Court House Point 7 or 8 miles below Frenchtown with a stage portage to New Castle. (BaltAm)
- Sep. 15, 1806 Bank of Detroit is chartered in Michigan Territory with a capital of \$100,000; Gov. William Hull has become interested in what is actually a scheme of Boston speculators to float worthless banknotes in the East; Judge Augustus Elias Brevoort Woodward sees the bank as an engine of development and becomes Pres.; he has the capital increased to \$1 million and an \$8,000 banking house built; over \$1.6 million in worthless notes are sold in the East at discounts of 10%-25% and eventually presented in Detroit for payment in specie; the scandal tarnishes Michigan banking for decades. (Dunbar - verify Statutes when Congress vetoes charter)

- Sep. 19, 1806 Bank of Detroit incorporated in Michigan Territory, the first chartered bank west of the Alleghenies; it is controlled by Boston capitalists, including Andrew Dexter, Jr., who controls a number of banks in eastern New England; Dexter works the typical scam of circulating notes of banks so remote from one another that the recipient is unable to redeem them for cash; he uses the proceeds to finance his real estate speculations. (Jenks)
- Sep. 26, 1806 Having learned that Napoleon has promised Hanover to both Britain and Prussia as a bargaining chip, Frederick William III of Prussia (1770-1840) sends an ultimatum to France. (Schom)
- Sep. 30, 1806 Future civil engineer and railroad official George Wurtz Hughes (1806-1870) born at Elmira, N.Y. (CongBio)
- Oct. 6, 1806 Peace talks between Britain and France are finally broken off after Britain refuses to give Sicily to Napoleon. (Mostert)
- Oct. 14, 1806 Napoleon crushes the Prussians at the Battle of Jena, while Marshal Louis-Nicolas Davout (1770-1823) defeats the main Prussian army at Auerstädt. (Schom)
- Oct. 14, 1806 Easton Delaware Bridge opens between Easton, Pa., and Phillipsburg, N.J. (Fackenthal/BCHS 6)
- Oct. 14, 1806 Future banker and financier of Midwestern railroads Richard H. Winslow (1806-1861) born. (sortedbynumbers - verify)
- Oct. 24, 1806 New line of stage coaches established between Frederick, Md., and Winchester, Va. (Scharf)
- Oct. 25, 1806 Future contractor and steamboat and railroad entrepreneur George Law (1806-1881) born at New York City. (WwasW)
- Nov. 3, 1806 Indiana County fully organized from part of Westmoreland County with county seat at Indiana. (Long)
- Nov. 5, 1806 Future civil engineer Samuel Honeyman Kneass (1806-1858) born at Philadelphia; son of William Kneass (1780-1840) engraver at the U.S. Mint, and Mary Honeyman Kneass. (WwasW)
- Nov. 6, 1806 Last Prussian units surrender; Russia continues fighting in Poland and East Prussia. (Schom, Lieven)
- Nov. 1806 Easton & Wilkes-Barre Turnpike Road completed from Wilkes-Barre to Tunkhannock (?) Creek via the Great Falls of the Lehigh. (Harvey)

- Nov. 16, 1806 Treasury Secretary Albert Gallatin informs Pres. Thomas Jefferson that the projected Treasury surplus will be \$2-5 million per year by 1809, making ample funds for all internal improvement projects; however, Jefferson has lost control of the Republican Party, as independent factions develop in New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia, leading to a scramble for funds for local projects. (Larson)
- Nov. 21, 1806 Prussia refuses Napoleon's offer of an armistice. (Blanning)
- Nov. 21, 1806 Napoleon issues his Berlin Decree proclaiming a "blockade" of the British Isles (unenforceable without a navy) and closing European ports to British commerce and to neutral ships stopping at Britain; the north German ports of Hamburg, Bremen and Cuxhaven have been the main ports of entry for British goods bound for Europe; Napoleon aims to destroy the British economy, but the demand for British goods in Europe is so great that smugglers successfully evade the blockade. (EAH, Mostert, Blanning)
- Nov. 28, 1806 Elijah Hollingsworth (1806-1866), future co-founder of the car-building and shipbuilding firm of Harlan & Hollingsworth of Wilmington, Del., born. (findagrave)
- Nov. 28, 1806 French enter Warsaw. (Schom)
- Nov. 29, 1806 Potomac Company fires Leonard Harbaugh, who has successfully completed the Great Falls bypass canal, for squandering money on the works on the Shenandoah River. (Kapsch)
- Dec. 1, 1806 Philip Wager elected Pres. of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company, replacing David Lewis. (MB)
- Dec. 6, 1806 National Road commissioners stop work because of snow. (Raitz)
- Dec. 10, 1806 Future civil engineer Henry Pettit (1806-1836) born at Philadelphia; younger brother of Robert Pettit (1804-1878).
- Dec. 11, 1806 Old Republican Rep. John Clopton (1756-1816) of Va. introduces a proposed Constitutional amendment in the U.S. House that would limit the federal government to those powers expressly laid out in the Constitution and prevent any broad construction of assumed powers; among other things it would expressly forbid federal aid for internal improvements; not adopted by Senate. (Annls of Cong, Ward)
- Dec. 13, 1806 Robert Fulton returns to New York, having imported a Boulton & Watt steam engine for his steamboat. (Philip)
- Dec. 1806 In his sixth annual message, Pres. Jefferson calls for a constitutional

- amendment calling for federal aid to internal improvements. (Skeen)
- Dec. 18, 1806 Pennsylvania Commissioners report that work on Raystown Branch of Juniata and Dunnings Creek contracted for in 1798 has been completed; has been done since 1803. (PaArch)
- Dec. 19, 1806 Future civil engineer Benjamin Henry Latrobe, Jr. (1806-1878) born at Philadelphia, the son of Benjamin Henry Latrobe (1764-1820) and Mary Hazlehurst Latrobe. (DAB)
- Dec. 22, 1806 Virginia act authorizes laying out a wagon road from Clarksburg to Point Pleasant on the Ohio River. (PL)
- Dec. 24, 1806 Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Company petitions Pennsylvania for aid for third time. (Pam)
- Dec. 27, 1806 (First) Bank of Kentucky incorporated with a capital of \$1 million, of which half is reserved to the state. (Duke)
- Dec. 30, 1806 Commissioners Eli Williams, Thomas Moore and Joseph Kerr make the first report on the surveys for the National Road. (Searight)
- Dec. 31, 1806 William Pinkney and James Monroe sign a treaty in London giving some clarification as to what the British consider contraband of war; because the British make no concession on the impressment of American sailors or British deserters and immigrants with U.S. papers into the British Navy, Pres. Jefferson rejects the treaty and refuses to send it to Congress. (Mostert)
- Dec. 31, 1806 Mechanics Bank of Baltimore incorporated in Maryland with a capital of \$1 million. (Blandi, Bryan)
- 1806 The value of New York City's imports is nearly twice that of Philadelphia's. (Burrows/Wallace)
- 1806 Samuel Gordon settles at South Amboy, N.J., and establishes a line of sloops to New York with stage connection to Bordentown in competition with the established boat line of Daniel Wilmurth (d. 1824). (Clayton)
- 1806 Value of Maryland's exports has recovered to \$14,298,984 following the end of the Peace of Amiens. (Bryan)
- 1806 Edward Trippe (1771-1840) of Dorchester County, Md., John Ferguson and Jonas Owens establish a line of sailing packets between Baltimore and Head of Elk in competition with old line to Frenchtown; connects with stage portage to ____.

- ca. 1806 James Lee establishes the first window glass factory at Millville, N.J.; they pass through many owners, eventually becoming Whitall, Tatum & Co. in 1857. (Cushing)
- 1806 Clement Biddle (1740-1814) resigns from Clement Biddle & Co., the family mercantile and brokerage business, because of his engagements as Justice of the Court of Common Pleas; the business is continued by his son and partner Thomas Biddle (1776-1857) and John Wharton. (HWest)
- 1806 Samuel D. Ingham (1779-1860) of New Hope leaves the Tertium Quids in favor of the Snyderites; he will be the embodiment of the entrepreneurial Democrat in future years. (Shankman)
- 1806 Robinson & Arndt establish a regular weekly stage coach service established between Wilkes-Barre and Easton, Pa., connecting for Philadelphia. (Bradsby)
- 1806 Baltimore & Frederick Town Turnpike Road is completed between Baltimore and Boonsboro. (RdBldgMd)
- 1806 Road opened from Dunnstown, opposite Lock Haven, Pa., up the West Branch to Cook's Run and over the mountains through Driftwood and north towards the Holland Land Company holdings at Ellicottsville, N.Y. (McKnight)
- 1806 Erie-Pittsburgh post rider rerouted from via Franklin to via Mercer. (HistCrawfrdCo)
- 1806 Joseph Barnett begins rafting lumber down Red Bank Creek from his lands and sawmill in present Jefferson County, Pa. (Smith/Armstrong)
- 1806 State road completed between Pittsburgh and Mercer, Pa. (McKnight)
- 1806 John Metcalf begins mail service between Buffalo and Erie. (Young/Chautauqua)
- 1806 Joseph McClurg establishes his Pittsburgh Foundry, the first in the city; he later produces cannon in the War of 1812. (Pursell - see above)
- ca. 1806 A squatter named Price is the first settler on the site of Renovo, Pa. (clintoncogensociety)
- 1806 Lake Road opens across Pennsylvania following the Lake Erie shore from New York to Ohio. (HistErieCo)

- 1806 Porter, Barton & Co. establish a regular portage service around Niagara Falls from Lewiston and towing with oxen on the river above the Falls up to Black Rock. (Mills)
- 1806 Abijah Smith (-1826) of Derby, Conn., and Lewis Hepburn purchase a tract of 75 acres at Plymouth in the Wyoming Valley for \$500; he begins mining coal from a 26-foot outcrop of red ash anthracite coal in the spring of 1807. (Harvey, Powell)
- 1806 Anthracite coal is discovered in digging the tail-race for the Valley Forge on the upper Schuylkill River east of present-day Pottsville. (Daddow/Bannan)
- 1806 Nat Carey begins selling petroleum collected from natural seeps on Oil Creek in northwestern Pennsylvania as “Seneca Oil”; it has long been collected locally and used for medicinal purposes. (HistButlerCo)
- 1806 Montgomery Furnace built by Robert Montgomery and John Struthers on Yellow Creek a half mile from the Mahoning River; second blast furnace in Ohio; it operates until 1812, when its workers are drafted for the war and it shuts down. (Swank)
- 1806 John Smith and Jeremiah Cox, Quakers from North Carolina who have migrated via western Ohio, settle on the Whitewater River in eastern Indiana on the future site of Richmond; it is just within the Treaty of Greenville Line, with Indian land immediately to the west; Richmond becomes an important Quaker center in the Midwest. (waynet.org)
- 1806 Brothers David Ruffner and Joseph Ruffner begin sinking the first salt well on a salt spring on their property at the junction of Cambell’s Creek and the Great Kanawha River in what is now West Virginia. (Williamson/Daum)
- 1806 British traders, some members of the older Northwest Company of 1783, form the Michilimackinac Company to engage in the fur trade at Mackinac Island; the two companies soon come to an agreement to divide the territory. (Dunbar)
- 1806 Two Shawnee brothers, Elskwatawa (1768-1813), called The Prophet for his quasi-religious preaching, and Tecumseh (1768-1813), begin organizing the Indian nations of the Midwest to reject European culture and Christianity and to form a union to halt American occupation of their lands. (Derleth)
- 1806 The *Sylph*, owned by William Waln and R. H. Wilcocks of Philadelphia, arrives in Canton with the first recorded cargo of Turkish opium sent by American merchants to China; Britain maintains a monopoly of the

lucrative traffic in opium from India to China; opium is one of the few imports, other than silver, that the Chinese will accept regularly in return for exports of tea; Stephen Girard quickly joins the opium trade. (Haddad)

- Winter 1807 John Stevens rejects Robert R. Livingston's offer to join him in his partnership with Robert Fulton by putting up \$1,666 cash. (Shagena)
- Jan. 5, 1807 Charles Gottfried Paleske (1758-1816), attorney and Philadelphia consul for the Kingdom of Prussia, joins the Board of the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company. (MB)
- Jan. 7, 1807 British Cabinet issues Orders-in-Council closing the coasts of France and her allies to commercial shipping. (EAH)
- Jan. 12, 1807 Virginia act approves the location of the National Road in Virginia. (PL)
- Jan. 14, 1807 Napoleon creates a Polish puppet state, the Grand Duchy of Warsaw, from Prussia's Polish provinces; to be ruled by his ally Frederick Augustus, King of Saxony (1750-1827). (Schom)
- Jan. 17, 1807 Farmers & Mechanics Bank Association organized at Philadelphia as an unincorporated joint stock company with a capital of \$605,600 in \$50 shares. (Barnes)
- Jan. 20, 1807 Virginia appoints viewers to inspect the completed James River & Kanawha Road. (PL)
- Jan. 26, 1807 Pa. act establishes a ferry across the Susquehanna River 8 miles above the mouth of the Juniata River, vested in Mary Clark and her heirs. (PL)
- Jan. 31, 1807 Pres. Jefferson forwards to Congress the first report of Eli Williams and Thomas Moore of Maryland and Joseph Kerr of Ohio, Commissioners of the National Road. (Crumrine)
- Feb. 3, 1807 Ohio act authorizes raising \$12,000 by lottery for improving the navigation of the Muskingum and Cuyahoga Rivers; although a number of tickets are sold, the drawing set for Jan. 1808 is never held. (PL, Perrin)
- Feb. 4, 1807 Farmers Bank of Delaware incorporated with a majority of the stock owned by the state; main office in Dover with branches in New Castle and Georgetown. (Scharf, Lincoln)
- Feb. 8, 1807 Napoleon defeats the Prussians and Russians at Eylau in East Prussia, but with the loss of 25,000 men. (Blanning, Black)
- Feb. 16, 1807 DeWitt Clinton is removed as Mayor of New York City and other

Clintonians are purged. (JHammond)

- Feb. 22, 1807 Joshua Ward and George Ward establish the “New Line” of sailing packets between Baltimore and Philadelphia with a land portage between Court House Point (Elkton) and New Castle; William McDonald now operates as the “Old Line.” (BaltAm)
- Feb. 23, 1807 Sen. John Quincy Adams (1767-1848) moves for postponing debate on the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal aid bill and instead instructing Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin (1761-1849) to prepare a plan for those projects of national importance; his resolution is defeated; Adams and other New Englanders have opposed the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal's request for grant of federal lands, so Adams proposed a general study to divert pressure for the C&D bill. (AnnalsofCong, Gray)
- Feb. 24, 1807 Senate postpones further consideration of the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal aid bill until the next session. (AnnalsofCong)
- Feb. 25, 1807 Sen. Thomas Worthington (1773-1827) of Ohio offers a resolution directing the Secretary of the Treasury to report on the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Company. (AnnalsofCong)
- Feb. 26, 1807 Sen. Thomas Worthington offers a second resolution directing the Secretary of the Treasury to report on a plan for a turnpike road along the length of the Atlantic Coast. (AnnalsofCong)
- Feb. 28, 1807 John Stevens presents a petition to the New York Legislature seeking assistance for his new plan of floating bridges which he proposes to build across the Hudson and East Rivers. (Stokes)
- Feb. 28, 1807 Senate passes a bill appointing commissioners to examine the routes for a canal around the Falls of the Ohio at Louisville. (AnnalsofCong)
- Mar. 1, 1807 Miami County, Ohio, created from part of Montgomery County with county seat at Staunton. (Long)
- Mar. 1, 1807 Miami Exporting Company abandons its trading schemes and engages exclusively in the banking business. (HistCinHamCo, Huntington)
- Mar. 2, 1807 U.S. Senate passes, 22-3, a new resolution sponsored by Thomas Worthington of Ohio that Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin study the entire problem of internal improvements. (AnnalsofCong)
- Mar. 3, 1807 Congress establishes a land office at Jeffersonville, Ind., and one at an unspecified location for the sale of land between the U.S. Military Reserve and the Connecticut Reserve; settlers from Kentucky and other parts of the

South settle the part of Indiana between New Albany and Bloomington.
(StatutesatLarge, Esarey)

- Mar. 3, 1807 Congress passes an act nullifying the charter of the Bank of Detroit; Andrew Dexter continues to operate it as a private bank. (Jenks)
- Mar. 4, 1807 Pennsylvania again declares the Allegheny River up to the New York state line a public highway; also Bald Eagle Creek for eight miles above Milesburg. (PL)
- Mar. 4, 1807 Harrisburg, Lewistown, Huntingdon & Pittsburgh Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa. with \$545,000 capital to build on “Northern Route” (U.S. Route 22) via Juniata Valley; project is also too large to attract investors. (PL)
- Mar. 6, 1807 New York Legislative committee reports on John Stevens’s plan for floating bridges, postponing any action because of the obstruction of navigation. (Stokes)
- Mar. 11, 1807 Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company accepts Charles G. Paleski’s offer to discharge the company’s debts created by the unpaid prizes from Lottery No. 2. (MB)
- Mar. 11, 1807 Philadelphia Society for the Encouragement of Domestic Manufactures, organized in 1803, incorporated in Pa. with a capital of \$10,000; establishes a hand-loom carpet factory and tries to introduce silk culture. (PL, Scharf)
- Mar. 13, 1807 A group of businessmen at Reading, Pa., form The Society for Promoting the Clearing of the River Schuylkill. (Montgomery)
- Mar. 13, 1807 “The President, Directors & Company of the Mohawk Bank in the City of Schenectady” incorporated in N.Y. (PL)
- Mar. 25, 1807 Oystermouth Railway, an eight-mile horse railway at Swansea, Wales, begins carrying passengers; first railway in the world to carry revenue passengers. (James)
- Mar. 26, 1807 Susquehanna & York Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa. to build from Wrights Ferry to York. (PL)
- Mar. 30, 1807 Aaron Burr is arraigned for treason in Richmond, Va., on charges of plotting to detach all or part of the Trans-Allegheny West from the U.S. and combine it with all or part of Mexico; although Burr is acquitted, he is finished politically. (law2umkc.edu)
- Mar. 31, 1807 Harrisburg & Pittsburgh Turnpike Road Company broken into six separate

- companies, one to build in each county; still no investors. (PL)
- Mar. 31, 1807 York & Maryland Line Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa. (PL)
- Mar. 31, 1807 Pa. act authorizes a lottery to raise \$4,000 to improve Penn's Creek by removing obstructions up to Green's sawmill; the lottery does not take place. (PL, HistJuniata/Susq)
- Mar. 31, 1807 N.Y. declares the Allegheny River to be a public highway in Allegany and Genesee Counties; also the Chautauqua Outlet in Allegany County and Oswayo Creek in Genesee & Allegany Counties. (PL)
- Apr. 3, 1807 New York act appoints Gouverneur Morris (1752-1816), Simeon DeWitt 1756-1834) and John Rutherford (1760-1840) commissioners to develop a unified plan for streets in New York City. (MunEngrsJrnl, Stokes)
- Apr. 3, 1807 New York act appoints commissioners to meet with New Jersey on setting the boundary between the states. (PL)
- Apr. 6, 1807 New York act extends time for Robert Fulton and Robert R. Livingston to make a successful steamboat trial by two years to 1809. (PL)
- Apr. 6, 1807 New York grants an exclusive right to John Metcalf to operate a stage wagon between Canandaigua and Buffalo for 7 years from July 1, 1807, providing he runs at least once a week between July 1 and Oct. 1. (PL)
- Apr. 7, 1807 Gap & Newport Turnpike Company incorporated in Pa., to run from the Philadelphia & Lancaster Turnpike at Gap directly to tidewater at Newport, Del., a shorter distance than to Philadelphia. (PL)
- Apr. 7, 1807 Gettysburg & Petersburg Turnpike Road Company, later controlled by Cumberland Valley Railroad, incorporated in Pa. to build a turnpike from Gettysburg to the Maryland state line. (MB, PL)
- Apr. 7, 1807 Pa. act appropriates \$500 for improving Le Boeuf Creek and French Creek to the southern line of Erie County. (PL)
- Apr. 7, 1807 Pa. act appropriates \$800 for a road from Logans Narrow's via the mouth of Andersons Creek in Clearfield County to the state road leading to Erie. (Africa)
- Apr. 9, 1807 Water power of the Falls of Schuylkill granted to Robert Kennedy on condition he build locks for the passage of Reading boats. (Hagner)
- Apr. 9, 1807 Pennsylvania act authorizes the National Road to pass through Pennsylvania but it must adopt a further deviation to run via Uniontown and Washington.

(Searight)

- Apr. 10, 1807 Meadville, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Apr. 11, 1807 Pennsylvania passes first omnibus Internal Improvement Act since the 1790s; act appropriates \$9,000 to improve the Schuylkill from Falls near Philadelphia to mouth of Little Schuylkill (Port Clinton) and \$400 to improve upper Schuylkill from Morris's Iron Works to Jacob Stahl's mill; \$600 for the Little Schuylkill from Haas' Mill to Locust Creek; \$1,500 for the Susquehanna from Columbia to Middletown, \$1,500 for Middletown to the Juniata; ... ; \$500 for the Juniata from its mouth to Kishacoquillas Creek; \$1,000 for the Bald Eagle Creek to Milesburg; sets pattern for subsequent Pa. acts which spread money around the whole state, but in relatively small sums that can produce only primitive improvements. (PL - Durrenberger has total \$825,000, including \$350,000 for Harrisburg-Pittsburgh tpk, \$200,000 for tpk from Northumberland to Waterford, and \$250,000 for bridges at Northumberland, Harrisburg, Columbia and McCalls Ferry)
- Apr. 1807 Sensing the opportunity of victory in the next gubernatorial election and wishing to build a broader coalition, the rural democrats led by Simon Synder and Nathaniel B. Boileau break with the city democrats and conciliate the Tertium Quids. (Shankman)
- Apr. 27, 1807 Daniel D. Tompkins (1774-1825) a Clintonian Republican, is elected Gov. of New York. (JHammond)
- Apr. 29, 1807 Pa. appoints commissioners to clear the Bald Eagle Creek to Milesburg under the act of 1805. (PaArch)
- Apr. 30, 1807 Oliver Evans first advertises his Mars Works at 9th Street & Ridge Road in the *Aurora*. (Bathe)
- May 6, 1807 Jesse Lynch Williams (1807-1886), later a leading civil engineer in Indiana on on Midwestern railroads, born at Stokes County, N.C.; son of Quaker parents Jesse Williams and Sarah T. Williams; the family moves first to Cincinnati and then to Wayne County, Ind., in 1819. (VllyUpprMaumee)
- May 8, 1807 Pennsylvania Commissioners approve work on Juniata from Aughwick Falls to Frankstown. (PaArch)
- June 3, 1807 York & Maryland Line Turnpike Road Company receives letters patent. (PaArch)
- June 4, 1807 Samuel Riddle, who has opened a coal mine on the Raystown Branch in the Broad Top Coal Field, advertises in the *Huntingdon Gazette* for farmers

who might wish to use it as a fertilizer. (Lytle)

- June 12, 1807 James Strange French (1807-1886), hotel proprietor, failed novelist and future proprietor of the Alexandria & Washington Railroad, born at "Valparaiso," a plantation 20 miles south of Petersburg, Va., the son of William French (1783-1848), a hotel proprietor, and Maria Brooke DuVal (1786-1839). (CDavis)
- June 14, 1807 Napoleon defeats the Russians and Prussians at Friedland in East Prussia, and they retreat eastward to Tilsit. (Schom, Mostert)
- June 22, 1807 *U.S.S. Chesapeake*, a 38-gun frigate which is not in fighting order with its cannon stowed, is attacked without provocation by *H.M.S. Leopard* off the Virginia capes, killing 4 Americans and wounding 23; the British take four American sailors who are refugees from the Royal Navy, including one Jenkin Rufford, whom the Admiralty wanted for verbally abusing his former captain on the streets of Norfolk and for which he is later hanged; the other three, being Americans rather than British subjects, are imprisoned; Norfolk is rocked by rioting against any British parties still ashore, and the port is closed to the Royal Navy; Britain insists that its subjects are subjects for life, and cannot change that status by emigration or naturalization in the U.S.; the Royal Navy is desperate to obtain the 12,000 sailors it needs every year to keep up its strength and to discourage desertions by shows of force and draconian punishments; at the same time, American cannot man its burgeoning neutral merchant marine and Navy with its own citizens and offers wages more than twice those of the Royal Navy; many of the deserting British subjects are actually Irishmen with no love for the British Empire. (Mostert, Cope Diary, Taylor)
- June 25, 1807 Napoleon and Tsar Alexander I (1777-1825) make peace at Tilsit; treaty signed July 7 on a raft in the middle of the Niemen River; Russia recognizes the Grand Duchy of Warsaw as a French puppet state, although it remains uneasy at the prospect of a hostile state on its western doorstep and anything that suggests the restoration of Poland as an independent state; Napoleon accedes to Tsar Alexander's demand that Prussia not be totally partitioned and in return accepts Alexander's offer of mediating a peace with Britain on condition that if no settlement is reached by Dec. 1, Russia will join France against Britain and join the Continental System. (EAH, Schom, Mostert, Lieven)
- June 26, 1807 Milford & Owego Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa. to build from Milford on the Delaware River to the New York state line in the direction of Owego on the North Branch of the Susquehanna River; part of a short-cut from New York across northern New Jersey and northeastern Pennsylvania to the Genesee Country. (PL)

- June 29, 1807 Village of Piqua, Ohio, platted by Armstrong Brandon for John Manning and Matthew Caldwell. (HistMiamiCo)
- July 2, 1807 Anti-British mass meeting held at State House Yard (Independence Hall) in Philadelphia. (Cope Diary)
- July 2, 1807 Pres. Jefferson orders all British armed vessels out of American ports and waters. (Mostert)
- July 7, 1807 First Treaty of Tilsit ends hostilities between France and the exhausted Russians; in a secret supplementary treaty, Alexander I agrees to join the war against Britain. (Black, Barnes)
- July 9, 1807 France signs the Peace of Tilsit with Prussia, which loses a third of its territory and half of its population; the catastrophic defeat brings reformers to power who begin overhauling the army and government, thereby laying the foundations for making Germany the dominant Continental power by the 1870s; Westphalia is made a separate Kingdom with Napoleon's brother, Jerome Bonaparte (1784-1860), as King; by removing Russia and Prussia from the war, Napoleon is able to make his economic blockade of Britain more effective, but the main casualty is Russia's export trade, which is crippled by being cut off from Britain. (Schom, Blanning, Mostert)
- July 22, 1807 Future Camden & Amboy Railroad official William H. Gatzmer (1807-1895) born near Somerville, N.J., the son of German immigrants. (BioEncycPa)
- July 22, 1807 County seat of Miami County, Ohio, established at Troy. (Long)
- July 25, 1807 Treasury Secretary Albert Gallatin writes to Pres. Jefferson recommending improved coastal defense and capturing the still lightly-guarded British naval base at Halifax, N.S., to make it more difficult for Britain to service and supply a blockading fleet along the East Coast. (Arthur)
- July 28, 1807 James Milnor and Charles G. Paleske, with Robert Brooke, Isaac Roberdeau and John Scott meet at Reading and proceed to Wommelsdorf, where they begin walking the line of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company from Kruitzer's plantation where the canal ends to the end of the summit near Kucher's mill, about 9 miles; find the work in good condition, including the five locks at Ley's, and the bridges decayed or collapsed; ironically, with the work defunct, the local residents are found to be less hostile than before. (MB)
- Aug. 3, 1807 Potomac Company Board reports that the locks near the mouth of the Shenandoah River have been completed and the bed of the river improved up to Port Republic on the South Branch, but only seven boat trips have

been made during the year; there are still obstructions in the river, and local residents interfere with the navigation by building fish weirs. (Kapsch)

- Aug. 17, 1807 Robert Fulton's *Steamboat*, aka *North River* or *North River Steamboat*, later popularly known as the *Clermont*, leaves New York on its first voyage to Albany, beginning the first permanent American steam navigation on the Hudson River. (Albion, Flexner)
- Aug. 21, 1807 *Steamboat* returns to New York City. (Philip)
- Aug. 25, 1807 Seat of Champaign County, Ohio, changed from Springfield to Urbana. (Long)
- Sep. 2, 1807 When Denmark refuses to surrender its fleet and naval stores for the duration of the war to prevent them from being used by the French, a British army and naval force stages a preemptive strike, bombarding Copenhagen, forcing it to surrender in three days with a quarter of the city demolished; Denmark retaliates by closing the Sound linking the North and Baltic Seas to British shipping. (Mostert, Barnes)
- Sep. 3, 1807 Robert Fulton registers his vessel simply as *Steamboat*. (Shagena)
- Sep. 4, 1807 Robert Fulton's *Steamboat* begins regular revenue service between New York and Albany. (Stokes, Philip)
- Sep. 9, 1807 Henry Roe Campbell (1807-1879), pioneer civil engineer and inventor of the American type 4-4-0 locomotive, born at Woodbury, N.J.; son of Amos Campbell (d. 1868), himself a carpenter and noted bridge builder, and Ann Roe Campbell (d. 1832). (PWSchopp)
- Sep. 21, 1807 Smethport, Pa., laid out. (McKean/Elk)
- Sep. 28, 1807 Dennis Fulkerson begins running a two-horse carriage or "coachee" between New York and Philadelphia. (Stokes)
- Sep. 30, 1807 Value of U.S. exports for fiscal year ending Sep. 30 peaks at \$108 million, up from \$56 million in 1803. (Higginbotham)
- Oct. 20, 1807 Pioneer civil engineer Loammi Baldwin, Sr. (1745-1807), dies at Woburn, Mass. (WwasW)
- Oct. 20, 1807 Portugal yields to a French ultimatum and closes its ports to Britain. (Mostert)
- Oct. 26, 1807 Pa. appoints an agent to investigate the 1791 contracts with Richard Backhouse and George Wall for improving the Delaware River; work has

not been completed. (PaArch, SenJrnl)

- Oct. 26, 1807 10th Congress convenes; Rep. Joseph B. Varnum (1750/1-1821), a New England farmer with little education, is chosen Speaker of the House to keep the extreme Republican Nathaniel Macon (1757-1837) of North Carolina out of the chair and thus keep the equally extreme John Randolph of Roanoke (1773-1833) out of the chairmanship of the Ways & Means Committee; Varnum sponsors legislation to end the importation of slaves. (wiki, Harrison/JER 7:4)
- Oct. 27, 1807 Jesse Hawley begins series of letters in favor of a "Genesee Canal" in the *Genesee Manger*, published at Canadaigua; would run from Lake Erie to Utica on the Mohawk River and thus augment the flow of that stream so it would be passable at all times. (Whitford, Chazanof)
- Oct. 31, 1807 Machinist Daniel Large (1781?-1861) and family arrive in Philadelphia from Lancashire; in a few years, he will become a pioneer steam engine builder; he is not related to the Large Family of future PRR officials, which has been living in Bucks County since about 1690. (ancestry.com, Pursell)
- Nov. 2, 1807 Cambria County fully organized from northern part of Somerset County with county seat at Ebensburg. (Long)
- Nov. 7, 1807 Russia breaks with Britain, ending the Third Coalition.(Mercer)
- Nov. 9, 1807 Brothers John Smith (1780?-1852) and Abijah Smith (-1826), natives of Derby, Conn., purchase an ark at Wilkes-Barre from John P. Arndt (-) and send their first cargo of red ash anthracite coal, about 50 tons, from their mine at Plymouth, Pa., near Wilkes-Barre, to Columbia, beginning a regular coal trade from the Wyoming Valley; the next year, they bring grates to encourage people to switch to coal and are the first to engage in regular, large-scale shipments of anthracite coal; shipments increase to about 500 tons per year by 1812; the Smiths' coal supplies the lower Susquehanna and is shipped coastwise to Baltimore and New York. (Munsell, WyoH&GS ms, Eavenson, Kulp, PaMines 1891)
- Nov. 11, 1807 Great Britain issues Orders-in-Council blockading all ports from which British vessels are excluded and barring all neutral vessels from those ports unless they first put in at British ports and pay a British duty; extends blockade to Russian ports; the Americans object that these conditions expose them to the full fury of the French and return them to the status of a British colony. (EAH, Mercer, Mostert)
- Nov. 17, 1807 In Treaty of Detroit, Ottawas, Chippewas, Potawatomis and Wyandots cede a large tract of land to U.S. in northwestern Indiana and all of southeastern Michigan lying north of the Maumee River as far west as the parallel of

Fort Defiance and north to the 43rd parallel on the west and White Rock on Lake Huron. (IndLndCessions)

- Nov. 29, 1807 The Portuguese royal family, court and fleet flee to Brazil with a British naval escort to escape an invading French army; this has the secondary effect of opening the former closed colony of Brazil to world trade and provides Britain with a trading partner to replace the embargoed U.S. (Mostert, Pancake)
- Nov. 30, 1807 French occupy Lisbon in Portugal, England's last ally on the Continent. (Schom)
- Dec. 1, 1807 Pennsylvania Legislature convenes; House is split evenly between Democrats (43) and coalition of moderate Republicans, called Tertium Quids (21) and Federalists (22); precludes passage of any controversial legislation. (Higginbotham)
- Dec. 1, 1807 As a sign of hard times, New Jersey revives its 1795 act for the relief of insolvents, with tighter provisions to bar bankrupts from cheating their creditors by assigning assets to friends. (PL)
- Dec. 3, 1807 Princeton & Kingston Turnpike Company incorporated to build over old post road to serve towns bypassed by Trenton & New Brunswick Turnpike. (PL)
- Dec. 4, 1807 New Jersey act authorizes transferring the state's right to subscribe to The Jersey Bank (the Jersey City branch of the Newark Bank & Insurance Company) to Aaron Ogden and associates for \$4,000; the bank is to employ \$50,000 of its capital at or near Elizabethtown. (PL)
- Dec. 4, 1807 "The President & Directors of the Bank of New Brunswick" incorporated in N.J. with a capital of \$100,000. (PL)
- Dec. 8, 1807 Robert Fulton writes to Albert Gallatin offering on his half-baked ideas on canals. (GallatinRept)
- Dec. 13, 1807 Non-Importation Act aimed at British goods reactivated. (EAH)
- Dec. 1807 Road laid out from Franklin, Pa., to the mouth of Oil Creek, now the site of Oil City. (Babcock)
- Dec. 1807 Britain can now meet its own food needs and begins re-exporting U.S. supplies to Portugal. (Sharrer)
- Dec. 17, 1807 Napoleon issues his Milan Decree making all neutral vessels complying with the Order-in-Council subject to French seizure. (EAH)

- Dec. 18, 1807 U.S. Senate passes a bill, 22-6, called for by Pres. Jefferson to impose an embargo on all foreign trade. (Pancake)
- Dec. 22, 1807 U.S. passes the Embargo Act prohibiting all U.S. vessels from engaging in foreign trade over strong New England opposition in the House; the act reflects Jefferson's naive and sentimental attachment to an ideal of rural, self-sufficient isolation and dislike of all things commercial and maritime; the main victim is the American merchant marine, based almost entirely in New England and the Mid-Atlantic States and employing 60,000 men; in fact, the French could do nothing to interfere with U.S. ships anywhere outside Continental Europe, leaving the U.S. the very lucrative West Indian and China trades; U.S. exports fall from \$108 million in 1807 to \$22 million in 1808; smuggling becomes endemic along the borders with Canada; since most U.S. exports were farm products, farmers are among chief sufferers, along with merchants, sailors and others involved in overseas trade; impact is especially severe in New York City; Philadelphia's losses are offset by a boom in domestic manufactures; price of flour in Baltimore falls from \$7.25 per bbl. to \$4.50; the Embargo serves to revive the Federalist Party, particularly in New England, and eventually threatens Republican unity in the Middle Atlantic States. (Higginbotham, Mostert, EEBrown, Taylor, Pancake)
- Dec. 28, 1807 John Stevens writes to Robert R. Livingston asking that they combine their two interests and allow him to operate his own steamboats; also states his opinion that Livingston and Fulton's New York monopoly is unconstitutional if applied to interstate commerce. (DuBois)
- 1807 U.S. foreign trade peaks before the Embargo; \$138 million in imports and \$108.3 million in exports; by 1814, it has fallen to \$13 million in imports and \$7 million in exports. (Rothbard, Arthur)
- 1807 On the eve of direct American involvement in the European wars, before the Embargo stifles trade, New York City's imports are valued at \$7.6 million, up from \$1.4 million in 1790 and nearly double those of Philadelphia; New York exports are valued at \$26 million, up from \$1.4 million in 1790. (Trager)
- 1807 Flour inspections at Baltimore peak at 479,429 bbl.; price is \$6.00-7.25; then collapse under the Embargo. (Sharrer)
- 1807 Trenton & New Brunswick Turnpike (now George Street and U.S. Route 1) completed; it is laid out as a straight line for most of its distance and is often called the "Straight Turnpike," as opposed to the old road that meanders through Kingston and Princeton. (Thompson)

- 1807 William Renshaw opens the old William Bingham mansion on 3rd Street above Spruce Street, Philadelphia, and operates it as the Mansion House Hotel; his first attempt to operate an “Exchange Coffee House” for shipping merchants is unsuccessful. (Scharf)
- 1807 About 2,000 boats are employed carrying coal from the Richmond Basin in Virginia to Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York. (Gallatin - verify)
- 1807 Daniel Miller (1750-1828) settles at the mouth of Wiconisco Creek on the east bank of the Susquehanna River and lays out Millerstown, Pa. (Gunnarsson)
- 1807 Daniel Hughes and Samuel Hughes built Mont Alto Furnace in Franklin County; the pig iron is carted to Williamsport on the Potomac River. (Swank, HistFranklinCo)
- 1807 Ebensburg, Pa., laid out by Rev. Rees Lloyd (1759-1838), a Welsh immigrant. (Storey)
- 1807 Jedediah Strong, Bibbins Follett and Dr. Bradley send the first lumber rafts down the Allegheny River from Olean to Pittsburgh; this makes Pittsburgh the main trading center for the upper river, with goods purchased there returned by keelboat. (Ellis/CattaraugusCo)
- 1807 Gen. Simon Perkins (1771-1844), a former surveyor for the Connecticut Land Company and postmaster at Warren, Ohio, buys 1,000 acres further west, which eventually becomes the site of Akron. (Allen)
- 1807 Lexington, Ohio, the oldest part of what later becomes Alliance, is laid out by Virginia Quakers who wish to escape living in a slave state and emancipate their slaves. (Heald)
- 1807 Village of Dover, Ohio, laid out by Christian Deardorff and others; it is primarily a German settlement and remains small until the Ohio & Erie Canal is built, at which time it is renamed Canal Dover. (Mansfield)
- 1807 First federal land sale in Indiana made at Vincennes. (FactsStates)
- 1807 John Smith and Jeremiah Cox, who have settled on the Whitewater River on the site of present-day Richmond, Ind., open a road to Eaton, Ohio, where it intersects the Wayne Trace built by Gen. Anthony Wayne from Cincinnati to Greenville during his campaigns. (waynet.org)
- 1807 Pres. Jefferson calls on the northern governors to provide 100,000 militia to defend the northern border and threaten an invasion of Canada as a means of securing concessions from the British; Secretary of the Treasury Albert

Gallatin notes that men cannot be spared from the South, where they are needed to guard against slave insurrections. (Taylor)

- 1807 On the death of his father Thomas Guest, John Josiah Guest (1785-1852), the grandson of John Guest, becomes the sole manager of the Dowlais Iron Works at Merthyr Tydfil in South Wales; he turns it into the world's largest iron works; it will supply iron for many early American railroads, but Guest's policy of not accepting payment in securities limits his market. (wiki, Scanlon)
- Jan. 1, 1808 Under a recent act of Congress, the further importation of African slaves into the U.S. is banned as of this date. (wiki)
- Jan. 3, 1808 Robert R. Livingston and Robert Fulton threaten John Stevens citing their New York monopoly and non-existent patent. (Shagena)
- Jan. 3, 1808 Future London merchant banker Robert McCalmont (1808-1883) born; son of Hugh McCalmont (1765-1838) a merchant and native of County Antrim, Ireland. (rootsweb)
- Jan. 4, 1808 Joseph Watson elected Pres. of the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company, replacing Ebenezer Hazard; Hazard and Benjamin R. Morgan leave the Board. (MB)
- Jan. 7, 1808 John Stevens contracts with shipwright John Floyd to build a 100 x 16 hull for a commercial steamboat, later the *Phoenix*. (Turnbull, Heyl)
- Jan. 8, 1808 Associates of the Jersey Company appoint Jacob Radcliff to draft a memorial to Congress to make Jersey City a port of entry. (MB)
- Jan. 9, 1808 Sailors unemployed because of the Embargo parade in New York for work or bread; over 500 ships are idle in the harbor. (Burrows/Wallace)
- Jan. 9, 1808 *Boston Centinel* reprints speeches by John Randolph of Roanoke and Matthew Lyon of Kentucky charging that Jefferson's Embargo will force the U.S. into war with Britain on the side of Napoleon. (Pancake)
- Jan. 15, 1808 Commissioners Elie Williams and Thomas Moore report to Congress, fixing location of the National Road between Cumberland, Md., and Uniontown, Pa. (Rept)
- Jan. 1808 Brothers David Ruffner and Joseph Ruffner strike a strong brine in the first salt well on the Kanawha River in what is now West Virginia; they also encounter crude oil, which allowed to run off; by 1817, there are 15-20 wells feeding 30 furnaces and producing 600,000-700,000 bushels of salt a year; they supply much of the Ohio Valley. (Williamson/Daum)

- Jan. 16, 1808 Sailors at Philadelphia, unemployed because of the Embargo, march on City Hall to demand relief; some public subscriptions are made but peter out by Apr.; many sailors drift north to British Canada to find employment. (Scharf)
- Jan. 18, 1808 Robert Fulton and Robert R. Livingston decline John Stevens's request to join them as partner as the hull proportions and other features of their boat owe nothing to Stevens; offer Stevens instead a 20% interest for a payment of \$9,000, which is based on the total cost of their project since the tests in France; also offer Stevens rights to navigate New York-New Brunswick and Trenton-Philadelphia; Stevens refuses; Fulton and Livingston maintain that their monopoly is not unconstitutional. (DuBois)
- Jan. 18, 1808 Pa. act establishes a ferry on the east side of the Susquehanna River on the road leading from Harrisburg through Selinsgrove to Sunbury, to be operated by William Moorhead (1774-1817) and his heirs. (PL)
- Jan. 18, 1808 Charlestown & Washington Turnpike Company incorporated in Virginia to build from Charlestown on the Ohio River in Brooke County to meet the turnpike from Washington, Pa. (PL)
- Jan. 20, 1808 Maryland act authorizes the operators of the New Castel-Frenchtown stagecoach and wagon portage service to build a road from Frenchtown to the Delaware state line in the direction of Glasgow; any competing operator using the road must pay half the damages paid to build it. (PL)
- Jan. 21, 1808 Act of Congress for the relief of Oliver Evans extends his flour-milling patent for 14 years. (StatutesatLarge)
- Jan. 27, 1808 Fauquier & Alexandria Turnpike Company incorporated in Virginia to build from the Little River Turnpike at Fairfax Court House to Warrenton. (PL)
- Jan. 30, 1808 President, Managers & Company of the Gap & Newport Turnpike Company incorporated in Delaware. (PL)
- Early 1808 Philadelphia Manufacturing Society established by Tench Coxe, Mathew Carey, Samuel Wetherill, et al., to promote the construction of textile factories to replace the British imports cut off by the Embargo. (Scharf)
- Early 1808 Benjamin Tappan, Jr. (-1857) lays out the village of Ravenna, Ohio. (HistPrtgCo)
- Feb. 1, 1808 Harrisburg, Pa., incorporated as a borough. (PL)
- Feb. 1, 1808 A new Council of Appointment restores DeWitt Clinton to Mayor of New

York City; Clinton switches his position to supporting Jefferson's embargo. (JHammond)

- Feb. 2, 1808 Wilmington Turnpike Company (the "Lancaster Pike") incorporated in Delaware to build from Wilmington to the Gap & Newport Turnpike near the Pennsylvania state line; will form a direct route from Lancaster County to the flour milling center of Wilmington. (PL)
- Feb. 3, 1808 Pioneer civil engineer Charles Lyon Schlatter (1808-1886), who will run the state railroad surveys between Harrisburg and Pittsburgh, born at Philadelphia. (Le Roy Barnett)
- Feb. 4, 1808 Anticipating distribution of federal surplus promised by Pres. Jefferson, Joshua Forman of Onondaga County and Benjamin Wright of Oneida County introduce a joint resolution in New York Legislature calling for a canal survey on the most direct route from the Hudson to Lake Erie; it passes the Senate on Feb. 5. (Sweet, Whitford)
- Feb. 5, 1808 Over the opposition of Georgetown interests, Congress charters the Washington Bridge Company to build what becomes known as the Long Bridge across the Potomac between 14th Street and Arlington. (Moore, Harrison)
- Feb. 8, 1808 Sen. Peter B. Porter (1773-1844) of New York advocates federal construction of roads and canals funded by appropriating a portion of the public lands.
- Feb. 10, 1808 John Edgar Thomson (1808-1874), third PRR president and the person most responsible for shaping its physical plant and organization, born near Morton in Springfield Township, Delaware County, Pa.; son of John Thomson (1769-1844) and Sarah Levis Thomson (1776-1859), Quakers who had been expelled from Meeting for marrying in the Presbyterian Church; John Thomson, a surveyor who had worked for the Holland Land Company and others, trains his son as a surveyor; the young Thomson shows considerable mathematical ability; J. Edgar Thomson later buys the old homestead for a country estate and renames it "Pennsdale." (Ward, Watkins, Martin)
- Feb. 10, 1808 "The President, Directors & Company of the Bank of Marietta" incorporated in Ohio by Rufus Putnam, et al.; incorporation of an existing joint-stock company and the first regular bank charter in Ohio; capital is set at \$500,000. (PL)
- Feb. 11, 1808 Quaker Judge Jesse Fell (1751-1830) of Wilkes-Barre succeeds in burning the local anthracite coal in an open grate he has devised in a common fireplace in his tavern; it is supported on three sides by brick, which helps

channel the air through the coal from below, the secret of maintaining combustion; a simple device, it is more easily made and installed in existing fireplaces than more complex stoves such as that of Oliver Evans, leading to the increased use of anthracite for home heating in the Susquehanna Valley. (Harvey, Myers, Eavenson)

- Feb. 13, 1808 John Stevens, in writing to his son Robert L. Stevens, admits that Robert Fulton's steamboat has exceeded his expectations. (DuBois)
- Feb. 13, 1808 Stark County, Ohio, created from parts of Columbiana and Muskingum Counties and non-county areas, but not fully organized; named for Revolutionary War hero Gen. John Stark. (Long, Heald)
- Feb. 15, 1808 Ohio act declares the Hockhocking (Hocking) River to be navigable up to the mouth of Rush Creek (Sugar Grove); first rivers as public highways legislation in Ohio. (PL)
- Feb. 1808 New York Assemblymen Joshua Forman of Onondaga County and Benjamin Wright of Oneida County introduce a resolution for the survey of a canal on the most direct route from Lake Erie to the Hudson River to be financed by Congress. (Shaw)
- Feb. 16, 1808 Napoleon invades Spain. (Schom)
- Feb. 17, 1808 Ohio act declares the following streams to be public highways: the Mahoning River from the Pennsylvania state line up to Jesse Holliday's mill; the Stillwater from the Muskingum River up to Brushy Fork; Wills Creek from the Muskingum up to Cambridge; the Conotton up to the dividing line between the 14th & 15th townships in the 7th range; the Scioto River up to the line of the Treaty of Greenville near Prospect; and the Little Muskingum up to the south line of section 36 in the 2nd township of the 7th range. (PL)
- Feb. 17, 1808 Gallipolis, Ohio, incorporated as a town. (PL)
- Feb. 18, 1808 Bank of Chillicothe incorporated in Ohio with a capital of \$100,000. (Huntington)
- Feb. 19, 1808 In a special message to Congress, Pres. Thomas Jefferson approves the location of the National Road as far as Brownsville, but leaves the location west of that point open; Jefferson bends to Pennsylvania demands that the National Road pass through Uniontown, Brownsville and Washington, Pa. because the state's votes are crucial to the election of James Madison as his successor. (HistBdfdSsetFltn, Crumrine, Harrison/JER 7:4)
- Feb. 20, 1808 Ohio act authorizes a lottery to build a bridge over the mouth of the

Muskingum River at Marietta. (PL)

- Feb. 21, 1808 In line with the Treaty of Tilsit, Russia invades Finland, then a possession of Sweden. (wiki)
- Feb. 22, 1808 DeWitt Clinton appointed to second, non-consecutive term as Mayor of New York City. (Vexler)
- Feb. 22, 1808 Hanover & Maryland Line Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa. to build towards Baltimore. (PL)
- Mar. 1, 1808 Cumming, Ward & Co. splits into two groups, one headed by John Noble Cumming and one by Thomas Ward, to meet public objections to monopoly of a single stage company. (Lane)
- Mar. 1, 1808 Licking County, Ohio, created from part of Fairfield County with county seat at the house of Levi Hays; Knox County created from parts of Fairfield and Franklin Counties with county seat at Mount Vernon; Preble County created from parts of Butler and Montgomery Counties with county seat at Eaton; Richland County created from part of Franklin County and non-county area but not fully organized. (Long)
- Mar. 4, 1808 Danford Newton Barney (1808-1874), a future railroad financier and Pres. of Wells, Fargo & Co., born at Henderson, N.Y., the son of John Barney, a farmer, and Sarah Grow Barney. (wiki)
- Mar. 11, 1808 Cattaraugus County and Chautauqua County, N.Y., created from the portion of Genesee County south of Cattaraugus Creek, and Niagara County created from the northwestern portion north of Cattaraugus Creek; all within the Holland Land Company holdings; Buffalo becomes the county seat of Niagara County and Mayville of Chautauqua County; to gain the support of Philip Church, the western line of towns in Steuben County is added to Allegany County. (French, Chazanof)
- May 11, 1808 Town of Olean incorporated in New York, then being equal to all of Cattaraugus County. (French)
- Mar. 15, 1808 Tuscarawas County, Ohio, created from part of Muskingum County with county seat at New Philadelphia. (Long)
- Mar. 1808 Pa. act authorizes the Gov. to subscribe 2,000 shares to the Harrisburg, Lewistown, Huntingdon & Pittsburgh Turnpike Road Company. (StdHistPitts - verify PL)
- Mar. 1808 Deep depression hits Baltimore in the wake of the Embargo; lasts until the spring of 1809. (Browne)

- Mar. 17, 1808 A popular uprising at Aranjuez topples the Spanish government of the ineffective Charles IV. (wiki)
- Mar. 19, 1808 Charles IV abdicates under pressure, and his son Ferdinand, Prince of Asturias (1784-1833), is proclaimed King Ferdinand VII of Spain; Charles IV then repents his abdication; the French take advantage of this quarrel among the Spanish Bourbons to seize the country; Napoleon invites both claimants to meet him at Bayonne to seek a settlement. (Mostert, wiki)
- Mar. 20, 1808 Master politician and future Pres. Martin Van Buren (1782-1862) first enters public office as Surrogate of Columbia County, N.Y. (JHammond)
- Mar. 21, 1808 Pennsylvania declares the Big Mahoning Creek to be a public highway from the mouth on the Allegheny River to the mouth of Canoe Creek in Indiana County. (PL)
- Mar. 24, 1808 Philadelphia, Brandywine & New London Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa. to build from West Philadelphia through Darby, Chadds Ford, and New London to the Maryland state line in the direction of Baltimore. (PL)
- Mar. 24, 1808 French troops under Marshal Joachim Murat (1767-1815), Napoleon's brother-in-law, occupy Madrid. (Schom)
- Mar. 25, 1808 "The President, Directors & Company of the Bank of Hudson" incorporated in N.Y. with a capital of \$300,000. (PL)
- Mar. 28, 1808 Pennsylvania act requires that partners in unincorporated banking associations shall be fully liable for debts; no out-of-state bank may operate in Pennsylvania. (StfHistPitts)
- Apr. 1, 1808 Delaware County, Ohio, created from part of Franklin County with county seat at Delaware. (Long)
- Apr. 2, 1808 French occupy Rome. (Schom)
- Apr. 4, 1808 Albert Gallatin issues his *Report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the Subject of Public Roads and Canals ...*, prepared with the aid of Benjamin H. Latrobe and recommending a systematic program of federally-funded internal improvements; canals across Cape Cod, New Jersey, Delmarva and Dismal Swamp to create an inland waterway estimated to cost \$3 million, a Maine-to-Georgia post road, improvement of the lower Susquehanna, Potomac, Shenandoah, James and Santee River, canals at the falls of the Roanoke and the Falls of the Ohio at Louisville, canals between the Hudson and Lake Champlain, between the Mohawk and Lake Ontario, and around

Niagara Falls, portage roads between the heads of the West Branch of the Susquehanna and the Allegheny, between the Potomac and Monongahela, between the James and Kanawha, and between the Santee and Tennessee, and roads from Ohio to Detroit, Cincinnati to St. Louis, Nashville to Natchez, and Athens, Ga., to Natchez; the entire program of canals and portage roads to cost \$20 million; Gallatin wants the federal government to provide \$2 million a year for 10 years; by now, however, New England is enraged by the Embargo, the “Tertium Quids” led by John Randolph of Roanoke oppose any threat to states’ rights, and the war and Embargo are destroying the surplus. (Rept, Larson)

- Apr. 4, 1808 Washington Bridge Company opens books in D.C. (NatIntllgr)
- Apr. 6, 1808 Gallatin Report is communicated to Congress. (Rept)
- Apr. 6, 1808 New York Legislative resolution directs Surveyor-General Simeon DeWitt to have a canal survey made between Albany and Lake Erie; DeWitt favors the traditional route via Oswego, Lake Ontario and the Niagara River. (Sweet, Whitford)
- Apr. 6, 1808 John Jacob Astor (1763-1848) incorporates the American Fur Company in New York with a capital of \$1 million to compete with the Canadian Michilimackinac and North West Companies; he comes to control the entire American fur trade by the 1820s, laying the foundation of the Astor family fortune. (PL, DAB, Porter)
- Apr. 6, 1808 New York act directs the construction of a state road from the end of the new Cayuga Bridge via Lyons to Palmyra to intersect the road to Genesee Falls (Rochester). (PL)
- Apr. 6, 1808 Name of the Town of Newtown in Chemung County, N.Y., changed to Elmira. (French)
- Apr. 7, 1808 Hull of John Stevens's steamboat *Phoenix* launched at Hoboken. (Turnbull)
- Apr. 7, 1808 Union Manufacturing Company of Maryland organized to build a cotton mill near Ellicotts Mills; however, during the Embargo, only 11 cotton mills are built in Maryland, as opposed to 64 in Pennsylvania, 54 in Massachusetts, 26 in New York and 15 in Kentucky; the stimulus to manufacturing caused by the Embargo is considerably less in Maryland than other states. (Scharf, Pancake)
- Apr. 11, 1808 New York passes an act for “the further encouragement of steam boats” extending the Fulton-Livingston steamboat monopoly by five years for each additional boat built, up to 30 years, and all other steamboats to be forfeited to them. (PL, Ward, Philip)

- Apr. 11, 1808 New York appropriates \$600 for preliminary survey for a state canal. (Sweet)
- Apr. 11, 1808 New York act authorizes Fourth Great Western Turnpike Company to extend from Fabius to Homer. (PL)
- Apr. 11, 1808 N.Y. act declares Ischua or Olean Creek to be a public highway from the Allegany River up to the north line of Township No. 4 of the Holland Land Company. (PL)
- Apr. 17, 1808 Napoleon issues his Bayonne Decree ordering the confiscation of all U.S. vessels entering French, Italian or Hanseatic ports; France proceeds to seize about \$10 million in U.S. property. (EAH)
- Apr. 21, 1808 Washington & Alexandria Turnpike Company incorporated by act of Congress to build a road from the south end of the Long Bridge to Alexandria; later purchased by the PRR. (PL, MB)
- Apr. 24, 1808 Commissioners report on the first section of the Princeton & Kingston Branch Turnpike Company. (NJCorps)
- Spring 1808 Jacob Cist (1782-1825) moves to Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and forms a partnership with his father-in-law Matthias Hollenback; he becomes a pioneer of the anthracite coal industry and advocate of internal improvements. (Harvey)
- May 2, 1808 Spanish in Madrid begin a rebellion against the French occupation army, which is brutally suppressed by Marshal Joachim Murat. (Schom)
- May 3, 1808 Juniata Stage Company begins running a weekly mail stage between Harrisburg and Alexandria via Millerstown, Lewistown, and Huntingdon. (Ellis/Juniata, Lytle)
- May 5, 1808 First stagecoach arrives in Huntingdon from Harrisburg. (Lytle)
- May 5, 1808 Nathaniel Prime (1768-1840) and Samuel Ward, Jr., (1786-1839) form the New York banking house of Prime & Ward, which grows to become the most important in the city. (Werner)
- May 5, 1808 Having lured both sides of the Spanish royal family to Bayonne, Napoleon forces Carlos IV to concede Spain and its empire to himself. (Mostert, wiki)
- May 6, 1808 Napoleon pressures Spanish King Ferdinand VII (1784-1833) into abdicating and places him under house arrest in France; Napoleon then names his older brother Joseph Bonaparte (1768-1844), presently King of

- Naples & Sicily, as King of Spain; Napoleon's brother-in-law, Joachim Murat (1767-1815), becomes King of Naples. (wiki, Mostert)
- May 9, 1808 Pa. appoints commissioners to improve Bald Eagle Creek under the appropriation of 1807. (PaArch)
- May 9, 1808 Delaware, Ohio, platted by Moses Byxbe on land owned by Henry Baldwin of Pittsburgh. (Perrin/DelCo)
- May 10, 1808 Centre Turnpike Road Company receives letters patent. (PaArch)
- May 14, 1808 Books opened for Washington & Alexandria Turnpike at Gadsby's Tavern in Alexandria. (NatIntlgncr)
- May 16, 1808 Susquehanna & York Borough Turnpike Company receives letters patent. (PaArch)
- May 25, 1808 The assembly of Asturias in Spain declares war on France; other provincial juntas follow; based in the countryside, the juntas begin a brutal guerilla war against France, with no quarter given and atrocities committed by both sides; the Spanish practically invent modern guerilla warfare in which the entire populace is in arms against a foreign army of occupation. (Mostert)
- May 26, 1808 Joseph Bonaparte is proclaimed King of Spain in absentia at Madrid. (wiki)
- June 7, 1808 Ashtabula County, Ohio, created from parts of Geauga and Trumbull Counties but not fully organized; Cuyahoga County created from part of Geauga County but not fully organized; Portage County created from part of Trumbull County with county seat at the house of Benjamin Tappan. (Long)
- June 11, 1808 New York Surveyor-General Simeon DeWitt appoints James Geddes (1763-1838) to make the survey for a New York canal on or near the Oswego River route. (Sweet)
- June 11, 1808 Mansfield, Ohio, laid out by Joseph Larwill of Wooster, James Hedges and Jacob Newman for Col. Jared Mansfield (1759-1830), Surveyor-General of the United States. (Graham/Richland)
- June 14, 1808 A British squadron combines with Spanish insurgents on shore to force the surrender of French naval vessels in the port of Cadiz, which becomes a point of entry for British aid to the Spanish insurgents against Napoleon. (Mostert)
- June 27, 1808 Hanover & Maryland Line Turnpike Road Company receives letters patent. (PaArch)

- Summer 1808 James Geddes surveys for a canal from the Mohawk River to Lake Ontario, along the Niagara River and also the direct route to Lake Erie. (Shaw)
- July 1808 Reacting to the protests of French farmers and low prices, Napoleon permits grain exports to Britain, hoping to drain off specie; this makes the U.S. Embargo unsustainable, as it can no longer gain leverage over Britain by withholding food exports. (Sharrer)
- July 1808 Britain enjoys a bumper harvest, eliminating any possibility of a food shortage under the U.S. Embargo; however, tobacco and cotton prices at least double, hurting importers of those goods; textile workers thrown out of jobs have no vote and thus little means of pressuring the government. (Pancake)
- July 19, 1808 A Spanish peasant army twice its size forces a French invading force under Gen. Pierre Antoine, Comte Dupont de l'Étang (1765-1840), to surrender his 18,000-man army after a four-day battle at Bailén, the first big Spanish victory and the first significant defeat for Napoleon's armies; the French retreat north across the Ebro River; instead of repatriating the French prisoners as promised, the Spanish send them to an island prison camp where over half die before the end of the war; the defeat also inspires Austria and Prussia to begin rearming; however, Spain proves unable to duplicate this landmark victory. (wiki, Mostert, Blanning)
- July 20, 1808 Joseph Bonaparte enters Madrid to take the Spanish throne. (Mostert)
- July 22, 1808 Aaron Ogden (1756-1839), a descendant of one of the original settlers of Elizabethtown, N.J., and Revolutionary War officer, writes to William Cox of Burlington suggesting establishing two lines of stages from his ferry landing at Elizabethtown Point (Elizabethtport) to Burlington via New Brunswick, one for freight and one for passengers. (Ogden Autbio)
- July 23, 1808 Susquehanna & York Borough Turnpike Company organized. (Gibson)
- July 27, 1808 Future Cumberland Valley Railroad official Edward M. Biddle (1808-1889) born at Philadelphia. (BioAnnalsCumbCo)
- Summer 1808 Abijah and John Smith send two arks of coal to Columbia; this time, they bring Fell grates and demonstrate their use. (Harvey)
- Aug. 1, 1808 Richard Trevithick runs a demonstration locomotive, the *Catch-me-who-can*, at 12 MPH on a circular track at London, then drops further development for other experiments; exhibit advertised to start on July 19, then on next day postponed because of weak ground; Aug. 1 is probable start date; Trevithick's fourth locomotive is built by J.U. Rastrick (1780-

1856) at Bridgnorth, Shropshire. (RRAgeGaz, Dilts, Marshall)

- Aug. 1, 1808 Reacting to the defeat of Bailén, Joseph Bonaparte flees Madrid for the first but not last time. (Mostert)
- Aug. 1, 1808 A British expeditionary force of 11,000 men under the command of the Anglo-Irish Sir Arthur Wellesley (1769-1852), the victor of important battles in India and later Duke of Wellington, begins landing at Mondego Bay in Portugal; to avoid Napoleon's Continental System, the British Army in the Peninsular War is supplied with grain and flour from America through 1813, taking over 60% of U.S. grain exports and creating a windfall for farmers in the Mid-Atlantic States. (Black, Arthur)
- Aug. 5, 1808 Hanover & Maryland Line Turnpike Road Company organized. (Gibson)
- Aug. 6, 1808 At the urging of David Acheson, Republican Congressman from southwestern Pennsylvania and Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin, Pres. Jefferson orders the Commissioners of the National Road to run a survey via Washington, Pa., to Wheeling, but also any other route offering better access to Chillicothe and Cincinnati; residents of Washington County are desperate to have the road pass through Washington, Pa., and not pass it to the south. (Crumrine)
- c. Aug. 1808 Robert Fulton and Robert R. Livingston grant Livingston's brother, John R. Livingston (1755-1851), the right to operate a steamboat from New York to Elizabethtown Point and New Brunswick, the same territory once promised to Stevens, in return for 1/6 of gross earnings. (Philip, Dangerfield)
- Aug. 1808 Hezekiah Jeffries begins operating the first local stage coaches between Philadelphia and Norristown. (Bean/MontCo)
- Aug. 21, 1808 British expeditionary force under Sir Arthur Wellesley, later Duke of Wellington, which had originally been mustered for the seizure of Mexico, defeats the French at Vimeiro, secures their withdrawal from Portugal and obtains a base for future operations against the French in Spain. (Mostert)
- Aug. 21, 1808 Robert Kennedy deeds rights to build a bridge over the river at the Falls of Schuylkill to the trustees of the Schuylkill Falls Bridge. (SN Agreemnts)
- Aug. 22, 1808 Baltimore *Federal Republican and Commercial Gazette* reports that farmers in the Monocacy Valley have no market for their produce, while the cost of imports is soaring. (Pancake)
- Aug. 23, 1808 Seat of Portage County, Ohio, changed from the house of Benjamin Tappan to the house of Robert Eaton. (Long)

- Aug. 24, 1808 Spanish Council proclaims Ferdinand VII King of Spain. (wiki)
- Aug. 30, 1808 Elie Williams and Thomas Moore report to Congress fixing location of National Road from Uniontown, Pa., to Wheeling, Va. (Rept)
- Sep. 6, 1808 After several years of wrangling with Oliver Evans over moneys owed and constant difficult with the dredge *Orukter Amphibolos*, the Philadelphia Board of Health pays Evans the \$843 it owes him and retires the dredge. (Bathe)
- Sep. 7, 1808 Erie & Waterford Turnpike Road Company asks for license to collect tolls; Gov. Snyder refuses on grounds have used clay rather than gravel in parts of the road; company begins charging tolls anyway, touching off a long controversy with state. (Synder not inaug. til 12/08?)
- Sep. 10, 1808 John Barber of Columbia elected Secretary of the Susquehanna & York Borough Turnpike Company. (Gibson)
- Sep. 11, 1808 Future investment banker Nathaniel Thayer (1808-1883) born at Lancaster, Mass., the son of the Rev. Nathaniel Thayer (1769-1840) and Sarah Toppan Thayer (1796-1831); he is the younger brother and future partner of John E. Thayer (1805-1857). (MemoirofNThayer)
- Sep. 1808 Officers and mates of idle merchant ships in Philadelphia write to Pres. Jefferson protesting the Embargo; Jefferson replies that it is for the good of the country and is successful. (Scharf)
- Sep. 1808 John McManus (1808-1875), a future railroad contractor and ironmaster, who will join many of Tom Scott's projects in the 1860s and 1870s, born in County Fermanagh, Ulster, Ireland, the son of an Irish Catholic farmer and his English Protestant wife. (Montgomery)
- Sep. 24, 1808 Vincent Loockerman Bradford (1808-1884), future lawyer and Pres. of the Philadelphia & Trenton Railroad, born at Philadelphia, the son of Thomas Bradford (1781-1851), a descendant of pioneer printer William Bradford, and Elizabeth Loockerman Bradford (1779-1842), a descendant of Govert Loockerman, who came to New Netherland in 1633. (Dwight)
- Sep. 27, 1808 John Stevens's steamboat, later the *Phoenix*, makes its first official trial trip between Hoboken and Perth Amboy in 6:45; returns to Hoboken next day in 5:45, averaging about 5.5 MPH; the boiler is strained and it has to lay up for improvements. (DuBois, Heyl - Turnbull implies unofficial trips in July or Aug.)
- Sep. 28, 1808 Erie & Waterford Turnpike Road reported completed. (PaArch)

- Oct. 3, 1808 Federalists take the lower house of the Maryland Assembly in a backlash against the Embargo, although Baltimore still votes Republican. (Pancake)
- Oct. 11, 1808 William Thornton offers to join John Stevens against Fulton and Livingston. (Philip)
- Oct. 11, 1808 Democratic-Republican Simon Snyder (1759-1819) elected Governor of Pennsylvania; first common man to be elected Governor; most Tertium Quids desert the Federalists and support Snyder, while the Snyderites succeed in marginalizing the city democrats led by Michael Leib and William Duane; Democrats also win both Houses of the Legislature by large margins; the Snyderites pursue a program of democratic economic development, such as the expansion of banking and internal improvements, and distance themselves from the radical legal reforms and direct democracy favored by the city democrats. (Higginbotham, Shankman)
- Oct. 11, 1808 Conservative Republican Samuel Huntington (1765-1817) elected Gov. of Ohio with the support of the Federalists; he is the first Connecticut Yankee to hold the office and supports the doctrine of judicial review of legislation. (Sobel)
- Oct. 12, 1808 Tsar Alexander I agrees to support France in any war against Austria. (Mostert)
- Oct. 14, 1808 Indiana road act increases those liable to work on the roads from ages 18 to 50. (PL)
- Oct. 1808 William Thornton writes to the Collector at the Port of New Orleans protesting Robert Fulton's plans to obtain a monopoly grant on the Mississippi River from Louisiana Territory. (Stecker)
- Oct. 19, 1808 John Stevens issues public proposal to operate a line of steamboats New York-New Brunswick and Trenton-Philadelphia; solicits \$75,000 stock subscription in shares of \$75 from outside investors on which Stevens guarantees 8% return; Stevens is able to sell only 51 shares and abandons the idea of building a second boat and returns the money. (Stokes, Proposal, DuBois)
- Oct. 20, 1808 Virginia Republican leader Wilson Cary Nicholas (1761-1820) advises Pres. Jefferson that he cannot count on united support for the Embargo and it should be abandoned. (Pancake)
- Oct. 25, 1808 Subscription books for John Stevens's steamboat line opened at New Brunswick. (Stokes)
- Oct. 27, 1808 Robert R. Livingston, writing as "A Friend to Useful Invention and

Justice,” publishes a letter in the *American Citizen* casting doubt on all of John Stevens’s claims and achievements in building steamboats, which is timed to scare off anyone who might give Stevens financial backing; Stevens believes that Fulton wrote the letter. (Stokes, DuBois)

- Oct. 28, 1808 Robert Fulton offers John Stevens a free grant to operate steamboats between Trenton and Wilmington and the possibility of a Hudson River ferry. (Philip)
- Oct. 28, 1808 Subscription books for John Stevens’s steamboat line opened at the Tontine Coffee House in New York. (Stokes)
- Oct. 28, 1808 British forces enter Spain from Portugal. (Mostert)
- Fall 1808 Wooster, Ohio, laid out by John Bever, William Henry and Joseph H. Larwill; named after Revolutionary War hero Gen. David Wooster (1710-). (Douglass/WayneCo)
- Nov. 2, 1808 William Thornton (1759-1828), Superintendent of Patent Office writes to John Stevens informing him that Robert Fulton has no current U.S. patent, contrary to what Fulton had led Stevens to believe. (Turnbull)
- Nov. 7, 1808 Second, lame duck, session of the 10th Congress begins. (AnnalsofCong)
- Nov. 9, 1808 St. Louis incorporated as a town in Louisiana Territory. (Scharf)
- Nov. 11, 1808 Speaker of the House Joseph B. Varnum refers such part of Pres. Jefferson’s message dealing with internal improvements to a committee chaired by John Randolph of Roanoke, a foe of all federal aid to internal improvements, where it is buried. (Annalsof Cong, Harrison/JER 7:4)
- Nov. 15, 1808 Nicholas J. Roosevelt marries Lydia Latrobe (1792-1878), daughter of Benjamin Henry Latrobe. (WwasW)
- Nov. 1808 Humiliated by the surrender at Bailén, Napoleon launches a massive invasion of Spain that succeeds in retaking most of the cities in a little over a year. (wiki)
- Nov. 24, 1808 Republican Congressional caucus nominates James Madison (1751-1836) for Pres., and George Clinton (1739-1812) of New York is renominated for VP to thwart his presidential ambitions; the New York delegation boycotts the meeting; the Clintons dislike Virginia control of the party and its patronage and want to end the “Virginia Dynasty” of presidents, leading to open antagonism between DeWitt Clinton and Madison. (Broadwater, JHammond)

- Nov. 25, 1808 Treaty of Brownstown cedes to the U.S. two strips of land in northwestern Ohio for military roads; the first from the western boundary of the Western Reserve to the falls of the Maumee with a branch from present-day Fremont south through Upper Sandusky to the Treaty of Greenville line. (IndLndCessions)
- Dec. 1, 1808 Baltimore merchant William Patterson (1752-1835) writes to Virginia Republican leader Wilson Cary Nicholas that continuation of the Embargo will lead either to civil war or giving the government to the Federalists. (Pancake)
- Dec. 1, 1808 Harrison County, Indiana Territory, created from parts of Clark and Knox Counties with county seat at Corydon. (Long)
- Dec. 2, 1808 Amasa Jackson elected Pres. of Associates of the Jersey Company, replacing Richard Varick. (MB)
- Dec. 2, 1808 John Stevens issues a letter "To The Public" criticizing the efforts of Fulton and Livingston to monopolize steam navigation on the Delaware River; says that Thornton has informed him that Fulton has no patent; will run his own boat between New York and New Brunswick as soon as possible next season. (Stokes)
- Dec. 1808 Michigan Territory passes an act banning private banks from issuing notes, aimed at Andrew Dexter's Bank of Detroit. (Jenks)
- Dec. 4, 1808 French with Napoleon in personal command retake Madrid. (Mostert, Schom)
- Dec. 5, 1808 Charles G. Paleske (1758-1816) elected Pres. of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company; Joseph S. Lewis (1778-1836) Treasurer. (MB)
- Dec. 7, 1808 Republican James Madison (1751-1836) elected Pres. over Federalist Charles Cotesworth Pinckney (1746-1825); the Federalists carry New England except Vermont; Madison's victory is secured by the votes of New York and Pennsylvania, especially of Irish immigrants in the cities. (WwasW, Taylor)
- Dec. 10, 1808 Bank of Detroit suspends payments. (Jenks)
- Dec. 12, 1808 Motion passed in the Pa. Assembly supporting the Embargo as patriotic but calling for a committee to address the problem of the shortage of money and falling prices. (Scharf)
- Dec. 1808 James Geddes discovers that a canal from Lake Erie to Palmyra can be

- carried on an embankment across the Irondequoit Valley. (Shaw)
- Dec. 19, 1808 Future PRR director and Philadelphia Quaker flour merchant Alexander James Derbyshire (1808-1879) born at Philadelphia. (RyW)
- Dec. 22, 1808 Union Manufacturing Company of Maryland formally incorporated with a capital of \$1 million to build a cotton mill near Ellicotts Mills. (PL)
- Dec. 25, 1808 Susquehanna Bridge Company incorporated in Maryland to build a toll bridge across the Susquehanna above Havre-de-Grace; no construction under this charter. (PL)
- 1808 Because of the Embargo, Baltimore's exports have fallen to only \$1,904,700, and 80% drop. (Pancake)
- 1808 Aaron Ogden builds a pier at the foot of Marketfield Street (Whitehall Street) as a landing for his steamboats; it becomes the main landing for steamboats to New Brunswick and intermediate points. (Stiles)
- 1808 Through stagecoach lines begin using the New Brunswick & Trenton Turnpike between New Brunswick and Trenton. (Lane)
- 1808 Owen Trippe of Dorchester County, John Ferguson, Jonas Owens and Capt. ___ Taylor establish a new Baltimore-Philadelphia packet line with four sloops running to Court House Point on the Elk River with a wagon portage to a point just below present Delaware City. (Scharf - not advertised in BaltAm)
- ca. 1808 John Pott (1759-1827), purchases the Greenwood Forge on the Schuylkill River at what is later the south side of Pottsville, Pa., originally built by Lewis Reese and Isaac Thomas in 1803. (Nolan/Unger - may be 1807, the date given by Swank)
- 1808 Future PRR VP William Barclay Foster, Jr., (1808-1860) born at Lawrenceville, Pa., now part of Pittsburgh; illegitimate son by a premarital affair of William B. Foster, Sr. (1779-1855), an unsuccessful entrepreneur and local Democratic politician; young Foster is thus half-brother of the future songwriter Stephen Foster (1826-1864). (Wilson & Hare give b. 1808; Foster genealogy and other sources give ca. 1806)
- 1808 Dennis Cassat (1776-1808), grandfather of future PRR Pres. A. J. Cassatt, dies at Wheeling, Va., where he had moved to look after speculative land investments; his widow Lydia Simpson Cassat (1775-1849) moves to Pittsburgh, where she marries attorney Paul Morrow. (Mathews - other sources say he died ca. 1810 at Pittsburgh)

- 1808 Daniel Large builds a 10 HP Watt engine to grind paint and white lead for Wetherill & Bro. at Philadelphia; Large later forms a brief partnership with James Smallman which ends in 1811. (Pursell)
- 1808 Samuel Richards (1769-1842) of Philadelphia buys Weymouth Furnace near Mays Landing, N.J. (Pierce)
- 1808 Gunsmith William Henry, Jr.(1757-1821), builds the first forge in Northampton County (?) at Jacobsburg. (Alderfer - verify)
- 1808 Cayuga Bridge destroyed by high water; rebuilt on a location two miles further north. (EncycNYS)
- 1808 Stage coach line established between Baltimore and Carlisle, Pa. (Scharf)
- 1808 First post service established between Erie and Cleveland. (Williams/Ashtabula)
- 1808 Land Office established at Canton, Ohio, for the sale of lands west of the Tuscarawas River. (Heald)
- 1808 Road laid out from Franklinton (Columbus), Ohio, north through Delaware to Norton, within two miles of the Greenville Treaty line separating Indian territory from the settled parts of Ohio. (Hopley)
- 1808 First road in Wayne County, Ohio, laid out between Massillon and Wooster. (Douglass/Wayne)
- 1808 Corydon, Ind., laid out by R. M. Heth. (Esarey)
- 1808 Keelboats introduced on the Mississippi River; about 14-20 miles per day is the maximum that can be made against the current by muscle power, with a rest period every hour. (Scharf)
- 1808 Under the Embargo, U.S. exports have fallen to bottom at \$22.4 million, down from \$103.8 million in 1807; imports have fallen from \$144.7 million to \$58.1 million; the decline cripples federal revenues, 92% of which come from tariffs on imports. (Arthur)
- 1808 Flour inspections at Baltimore have fallen almost in half to 255,232 bbl., down from 479,429 bbl. in 1807; price has fallen from \$7.25 to \$4.50 per bbl. (Sharrer)
- 1808? With Spain wracked by French occupation and guerilla war, Spain's Latin American colonies begin their own revolts, opening more opportunities for British trade in the West Indies and South America to make up for the loss

- to the U.S. Embargo. (Pancake)
- 1808 Baltimore's exports bottom at \$2.7 million following the Embargo. (Bryan)
- 1808 Daniel and Samuel Hughes build "Hughes's Furnace" at Mont Alto, Pa.; the iron is hauled to Williamsport and floated down the Potomac River. (McCauley)
- 1808 British imports fall to £35.1 million, down from £40.8 million in 1807. (Schom)
- Jan. 1, 1809 Robert Fulton prepares patent application covering combination of steam propulsion, certain hull proportions and side or stern wheels. (Philip)
- Jan. 1, 1809 Stark County, Ohio, fully organized and detached from Columbiana County with county seat at Canton. (Long)
- Jan. 2, 1809 Ebenezer Hazard returns as Pres. of the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company, replacing Joseph Watson; Charles G. Paleske leaves the Board and Benjamin R. Morgan returns. (MB)
- Jan. 3, 1809 Darke County, Ohio, created from part of Miami County but not fully organized. (Long)
- Jan. 5, 1809 Connecticut Land Company dissolved and remaining lands distributes among the proprietors. (EncycCivlndHist)
- Jan. 6, 1809 Associates of the Jersey Company appoints a committee to lease the ferry to Joseph Lyon of Elizabethtown. (MB)
- Jan. 9, 1809 Congress passes the Enforcement Act giving customs officers wide discretion to seize without warrants any goods they think are destined for export; bitterly opposed in New England but also in the Middle Atlantic States. (Higginbotham, Pancake)
- Jan. 1809 Joshua Forman (1777-1848) of New York visits Jefferson to ask for federal aid for the Erie Canal; Jefferson replies that the work is 100 years premature and cites the struggles Virginia is having with the Potomac Company and James River Company. (Whitford).
- Jan. 16, 1809 William Thornton awards himself patents on stern-wheel steamboats and steam boilers, having seen, but not filed, Fulton's patent. (Philip)
- Jan. 17, 1809 Main British army in Spain under Sir John Moore (1761-1809) successfully escapes to its ships at Corunna after a forced march to escape the French; Moore is killed leading his troops in protecting the embarkation from

French attack. (Mostert)

- Jan. 20, 1809 James Geddes reports on canal surveys between Oneida Lake and Lake Erie, although he did not make an actual survey west of the Genesee River; shows practicability of the overland route via Tonawanda Creek and between the Genesee and Mud Creek; makes no cost estimate; Geddes warns against a canal between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario and the Oswego route, as once the traffic is at Oswego, it is closer in lockage to Montreal than to Albany. (Sweet, Whitford, Aitken)
- Jan. 23, 1809 Capt. William Jones chairs a meeting in the State House Yard in Philadelphia in support of the Embargo. (Scharf)
- Jan. 24, 1809 New Castle & Frenchtown Turnpike Company incorporated in Delaware to build direct portage road between Clarkes (Hares) Corner, near New Castle, and Frenchtown on the Elk River. (PL, Val)
- Jan. 24, 1809 Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Company petitions Congress for aid a second time. (Pam)
- Jan. 24, 1809 Boston town meeting condemns the Enforcing Act as unconstitutional and declares all who enforce it “enemies of the State of Massachusetts.” (Scharf)
- Jan. 24, 1809 Ohio act repeals the designation of the Stillwater River as a public highway. (PL)
- Jan. 30, 1809 Oliver Evans first advertises his “Luminous Stove,” a cylindrical stove to burn anthracite coal with an isenglass (mica) window that lets the fire serve as a source of illumination; Evans has grasped the principal that anthracite must be confined in a closed space with a full draft of air passing through the fire from below to maximize the reaction between the oxygen in the air and the carbon in the coal to ensure sustained combustion. (Bathe - verify patent index when patented - Bathe says the 1/16/1800 patent was used as a grain dryer)
- Jan. 31, 1809 Federalists opposed to the Embargo hold a meeting in the State House Yard presided over by Commodore Thomas Truxtun (1755-1822); attempts by several hundred Jeffersonian Republicans to break up the meeting with catcalls and drumbeats are repulsed by a defensive guard of about 1,000 unemployed sailors; after the sailors carry Truxtun in his chair in triumph to the Coffee House, the Republicans take possession of the Yard, pass pro-Embargo resolutions and parade through town. (Scharf)
- Early 1809 Chain bridge completed at the Falls of Schuylkill by Robert Kennedy. (Scharf)

- Feb. 3, 1809 Stage proprietor John Noble Cumming elected a director of the Associates of the Jersey Company. (MB)
- Feb. 3, 1809 Congress separates the Illinois Territory (including present-day Wisconsin) from Indiana Territory, with capital at Kaskaskia and Ninian Edwards (1775-1833) as territorial governor; boundary runs up the Wabash River to Vincennes and then due north; this leaves Indiana with a long sliver of territory defined by the eastern half of Lake Michigan running north to the Canadian border and including portions of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and the Green Bay Peninsula; a majority of the remaining land in Indiana Territory is still owned by Native Americans, so in order to attract a population sufficient for statehood, Gov. Harrison is determined to acquire Indian lands by treaty or force. (Thorpe, Long, Buley/ONW, Vexler, Derleth)
- Feb. 7, 1809 Huron County, Ohio, created from parts of Geauga and Portage Counties but not fully organized. (Long)
- Feb. 8, 1809 Leesburg Turnpike Company incorporated in Va. to build from Alexandria to Leesburg. (PL)
- Feb. 9, 1809 Pioneer civil engineer Phaon Jarrett (1809-1876) born at Lower Nazareth, Northampton County, Pa. (Linn/Clinton)
- Feb. 10, 1809 Federalists hold an anti-Embargo dinner at the Mansion House; Jefferson is toasted as “a philosopher in dignified retirement: may he find full employment in forcing exotics, coercing bullfrogs, and pinning beetles by the side of butterflies,” and “may American blades never have French handles.” (Scharf)
- Feb. 11, 1809 Robert Fulton granted a U.S. patent covering hull proportions and water resistance for his steamboat. (Turnbull)
- Feb. 15, 1809 Bank of Steubenville incorporated in Ohio with a capital of \$100,000; no further banks are incorporated until 1812. (PL, Huntington)
- Feb. 20, 1809 Boardman Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Ohio to build from Poland to Canfield in Trumbull County (line of present US 224); first turnpike company incorporated in Ohio. (PL)
- Feb. 21, 1809 Franklinton Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Ohio to build from Franklinton (Columbus) to Zanesville. (PL)
- Feb. 27, 1808 Congress votes to repeal the Embargo, effective on Mar. 4, the very day Jefferson leaves the presidency; Jefferson blames the activities of turncoat

Republicans Joseph Story and Ezekial Bacon of Massachusetts stampeding the rest of Congress with fears of secession or civil war unless the Embargo is repealed; in fact, Federalist gains in the Middle Atlantic States, formerly solidly Republican, threaten the existence of the party as a unified force. (Pancake)

- Mar. 1, 1809 Outgoing Pres. Thomas Jefferson resignedly signs the repeal of the Embargo Act, effective Mar. 15, and substitutes the Non-Intercourse Act prohibiting trade only with Britain, France, and their colonies; although the Embargo is inflicting economic damage on Great Britain, domestic disruptions have made it politically unsustainable; by this act, Americans can reenter the China trade and trade with Spanish and Portuguese ports; American grain flows to British and Spanish forces in the Peninsular War, and maritime trade in the Northeast begins to revive. (EAH, Mostert - Embargo expired 3/4? when non-intercourse act??)
- Mar. 1, 1809 Creation of Illinois Territory effected; Gov. Edwards divides it into two counties, St. Clair and Randolph, the portion of Knox County within Illinois's boundaries being divided between the two. (Long)
- Mar. 1, 1809 Future steamboat and railroad entrepreneur Cornelius Kingsland Garrison (1809-1885) born at what is now Garrison, N.Y., on the Hudson River. (NYT)
- Mar. 2, 1809 York & Conewago Canal Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa. to build from York to the Susquehanna River at Conewago Falls. (PL)
- Mar. 3, 1809 Pa. act authorized the Philadelphia Bank to establish 8 branches throughout the state. (Crumrine)
- Mar. 3, 1809 Massachusetts passes a General Incorporation Act for manufacturing companies. (PL)
- Mar. 4, 1809 Henry Craig begins running the "New Line" of packets between Baltimore and Philadelphia with a stage portage between Court House Point on the Elk River and New Castle; William McDonald resumes the "Old Line" via Frenchtown and New Castle. (BaltAm - not advertised in 1808)
- Mar. 4, 1809 James Madison (1751-1836) sworn in, succeeding Pres. Thomas Jefferson. (EAH)
- Mar. 7, 1809 Schenectady County, N.Y., created from part of Albany County. (French)
- Mar. 13, 1809 Following the catastrophic defeat and loss of Finland to Russia, Swedish King Gustav IV Adolf (1778-1837) is deposed. (wiki)

- Mar. 16, 1809 Farmers & Mechanics Bank, previously an unincorporated joint stock company, incorporated in Pa.; its charter requires that a majority of the 13 directors be actual farmers, mechanics or manufacturers; is to loan 10% of its capital to farmers on long-term mortgages; the state receives \$75,000 in stock. (PL, Schwartz/JPE55, Shankman, Scharf)
- Mar. 17, 1809 Brooklyn, Jamaica & Flatbush Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from the East River ferry (Fulton Street) in Brooklyn to Flatbush Avenue to Atlantic Avenue to Classon Avenue and then turning north into what is now Fulton Street and meandering on the line of Jamaica Avenue to 168th Street in Jamaica with a branch to Flatbush; the road is later acquired by the Brooklyn & Jamaica Railroad as the price of its charter in 1833. (PL, NYState, Seyfreid)
- Mar. 25, 1809 Hanover & Carlisle Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa. (PL)
- Mar. 25, 1809 “The President, Managers & Company for Erecting a Bridge over the North-East Branch of Susquehanna at the Town of Northumberland” (Northumberland Bridge Company) incorporated in Pa. to build a bridge across the North Branch of the Susquehanna River between Sunbury and Northumberland. (PL)
- Mar. 27, 1809 Sullivan County, N.Y., created from part of Ulster County. (French)
- Mar. 28, 1809 "Pres., Managers & Company for Erecting a Bridge over the Susquehanna River in the County of Lancaster at or near the Town of Columbia" (Columbia Bridge Company) incorporated to build toll bridge across Susquehanna River at Columbia through efforts of Thomas P. Cope and others. (PL, Cope Diary)
- Mar. 29, 1809 New York act authorizes a dam across the Susquehanna River at Windsor, providing it is equipped with a lock and chute 30 feet wide, to be kept open between Apr. 1 and June 1 each year for arks and rafts. (PL)
- Mar. 30, 1809 Owego Turnpike Company incorporated in N.Y. to build from the Milford & Owego Turnpike at the Pennsylvania state line to the south bank of the Susquehanna River opposite Owego. (PL)
- Apr. 1, 1809 Madison, Ind., incorporated; it is founded as a river port, but is eventually overshadowed by Cincinnati and Louisville. (wiki, –)
- Apr. 3, 1809 “The President, Directors & Company for Erecting a Permanent Bridge over the River Susquehanna at or near the Borough of Harrisburg” (Harrisburg Bridge Company) incorporated in Pa. to build a bridge across the Susquehanna River. (PL)

- Apr. 4, 1809 Chambersburg Turnpike Road Company incorporated in Pa. to build from Gallagher's sawmill in Adams County to Chambersburg as part of route between Chambersburg and Gettysburg; later acquired by Cumberland Valley Railroad. (PL)
- Apr. 9, 1809 Thomas Lightfoot Jewett (1809-1875), future Pres. of Steubenville & Indiana and Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis railroads, born at Deer Creek, Harford County, Md., the oldest son of Quakers John Jewett and Susannah Judge Jewett. (rootsweb)
- Apr. 9, 1809 Austrian troops invade Bavaria, an ally of France. (Schom)
- Apr. 19, 1809 Pres. James Madison announces that he has been informed by the British minister in Washington that Britain will withdraw the Orders in Council by June 10, after which, American vessels may depart for British ports. (Cope Diary, Scharf, EAH)
- Apr. 29, 1809 John Stevens of Hoboken begins another two day trial of his steamboat *Phoenix* between New York and New Brunswick; outbound trip takes 9:32 and the return 9:20. (Morrison, Heyl)
- May 3, 1809 Seat of Licking County, Ohio, changed from the house of Levi Hays to Newark. (Long)
- May 4, 1809 *Phoenix* begins a month of irregular operation between New York and New Brunswick. (Turnbull)
- May 9, 1809 Robert Fulton writes to William Thornton ordering him not to send John Stevens any copies of his patent without his permission. (Turnbull)
- May 11, 1809 Pres. Madison is the first to cross the Long Bridge in his carriage en route to a dinner at Alexandria. (Bryan)
- May 13, 1809 Napoleon enters Vienna. (Schom)
- May 1809 Harry Heth, owner of the Black Heath coal mines in Chesterfield County, Va., engages Benjamin Henry Latrobe to plan a railroad from the mines to the navigable waters of the James River below Richmond; nothing is done, although a railroad on the route is built in the 1830s. (Hamlin)
- May 16, 1809 Napoleon annexes the Papal States. (Schom)
- May 20, 1809 Washington Bridge Company formally opens the first Long Bridge across the Potomac between Washington (14th Street) and present-day Arlington; over one mile long pile trestle with 201 bents and two draws, one of 25 feet at the little channel and one of 35 feet at the large channel; built by

(Robert?) Mills; turnpike is also completed to Alexandria. (NatIntlgncr, ColHS 39)

- May 21, 1809 After a statement by District Court Judge Bushrod Washington (1762-1829) that patents violate the public's rights, Oliver Evans burns almost all of his papers and drawings in a fit of pique and resolves to devote no more time to inventions. (Bathe)
- May 25, 1809 William McDonald and Henry Craig combine the "Old Line" and "New Line" of packets and stages between Baltimore and Philadelphia as the "Union Line." (BaltAm)
- May 29, 1809 Future military and civil engineer George Muirson Totten (1809-1884) born at New Haven, Conn.; son of Gilbert Totten and Mary Rice Totten. (WwasW)
- June 9, 1809 Maryland authorizes Proprietors of the Susquehanna Canal to raise \$60,000 by lottery to pay its debts, widen locks, and clear Susquehanna River between Columbia and the head of the canal. (PL)
- June 10, 1809 Stevens's *Phoenix* leaves Hoboken for Philadelphia after being forced off New Brunswick run by Fulton-Livingston steamboat monopoly; it is the first steamboat to travel on the open ocean; takes refuge in Spermaceti Cove (Sandy Hook), Cranberry Inlet and Barnegat Bay during bad weather; by the end of the trip, the boilers are fouled and it has to drift up to Philadelphia from Chester on the tide; Robert L. Stevens represents his father on the voyage and keeps a log. (Turnbull, Heyl)
- June 10, 1809 Philadelphian maritime interests celebrate the supposed restoration of trade with Britain. (Scharf)
- June 11, 1809 Illinois Gov. Ninian Edwards arrives at Kaskaskia. (Smith)
- June 12, 1809 Pope Pius VII (1740-1823) excommunicates Napoleon. (Mercer - or b. 1742?? or 6/10)
- June 1809 A great meeting of warriors from various nations across the Midwest held at the confluence of Tippecanoe Creek and the Wabash River where they are addressed by the Shawnee Prophet Elskwatawa (1768-1813) in an attempt to get them to unite against white encroachment. (CHTaylor)
- June 20, 1809 John R. Livingston begins steamboat service between New York and New Brunswick with the *Rariton* running three times a week; fare to New Brunswick is \$1.50; he acquires the right to use the ferry landing at Elizabethtown Point from ex-Sen. Aaron Ogden (1756-1839), who is compensated for business diverted from his sailboat ferry. (Petition, Lane)

- June 22, 1809 Future foreman of the Altoona Shops Andrew Constant Vauclain (1809-1887) born at Philadelphia; son of James Leonord Vauclain (originally de Vauquelin) (1767-1839), a French merchant who emigrated in 1793, and Marie-Anne-Amelie d'Anquetil (1783?-1844); his father squanders his fortune experimenting with perpetual motion machines. (Crimmins)
- June 23, 1809 *Phoenix* arrives at Philadelphia on the tide at 9:00 PM. (Turnbull)
- June 1809 Nicholas J. Roosevelt leaves Pittsburgh for New Orleans on a flatboat with his young bride Lydia Latrobe (1792-1878), the daughter of Benjamin Henry Latrobe, to investigate the prospect of navigating the Mississippi River system by steam for Robert Fulton and Robert R. Livingston; notes the presence of coal for fuel along the Ohio at present day Fulton in Perry County, Ind., and in southern Illinois. (, AmHist, Eavenson)
- July 5, 1809 Napoleon has Pope Pius VII kidnaped and imprisoned. (McBrien)
- July 6, 1809 Napoleon defeats the Austrians at the Battle of Wagram northeast of Vienna. (Schom)
- July 10, 1809 *Phoenix* begins operating between Philadelphia and Trenton (Bloomsbury) running in 8:00; first regular steamboat service on the Delaware River since Fitch's experiments; however, the boat is under-powered. (Turnbull, DuBois, Morrison, HistTrenton)
- July 17, 1809 Elisha Boudinot, et al., petition the New York City Council for ferry rights for a steam ferry company they propose to form for operating between New York and Paulus Hook. (Stokes)
- July 17, 1809 Samuel Morse Felton (1809-1889), future Pres. of Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad, born at Newbury, Mass.; father is a wagon-maker who will be impoverished by the War of 1812, but Felton eventually pays his way through Harvard (class of '34) by tutoring. (DAB)
- July 22, 1808 Aaron Ogden proposes to William Cox of Burlington that they establish two lines of stagecoaches between Elizabethtown Point and Burlington, one overnight for freight and one for passengers. (Ogden - check date!!)
- July 27, 1809 York & Conewago Canal Turnpike Road Company receives letters patent. (PaArch)
- July 28, 1809 Sir Arthur Wellesley defeats a French force at Talavera in Spain but is forced to retreat back into Portugal; Wellesley is rewarded with a peerage as Viscount Wellington. (Mostert)

- July 31, 1809 Thomas Leiper's experimental railroad built in the yard of the Bulls Head Tavern on 3rd Street above Callowhill Street by a Mr. Somerville, a Scots carpenter and millwright, is demonstrated for the public; is about 4-foot gauge, about 21 yards long; a single horse can pull 10,696 lbs. on a slight grade; this is the second fully documented railroad in the U.S. (Aurora, Scharf, RyW, Gamst)
- July 31, 1809 Branch of The Philadelphia Bank opens in Washington, Pa. (Crumrine)
- July 31, 1809 British minister David Montagu Erskine, 2nd Baron Erskine (1776-1855) informs Pres. Madison that his government has repudiated his agreement to withdraw the Orders-in-Council. (Scharf)
- Summer 1809 Jacob Ayres of Zanesville begins regular mail coach service between Wheeling and Chillicothe and James Johnson of Great Crossing, Ky., begins service between Chillicothe and Frankfort, Ky., via Zane's Trace and the Maysville Road. (Holmes/Rohrbach)
- Aug. 9, 1809 Pres. James Madison reimposes the Non-Intercourse Act against Britain after the British government repudiates the agreement to lift the Orders-in-Council arranged by its minister to Washington. (EAH)
- Aug. 25, 1809 James Cummings begins the first stagecoach service between Northumberland and Williamsport. (Meginness/Lycoming)
- Summer 1809 Depression resumes in Baltimore lasting until June 1812. (Browne)
- Sep. 7, 1809 John Stevens writes to John R. Livingston to arrange for a through stage line to connect the *Phoenix* with the *Rariton*. (DuBois)
- Sep. 13, 1809 John R. Livingston agrees to form a connection with John Stevens providing an overnight service between New York and Philadelphia, running three times a week using the *Rariton* at New York and the *Phoenix* at Philadelphia. (DuBois, Heyl)
- Sep. 13, 1809 George Evans (1786-1830) advertises that the Pittsburgh Steam Mill is now in operation, powered by an Oliver Evans high-pressure steam engine brought from Philadelphia; it is the first steam-powered flour mill west of the Allegheny Mountains; Oliver Evans returns to Philadelphia, leaving his son George in charge at Pittsburgh. (Bathe)
- Sep. 23, 1809 Future PRR director and Philadelphia dry goods merchant Christian E. Spangler (1809-1885) born in Heidelberg Township, Lebanon County, Pa. (Egle)
- Sep. 27, 1809 Thomas Leiper advertises in the *Aurora* for contractors to build a railroad

from his quarries on Crum Creek to landing on Ridley Creek; track has no iron strap rail; line surveyed by Reading Howell. (Aurora, RRGaz)

- Sep. 28, 1809 *Car of Neptune*, the second Fulton-Livingston steamboat, placed in service between New York and Albany. (Reynolds)
- Sep. 30, 1809 Gov. William Henry Harrison signs the Treaty of Fort Wayne, by which the Delawares, Miamis and Potawatomis cede three tracts along the upper Wabash west of the 1795 Treaty of Greenville grant and north of Vincennes Tract totaling 3 million acres; the “Twelve Mile Purchase” is a 12-mile wide long north-south strip just west of the Greenville line including present day Winchester and Connersville; the second is a large block lying north of the Vincennes Tract running from the White river to the Wabash and including the sites of Bloomington and Terre Haute; the third extends the second with a strip west of the Wabash running into southeastern Illinois; the Delawares and Potawatomi sign away lands they don’t occupy in return for annuities; the Shawnee, who do not attend, are enraged. (IndLndCessions, Derleth, waynet.org)
- Oct. 1, 1809 John Thomson, father of J. Edgar Thomson, completes the survey map for the Leiper railroad on Crum Creek. (EngrClbPhila)
- Oct. 2, 1809 New York City Council approves (?) a ferry grant to Elisha Boudinot, et al. (Stokes)
- Oct. 6, 1809 Col. John Paul (1758-1830), the founder of Xenia, Ohio, arrives on the site of Madison, Ind., of which he becomes the founder also. (Robinson)
- Oct. 12, 1809 Daniel French (1770-1853), a friend and pupil of Oliver Evans, patents an improved horizontal, high-pressure steam engine of the type that becomes standard on western steamboats. (PtntIndex, Pursell)
- Oct. 14, 1809 Napoleon dictates a victor’s peace with Austria in the Treaty of Schönbrunn; Austria loses 42,000 square miles of territory, including all of its share of Poland. (Schom, Blanning)
- Oct. 15, 1809 Pioneer railroad contractor and manager [Tristram] Coffin Colket (1809-1883) born at Epping, N.H., the son of farmer Peter Colcord (1758-1836), who pronounces his name “Colket.” (AmScssflMen, Cnl&RevFmlsPa, Scharf)
- Oct. 1809 Lexington Steam Mill opens in Lexington, Ky., with a high-pressure engine built by Oliver Evans. (Bathe)
- Oct. 1809 Hugh Wylie, the postmaster at Washington, Pa., and also an elder in the local Presbyterian Church, is excommunicated by the Pittsburgh Synod for

opening the post office on Sunday as required by the Post Office Dept.; a symptom of a growing evangelical resurgence and a backlash against the Deistical and Atheistical ideas of the late 18th century; the mail, which marks an intrusion of federal powers into hitherto isolated local communities (Washington is on a main east-west route) and an exemption from state Sabbath-breaking blue laws, is a particular target; the controversy will rage off and on into the 20th century. (John)

- Oct. 23, 1809 Wilmington Turnpike Company organized; Jacob Broom, Pres. (Scharf)
- Oct. 24, 1809 William Larimer, Jr., (1809-1875), future industrialist and railroad official, born at the Larimer family homestead, "Circleville," in Westmoreland County, Pa., the son of William Larimer (1771-1838) and Ann Shealkey Larimer. (NYTrib, Cnl&RevFmlsPa)
- Oct. 26, 1809 Wea consent to the cessions of the Treaty of Fort Wayne. (IndLndCessions)
- Oct. 28, 1809 John Bryce, who has taken the contract for grading the Leiper railroad, advertises for laborers. (Aurora)
- Fall 1809 Persons living in Newark, N.J., and New York, including Gen. John Noble Cumming, Elisha Boudinot, M. Durand and others interested in the road and bridges between Paulus Hook and Newark, subscribe \$50,000 to organize a company to contract with Robert Fulton to build steam ferry boats for use between Paulus Hook and New York. (Fulton to D. Hosack)
- Nov. 3, 1809 Associates of the Jersey Company accept Robert Fulton's offer to purchase Block 24 in Jersey City for a dry dock for his steamboats for \$1,000; Fulton builds the machine shop for his growing steamboat fleet at Jersey City. (MB, Watkins)
- Nov. 6, 1809 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company appoints a committee to prepare articles of merger with the Delaware & Schuylkill Canal Company. (MB)
- Nov. 6, 1809 Daniel French petitions the New York City Council asking it to defer a lease of the Paulus Hook ferry to consider his new steam boat design. (Stokes)
- Nov. 8, 1809 A line of semaphore telegraphs built by Jonathan Grout for the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce between Philadelphia and Port Penn, Del., on the lower river is first used to transmit news of the arrival of the *Fanny* from Lisbon. (Scharf)
- Nov. 11, 1809 Fulton and Livingston demand Stevens acknowledge his high-pressure engine is a failure and that he is using their patents or they will give rights

between Trenton and New Castle to others. (Philip)

- Nov. 11, 1809 Arbitrators award Samuel Boyd and Christian King an additional £50 (\$133.33) to cover overruns on their 1794 contract to improve the Susquehanna River between Middletown and the mouth of the Juniata. (PaArch)
- Nov. 16, 1809 Hanover & Maryland Line Turnpike Road reported completed and licensed to take tolls. (PaArch)
- Nov. 21, 1809 Federalists sweep New York City Council election in backlash against the Embargo; opponents blame them for delaying the award of a steamboat ferry franchise. (Stokes)
- Nov. 23, 1809 Crawford *Weekly Messenger* reports that there is waiting at Waterford, Pa., for the next freshet over 14,000 barrels of salt; the salt traffic from Onondaga, N.Y., continues until the development of salt wells on the Kiskiminetas around 1819. (Babcock)
- Nov. 28, 1809 Largest stockholders of the Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company are Charles G. Paleski, 46 shares; Joseph S. Lewis, 20, shares; James Milnor, 10 shares; John Steinmetz, 10 shares; William Read, 7 shares. (MB)
- Dec. 1, 1809 John Stevens, Robert Fulton and Robert R. Livingston agree to relinquish all patent claims against each other; Fulton and Livingston are to take New York State, New York-New Brunswick and the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers; Stevens is to have the Delaware, Chesapeake Bay, the Santee, Savannah and Connecticut Rivers, plus Newport-Providence for seven years; Stevens refuses to sign an addendum demanded by Livingston that he acknowledge their patents and monopoly grant. (DuBois, Turnbull)
- Dec. 1, 1809 Nicholas J. Roosevelt arrives at New Orleans, having explored the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers by flatboat preparatory to building a steamboat for the Fulton-Livingston interests. (wiki, Morrison)
- Dec. 4, 1809 Ashbel Welch (1809-1882), later Chief Engineer of Delaware & Raritan Canal and other canals, born at Nelson, Madison County, N.Y., son of Ashbel and Margaret Dorrance Welch; younger brother of Sylvester Welch (1798-1852). (WwasW, Lee)
- Dec. 5, 1809 Schuylkill & Susquehanna Navigation Company authorizes settling accounts with William Moore Smith, Ebenezer Hazard and Benjamin R. Morgan and also drafting a new memorial to the Legislature. (MB)
- Dec. 9, 1808 Kickapoo consent to the cessions of the Treaty of Fort Wayne.

(IndLndCessions)

- Dec. 11, 1809 John Stevens, as owner of the Hoboken ferry rights, petitions the New York City Council protesting the petitions of Elisha Boudinot, et al., for exclusive steam ferry rights between New York and New Jersey. (Stokes)
- Dec. 1809 Robert Fulton and Robert R. Livingston petition the Legislatures of Ohio and Kentucky for a monopoly grant and/or incorporation to run steamboats on the Ohio River; their plan is to form two companies, one for the Ohio and one for the Mississippi. (Stecker)
- Dec. 1809 The Pennsylvania Company for Assurances on Lives & Granting Annuities & Reversions organized in Philadelphia; it is the first company to do a trust business, managing trust funds; Condé Raguét (1784-1842), Pres.; it takes over two years to get an act of incorporation from the Legislature. (Holdsworth - verify co. hist?)
- Dec. 26, 1809 Ohio House passes a bill making a grant to Fulton and Livingston, but it is killed in the Senate. (Stecker)
- Dec. 27, 1809 James Carey Evans (1809-1901), founder of the Anchor Line of steamships on the Great Lakes, born at Baltimore; son of William and Margaret Evans. (Evans)
- Dec. 27, 1809 Rep. John Nicholson (1765-1820) of New York introduces a resolution calling for a select committee to consider a permanent law for funding internal improvements and colleges; tabled. (Annals of Cong)
- Dec. 27, 1809 Ohio Legislature passes a joint resolution calling for its Congressmen to lobby for federal funds for a road from Fort Loramie down the Auglaize and Maumee Rivers to Lake Erie. (PL)
- 1809 Baltimore's exports for the year are valued at \$4,638,900, double those of 1808, but Baltimore's recovery from the Embargo is slow. (Pancake)
- 1809 Joseph Kaighn (1774-1840) establishes a passenger ferry between present-day Ferry Street, Kaighn's Point, Camden, and Queen Street, Southwark, in Philadelphia; operation leased to Christopher Madara. (Prowell, Boyer)
- 1809? Baltimore & York Town Turnpike completed with extension to Conewago Falls. (Cope Diary - may be earlier)
- 1809 Turnpike road completed from Chambersburg, Pa., to Baltimore. (HistFranklinCo)
- 1809 Union Line on Chesapeake Bay invests in New Castle & Frenchtown

Turnpike.

- 1809 Baltimore's exports have rebounded to \$6.6 million from a low of \$2.7 million in 1808. (Bryan)
- 1809 William Henry, Jr. (1757-1821), a gunsmith, builds a bloomery 3 miles north of Nazareth, Pa.; one of the first ironworks in the Lehigh Valley. (Swank - see above)
- 1809 Jacob Drumheller (-) opens a tavern at "The Forks" on the Susquehanna & Lehigh Turnpike Road at what will become the coal-mining center of Hazleton, Pa., but is then a wilderness. (Harvey)
- ca. 1809 John Richards builds Greenwood Furnace adjacent to Greenwood Forge at what is now the south side of present Pottsville, Pa.; John Pott, who purchased the nearby Greenwood Forge about a year ago, develops the Greenwood Iron Works into a complete forge, furnace, country store, sawmill and gristmill plantation on the "Island" and at the "Orchard" on the opposite side of the river; the works remain in operation until at least 1828. (Nolan/Unger)
- 1809 John Holliday of Hollidaysburg builds the first forge in present Cambria County, Pa., on Stony Creek above the site of Johnstown. (Swank)
- 1809 Jonathan Titus (-1857) plats the town of Titusville, Pa., although it remains a small hamlet until the Oil Boom of the 1860s. (HistCrawfrdCo)
- 1809 First stage wagon begins running between Painesville and Cleveland. (EncycofClvlnd)
- 1809 Erastus Carter and Lemuel Pendleton lay out a road from Ravenna towards Canton as far as the county line; it is not completed in Stark County until 1812. (HistPrtgCo)
- 1809 William Boon makes the first recorded flatboat shipment of Illinois coal to New Orleans from the Big Muddy River in Jackson County. (Eavenson)