



**ICONIC HIGHWAY  
SIGNAGE**



# LONG ISLAND



**1919** Henry Clay Frick, the co-founder of U.S. Steel, purchases land that will later become Nassau County Museum of Art

Attraction: Nassau County Museum of Art



**1919** President Theodore Roosevelt dies in Oyster Bay

Attraction: Sagamore Hill National Historic Site



**1880s-1920s** American captains of industry and finance build homes along the Gold Coast

Attractions: Sagamore Hill National Historic Site  
Oheka Castle  
Old Westbury Gardens  
Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park



**1819** Great American poet, Walt Whitman, born in West Hills

Attraction: Walt Whitman Birthplace State Historic Site



**1964** Jazz legend, John Coltrane, moves to Dix Hills

Attraction: The John Coltrane Home



**1776** General Washington saves the American Army during the Battle of Long Island

Attraction: William Floyd Estate

## LONG ISLAND



**1834 The Long Island Rail Road Company is incorporated**

Attractions: Long Island Railroad Terminal and Yard at Greenport  
Railroad Museum of Long Island



**1960s Grumman Aircraft helps design and build the Lunar Module for the Apollo Program**

Attraction: Cradle of Aviation Museum/Nunleys Carousel



**1890s The population of West Sayville doubles as thousands come to find work in the thriving oyster trade.**

Attractions: The Long Island Maritime Museum  
Oyster Sloop Priscilla



**1887 Central Park designer, Frederick Law Olmstead, helps design the Bayard Cutting Arboretum**

Attraction: Bayard Cutting Arboretum State Park



**1830s New York whalers become some of the most prosperous in the world**

Attraction: Sag Harbor Whaling & Historical Museum



**1790 President Washington forms the Revenue Cutter Service, forerunner of the Coast Guard**

Attraction: Montauk Point Lighthouse Museum

# NEW YORK CITY



**1956 The New York State Thruway opens**



**1927 Babe Ruth hits 60 home runs in a single season**

Attraction: Yankee Stadium



**1899 The Bronx Zoo opens**

Attraction: Bronx Zoo



**1840 Fordham University is founded**

Attraction: Fordham University



**1895 The Botanical Gardens are incorporated**

Attraction: New York Botanical Gardens



**1825 The beauty of the Hudson Valley inspires the nation's first major art movement**

Attraction: Hudson River Museum/Glenview

# MID-HUDSON



**1852 Elisha Otis of Yonkers develops the first passenger-safe elevator**



**1609 Henry Hudson explores the river that would bear his name**



**1776 British forces occupy New York City and lower Hudson Valley**

Attraction: Boscobel



**1878 Railroad baron Jay Gould purchases Lyndhurst, a mansion at Irvington**

Attraction: Lyndhurst



**1820 Washington Irving publishes "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"**

Attraction: Washington Irving's Sunnyside



**1905-13 John D. Rockefeller builds family estate, Kykuit, in Pocantico Hills**

Attraction: Kykuit



**1693 Frederick Philipse purchases 52,000 acres in the Province of New York**

Attraction: Philipsburg Manor



**1775-1779 Continental Army fortifies Hudson River against British forces**

Attraction: Fort Montgomery



**1900 New York and New Jersey form the Palisades Interstate Park Commission**



**1935 John D. Rockefeller Jr. donates 60% of the land needed for the Palisades Parkway**



**1942-45 1.3 million depart for war from Camp Shanks, "Last Stop USA"**

Attraction: Camp Shanks WWII Museum



**1823 First Catskills resort, The Mountain House, opens**

Attraction: The Mountain House

## MID-HUDSON



**1910 Bear Mountain State Park is established**

Attraction: Bear Mountain State Park



**1778 Hasenclever Mine supplies materials to build the great chain across the Hudson River**

Attraction: Beech Trail - Hasenclever Mine



**1802 United States Military Academy established at West Point**

Attraction: U.S. Military Academy at West Point



**1969 Woodstock Music and Arts festival held in Bethel**

Attraction: Bethel Woods Museum; 1969 Festival Site



**1963 The fight to save Storm King Mountain from development helps spur the modern day Environmental Movement**

Attraction: Storm King Art Center



**1783 Revolutionary War ends and Washington disbands the Army**

Attraction: New Windsor Cantonment



**1882 President Franklin Roosevelt is born in Hyde Park**

Attraction: Franklin D. Roosevelt Museum and Library



**1865 Vassar College, first of the Seven Sister Colleges, is chartered**

Attraction: Vassar College



**1888 Considered the world's longest bridge at the time, the Poughkeepsie Railroad Bridge, is completed**

Attraction: Walkway Over the Hudson



**1677 French Huguenots purchase land from the Esopus Indians and found the village of New Paltz**

Attraction: Historic Huegeonot Street



**1788 New York ratifies the U.S. Constitution at a convention in Poughkeepsie**



**1777 New York's first capital established at Kingston**

Attraction: Senate House and Museum

## MID-HUDSON



**1777 New York drafts its first state constitution**

Attraction: Senate House and Museum



**1797 Abolitionist Sojourner Truth is born a slave in Hurley**

Attraction: The Dutch Stone Houses of Hurley Village



**1807 Robert Fulton's steamboat, The Clermont, makes it maiden voyage**

Attraction: Clermont Historic Site



**1847 Roebling Bridge, the oldest existing wire suspension bridge in the United States, is constructed**

Attraction: Upper Delaware Scenic Byway



**1782 General George Washington establishes headquarters at Newburgh**

Attraction: Washington's Headquarters



**1778 West Point is the oldest continuously occupied military post in America**

Attraction: U.S. Military Academy



**1974** The Dia Art Foundation pioneers the conversion of industrial buildings for the installation of contemporary art

Attraction: Dia Beacon



**1847** Samuel F.B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph, purchases Locust Grove, his estate in Poughkeepsie

Attraction: Locust Grove



**1715** Robert Livingston the Elder is given a land grant to form Livingston Manor

Attraction: Livingston Manor



**1974** Governor Nelson Rockefeller establishes a museum at Purchase College

Attraction: Neuberger Museum of Art



**1801** John Jay, first Chief Justice of the United States, makes his permanent residence in Katonah

Attraction: John Jay Homestead State Historic Site

# CAPITAL REGION



**1728 Robert Livingston establishes family estate, Clermont, at Germantown**

Attractions: Clermont Historic Site



**1825 Artist Thomas Cole launches the Hudson River School movement**

Attractions: Thomas Cole House



**1872 Artist Frederic Church builds his mansion, Olana, at Greenport**

Attractions: Olana State Historic Site



**1797 Albany is established as the State's permanent capital**

Attraction: NYS Capitol



**1765 Schuyler Mansion, becomes the residence of Revolutionary War hero and Albany native Philip Schuyler**

Attractions: Schuyler Mansion State Historic Site



**1791 Albany Institute of Art is founded**

Attractions: Albany Institute of History and Art



**1836** The New York State Museum is established as the State Geological and Natural History Survey

Attractions: NYS Museum



**1782** President Martin Van Buren born in Kinderhook

Attractions: Lindenwald, the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site



**1624** Dutch colony Fort Orange founded on site that becomes Albany

Attraction: Albany Visitors Center



**1777** American victory at Saratoga turns the tide of the Revolution

Attraction: Saratoga National Battlefield



**1892** General Electric opens its headquarters in Schenectady

Attraction: Schenectady County Historical Society



**1901** Schenectady's American Locomotive Company becomes one of the largest engine manufacturers in the country

Attractions: American Locomotive Company (ALCO Museum), Schenectady Museum

## CAPITAL REGION



**1768 Joseph C. Yates, the seventh governor of New York, is born in Schenectady**

Attraction: Schenectady Museum



**1795 Union College is founded**

Attraction: Union College



**1705 Jan Pieterse Mabee builds what will later become the oldest standing farm in Mohawk Valley**

Attraction: Mabee Farm



**1778 First Shaker community is formed**

Attraction: Shaker Heritage Society



**1813 Watervliet arsenal opened to support effort against the British**

Attraction: Watervliet Arsenal



**1846 Herman Melville publishes first novel while living in Lansingburgh**



**1800s Sam Wilson of Troy becomes inspiration for “Uncle Sam”**

Attraction: Uncle Sam Grave



**1909 Governor Charles Evans Hughes signs a bill which designates Saratoga Springs a State Reservation**

Attraction: Saratoga Springs



**1847 Saratoga Race Course opens, longest operating sports venue in the U.S.**

Attractions: Saratoga Race Course  
National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame



**1779 First court sessions held in Salem**

Attraction: The old Washington County Courthouse in Salem



**1885 President Ulysses S. Grant completes his memoirs in Wilton**

Attraction: Ulysses S. Grant Cottage State Historic Site



**1755 Fort Edward is built**

Attraction: Fort Edward

## CAPITAL REGION



**1853 Granville becomes known as the “Colored Slate Capital of the World”**

Attraction: Slate Valley Museum



**1839 President Martin Van Buren purchases Lindenwald estate in Kinderhook**

Attraction: Lindenwald, the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site



**1835 Henry Burden invents the first horseshoe making machine in the world**

Attraction: Burden Iron Works Museum



**1824 America’s first engineering school, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, is founded**

Attraction: RPI



**1758 While staying at Crailo, British Army surgeon writes “Yankee Doodle”**

Attraction: Crailo State Historic Site



**1777 American victory at the Battle of Bennington contributes to the eventual surrender of British troops at Saratoga**

Attraction: Bennington Battlefield

# MOHAWK VALLEY



**1749 Mt. Johnson, later Fort Johnson, is established**

Attraction: Old Fort Johnson National Historic Site



**1841 Aqueduct completed at Schoharie Crossing, where elements of all three canal eras can be seen**

Attraction: Schoharie Crossing



**1815 Suffragist Elizabeth Cady Stanton born in Johnstown**

Attraction: Johnson Hall State Historic Site



**1656 Kateri Tekakwitha, the first Native American woman Roman Catholic Saint, is born**

Attraction: National Kateri Tekakwitha Shrine



**1762 Sir William Johnson, a baronet and officer in the British Army, founds Johnstown**

Attraction: Johnson Hall State Historic Site



**1768 Molly Brant donates land to the members of the Mohawk Nation in Canajoharie**

Attraction: Mohawk Caughnawaga Indian Museum

## MOHAWK VALLEY



**1780 Americans defeat British at Battle of Klock's Field**

Attraction: Fort Klock Historic Restoration



**1709 First German Palatine immigrants arrive in New York**

Attraction: Palatine Settlement Society



**1927 Bartlett Arkell, of Beech-Nut Packing Co. founds what will later become The Arkell Museum**

Attraction: The Arkell Museum



**1728 Revolutionary War hero Nicholas Herkimer born in German Flatts**

Attraction: Herkimer Home



**1816 Eli Remington builds his first rifle**

Attraction: Remington Firearms Museum



**1826 Cooperstown's James Fenimore Cooper publishes "The Last of the Mohicans"**

Attraction: Fenimore Art Museum



**1939 The National  
Baseball Hall of Fame  
opens to the public**

Attraction: National Baseball Hall of Fame



**1835 New York State  
Anti-Slavery Society  
convened in Utica**

Attraction: Bleeker Street Baptist Church



**1919 Regional fine arts center,  
The Munson-Williams-Proctor  
Arts Institute, is founded**

Attraction: William Munson Art Museum



**1793 Samuel Kirkland founds Hamilton  
College, naming it after Alexander  
Hamilton, the college's first trustee**

Attraction: Hamilton College



**1855 The Black River Canal is  
completed, rising over a thousand  
feet in elevation to areas up north**

Attraction: Black River Canal



**1794 Revolutionary War hero  
Baron von Steuben Remsen  
retires to his home in Steuben**

Attraction: Steuben Memorial State Historic Site

# MOHAWK VALLEY



**1777 Americans defeat British at Battle of Oriskany, the Revolution's bloodiest battle**

Attraction: Oriskany Battlefield State Historic Site



**1777 Americans defeat British during the siege of Fort Stanwix**

Attraction: Fort Stanwix National Monument



**1817 Ground is broken on the Erie Canal near Rome**

Attraction: Erie Canal Village



**1906 The largest railroad roundhouse in the world is built in Oneonta**

Attraction: Greater Oneonta Historical Society



**1500s The Oneida Nation becomes one of the five founding nations of the Iroquois Confederacy**

Attraction: Iroquois Indian Museum



**1677 The Five Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy make a Covenant of Peace with the British Crown that lasts for 100 years**

Attraction: Iroquois Indian Museum



**1777 George Mann tavern becomes a meeting place for Tories during the Revolutionary War**

Attraction: George Mann Tory Tavern



**1780 Americans take refuge in the Old Stone Fort, one of the few buildings to survive the great loyalist raid**

Attraction: Old Stone Fort Museum Complex

# CENTRAL NEW YORK



**1848 John Humphrey Noyes founds the utopian Oneida Community**

Attraction: Oneida Community Mansion House



**1836 Peterboro becomes the center of New York's abolitionist movement**

Attraction: National Abolition Hall of Fame



**1828 Oswego Canal completed, linking Syracuse and Lake Ontario to Erie Canal**

Attraction: Chittenango Landing Canal Boat Museum



**1970 Canastota earns the nickname "Title Town" after Billy Backus joined his uncle as one of the town's two world champion boxers**

Attraction: International Boxing Hall of Fame



**1793 John Lincklaen establishes Cazenovia and fourteen years later builds his Lorenzo estate**

Attractions: Lorenzo State Historic Site



**1840s Abolitionist and major leader of suffrage movement, Matilda Joslyn Gage, made her home in Fayetteville**

Attractions: Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation



**1897 Syracuse Museum of Fine Arts, later the Everson Museum of Art is founded**

Attractions: Everson Museum of Art



**1825 The Erie Canal is completed, passing through Downtown Syracuse and spurring economic growth**

Attractions: The Erie Canal Museum



**1722 The Tuscarora Nation joins the Iroquois Confederacy**

Attractions: Onondaga Historical Association Museum & Research Center



**1851 Syracuse Abolitionists rescue William "Jerry" Henry, in defiance of federal Fugitive Slave Law**

Attractions: Onondaga Historical Association Museum & Research Center



**1656 French Colonists from Quebec establish a mission among the Onondaga Nation**

Attractions: Sainte Marie Among the Iroquois Living History Center



**1797 Development of the Onondaga Salt Springs begins and Syracuse becomes known as "Salt City"**

Attractions: Salt Museum

# CENTRAL NEW YORK



**1824** Former Governor, and President Lincoln's Secretary of State, William Seward, makes his home in Auburn

Attractions: The Seward House Museum



**1859** Abolitionist and Underground Railroad "conductor" Harriet Tubman moves to Auburn

Attractions: The Harriet Tubman Home, Inc.



**1800** President Millard Fillmore is born near Summer Hill

Attractions: Millard Fillmore Historical Site



**1868** Cortland Common School opens as a place to train teachers

Attraction: Cortland University



**1881** Wickwire Brothers Wire Mill becomes Cortland's largest employer

Attractions: 1890 House



**1875** Brockway Motor Company began building motorized vehicles

Attraction: CNY Living History Center and Brockway Museum



**1837 Chenango Canal opens, connecting New York and Pennsylvania**

Attraction: Quincy Square Museum



**1870 Syracuse University is chartered**

Attraction: Syracuse University



**1968 World renowned architect, I.M. Pei, designs Everson Museum of Art**

Attraction: Everson Museum of



**Mid 17th century, Onondaga Nation begins fur trading with the French**

Attraction: Onondaga Historical Association Museum



**1871 Onondaga Pottery is organized, later becoming Syracuse China**

Attractions: Onondaga Historical Association Museum & Research Center (OHA)



**1933 Iroquois Living History Museum founded in Liverpool**

Attraction: Iroquois Living History Museum

## CENTRAL NEW YORK



**1814 The British attack  
and destroy Fort Ontario**

Attraction: Fort Ontario



**1944 Hundreds of WWII  
refugees sheltered at  
Fort Ontario**

Attraction: Fort Ontario

# NORTH COUNTRY



**1894 State Constitution guarantees Adirondack region will remain “forever wild”**

Attraction: Adirondack Museum



**1775 American victory at Fort Ticonderoga is first clear victory of the Revolution**

Attraction: Fort Ticonderoga



**1837 Mount Marcy, highest peak in New York State, named after former Governor**

Attraction: Adirondack Museum and Great Camp Sagamore



**1759 Largest British military installation in North America, Crown Point, built**

Attraction: Crown Point State Historic Site



**1849 Abolitionist John Brown purchases farm in Essex County**

Attraction: John Brown Farm and Gravesite



**1932 and 1980 Lake Placid hosts the Winter Olympics**

Attraction: Olympic Sports Complex

# FINGER LAKES



**1814 American forces repel the final British invasion from the north during the Battle of Plattsburgh**

Attraction: Battle of Plattsburgh Association



**1609 Samuel de Champlain explores region**



**1813 Sackets Harbor became headquarters of the American Great Lakes Fleet during the War of 1812**

Attraction: Sackets Harbor Battlefield



**1908 Fort Drum, present day home of the Army's elite 10th Mountain Division, is opened**

Attraction: Fort Drum Visitors Center



**Palatial summer homes constructed in the 1000 Islands during the Gilded Age**

Attraction: Boldt Castle, Singer Castle



**1959 St. Lawrence Seaway Opens**



**1868 Wells College  
is founded**

Attraction: Wells College



**1813 British attack  
and destroy the Sodus  
Bay settlement**

Attraction: Sodus Bay Lighthouse Museum



**1866 Memorial Day is  
celebrated for the first  
time in Waterloo**

Attraction: Memorial Day Museum



**1848 First Women's  
Rights Convention is held  
in Seneca Falls**

Attraction: Women's Rights National Historical Park



**1940s and 50s 400,000 Naval  
and Air Force service members  
trained and served at Sampson**

Attraction: Sampson Military Museum and State Park



**1830 Joseph Smith  
publishes The Book of  
Mormon in Palmyra**

Attraction: Historic Palmyra

## FINGER LAKES



**20,000 years ago  
glaciers recede and form  
Lake Ontario**



**1909-1912 World  
renowned Sonnenberg  
Gardens are redesigned**

Attraction: Sonneberg Mansion and Gardens State Historic Park



**1794 Canandaigua Treaty  
signed between U.S. and  
Iroquois Confederacy**



**1816 Farmington Quaker Meeting  
House founded, birthplace of  
19th century reforms**

Attraction: Farmington Quaker Meeting House



**1687 Ganondagan, site of one  
of the largest Seneca villages,  
is destroyed by the French**

Attraction: Ganondagan State Historical Site



**1888 George Eastman  
makes the first Kodak  
camera in Rochester**

Attraction: George Eastman House



**1872 Susan B.  
Anthony arrested in  
Rochester for voting**

Attraction: Susan B. Anthony Home



**1847 Frederick Douglas publishes his newspaper, The Northstar, in Rochester**

Attraction: Rochester Museum & Science Center



**1966 Genesee Country Village, second largest historic village in the nation, opens**

Attraction: Genesee Country Village



**1794 Holland Land Office surveys over 3 million acres for settlement of Western New York**

Attraction: Holland Land Office Museum



**1881 Clara Barton founds the 1st Chapter of the American Red Cross in Dansville**

Attraction: Clara Barton House



**1906 “The Grand Canyon of the East” Letchworth State Park land donated to the State**

Attraction: Letchworth State Park



**1779 New York’s westernmost battle of the Revolutionary War fought**

Attraction: Revolutionary War Ambuscade Park, Groveland

# SOUTHERN TIER



**1878 Military aviation pioneer, Glenn Curtiss, born in New York State**

Attraction: Glenn Curtiss Museum of Flight



**1879 Corning makes the glass light bulb blanks for Thomas Edison**

Attraction: Corning Glass Museum



**1948 American auto-racing is reborn at Watkins Glen**

Attraction: International Motor Racing Research Center



**1929 Ed Link invents the first flight simulator in Binghamton**

Attraction: Wings of Eagles Discovery Center



**1942 U.S. Army Air Corps develops its Glider Program near Elmira**

Attraction: National Soaring Museum



**1876-1885 Mark Twain writes “The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn” in Elmira**

Attractions: Woodlawn Cemetery, burial site of Mark Twain  
Chemung Valley History Museum



**1961 Ernie Davis, the “Elmira Express,” becomes the first African American to win the Heisman Trophy**

Attraction: Woodlawn Cemetery, burial site of Ernie Davis



**1855 Elmira College first college to grant equal degrees to male and female students**

Attraction: Elmira College



**1837 Chenango Canal opens, connecting New York and Pennsylvania**

Attraction: Roberson Museum and Science Center



**1865 Cornell University, New York’s only land grant college, is founded**

Attraction: Cornell University

# WESTERN NY



**1825 Flight of Five, largest locks on the Erie Canal, open in Lockport**

Attraction: Erie Canal Locks



**1813 Fort Niagara captured by British forces**

Attraction: Old Fort Niagara



**1905 The Niagara Movement is founded, begins modern civil rights struggle**

Attraction: Michigan St Heritage Corridor



**1901 President Theodore Roosevelt sworn in after President McKinley assassinated at Pan Am Exposition**

Attraction: Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site"



**1901 Buffalo site of the Pan Am Exposition**

Attractions: Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society



**Architectural pioneer, Frank Lloyd Wright, designs several buildings in Western New York**

Attractions: Darwin Martin House; Frank Lloyd Wright's Fontana Boathouse Graycliff in Derby



## 1832 Erie Railroad connects Western New York and New York City

Attractions: Polonia District, including: Buffalo Central Terminal  
St. Adalbert Basilica



## 1874 World famous landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, completes Delaware Park

Attraction: Olmsted Park System



## 1825 Erie Canal, which connects Buffalo to New York City, is completed

Attraction: Erie Canal Western Terminus



## 1911 “I Love Lucy” star Lucille Ball born in Jamestown

Attraction Lucy-Desi Comedy Center



## 1945 Justice Robert Jackson of Jamestown named chief prosecutor at Nuremberg Trials

Attraction: Robert H. Jackson Center



## 1874 Chautauqua movement for cultural and religious education begins

Attraction: Chautauqua Institution

# WESTERN NEW YORK



**1921 Allegany State Park, New York's largest State Park west of the Blue Line, opens to the public**

Attraction: Allegany State Park



**1933-1937 Civilian Conservation Corps members build new trails and shelters in Allegany State Park during the Great Depression**

Attraction: Allegany State Park







