

Important Events

- 1656, JULY 3 — Freeman's Purchase granted by Plymouth Colony.
- 1657, DECEMBER 24—Wamsutta agrees to execute deed.
- 1659, APRIL 2—Indian deed of Freeman's Purchase executed.
- 1659, JUNE 7—Captain Richard Morris recognized as owner of Nanaquaket Neck.
- 1660, JANUARY 4—Division of lots in Freeman's Purchase.
- 1661, JUNE — Plymouth Colony purchased land at "Saconet" for the "old servants".
- 1663—Lots at Puncatest Neck divided among freemen of Plymouth.
- 1675-76—King Philip's War.
- 1675, JULY 18—Pocasset Swamp fight.
- 1680, MARCH 5—Grant of Pocasset Purchase by Plymouth Colony.
- 1680, APRIL 20—First survey of Puncatest Purchase.
- 1680 — Puncatest rights sold to Proprietors.
- 1681, APRIL 11 — Pocasset Proprietors order division of lands.
- 1682, JUNE 6—Little Compton incorporated from "Saconet" Purchase.
- 1683, JULY—Freetown incorporated.
- 1692, MARCH 2—Tiverton incorporated from Pocasset and Puncatest Purchases.
- 1700—Freetown-Tiverton boundary line established.
- 1703—Benjamin Church erects saw mills, grist mill and fulling mill on the Falls river.
- 1714—Congregational and Friends' meeting houses erected in Freetown.
- 1722—Two school houses ordered built in Freetown.
- 1746—Royal Commission reports on boundary between Massachusetts and Rhode Island.
- 1748—King George II confirms boundary report of Royal Commission, placing Tiverton and Little Compton in Rhode Island; Tiverton loses northern section which becomes East Freetown, Massachusetts.
- 1749—Tiverton and Little Compton incorporated as Rhode Island Towns.
- 1778, MAY 25—Battle of Fall River.
- 1803, FEBRUARY 26 — Fallriver set off from Freetown and incorporated.
- 1804, MAY 19—Name changed to Troy.
- 1805—First town house built at Steep Brook.
- 1811—First postoffice established in Troy.
- 1811—First cotton mill built at Globe Village.
- 1813—Fall River Manufactory and Troy Cotton and Woolen Manufactory started.
- 1818—First bucket fire engine bought by the town.
- 1821—Fall River Iron Works begins operation.
- 1825—Stage lines to Providence, Newport and New Bedford established.
- 1825—Fall River Bank opened.
- 1825—North Burial Grounds purchased and new town house erected at Ferry Lane.
- 1826—First newspaper, Fall River Monitor begins publication.
- 1832—Skeleton in Armor found.
- 1834—Name of Troy changed to Fall River.
- 1835—American Print Works begins operation.
- 1836—Town House moved to Town Avenue.
- 1843, JULY 2—The great fire.
- 1845, JUNE 9 — Fall River Railroad opened.
- 1845, December 30 — New town hall dedicated.
- 1846—Fall River Line established.
- 1847—Illuminating gas introduced.
- 1854, APRIL 22—City Charter adopted, James Buffington elected first mayor.

- 1854—Outbreak of cholera.
 1855—Oak Grove Cemetery laid out.
 1856—Town of Fall River, Rhode Island incorporated.
 1859—First steam fire engine purchased.
 1860—Public Library established.
 1862—Decision of United States Supreme Court shifts boundary line of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, whereby Fall River acquires Fall River, Rhode Island and a part of Tiverton.
 1863—Railroad extended to Newport.
 1871-72—Great increase in erection of cotton textile plants.
 1874—Municipal water works system opened.
 1874, SEPTEMBER 19—Granite Mill fire.
 1876, JANUARY 1 — Academy of Music opened.
 1876, JANUARY 4—Slade's Ferry Bridge opened.
 1877, JUNE 27 — First session in Fall River of Superior Court.
 1880—First horse car in operation.
 1883—Electric lighting introduced.
 1886—City Hall badly damaged by fire and rebuilt.
 1887, JUNE 15—B. M. C. Durfee High School dedicated.
 1890—Fall River Boys' Club organized.
 1891—Superior Court House opened.
 1892, SEPTEMBER 3—Horse cars replaced by trolley cars.
 1894-1901—Electric suburban railroads built.
 1894—State police commission established.
 1899, MARCH—Public Library building opened to the public.
 1902-05—Railroad grade crossings abolished.
 1902, NOVEMBER 4—New city charter adopted.
 1902—First park commission appointed.
 1904, JULY 25—Strike of cotton textile workers.
 1904, March 12—Roman Catholic Diocese of Fall River established.
 1904, MARCH 2—Bradford Durfee Textile School opened.
 1905, JANUARY 21—Strike of cotton textile workers.
 1908, OCTOBER 10 — Brightman Street Bridge opened.
 1916, FEBRUARY 15-16 — Extensive conflagration on South Main, Borden and Spring streets.
 1928, FEBRUARY 2 — A conflagration which destroyed many buildings in the business center of the city.
 1928, NOVEMBER 6—Plan B City Charter adopted.
 1931—State Board of Finance for Fall River created.
 1934, November 6—Plan A City Charter adopted.
 1941, DECEMBER 31 — The oversight of State Board of Finance ended.