

## **Pacific Northwest Historical Timeline**

### **Pre History**

**circa 15,000 BC** – Asiatic hunters cross from Asia to North America

**12,300 BC** – Humans arrive in Pacific Northwest: human coprolites, mummified poop, left in Paisley caves in Oregon

**12,000 BC - 9,000 BC** – Paleo Indians hunt giant mammals such as mastodons, in the Pacific Northwest

**9,000 BC - 2000 BC** – Archaic Indian hunter gather cultures occupy the coast and inland areas of the Pacific Northwest

**7500 BC** – Kennewick Man dies in Pacific Northwest

**1000 AD - 1800 AD** – Modern Indian Tribes form in the Pacific Northwest

### **Historical Era**

**1579** – Sir Francis Drake sails to the mouth of the Columbia River

**1592** – Spanish sailor Juan de Fuca explores the strait bearing his name, linking Puget Sound to the Pacific Ocean

**1792** – Boston merchant, Robert Gray names the Columbia River after his ship

- British Naval officer, George Vancouver sails into Puget Sound

**1803** – President Thomas Jefferson purchases the Louisiana Territory

**1805** – Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery Expedition explores the Pacific Northwest and reaches the mouth of the Columbia River

**1811** – John Jacob Astor builds Fort Astoria at the mouth of the Columbia

**1818** – United States and Great Britain agree to joint occupation of the Oregon Territory

**1824** – Dr. John McGloughlin establishes Fort Vancouver for the Hudsons Bay Company across the Columbia River from modern day Portland

**1834** – Marcus Whitman uses Oregon Trail to go to Oregon where he and a group of missionaries establish a mission at the confluence of the Snake and Columbia Rivers

- 1843** – The first of the great migrations west happens as 1000 pioneers cross America to Oregon on the Oregon Trail
- 1846** – The Oregon Treaty puts the U.S. Canada border at the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel
- 1848** – Oregon territory is formed
- 1852** – Suquamish Indian Chief Sealth welcomes first settlers to the site that will become known as Seattle
- 1853** – Washington territory is created
- Henry Yesler brings the first steam powered sawmill to Seattle
- 1859** – Oregon becomes the 33<sup>rd</sup> state
- 1861** – The American Civil War starts
- Gold is discovered near Medford Oregon
- 1862** – Gold is discovered near Lewiston Idaho
- 1863** – Idaho Territory is formed
- The U.S. Army defeats a force of Bannock and Shoshone Indian warriors at the Battle of Bear River
- 1865** – The American Civil War ends
- 1884** – Silver is discovered in Coeur d'Alene
- 1889** – Washington becomes the 42<sup>nd</sup> state
- 1890** – Idaho becomes the 43<sup>rd</sup> state
- 1893** – The Great Northern Railroad built by J.J. Hill reaches Seattle
- 1900** – Frederick Weyerhaeuser sets up a logging business in western Washington
- 1906** – The International Workers of the World, the Wobblies, is founded
- 1909** – Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition held in Seattle
- 1910** – Women win the vote in Washington
- 1911** – Oregon becomes first state to hold primary elections
- 1914** – Moses Alexander is elected governor of Idaho and is the first Jewish governor in the United States

- 1916** - William Edward Boeing founds the Boeing Company
- 300 Wobblies clash with police on the docks in Everett, Washington
- 1932** - The Owyhee Dam is completed
- 1934** – Idaho becomes the country’s leading producer of silver
- 1937** – The Bonneville Dam is completed
- 1941** – America enters WWII
- The Grand Coulee Dam is completed
- 1945** – Boeing B-29 Bomber, the *Enola Gay*, drops an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, ending WWII
- 1958** – Boeing introduces the world to the Jet Age with the Boeing 707 jet liner
- 1962** – Nike is founded by Bill Bowerman and Philip Knight
- 1975** – Bill Gates and Paul Allen found Microsoft
- 1976** – Dixy Lee Ray is elected the first woman governor of Washington
- 1980** – Mount St. Helens erupts
- 1983** – Jim Sinegal founds Costco Wholesale Club
- 1985** – Starbucks is founded by Howard Schultz
- 1995** – Jeff Bezos launches Amazon On Line Book Store
- 1991** – Barbara Roberts is elected Oregon’s first woman governor
- 2002** – Record forest fire season burns 1,000,000 acres of timber in Oregon