

American History Timeline 1675 – 1700

DATE	EVENT
1675	King Philip's War begins when King Philips leads the Wampanoag Indians against Swansea. The New England Confederation declares war on King Philip and each colony is required to provide men for a combined force. King Philip achieves a decisive victory at Bloody Brook on September 18.
1676	In March, the Indians attack Plymouth, Massachusetts and Providence, Rhode Island. Nathaniel Bacon is declared a traitor and is arrested. He is later pardoned for this when he admits his guilt. In June, the colonists with the Mohegan Indians defeat King Philip's men at Hadley. Nathaniel Bacon writes the "Declaration of the People of Virginia." In June, Nathaniel Bacon assembles a group of 500 men leading them to Jamestown in what comes to be known as Bacon's Rebellion. Virginia planters agree to support Nathaniel Bacon. King Philip's War ends on August 22 when the Indians surrender. Bacon burns Jamestown on September 19. On October 18, Nathaniel Bacon dies. The rebel army surrenders when promised amnesty.
1677	Virginia Governor Berkeley executes 23 of the rebels from Bacon's Rebellion in direct defiance of the crown. He is later replaced by Colonel Jeffreys as the head of Virginia. Increase Mather writes "The Troubles That Have Happened in New England."
1678	King Philip's War is formally brought to an end. The French (Rene Robert Cavalier, Sieur de la Salle, and Father Louis Hennepin) find Niagara Falls while exploring Canada.
1680	New Hampshire is separated from Massachusetts by royal decree.
1681	William Penn receives a royal charter to set up Pennsylvania.
1682	Frenchman Sieur de la Salle claims the land at the mouth of the Mississippi for France and calls it Louisiana. William Penn writes "Frame for Government" that provides for a precursor of a bicameral government.
1684	The charter for Massachusetts Bay Colony is revoked.
1685	The Duke of York becomes King James II and makes New York a royal province. William Penn is given jurisdiction over Delaware. The number of French Huguenot settlers in America increases after King Louis XIV revokes the Edict of Nantes that protected their religious freedom. Increase Mather is named President of Harvard College.

1686	King James II creates the Dominion of New England and names Sir Edmund Andros as governor general.
1687	William Penn publishes "The Excellent Privilege of Liberty and Property".
1688	Governor Edmund Andros places the militia of New England under his direct control. The earliest known antislavery tract is released in the colonies by the Quakers at Germantown, Pennsylvania. The Glorious Revolution occurs in which King James II (Catholic) flees to France and is replaced by William and Mary of Orange (Protestant).
1689	William and Mary of Orange are officially named King and Queen of England. Governor Andros surrenders to colonial rebels and is put in jail. New England colonies begin reinstating their own governments after Governor Andros is removed from power. The Toleration Acts are passed by Parliament which gives limited Freedom of Religion to citizens. A Bill of Rights is passed by Parliament as a statute.
1690	King William's War begins when the combined forces of the French and the Indians attack towns in New York, Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts.
1691	William Penn makes Delaware a separate government from Pennsylvania. Maryland is declared a Royal province removing Lord Baltimore from political power. Plymouth Colony becomes part of Massachusetts.
1692	William III takes the throne. Pennsylvania is named a royal colony. Salem Witchcraft trials occur. 20 persons are executed before the trials end.
1693	College of William and Mary is founded in Williamsburg, Virginia. North Carolina is designated.
1694	Colonists sign a peace treaty with the Iroquois to keep them from allying with the French in the future. Pennsylvania is once again named a Proprietary Colony.
1696	Navigation Acts of 1696 are passed by Parliament that limits all colonial trade to English-built vessels among other things.
1697	The Treaty of Ryswick ends King William's War and restores all colonial possessions to pre-war ownership.
1699	Pirate Captain Kidd is captured and sent to England where he will be executed in 1701. Wool Act is passed by Parliament to protect the British wool industry. It forbids the export of wool from the American colonies.
1700	Massachusetts requires all Roman Catholic priests to leave the colony within three months or be arrested. Boston is the largest city in the American colonies and the overall population of the colonies numbers around 275,000.