

First Europeans near Horseheads were the Dutch; they advanced up the Susquehanna River as far as Wyoming County. The French were on the Northern waterways but still not into our valley.

1754	English went up the Alleghany River barely into Tioga Valley (not up through Pennsylvania). Tioga was spelled “Diahoga”.
1771	A quite accurate piece of work.....a map of the “VI Nations Proper” and part of adjoining colonies, the map covered the whole of the State of New York with some portions of Pennsylvania and Ohio. This map was surprisingly correct in all areas, although the area of the Chemung Valley on this map shows nothing but a white blank space.
1776	Horseheads was part of the Native American nation.
1779	August – Battle of Newtown.  September 21 <sup>st</sup> - General Sullivan ordered his army pack horses killed.
1780	Nathan Teal, a Revolutionary War veteran, settled on land that is now South Main Street.
1789	John Breese, one of the first settlers, built a log cabin at marker on South Main Street with wife and daughter Sarah, who was born on February 18, 1789.
1790	First marriage was William Dunn and Mercy Sayre.
1791	February 19 <sup>th</sup> - became Tioga County. The first judge of the new county was Abram Miller, his commission signed by Clarence Clinton.
1793	March 3 <sup>rd</sup> - First child born in Horseheads.  John Breese’s log cabin became the first school in Horseheads, with teacher Amelia Parkhurst.  Carpenter Family built “The Halfway House”, the first area inn halfway between Horseheads and Elmira Heights.  First death: Sassanah Conklin on March 3 <sup>rd</sup> .
1798	First gristmill erected by John Breese.
1800	First log school built near Ryant Park.
1802 -	Most of the American Natives who lived in Horseheads died from the smallpox

1803	epidemic.
1804-1805	Nathan Teal built a sawmill near the old Conklin Mill.
1805	Rev. Roswell Goff started as minister of the Baptist Church.
1807	144 acres in the center of the village were deeded by Nathan Teal to James Sayre under the stipulation it be used in part for a public burying plot and some as use by the people of Horseheads (Teal Park).
1808	First log tannery near Mosher Block.
1809	Colonel Brinton Paine owned a tavern on Newtown Creek.
1812	Bowman Hill Rd. (North side on the flats near ridge) was the sight of "Muster Days" by the Militia and Rifle Corp from this county. The rifle corps and militia, 500 strong, performed practice, drills, and parades.
1814	Methodist Episcopal Church was organized, with Benjamin Westlake as preacher.
1815	First newspaper, "The Telegraph", began in Chemung County.  A two-story community building and two-room school house was built on the "Meeting House" lot on Main St, now Teal Park.  Methodist Episcopal Church organized.
1827	The first church, built next to the first cemetery at the North End of what is now the Holding Point. The church was known as the "Marsh Church" as that area has a large swamp. A few years later the Chemung Canal was built just west of the church.
1828	Colwell and Abe Shute each opened a hotel in the "square" area (later known as Platt House).  Horseheads Baptist Church was organized.
1829	The state appropriated \$300,000 to the Seneca and Susquehanna Lock Navigating Company to build a canal.
1830	November 13 <sup>th</sup> - a group of businessmen put a legal notice in the Elmira Gazette in an attempt to name the area post office as Dundee (Sept. 1987 <i>The Chemung Historical Journal</i> ).
1832	February 8 <sup>th</sup> - The first church erected by Presbyterians.
1833	Chemung Canal opened for business.

	Hon. Jacob Westlake of Horseheads elected as first New York State Assemblyman (re-elected in 1837).
1834	The Methodist Episcopal Church built its first building of worship.
1836	Horseheads was the social and political center in Chemung County. March 29 <sup>th</sup> – Chemung County, population 7,463, was organized.
1837	Our village incorporated as “Fairport”. At the time it covered 237 acres.
1837 – 1840	Albert A. Beckwith of Horseheads was County Sheriff.
1838	Fairport held a popular 4 <sup>th</sup> of July celebration that brought citizens from a distance of up to 50 miles.
1840	New school building for \$2,200 was built by John Relyea and Cyrus Barlow. The first shade trees set out in the village by Cyrus Barlow.
1841	New Baptist Church was dedicated. It was enlarged and refitted in 1851 and again in 1867. First wooden sidewalks built in Fairport.
1845	Horseheads, the original name, was restored by an act of Legislation.
1849 - 1852	William T. Reeder of Horseheads was Chemung County Sheriff.
1850	Teal School House was built in the park of the same name and consisted of 4 rooms.
1854	The Town of Horseheads was formed from Elmira.
1855	115 acres added to the village, total now 352 acres. Samuel C. Taber issued a weekly paper called “The Philosopher”. February 1 <sup>st</sup> – Horseheads Lodge 364 organized.
1857	William T. Hastings from Horseheads became representative of Chemung County.
1860	The Newspaper “Horseheads Philosopher” merged with the “Elmira Gazette”. Joseph Rodburn built the first grist mill.

1862	Horseheads businesses, The Square, destroyed by fire.
1863	25 acres were added to the village.
1865	October 11 <sup>th</sup> – Horseheads Free School organized.
1871	Horseheads revised its village charter. New corporate seal consisted of 3 horses' heads inside a circle (Phanos Horses).
1873	Police Department organized.  February 18 <sup>th</sup> – Horseheads Grange No. 105 organized.  August 22 <sup>nd</sup> - Fire Department Horseheads Steamer and Hose Company #1 organized.  December – Pioneer Hose Company organized.  First concrete sidewalks built.
1875	Fire bell purchased.
1876	June 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Horseheads Fire Department organized.
1877	“Horseheads Journal” moved to Elmira and changed its name to “Chemung Greenbacker”.  November 14 <sup>th</sup> – Acme Hose Co. No. 2.  Academics added to Horseheads Free School.
1878	Chemung Canal closed.
1879	First phones in Horseheads. The town's telephone operator's location was in a small office above Don Wright's hardware store (phone entrance on Franklin St.)  “Chemung Greenbacker” moved back to Horseheads and became “Chemung Valley Reporter”.
1880	Trembly House hotel became Platt House with new owner Rufus Platt.
1880's	The then famous Horseheads Celery shipped to all of current United States in wooden boxes with the name <i>Horseheads Celery</i> on the side.
1885	Horseheads renamed North Elmira for one year.

1886	<p>September 28<sup>th</sup> – Eugene Zimmerman moved to Horseheads and married a Horseheads girl, Miss Mary Beard.</p> <p>Area chestnuts were \$5.00 a bushel.</p>
1889	<p>First Horseheads High School graduation.</p> <p>First automobile seen in Horseheads, a 1 cycle 14 Horsepower Winton.</p> <p>Fire House and Town Hall were built for \$8,000; burnt within a year.</p>
1890	<p>Fire House and Town Hall rebuilt after previous year's fire.</p>
1892	<p>New Brick High School built on Grand Central Ave; Teal House School closed.</p>
1893	<p>Steam trolley "Horseheads Division" ran through Hanover Square.</p>
1898	<p>Construction began for Electric Railway, a.k.a. "Glen Route" by the American Engineering Co. of New Jersey.</p>
1900	<p>Regular service of the Glen Route – every 30 minutes from 6:00 am to 11:30 pm (90-minute trip to Seneca Lake).</p>
1902	<p>Citizen's Telephone Co. requested and was granted franchise to erect telephone poles.</p>
1904	<p>Water and electric services installed in the village. The Platt House hosted its last Great Ball to celebrate the new services.</p>
1906	<p>First hard surface road built from Horseheads to Erin.</p>
1910	<p>Eugene Zimmerman built the bandstand in Teal Park with his father-in-law. Residents often heard "Zim's Band" playing in the bandstand.</p>
1915	<p>First concrete highway between Elmira and Ithaca right through Horseheads.</p>
1917	<p>April 6<sup>th</sup> – Six Horseheads men died in World War I. Granite marker later erected in the Horseheads Memorial Park on Grand Central Avenue.</p> <p>Village purchased street cleaner.</p>
1918	<p>November 11<sup>th</sup> – Armistice Day.</p>
1927	<p>Platt House torn down, First National Bank built in its stead.</p>
1932	<p>Radio station WESG (a.k.a. WENY) signed on.</p>

1935	Eugene “Zim” Zimmerman died.
1939	Horseheads Grange built a new building on West Franklin Street for its meetings. This was also used by community organizations.
1940 – 1941	Chamber of Commerce organized.
1941	December 8 <sup>th</sup> - United States declared war on Japan and later on Japan and Italy.  Holding Point was established by U.S. Army, holding tanks, trucks, equipment and supplies during the war, along with prisoners of war.
1942	Horseheads’ two fire companies consolidated into the “Active Fire Company of Horseheads”.  The “Exempt Fire Association” was formed with a fire commission.
1943	Chemung County Airport opened.  Horseheads gained Victory Heights apartment houses.
1944	Horseheads Women’s Club decided to start a library for the village, with each member donating at least one book.
1945	During World War II 45 men from Horseheads died; granite marker with bronze plate erected in park on Grand Central Ave.  375 pre-fabricated homes in Windsor Gardens were built by the National Homes.
1946	Police Department went on 24-hour call duty.
1947	Radio Station WELM signed on.
1948	Annexation of Holding Point to the village.
1949	Horseheads Library moved to larger quarters on second floor of the #2 Fire Station on John St.  National Home began operating at the Holding Point. They produced pre-fabricated homes and employed 275 people.
1951	Horseheads Schools and surrounding smaller town schools (1 room schools) consolidated into the Horseheads Central School System.
1952	Westinghouse Electronic Tube Division opened.

	Telephone “dial” service established with toll free calls within Elmira, Elmira Heights and Big Flats.
1953	WTVE TV went on the air.  Horseheads Village decided to build the Horseheads swimming pool.  Franklin Fisher, native of Horseheads and manager of Illustration Department for National Geographic magazine, died.
1956	WSYE TV on the air.  WEHH Radio was the first Horseheads radio station.
1959	Introduction to direct long distance telephone dialing.  Library called Horseheads Free Library and moved to Village Hall; full-time librarian hired.
1961	August 1 <sup>st</sup> – Grand opening of the Grand Central Plaza; 135,000 people attended.  Horseheads Central School District had 7 schools, 5,100 students.
1962	Village employees moved into Village Hall on the site of former Fire House and Village Hall, corner of Main St. and John St.
1963	Junior High School opened.  May - New library was built.