

## Timeline of Events in Downingtown

This is an on-going project of the Historical Society to record the dates of events in the Downingtown area. When known, the month and day are noted. Please email us at [dths1709@gmail.com](mailto:dths1709@gmail.com) for additions or corrections.  
Updated: July 6, 2025

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                          |
|------|-------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1691 |       |     | Thomas Downing born in Devonshire, England.                                                                                                                    |
| 1701 |       |     | Log house built.                                                                                                                                               |
| 1702 |       |     | Surveys made in Downingtown for right of purchase in England.                                                                                                  |
| 1716 |       |     | Thomas Moore erects a "Water Corn Mill" in Downingtown. Later becomes Shelmire Grist Mill.                                                                     |
| 1720 |       |     | Peter Bezellion lays out road from Thomas Moore's cabin to the west (Peter's Road).                                                                            |
| 1723 |       |     | Parke family settles in Downingtown.                                                                                                                           |
| 1723 |       |     | George Aston purchases 500 acres (part of current west Downingtown).                                                                                           |
| 1727 |       |     | ca. Hunt Mansion built north side of what is now Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                             |
| 1729 |       |     | 341 East Lancaster Avenue (the Tea House) was built by Thomas Moore.                                                                                           |
| 1735 |       |     | Thomas Downing settles in what is now Downingtown.                                                                                                             |
| 1735 |       |     | Abel Parke establishes the Ship Inn.                                                                                                                           |
| 1738 |       |     | Thomas Moore dies.                                                                                                                                             |
| 1739 |       |     | Thomas Downing purchased land in East Caln Township.                                                                                                           |
| 1739 |       |     | Roger Hunt grist mill built (another date is 1765).                                                                                                            |
| 1739 |       |     | Hamlet became known as Milltown at about this year.                                                                                                            |
| 1739 |       |     | Downings purchased the Log House.                                                                                                                              |
| 1741 |       |     | Lancaster Road laid out through Downingtown.                                                                                                                   |
| 1741 |       |     | Bridge built over mill race in center of Downingtown/Milltown.                                                                                                 |
| 1752 |       |     | Area residents petitioned the Chester County commissioners for a bridge over the Brandywine (unclear if it resulted in the first bridge built at location)     |
| 1761 |       |     | Downing's Tavern also called Downing Mill Inn (also known as George Washington Inn and King-in-Arms) opens.                                                    |
| 1764 |       |     | Roger Hunt dies.                                                                                                                                               |
| 1765 |       |     | Roger Hunt grist mill built, Davidson has 1739 (pg 12).                                                                                                        |
| 1772 |       |     | Thomas Downing dies.                                                                                                                                           |
| 1773 | 6     | 3   | George Washington stayed at Ship Inn.                                                                                                                          |
| 1774 | 10    | 1   | Contract to build first bridge over the Brandywine in Downingtown given to Samuel Cunningham. Bridge was torn down to make way for a new stone bridge in 1801. |
| 1780 |       |     | County buys 1 acre plot from Roxanna Sheward as a site for the new County Courthouse and prison.                                                               |
| 1790 |       |     | Halfway House opens (third Milltown tavern, also George Washington and Ship) by John Edge.                                                                     |
| 1792 |       |     | Map of this date of PA shows Downing's Town, earliest newspaper so far 1764 Penn Gazette mentions Downing's Town.                                              |
| 1794 |       |     | Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike finished 1794, opened 1795, chartered 1792.                                                                                |
| 1795 |       |     | Ship inn discontinued, moves sign to Ship Inn at what is now Exton.                                                                                            |
| 1801 |       |     | Lancaster Pike stone bridge built over Brandywine. Finished 1803.                                                                                              |
| 1803 |       |     | Bridge over the Brandywine completed. Work began in 1801.                                                                                                      |
| 1805 |       |     | Swan Hotel constructed, Thomas Parke.                                                                                                                          |
| 1806 |       |     | Agreement reached to start Quaker meeting.                                                                                                                     |
| 1807 |       |     | Friend's Society established in Downingtown.                                                                                                                   |
| 1807 |       |     | Society of Friends organized in Downingtown.                                                                                                                   |
| 1807 |       |     | Swan Hotel taken over by Jesse Evans until 1822.                                                                                                               |
| 1774 |       |     | John Downing donates lot near his 'King in Arms' tavern for a school site.                                                                                     |
| 1808 |       |     | First newspaper, The Temperate Zone and Chester and Delaware Advertiser, one year later it was changed to The Downingtown American Republican.                 |
| 1808 |       |     | Downingtown's first newspaper was the Temperate Zone, Charles Mowry from Litchfield, RI.                                                                       |
| 1809 |       |     | The Temperate Zone newspaper changed its name to the Downingtown American Republican.                                                                          |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                   |
|------|-------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1813 | 8     |     | The Downingtown American Republican newspaper dropped Downingtown from its title.                                                                       |
| 1814 | 4     | 28  | Accommodation stage line instituted between Phl and Dow. Sign of the Swan (Swan Hotel) terminus. Left 8am from Dow, Mon-Wed-Fri.                        |
| 1817 |       |     | Downingtown School Boarding School for Boys opened by Joshua Hoopes.                                                                                    |
| 1817 |       |     | Lyndell Country Store's first year in business.                                                                                                         |
| 1818 |       |     | John S. Mullin & Co. cash store opened sw corner of Center Square.                                                                                      |
| 1820 | 5     | 1   | First Masonic Lodge meeting held in town at the home of Dr. Fairlamb (current 441 East Lancaster Avenue).                                               |
| 1822 |       |     | Jonathan Diller takes over proprietorship of Swan Hotel.                                                                                                |
| 1824 |       |     | Origins of Methodist Church in Downingtown.                                                                                                             |
| 1830 |       |     | Jacob E. Parke took over management of Swan Hotel.                                                                                                      |
| 1833 | 11    | 17  | Methodist Church completed (first one).                                                                                                                 |
| 1833 |       |     | Richard Millerson(?) took over management of Swan Hotel.                                                                                                |
| 1834 | 4     | 16  | First train goes through Downingtown pulled by the Black Hawk locomotive.                                                                               |
| 1835 |       |     | Jacob E. Parke took over management of Swan Hotel, again.                                                                                               |
| 1837 |       |     | Boarding school for girls opens in Downingtown.                                                                                                         |
| 1839 |       |     | Rokeby Mill started?.                                                                                                                                   |
| 1841 |       |     | Samuel Ringwalt became proprietorship of Swan Hotel.                                                                                                    |
| 1842 |       |     | First services of St. James Episcopal Church held during the fall.                                                                                      |
| 1843 | 6     | 20  | Cornerstone of St. James Episcopal Church laid.                                                                                                         |
| 1843 | 10    | 26  | St. James Episcopal Church building consecrated.                                                                                                        |
| 1847 |       |     | J and J Forsythe built a mill and 16 homes at Thorndale, Thorndale Iron Works.                                                                          |
| 1851 | 9     |     | Cornerstone of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church was laid.                                                                                             |
| 1853 |       |     | Chester Valley Railroad comes to Downingtown.                                                                                                           |
| 1854 | 3     |     | East Brandywine and Waynesburg Railroad chartered.                                                                                                      |
| 1859 | 5     | 12  | Borough of Downingtown incorporated.                                                                                                                    |
| 1859 | 5     | 28  | First election in Downingtown. Included Burgess, Town Council, School Directors, Assessors, Judge, Inspectors, Constable, and Auditors.                 |
| 1859 | 6     | 2   | First meeting of Downingtown's Borough Council.                                                                                                         |
| 1859 | 6     | 9   | First Presbyterian Church organized. Later was dissolved (mid 1860s).                                                                                   |
| 1859 |       |     | Joseph P. Tucker took over management of the Swan Hotel.                                                                                                |
| 1860 | 7     |     | Work starts on the East Brandywine and Waynesburg Railroad.                                                                                             |
| 1860 | 9     | 3   | Downingtown National Bank organized.                                                                                                                    |
| 1860 |       |     | Methodist Church sells 1833 building and builds new one across street.                                                                                  |
| 1860 |       |     | First Presbyterian Church bought lot and built church on Lancaster Avenue. Later known as Central Hall. Lutheran Church later used building.            |
| 1861 | 5     | 16  | Downingtown National Bank went into operation.                                                                                                          |
| 1861 | 7     | 24  | Central Presbyterian Church organized in Downingtown.                                                                                                   |
| 1861 | 8     | 15  | First train operations of the East Brandywine and Waynesburg Railroad. Two daily round trips between Downingtown and Waynesburg (Honey Brook).          |
| 1861 |       |     | Lincoln passes through Downingtown to Washington, DC. Gives few comments from back of train.                                                            |
| 1861 |       |     | Downingtown-Waynesburg RR completed.                                                                                                                    |
| 1862 |       |     | William Sheeler took over management of Swan Hotel. First started to be known as Swan Hotel instead of Sign of the Swan(?).                             |
| 1863 | 9     | 1   | Cornerstone of Central Presbyterian Church on East Lancaster Avenue laid.                                                                               |
| 1863 |       |     | Eber Garrett purchased property at the corner of East Lancaster and Wallace Avenue from James Lockart and had a general merchandise store for 22 years. |
| 1864 | 3     | 31  | First National Bank of Downingtown opens. Joshua Kames president; Richard Wells, cashier.                                                               |
| 1864 | 9     | 1   | Central Presbyterian Church building on East Lancaster Avenue dedicated.                                                                                |
| 1865 |       |     | Lincoln's funeral train passes through Downingtown.                                                                                                     |
| 1870 | 6     | 18  | The Aston Terrace Hotel burned down the night of June 18, 1870. One owner was Joshua Kames.                                                             |
| 1870 | 6     | 24  | Dedication of the Masonic Hall in Downingtown (Intelligencer Journal, 6/1/1870).                                                                        |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------|-------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1870 | 11    |     | A new reservoir was planned. 130'x72' Maybe the one just north of the 1924 one on Poorhouse(?). Reading Times Nov 16 1870.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1870 | 11    |     | Water works completed. 1.2 million gallons reservoir. 130' x 72' feet.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1871 | 4     | 27  | Northwood Cemetery charter granted.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1871 | 5     | 24  | The Aston Terrace Hotel Company sold the 20 acres to the Pennsylvania Railroad for \$17,000.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1871 | 11    | 23  | First internment in Northwood Cemetery (John B. Rogers).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1871 | 12    | 11  | Samuel Hawkins purchased Swan Hotel. Hotel ownership summarized in Archive in Feb 11 1954.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1871 |       |     | Johnsontown planned.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1871 |       |     | F. Dunleavy Long opens the Chester Valley Academy in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1871 |       |     | The PRR purchased 20 acres of ground called Aston Terrace from Joshua Kames in order to quarry and build repair shops. Reading Times, May 22, 1871.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1872 | 6     | 3   | Ordinance passed on 6/3/1892 prohibiting any frame buildings being constructed on Brandywine Avenue from Lancaster Ave to the PRR tracks.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 1872 | 10    |     | School board purchases building on West Lancaster Avenue for new school (Pennypacker) Price of \$6,950.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 1872 |       |     | The Downingtown Academy for Boys opens in Downingtown (closed in 1873?).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1872 |       |     | Theodore Griffith starts retail hardware store on West Lancaster Avenue. Lasts until 1962.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1873 | 5     | 15  | Ground broken for the shoe factory in the southwest section of Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1873 | 9     | 27  | First issue of Downingtown Independent newspaper, forerunner of the Archive.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1873 | 10    | 23  | The two schoolhouses in Downingtown were sold on this date. The one in the east end was next to the M.E. Church and was bought by William Torbert and sold in 1875 to J. Hunter Wells. The other one was in the west end at the corner of Stuart and Pennsylvania Avenues. Both school consolidated in the old Institute Building that the School District purchased for a new school?. |
| 1873 | 10    |     | The Chester County Archive newspaper began. Publisher Harry Skeen.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1873 |       |     | The Central School in Downingtown (former Institute Building) was ready for students by the fall of 1873.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 1873 |       |     | Viaduct Avenue tunnel built.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1873 |       |     | First water works in Downingtown constructed by Joshua Kames.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1873 |       |     | John R. Johnson builds his home on Church Street in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1874 | 4     | 1   | St. James Episcopal Church purchases about 2/3 acre of land in Northwood Cemetery for burials.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1874 | 5     |     | The Downingtown Independent newspaper sold by Potter and Cordery to T. Dunleavy Long.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1874 |       |     | Downingtown's first jail or lock-up was built in early 1874.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1875 | 10    | 4   | Firearm ordinance enacted in Borough, also Nov 4 1875.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1875 | 11    |     | J. Hunter Wills purchases former school building on East Lancaster Avenue from William Torbert. This was the former school house number 2. Later burned down.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1876 | 1     | 27  | Downingtown Library Company organized.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1876 | 4     | 4   | Downingtown Library Company formally opened in building on north side of East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1876 | 4     | 4   | Downingtown Library Company opened.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1876 | 9     |     | The offices of the Downingtown Archive move to Coral Hall.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1876 |       |     | Cornerstone of Mount Raymond Union American Methodist Church laid.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1876 |       |     | William McFarlan builds Coral Hall at 116-118 East Lancaster Avenue. Named after his only daughter Cora. The hall was the large open third story of the building, not the overall building itself. There may have been a period of time when the third floor was added after the first and second floors were completed.                                                                |
| 1877 | 1     | 22  | Disturbing the peace ordinance enacted on Jan 22 1877.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1878 |       |     | Howard B. Sides opened his drug store on West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1880 |       |     | John B. Stevenson purchased the charter rights and privileges of the Crystal Spring Water Company, thus owning the entire water supply of Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1880 |       |     | Downingtown Manufacturing opened for business.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------|-------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1881 | 2     | 19  | S. Austin Bicking purchases three acres of land from Edward Downing for \$4,500 at the corner of East Lancaster and Brandywine Avenues in order to construction a paper mill. |
| 1881 |       |     | Frank Miller starts paper company, called Solitude Mill, on land south of Dow leased from George Kerr.                                                                        |
| 1881 |       |     | S. Austin Bicking builds first DOW paper mill on Lancaster Avenue at Brandywine River across from the log house. The Moore Mill which stood on the sight was demolished.      |
| 1882 | 5     | 8   | First dog ordinance in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                           |
| 1882 |       |     | Rectory of St. Joseph's Church was constructed on Bradford Avenue.                                                                                                            |
| 1883 | 2     | 4   | First Baptist Church organized in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                |
| 1884 | 9     | 1   | Borough ordinance unlawful to erect a frame building along Lancaster Avenue in the East Ward of Downingtown. Not approved by Burgess.                                         |
| 1885 | 6     | 5   | On June 5, 1885 the first telephone call was made in Downingtown when Harry Painter called Downingtown from West Chester.                                                     |
| 1886 |       |     | Royer purchased the Swan Hotel.                                                                                                                                               |
| 1887 |       |     | Electric lights first installed in Downingtown.                                                                                                                               |
| 1887 |       |     | Alert Fire Company organized.                                                                                                                                                 |
| 1887 |       |     | Brandywine Building and Loan Association organized in 1887 (1927 directory ad, page 56).                                                                                      |
| 1887 |       |     | Frank Miller purchases 14 acres adjacent to railroad for his new paper company.                                                                                               |
| 1888 | 5     | 14  | Valley Creek train station renamed Bradford Hills.                                                                                                                            |
| 1888 |       |     | Office added to the east side of the Heilbronn Hotel. Later moved to Washington Avenue.                                                                                       |
| 1888 |       |     | G. T. Guthrie planing mill established.                                                                                                                                       |
| 1888 |       |     | Dr. John Edge sells the 'shoe factory' property.                                                                                                                              |
| 1889 | 2     | 1   | Downingtown Methodist Episcopal Church started meeting at Bicking Hall while new church on Brandywine Avenue was being built.                                                 |
| 1889 | 9     | 7   | Cornerstone of Methodist Church on Brandywine Avenue laid.                                                                                                                    |
| 1890 | 2     | 27  | A meeting was held in Coral Hall to divide the Borough. AP Tutton in the East Ward was leading voice for the division.                                                        |
| 1890 | 3     | 20  | East Downingtown Post Office established at 116 East Lancaster after Louis McFarlan retires from his clothing store.                                                          |
| 1890 | 5     | 25  | Methodist Church on Brandywine Avenue dedicated.                                                                                                                              |
| 1890 | 5     | 26  | Hunt Mansion sold to Michael Murphy.                                                                                                                                          |
| 1890 | 10    | 6   | Streets in Johnstown ordained by Borough ordinance including Church Street, Prospect Avenue, Penn Street, Harry Street, and Bridge Avenue. Officially opened July 13, 1891.   |
| 1890 | 11    | 3   | First Baptist Church cornerstone laid, corner of Manor and West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                             |
| 1890 |       |     | Methodist Church building on Brandywine Avenue was completed (or 1889?).                                                                                                      |
| 1891 | 4     | 26  | First Baptist Church building at corner of Manor and West Lancaster Avenue dedicated.                                                                                         |
| 1891 |       |     | Alert Fire Company building on Downing Avenue completed.                                                                                                                      |
| 1892 | 4     | 8   | Masonic Lodge of corner of West Lancaster and Stuart burned down.                                                                                                             |
| 1892 | 4     |     | David W. Hutchison opens his pharmacy at 116 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                           |
| 1892 | 5     |     | G. T. Guthrie awarded contract to build the new PRR station.                                                                                                                  |
| 1892 | 7     | 16  | Alert Fire Company dedication ceremonies.                                                                                                                                     |
| 1892 | 9     | 2   | Work began on the Downingtown Improvement Company building by G. Thompson Guthrie.                                                                                            |
| 1892 | 9     | 5   | Ordinance passed to vacate the portions of Green St, Whiteland Ave, and Chestnut St over Reading and PRR tracks (eliminate at-grade crossings).                               |
| 1892 | 9     | 28  | Downingtown Improvement Company chartered.                                                                                                                                    |
| 1892 |       |     | Pennsylvania Railroad station built (burned down 1992).                                                                                                                       |
| 1892 |       |     | The Pennsylvania Railroad and Reading Railroad began construction of the Brandywine Avenue tunnel over which their tracks would run.                                          |
| 1892 |       |     | Downingtown Improvement Company building (Mittel Building) at corner of Stuart and West Lancaster built. The date is seen on the photograph.                                  |
| 1892 |       |     | East side Post Office moves from west side of Coral Hall building (116 East Lancaster) to 140 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                          |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------|-------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1893 | 4     |     | First Chestnut Street bridge completed around early April 1893. Walkers Crossing was vacated which was most likely where Whiteland Avenue crossed. This and Woodbine Road were the last two grade crossings of the Main Line between DOW and PHL. |
| 1893 | 6     |     | Noted in the newspaper that all eleven rooms of the new Downingtown Improvement Company had been rented.                                                                                                                                          |
| 1893 | 10    | 2   | Ordinance passed for Armor Alley, 12 feet wide, from East Lancaster to Mill Alley.                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1894 | 3     | 9   | Archive snippet mentions work on railroad siding for the new Florey's Brick Works.                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1894 | 4     | 2   | Ordinance passed for an electric railway passing through Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1894 | 5     | 7   | Goshen Avenue vacated at Borough Council meeting on this date.                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1894 | 6     | 1   | Public meeting held to discuss Borough erecting own water works.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1894 | 6     | 20  | Swan Hotel sold on 6/20/1894 for \$17,000. Royer estate to Theodore Hallman.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1894 | 11    | 15  | East Downingtown Post Office moved to the store of George Elston.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 1894 | 12    | 11  | On 12/11/1894, the water from the Pine Creek Reservoir was turned on to go to the Borough.                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1894 |       |     | Downingtown's first public water supply system went into service. The Sallie Young basin on Sawmill Road.                                                                                                                                         |
| 1894 |       |     | Starting in Feb 1894 the Chief Burgess would not be a member of Council and would be more like a Mayor. Three year term.                                                                                                                          |
| 1895 | 1     |     | The Boldridge Hotel sold in early January 1895. Bought by Michael Murphy. Continued to be run Thomas Taylor. Pennsylvania House Hotel.                                                                                                            |
| 1895 | 8     | 31  | Allen Keim opens his funeral home in Downingtown in the old O'Neal property (later became location of American Store). One two phones in town at that time (Dr. Kerr and Hutchison Store).                                                        |
| 1895 |       |     | The Downingtown Archive leaves Coral Hall and moves into a new space.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1895 |       |     | E.P. Dwight donates his farm south of Downingtown to the Philadelphia YMCA.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1896 |       |     | Edmund Parsons Dwight gave 437 acres south of Downingtown to the YMCA of Philadelphia.                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1896 |       |     | J. Harry Reed opens (or takes over) the Downingtown Cash Store on East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1898 | 5     |     | James Florey purchases the land of A. P. Tutton for the clay.                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1898 | 5     |     | James Florey purchases the Rogers and Miller brick yard to the north of his brick yard.                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1899 | 8     | 1   | Charter of the Strawthreshers Association of Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1900 | 2     | 15  | Heilbronn Hotel purchasd by Theodore Griffith. Turned into residence. Hotel's former office moved to 255 Washington Avenue. Griffith also constructed homes on the corner of Washington Avenue and Green Street.                                  |
| 1900 | 4     |     | Heilbronn office probably moved in April when other parts of the back of the hotel were being torn off.                                                                                                                                           |
| 1900 | 7     | 21  | G. T. Guthrie awarded contract to build Downingtown National Bank.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1900 |       |     | Cohansey Glass opens plant in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1900 |       |     | First year of organized summer camps at YMCA camp.                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1901 | 1     | 4   | Downingtown Knitting Mill burns down.                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1901 | 3     |     | Construction starts on the West Chester-Downingtown trolley line by the Tennis Construction Co. (alias West Chester Street Railway Co.).                                                                                                          |
| 1901 | 4     | 1   | Downingtown National Bank building on Center Square opens.                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1901 | 8     |     | William Krautter purchases property near Willam Street for an ice pond from Samuel Brown. Water supplied by Beaver Creek.                                                                                                                         |
| 1901 | 11    | 26  | Work began on laying trolley tracks on Brandywine Avenue.                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1902 | 8     | 30  | First trolley came into Downingtown from West Chester. Trial run over the line left W.C. about 4:30 pm.                                                                                                                                           |
| 1902 | 11    | 7   | Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church organized with 34 members.                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1902 | 12    |     | Turntable in the Pennsylvania Railroad's yard in the west end taken out and replaced with 'Y'.                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1902 | 3     | 19  | The Downingtown Opera House Company was incorporated.                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1903 | 9     | 19  | Kerr's Track opens on Brandywine Avenue between the railroad tracks and Boot Road. Under the auspices of the Downingtown Driving Association.                                                                                                     |
| 1903 | 9     | 30  | Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church building dedicated (former Central Hall and originally built as First Presb. Church).                                                                                                                         |
| 1903 | 12    | 15  | Opening of Downingtown Opera House.                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                              |
|------|-------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1903 |       |     | Downingtown Manufacturing Company new building completed.                                                                                                          |
| 1903 |       |     | Work begins on the Trestle Bridge by the Pennsylvania Railroad. Part of the PRR's Low Grade line, Philadelphia and Thorndale branch.                               |
| 1904 | 6     | 18  | East Church Street is laid out out by Borough ordinance.                                                                                                           |
| 1904 | 6     | 18  | Beech Alley between Jefferson Avenue and Park Run is vacated by Borough ordinance.                                                                                 |
| 1904 | 6     | 18  | East Church Street is laid out out by Borough ordinance.                                                                                                           |
| 1904 |       |     | Allen Keim moves his funeral home to Stuart Avenue.                                                                                                                |
| 1905 |       |     | Downingtown Motor Company started. Became incorporated in 1908. William H. Carey operated it in a garage behind the home of Dr. Edward Kerr.                       |
| 1906 | 11    | 2   | First through trolley to Coatesville.                                                                                                                              |
| 1906 |       |     | Regular freight service begins on the PRR's Low-Grade line over the Trestle Bridge.                                                                                |
| 1906 |       |     | Minquas Fire Company incorporated to have a fire company in the East Ward.                                                                                         |
| 1907 | 3     | 7   | Grange National Bank organized. Opened the following January.                                                                                                      |
| 1907 | 4     | 4   | Work begins on the Downingtown Garage and Repair Company building on East Lancaster Avenue. Later became the Downingtown Motor Company building.                   |
| 1907 | 4     | 23  | William Baldwin sells plot of land on East Lancaster Avenue to Grange National Bank.                                                                               |
| 1907 | 9     |     | The Grammar School was re-located to the McCaughey Building on West Lancaster Avenue. Was formerly in the fire house.                                              |
| 1908 | 1     | 14  | Grange National Bank opens on Lancaster Avenue. The bank was organized in 1907.                                                                                    |
| 1908 | 10    | 8   | Cornerstone of Minquas Fire Company laid.                                                                                                                          |
| 1908 |       |     | Downingtown Motor Company incorporated and acquired a Buick agency.                                                                                                |
| 1909 | 1     | 15  | Downingtown Choral Society organized.                                                                                                                              |
| 1909 | 5     | 1   | Charter granted to the Minquas Fire Company.                                                                                                                       |
| 1909 | 5     | 29  | Minquas Fire Company firehouse dedicated.                                                                                                                          |
| 1909 | 10    |     | The Hess brothes build large addition to the Bijou Theater in Center Square.                                                                                       |
| 1909 |       |     | Downingtown High School on Lancaster Avenue razed.                                                                                                                 |
| 1909 |       |     | "History of Downingtown" written by Charles Pennypacker.                                                                                                           |
| 1910 | 5     | 10  | Dedication of first high school, built on Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                        |
| 1911 | 2     | 22  | Brothers John and Calvin Romig purchase a farm in West Bradford and begin their orchard business.                                                                  |
| 1911 |       |     | Keystone Traprock Quarry established in Cornog by John S. Galt. Leased from Harry Rhodewalt who had started the quarry ca. 1909.                                   |
| 1913 | 5     |     | Work began on addition to Downingtown Manufacturing Company. Occupy the remainder of lot to Green Street.                                                          |
| 1913 |       |     | Rowe Motor Company purchases land from Flory Brick Works and moves to Downingtown from Coatesville.                                                                |
| 1914 | 1     |     | Machinery for Rowe Motor Company moved from Coatesville to Downingtown. Rowe purchased the property and buildings of the old Florey Brick Works on Wallace Avenue. |
| 1914 | 6     |     | Large stone barn next to Minquas fire house torn down. Stone was used as a foundation for the new addition to the fire house.                                      |
| 1914 | 7     |     | Arthur Silknetter sold his store at the corner of Washington and Brandywine Avenues to George McCausland of Romansville.                                           |
| 1915 | 3     |     | The gym for the Minquas Fire Company opens.                                                                                                                        |
| 1915 | 6     |     | The first taxi service starts in Downingtown by Charles J. Holby.                                                                                                  |
| 1915 | 8     |     | A traffic survey counted 500 automobiles passing through Downingtown in a single day.                                                                              |
| 1915 |       |     | The Lincoln Theater on Stuart Avenue shows moving pictures twice a week (one-reel comedies). Admission was 5 cents and 10 cents.                                   |
| 1915 |       |     | Downingtown voters vote 222 to 163 for a new sewer system.                                                                                                         |
| 1916 | 6     | 3   | Ed Wagner starts work with the Borough.                                                                                                                            |
| 1916 | 6     |     | Philadelphia Brass Company purchases former Cohansey Glass Company building on Chestnut Street.                                                                    |
| 1916 |       |     | Downingtown Manufacturing Company builds new foundry behind old one (100 feet x 200 feet).                                                                         |
| 1917 | 4     | 24  | Ed Wagner appointed Borough Superintendent.                                                                                                                        |



| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------|-------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1917 | 8     | 21  | Harbison-Walker Refractories Company opens plant north of town.                                                                                                                                               |
| 1917 |       |     | Allen Keim builds his funeral home at 107 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                              |
| 1917 |       |     | David W. Hutchison sells his pharmacy to his sons Dr. D. Edgar Hutchison and Corbin C. Hutchison.                                                                                                             |
| 1917 |       |     | Harbison-Walker builds refractory brick plant north of Downingtown. Tramway (or dinky train) line also being built at the same time.                                                                          |
| 1918 | 1     |     | During the early part of 1918 there was a significant shortage of coal in Downingtown. Most cellars were bare, the Miller Paper Company had to close, and schools were burning soft coal.                     |
| 1918 | 3     |     | Machinery for Rowe Motor Company moved from Downingtown to Lancaster.                                                                                                                                         |
| 1919 | 2     | 3   | Frank Bicking and Morton Myers purchase the store of Sidney Irons on West Lancaster Avenue on February 3, 1919.                                                                                               |
| 1919 | 4     |     | Scarlet fever epidemic rages in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1919 | 4     |     | Hugh O'Donnell purchases the auto garage from Joseph Trego on West Lancaster Avenue. Calls it the West End Garage. Trego was a Maxwell dealer? O'Donnell arrested in 1932 for not paying gasoline taxes.      |
| 1919 | 5     | 19  | L.B. Tweed opens meat market on Brandywine Avenue.                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1919 | 10    | 6   | Borough passed an ordinance for the collection of ashes in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                       |
| 1919 | 10    | 26  | First day of ash collection in Downingtown (ordinance passed on October 6, 1919).                                                                                                                             |
| 1919 |       |     | Dr. Howard Davis started practicing medicine in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1919 |       |     | Indoor lavatories installed at the high school on West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                      |
| 1919 |       |     | Edward Baldwin started with the Downingtown Motor Co. Would stay for 32 years.                                                                                                                                |
| 1919 |       |     | Furlong and Wharry began a store at corner of Jefferson and Chestnut.                                                                                                                                         |
| 1920 | 1     | 9   | Downingtown Improvement Company building sold to William Mittel for \$20,000.                                                                                                                                 |
| 1920 |       |     | Leland Wilson joined Allen Keim in his funeral home business. Became known as Keim and Wilson.                                                                                                                |
| 1921 | 1     | 4   | Ordinance passed for the collection of garbage in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                |
| 1921 | 3     | 9   | Very strong wind storm, possibly a tornado, wreaked havoc in Downingtown and the surrounding areas.                                                                                                           |
| 1921 | 3     |     | Samuel Lewis appointed Chief of Police in Downingtown, succeeding Thomas Gray.                                                                                                                                |
| 1921 | 5     | 1   | First day of garbage collection in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                               |
| 1921 | 7     |     | New bridge over Brandywine in Downingtown contract let to D. B. Hoover of Pottstown for \$41,285.                                                                                                             |
| 1921 | 8     | 10  | Bridge over the Brandywine in the center of Downingtown closed for replacement.                                                                                                                               |
| 1921 | 8     | 17  | Article in CR about moving trolley bridge and extending Pennsylvania Avenue .                                                                                                                                 |
| 1921 | 10    |     | Old trolley bridge opened extending Pennsylvania Avenue.                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1921 |       |     | Construction begins during the summer on the new Lancaster Avenue bridge over Brandywine Creek. .                                                                                                             |
| 1921 |       |     | Hunt Mansion is torn down. Bricks from the mansion were used for a garage on Wallace Avenue built by Davis Windle. Windle was actually building the garage in 1919. Rented it to Lilly's Ford Garage in 1920. |
| 1921 |       |     | Charles News Agency opens for business.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1921 |       |     | Modern Tailor begins as business in storefront of Pennsylvania House Hotel.                                                                                                                                   |
| 1922 | 2     | 2   | Ice jam destroys temporary trolley bridge in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1922 | 4     | 12  | Downingtown Woman's Club votes to acquire the Joseph Hoopes property on Manor Avenue for \$12,000. Vote was 58 for and 8 against.                                                                             |
| 1922 | 6     |     | Rotamo Electric Shop starts business in Downingtown at 122 East Lancaster Avenue. Operated by Robert (Ro) Taylor (Ta) Moore (Mo). Moore also owned the Downingtown Hardware Company.                          |
| 1922 | 8     | 6   | On August 6, 1922, the new Lancaster Avenue bridge over the Brandywine was officially opened to vehicular traffic.                                                                                            |
| 1922 | 9     | 4   | Laying of cornerstone for the new East Ward School.                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1922 |       |     | Downingtown Building and Loan Association incorporated in 1922.                                                                                                                                               |
| 1923 | 9     | 30  | Dedication of new East Ward School.                                                                                                                                                                           |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------|-------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1923 | 12    | 31  | Sun Oil Company purchases the former Parke property next to the Minquas Fire Station on East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                     |
| 1924 |       |     | Frank Miller paper company changes name to Downingtown Paper Company (DOPACO).                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1924 |       |     | Water works constructed on Poorhouse Road. Two sources: Beaver Creek and Copeland Run.                                                                                                                                             |
| 1924 |       |     | The Octagonal Schoolhouse at Bell Tavern became the Bell Tourist Home.                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1925 | 4     | 1   | Everett Hoopes opens his real estate business in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1925 | 4     |     | Bell Telephone Company purchases the old Heilbron Hotel property occupied by the Griffith family. The telephone exchange was located to the rear on Green Street.                                                                  |
| 1926 | 3     | 29  | Ground broken for new municipal building/borough hall.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1926 | 5     | 1   | Cornerstone of municipal building laid. Building owned and financed by the Citizens Holding Company and leased to the Borough for a period of years.                                                                               |
| 1926 | 10    | 7   | New Borough Hall dedication.                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1926 |       |     | J. Harry Reed puts his store at 119 East Lancaster Avenue up for sale.                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1926 |       |     | Rotary Club forms in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1926 |       |     | J. Harry Reed retires from his store at 119 East Lancaster Avenue. Taken over by Samuel Kaplan.                                                                                                                                    |
| 1927 | 2     | 1   | Benjamin Markward takes over as chief of police in Downingtown, replacing Thomas Gray who was 72 years old and served as chief in Downingtown for about 50 years.                                                                  |
| 1927 | 5     | 20  | Formal opening of the Downingtown Hardware Store at 145 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1927 | 9     | 5   | Ordinance enacted establishing the Dr. Edward Kerr Memorial Park. Development started spring 1928.                                                                                                                                 |
| 1927 | 9     | 5   | The Downingtown Opera House re-opens after being closed for alterations and is re-named the Roosevelt Theater. Stiefel Amusement Company management. Possibly named after Teddy Roosevelt because FDR wasn't even NY governor yet. |
| 1928 | 9     |     | Murphy's Furniture Store opens in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1928 |       |     | Ray Sheeler goes into business selling Chevrolets at the corner of West Lancaster and Manor Avenues. Wallace Motor Company.                                                                                                        |
| 1928 |       |     | Ray Greenleaf purchases the Sides' Pharmacy on West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1929 | 5     | 6   | Police Chief Benjamin Markward resigns. Was suspended by Burgess Ax. Replaced by Chester Glisson.                                                                                                                                  |
| 1929 | 5     | 29  | Joseph Newlin first day on duty as a Downingtown police officer. He and Glisson were the only two on the force.                                                                                                                    |
| 1929 | 6     |     | In June 1929 Route 5 (later 322) the "Lakes to Sea Highway" opened between WC and Dow (Ephrata Review 6/21/29 page 14).                                                                                                            |
| 1929 | 7     | 1   | Ida H. Martin sold Swan Hotel to Harry G. Barry, leased to William Rittenhouse.                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1929 | 11    | 22  | Downingtown Motor Company opens at its new location at 21 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1929 | 11    | 30  | Last day of trolley service between West Chester, Downingtown and Coatesville                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1929 | 12    | 1   | Buses replaced trolley between West Chester, Downingtown and Coatesville.                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1929 |       |     | St. Anthony's Lodge incorporated.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1929 |       |     | Downing home to the east of the Log House is demolished to make way for the Downingtown Motor Company building.                                                                                                                    |
| 1929 |       |     | Pennsylvania House Hotel refurbished. Stores on first floor with apartments on second floor.                                                                                                                                       |
| 1930 | 1     | 11  | Flywheel accident at the Bicking Paper Mill.                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1930 | 5     | 5   | Tom Lee laundry opens at 212 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1930 | 5     | 17  | Gulf Service Station at SE corner of East Lancaster Avenue and Green Street opens for business. Former William Byler property.                                                                                                     |
| 1930 | 6     | 28  | First day of Camp Castle at YMCA camp near Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1930 | 6     |     | Inaugural year of Camp Castle at the YMCA camp which was for younger children.                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1930 | 8     | 15  | J. M. Thomson takes over garage of the former Brandywine Motor Company next to Borough Hall. Ford dealer.                                                                                                                          |
| 1930 | 10    | 2   | Miniature golf course opens at the Howe Garage on Washington Avenue.                                                                                                                                                               |
| 1931 |       |     | Flood control issues being dealt with.                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1931 |       |     | Entrance to Kerr Park from Lancaster Avenue started in spring of 1931.                                                                                                                                                             |



| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------|-------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1932 | 5     |     | Downingtown Hardware closes; was in operation five years.                                                                                                               |
| 1932 | 10    |     | Sugars Bridge, covered bridge south of Downingtown torn down in Oct-Nov 1932.                                                                                           |
| 1932 | 11    | 3   | Grange National Bank sold its building to Downingtown National Bank for \$15,000.                                                                                       |
| 1932 | 11    | 4   | The Downingtown Dining Room opens at 125 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                         |
| 1932 | 11    | 5   | Grange National Bank merges with Downingtown National Bank.                                                                                                             |
| 1932 |       |     | Borough's first zoning ordinance. Probably early 1932.                                                                                                                  |
| 1933 | 2     | 22  | Former Grange Bank building damaged by fire.                                                                                                                            |
| 1933 | 7     |     | The Bicking Paper Company Mill 1 reopens after being closed down for several years.                                                                                     |
| 1933 | 9     | 6   | First day of classes in the new Junior-Senior High School building on Manor Avenue.                                                                                     |
| 1933 |       |     | Wallace Motors, Ray Sheeler builds new garage east of his current location. This is currently Downingtown Collision. 33 West Lancaster Avenue.                          |
| 1933 |       |     | Nice Yarn Company starts in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                |
| 1934 | 5     | 7   | Forsythia chosen as Downingtown's town flower.                                                                                                                          |
| 1934 |       |     | E. Hallan Usher takes over Oldsmobile dealership on East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                              |
| 1935 | 7     | 2   | Downingtown National Bank sold the Grange National Bank building to the Odd Fellows Association for \$1 on 7/2/1935 (G19,147).                                          |
| 1935 | 10    | 24  | State Liquor Store opens in the old Grange Bank Building. Occupied the entire first floor.                                                                              |
| 1936 |       |     | Downingtown's State Store moves into former Grange Bank building. Later moves into the Downingtown Department Store building and then back to the Grange Bank building. |
| 1938 |       |     | Heibronn Hotel torn down (year estimated according to Archive, Nov 27 1947).                                                                                            |
| 1939 | 7     |     | Atlantic Service station opened by Edwin E. Peterson on West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                          |
| 1939 | 8     | 17  | A&P supermarket at 28 West Lancaster Avenue opens in former building of Gatchel Motors.                                                                                 |
| 1939 | 8     |     | Contract awarded to build the new Chestnut Street Bridge which was destroyed by fire several years ealier.                                                              |
| 1939 | 11    |     | Reverend Clarence E. Miller appointed pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church.                                                                                                |
| 1940 | 1     | 4   | The Chestnut Street Bridge opens to traffic during the morning.                                                                                                         |
| 1940 | 3     | 15  | Atlantic Service station opens at 182 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                            |
| 1940 | 4     | 4   | Thomas W. Downing's will probated. Log House willed to the Borough.                                                                                                     |
| 1940 | 9     | 3   | Alert Fire Company's members vote 57-1 to purchase the lot on Pennsylvania Avenue for a new fire house.                                                                 |
| 1940 | 9     | 27  | Grand opening of the Esso Station at the corner of Green Street and Lancaster Avenue. Robert "Bob" Barker proprietor.                                                   |
| 1940 | 12    | 11  | The Priori Matress lot was sold to the US Government for a new Post Office (wasn't built for many years).                                                               |
| 1940 |       |     | In July 1940 Gabriel's Liberty Market opened next to the Grange Bank building. Run by Gabriel Talucci.                                                                  |
| 1940 |       |     | August? 1940 the gas station opened at Lancaster Avenue and Green Street (now site of Jad's).                                                                           |
| 1940 |       |     | The Dr. Howard Davis home began to be built at the corner of Manor and Pennsylvania Avenues (in the fall?).                                                             |
| 1940 |       |     | In early 1940 the Log House was donated to the Borough from Thomas Downing in his will. Town not sure what to do with it.                                               |
| 1940 |       |     | The Downingtown Motor Waste Hauling company's building began on Brandywine Avenue (current site of Maxwell's Hardware).                                                 |
| 1941 | 4     | 7   | Borough workers given one weeks vacation with pay.                                                                                                                      |
| 1941 | 6     | 7   | Roads in Kerr Park closed to vehicular traffic for safety of children. Borough ordiance.                                                                                |
| 1941 |       |     | Town Motors opens in Downingtown at 108 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                          |
| 1942 | 2     | 5   | Discussion at Borough Council meeting about removing trolley tracks on West Lancaster and Brandywine Avenues.                                                           |
| 1942 | 3     | 5   | Removal of trolley tracks in Borough.                                                                                                                                   |
| 1942 | 4     | 10  | Alert Fire Company No. 1 to Masonic Home (R20,147), April 10, 1942.                                                                                                     |
| 1942 | 8     |     | Flood put much of Downingtown's central area under water.                                                                                                               |
| 1942 |       |     | Downingtown Department Store opens. J.J. Brownstein manager. Later bought it in 1956.                                                                                   |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------|-------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1943 | 3     | 17  | Two 7.5 ton guns fell off a truck turning onto Manor Avenue causing damage to a car parked at Sheeler's garage. The guns were enroute from Philadelphia to Honey Brook for machining and boring. |
| 1943 | 8     | 21  | Large barn at Smoky Ridge Farm, the home of Mrs. Walter McIlvain burns down.                                                                                                                     |
| 1943 | 9     | 2   | Grand opening of Downingtown Department Store.                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1943 | 10    | 31  | St. James Episcopal Church celebrates 100th anniversary.                                                                                                                                         |
| 1943 | 11    | 1   | More than 300 out of 400 workers at Downingtown's four paper companies go on strike over proposed company bonus. Returned to work after three days.                                              |
| 1944 | 5     | 7   | B-25 Mitchell bomber with a crew of seven crashed north of West Chester.                                                                                                                         |
| 1944 | 5     | 30  | Downingtown police join chase of Packard car stolen in Lancaster.                                                                                                                                |
| 1944 | 6     | 5   | Earl Bryant's grocery store in Guthriesville burns down.                                                                                                                                         |
| 1944 | 10    | 1   | Municipal Building was supposed to become property of the Borough of Downingtown on this date. Take possession from the Citizen's Holding Company.                                               |
| 1945 | 6     | 22  | Johnson's Jewelry Store opened on June 22, 1945 at 111 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                    |
| 1946 | 1     | 20  | George Daily opens grocery store at 213 Washington Avenue.                                                                                                                                       |
| 1946 | 5     | 16  | Archive newspaper sold to Robinson McIlvaine. First issue 5/16/46.                                                                                                                               |
| 1946 | 5     |     | John Petrella sells his shoe store at 114 East Lancaster Avenue to Anthony DiLuigi who purchased it for his son Anthony, Jr. who returned from the war in Europe as a gunner on a B-24.          |
| 1946 | 5     |     | Dick Thomas re-opens the Brick Oven in Exton. It had been closed since the beginning of the war while Dick set up and supervised cafeterias in defense plants in the Philadelphia area.          |
| 1946 | 6     |     | Byers Station torn down and sold for the lumber.                                                                                                                                                 |
| 1946 | 6     |     | McIlvains sell Lowebrook Farm.                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1946 | 7     |     | Pine Hill Reservoir wrecked by swimmers.                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1946 | 10    | 15  | Tom Dolan opens Tom's Radio and Electrical Center at the corner of West Lancaster Avenue and Stuart Avenue.                                                                                      |
| 1946 | 10    | 25  | Grand opening of Dunmore's Sporting Goods Store (formerly B. Frank Davis Store) at 117 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                    |
| 1946 | 10    | 26  | Charles Ax opens photo studio in Downingtown National Bank building.                                                                                                                             |
| 1946 | 10    |     | Luigi D'Addezio opens store at 315 Bradford Avenue (Lou Beverage).                                                                                                                               |
| 1946 | 11    |     | The Bell Grill opens about a mile west of Downingtown along the Lincoln Highway.                                                                                                                 |
| 1946 | 12    | 12  | Six die, three injured in accident.                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1946 |       |     | Barmay Hosiery Company starts in business in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                        |
| 1946 |       |     | Tony Cozzone takes over Hugh O'Donnell's service station. Texaco. He needed more space that his station at the corner of Lancaster and Viaduct could provide.                                    |
| 1947 | 1     | 9   | Diner construction.                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1947 | 2     | 4   | Diner arrives by truck from Easton. Havard A. McCurdy on the corner of Downing and West Lancaster Avenue. Mr. Burkhouser lease the diner and will be manager.                                    |
| 1947 | 3     |     | Bicking Paper Company sold.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1947 | 4     | 3   | The Downingtown Diner at the corner of Lancaster and Downing Avenues opened in April 1947.                                                                                                       |
| 1947 | 6     | 16  | Downingtown Chamber of Commerce charters.                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1947 | 7     | 4   | Downingtown Good Neighbor Day started, first annual.                                                                                                                                             |
| 1947 | 7     |     | Modern Tailor moved to new building at 115 West Lancaster Avenue opens in early July 1947.                                                                                                       |
| 1947 |       |     | Romig Electronic Service Company opens for business.                                                                                                                                             |
| 1948 | 11    | 10  | Grand opening of Colonial Bake Shop at 140 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                |
| 1948 | 12    | 1   | Elmer Esworthy takes over grocery store at corner of Jefferson Avenue and Chestnut Street from Charles Furlong.                                                                                  |
| 1948 |       |     | Downingtown police chief Chester Glisson resigns effective midnight 9/20/1948 to go into business for himself. Restaurant and taproom on E. Lanc. Ave.                                           |
| 1949 | 3     | 4   | Grand opening of Colucci's of Philadelphia. Jewelers. 1 Park Lane.                                                                                                                               |
| 1949 |       |     | Frank Synex buys Lyndell Country Store.                                                                                                                                                          |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------|-------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1949 |       |     | Pepperidge Farm plant opens in Downingtown. It's the second modern plant for company (the first was in Norwalk, CT in 1947). Downers Grove, IL in 1953. Overall company launched in 1937. |
| 1950 | 10    | 23  | The Downingtown interchange on the Pennsylvania Turnpike dedicated.                                                                                                                       |
| 1950 |       |     | First season of Downingtown Little League (organized in 1949).                                                                                                                            |
| 1950 |       |     | Food Center at 201 Church Street opens.                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1951 | 1     |     | International Resistance Corp. moved into the former Nice Yarn building on Wallace Avenue.                                                                                                |
| 1951 | 5     |     | McGuckin and Pyle started.                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1951 | 11    |     | The Army-Navy store at 101 East Lancaster operated by Joseph Shur opens.                                                                                                                  |
| 1951 |       |     | Nelson Finance Company opens.                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1952 | 10    |     | Downingtown Iron Works purchased by Pressed Steel Tank Company of Milwaukee, WI.                                                                                                          |
| 1952 | 11    | 14  | Downingtown Farmers Market opens. Biggest traffic jam in Downingtown's history.                                                                                                           |
| 1952 | 11    | 21  | McDonough's Flower Shop opens new store at 27 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                      |
| 1953 | 4     | 6   | Marian Phillips, Downingtown HS teacher, was the first woman Borough Council member.                                                                                                      |
| 1953 | 6     | 27  | Motel Brentwood opened in Exton. Archive June ? 1953. .                                                                                                                                   |
| 1953 | 7     | 25  | Milano's Grill opened, 11 Brandywine Ave. In front of the west side of the Swan Hotel.                                                                                                    |
| 1953 | 9     | 17  | Murphy's Furniture Store moved to Thorndale?                                                                                                                                              |
| 1953 |       |     | Bob Cropper and his wife Lora open Cropper's IGA Supermarket at the intersection of Route 322 and Bondsville Road in Guthriesville.                                                       |
| 1954 | 1     |     | Coffee Cup restaurant opening. 101 East Lancaster Avenue. Ad.                                                                                                                             |
| 1954 | 1     |     | Pillsbury operations began at Downingtown plant. Left around June 1958 to East Greenville.                                                                                                |
| 1954 | 2     | 28  | Groundbreaking ceremonies for St. Joseph School on Pennsylvania Avenue.                                                                                                                   |
| 1954 | 5     |     | Swan Hotel sold (May?) to Shihadeh.                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1954 | 7     | 14  | Massive fire at the YMCA's Camp Hilltop destroys several buildings including the mess hall, kitchen, recreation room, office, cook's house and store.                                     |
| 1954 | 8     | 21  | Theodore Griffith sells portion of Heilbron property to Esso Corporation.                                                                                                                 |
| 1954 | 8     |     | Swan Diner which stood in front of the Swan Hotel is moved back to Exton.                                                                                                                 |
| 1954 | 10    | 2   | American Stores (Acme Market) shuts down its store at 130 East Lancaster Avenue. Lack of parking; no room to expand.                                                                      |
| 1954 | 10    | 9   | Al's Diner opened on the corner of Pottstown Pike and Boot Road (former Milano's Grille in Downingtown?).                                                                                 |
| 1954 | 10    | 24  | Official dedication of St. Joseph's School on Pennsylvania Avenue.                                                                                                                        |
| 1954 | 11    | 1   | Hotel Crossroad's grand opening.                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1954 |       |     | Corbin C. Hutchison sells Hutchison's Pharmacy to S. Dickey Hutchison.                                                                                                                    |
| 1955 | 1     | 13  | Groundbreaking for new telephone central dial office on Whiteland Avenue.                                                                                                                 |
| 1955 | 2     |     | Gulf Service Station at SE corner of East Lancaster Avenue and Green Street torn down.                                                                                                    |
| 1955 | 3     |     | Corbin "Doc" Hutchison retires from his pharmacy after 63 years.                                                                                                                          |
| 1955 | 8     |     | Downingtown Manufacturing sold.                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1955 | 8     |     | Nicholas Giunta opens pharmacy at the corner of East Lancaster Avenue and Green Street .                                                                                                  |
| 1955 | 10    | 1   | Warren Strawsnyder purchases the Cozzone Pontiac dealership at 148 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                 |
| 1955 | 10    | 31  | Herbie's Meat Market moves to 210 Bradford Avenue.                                                                                                                                        |
| 1955 | 11    | 1   | Downingtown Manufacturing officially becomes Beloit Eastern.                                                                                                                              |
| 1955 |       |     | Beloit acquires Downingtown Manufacturing Company. Plant becomes Beloit Eastern.                                                                                                          |
| 1955 |       |     | Milprint opened its first plant in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                           |
| 1956 | 1     | 19  | Exton Roller Rink opens. Owned and operated by William Lennox.                                                                                                                            |
| 1956 | 1     | 28  | House of Julius Priori burns down on Lloyd Avenue.                                                                                                                                        |
| 1956 | 2     | 25  | Fire destroyed home of the Connor family on Peck Road in Uwchlan Township.                                                                                                                |
| 1956 | 7     | 11  | Exton Drive-In opens. Double feature, Broken Lance and The Racers.                                                                                                                        |
| 1956 | 7     | 15  | At 3:01am Downingtown phone exchange to dial system.                                                                                                                                      |
| 1956 | 9     |     | Harold E. Ritchie takes over Gatchel Ford at 115 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                   |
| 1956 |       |     | Foxcroft housing development started.                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1957 | 1     | 1   | The Downingtown Paper Company consolidates with the Downingtown Paper Box Company and the Simplex Paper Box Corporation of Lancaster.                                                     |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                      |
|------|-------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1957 | 3     |     | Barn on Washington Avenue torn down behind Sunoco station to make room for Borough's first public parking lot.                                             |
| 1957 | 4     | 26  | Grand opening of Millers Atlantic Service Station on corner of E. Lancaster Avenue and Green Street. Robert Miller proprietor.                             |
| 1957 | 4     | 26  | Robert Millers Atlantic Service Station grand opening at East Lancaster Avenue and Whiteland Avenue.                                                       |
| 1957 | 4     | 27  | School Board met and decided to close West Ward School due to structural issues.                                                                           |
| 1957 | 4     |     | Bicking building next to Downingtown National Bank torn down. Lot becomes parking lot.                                                                     |
| 1957 | 5     |     | Town Motors moves from East Lancaster Avenue to a new location east of the Downingtown Farmers Market.                                                     |
| 1957 | 6     | 13  | Lions Club shelter dedicated at Kerr Park.                                                                                                                 |
| 1957 | 6     | 16  | Whitford Country Club grand opening.                                                                                                                       |
| 1957 | 7     | 15  | Worker dies at Bicking Paper Company after falling into a breaker beater.                                                                                  |
| 1957 | 7     | 29  | Filming of the Molten Meteor (Blob) filmed at the Downingtown Diner on July 29 and 30.                                                                     |
| 1957 | 9     | 2   | Black soot covered the east end of Downingtown after rupture in main circulating tube in a boiler at the Downingtown Paper Company.                        |
| 1957 | 9     |     | George Heintzelman purchases the Downingtown Archive newspaper.                                                                                            |
| 1957 | 10    | 19  | Downingtown Motor Company sold.                                                                                                                            |
| 1957 | 10    |     | Hotel Downingtown (formerly Williams Hotel), 12 rooms now operated on West Lancaster Avenue.                                                               |
| 1957 | 12    | 2   | The Swan Hotel is purchased by Gordon Lexton of Philadelphia. History of owners Archive 12/12/57.                                                          |
| 1957 |       |     | Dopaco consolidates with Downingtown Paper Box Company.                                                                                                    |
| 1957 |       |     | West Ward School on West Lancaster Avenue torn down (April-June).                                                                                          |
| 1957 |       |     | Peter Pan wading pool built in Kerr Park. Dedicated on July 4, 1957.                                                                                       |
| 1958 | 2     | 1   | Sweetland store on East Lancaster Avenue sold to Mr. and Mrs. Leon Slawko.                                                                                 |
| 1958 | 3     | 1   | Herbie's Meat Market moves from 210 Bradford Avenue to 227 Church Street.                                                                                  |
| 1958 | 3     | 25  | Milprint's new packaging plant opens in Downingtown.                                                                                                       |
| 1958 | 3     | 28  | Brandywine Building and Loan Association opens at corner of Manor and Pennsylvania Avenues.                                                                |
| 1958 | 7     | 6   | Strong winds, possibly a tornado, caused extensive damage to several homes on William Street.                                                              |
| 1958 | 7     | 7   | The three school districts of Downingtown, East Caln, and Uwchlan official joined its elementary programs into the Downingtown Area Joint School District. |
| 1958 | 7     | 20  | Groundbreaking ceremonies for Exton Baptist Church on Swedesford Road in West Whiteland Township.                                                          |
| 1958 | 9     |     | 100 acre former Ashbridge Farm across from Downingtown Farmer's Market purchased by the Tabas Brothers from Ray Sheeler for \$125,000.                     |
| 1958 | 10    | 15  | The Foote Mineral Company opens two new laboratories in Exton on 53 acres west of Route 100.                                                               |
| 1958 | 10    |     | Hamilton's Unpainted Furniture signed a 5-year lease on a building east of Downingtown near the Farmer's Market.                                           |
| 1958 | 11    | 11  | Groundbreaking for new A&P supermarket on the Roberts property in the center of Downingtown.                                                               |
| 1958 | 12    | 1   | Construction started on the 300 block of Mary Street for new homes as part of the Valley Green development.                                                |
| 1959 | 1     |     | The Downingtown Area School Board condemned 14 acres of the Lloyd Farm for the new Beaver Creek school.                                                    |
| 1959 | 5     | 24  | Official dedication of Exton Community Baptist Church on Swedesford Road.                                                                                  |
| 1959 | 6     | 26  | Grand opening of Jim Smith's Atlantic Service Station at East Lancaster and Whiteland Avenues.                                                             |
| 1959 | 7     | 6   | Carltons Floor Coverings opens at 114 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                               |
| 1959 | 7     | 8   | Grand Opening the A&P supermarket at Park Lane and Pennsylvania Avenue.                                                                                    |
| 1959 | 7     | 19  | Opening of St. Anthony's Swim Club on Church Street.                                                                                                       |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------|-------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1959 | 8     | 14  | Groundbreaking ceremonies for Foote Mineral's research laboratories in Indian Run in Exton.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1959 | 8     | 31  | 280 employees at Gindy Manufacturing Company go on strike.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1959 | 8     |     | Dunmore's Sporting Goods at 117 East Lancaster Avenue goes out of business.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1959 | 9     | 10  | Grand opening of Franny's (formerly Dunmore) at 117 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1959 | 9     | 11  | Official opening of Downingtown's Centennial celebration.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 1959 | 9     | 12  | Centennial celebration parade.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1959 | 9     | 12  | "Fireman's Day" Downingtown Centennial celebration.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1959 | 9     | 13  | "Centennial Sabbath" Downingtown Centennial celebration.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1959 | 9     | 14  | "Agriculture Day" Downingtown Centennial celebration.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1959 | 9     | 15  | "Ladies Day" Downingtown Centennial celebration.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1959 | 9     | 16  | "Labor, Industry and Commerce Day" Downingtown Centennial celebration.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1959 | 9     | 17  | "Pioneer Homecoming Day" Downingtown Centennial celebration.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1959 | 9     | 18  | "Veterans and Fraternal Day" Downingtown Centennial celebration.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1959 | 9     | 19  | "Youth Day" Downingtown Centennial celebration.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1959 | 9     | 20  | A safe at Downingtown High School was broken into and \$2,500 was taken.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1959 | 9     |     | Downingtown Senior Hall Patrol votes to allow girls into the organization.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1959 | 11    |     | Construction began on the 100-room Downingtown Motor Inn east of town.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1960 | 1     | 6   | The West Ward School property on West Lancaster Avenue is sold by the DASD to Thomas Byerly and Archie MacLean for \$19,500.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1960 | 1     |     | Century Auto Sales takes over Ford dealership from Harold Ritchie at 115 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1960 | 2     | 2   | The Downingtown-West Bradford Joint Elementary School Board chose the name Beaver Creek School for the new elementary school being built on Pennsylvania Avenue.                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1960 | 2     | 10  | Robert L. Miller, captain of the Minquas Fire Company, was arrested on arson charges.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1960 | 3     | 14  | The Downingtown Chamber of Commerce is granted permission to use the Log House as its headquarters.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1960 | 3     |     | Dr. Richard Lehr started practicing in the practice of optometry with Dr. Carl F. Dent at 40 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1960 | 3     |     | Work begins on the Downingtown-Coatesville Bypass.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1960 | 4     | 7   | The Downingtown Chamber of Commerce opens its offices in the Log House.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 1960 | 6     | 6   | Groundbreaking ceremonies for Beaver Creek School.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1960 | 6     |     | Downingtown Paper Company completes merger of its two subsidiaries - the Downingtown Paper Box Co. and the Simplex Paper Box Corp. of Lancaster.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1960 | 7     |     | Swan Hotel shuts down. It was owned by Upper Main Line Bank and was leased to Gordon Lexton of Philadelphia. Lexton cancelled the lease. The bank put it up for sale.                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1960 | 8     | 16  | Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Pepperidge Farm Frozen Food division plant on Boot Road.                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1960 | 8     |     | Bicking Paper Mill #2 (across from Minquas) was purchased by United Container Co. The sale did not include Bicking Paper Mill #1 which was across from the log house. Mill #1 continued to be operated under the name Brandywine Paper Co. United Container was associated with the Daring Paper Co. of Bridgeport, PA. |
| 1960 | 9     | 7   | Informal opening of the Downingtown Motor Inn. 52 of the 128 units opened.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1960 | 9     |     | Bicking Mill #1 across from the log house was purchased by the Brandywine Paper Corp. Included in the sale was the old woolen mill warehouse on Wallace Avenue.                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1960 | 9     |     | Paradise Farms operated by the Children's Country Week Association purchased the old 275 acre Bergdoll estate in East Bradford for \$80,000.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1960 | 12    | 11  | Dedication ceremonies for the Downingtown Joint Senior High School.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1960 | 12    |     | Milak Buick closed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1961 | 1     | 11  | Annexation of 245 acres from East Caln passed by Borough council.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1961 | 1     |     | Warren Strawsnyder purchased the local Buick franchise. His dealership became Warren Pontiac-Buick.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1961 | 1     |     | "Project 61" was launched at the January meeting of the Chamber of Commerce. Facelift for the Downingtown business district.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1961 | 2     |     | Lady crossing guards were used for the first time in the school areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------|-------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1961 | 3     | 9   | Swan Hotel purchased by Gene DiSantis.                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1961 | 5     | 17  | The 245 acres annexed by Downingtown from East Caln officially becomes part of Downingtown.                                                                                                |
| 1961 | 5     |     | AACO purchases the building of the former Trifield Hosiery Mill at the corner of Pennsylvania and Wallace Avenues.                                                                         |
| 1961 | 6     | 8   | Grand opening of AACO new location at corner of Pennsylvania and Wallace Avenues.                                                                                                          |
| 1961 | 6     |     | Addition built on the west side of Downingtown National Bank's main branch (May-July period).                                                                                              |
| 1961 | 7     | 6   | 1896 House restaurant opens at the Downingtown Motor Lodge. History of restaurant origin and name in 7/6/61 Archive.                                                                       |
| 1961 | 7     |     | The former Coffee Cup building at 101 East Lancaster as well as 103 Lancaster, and the Center Square Inn building at 39, 41, and 43 East Lancaster were torn down to widen Wallace Avenue. |
| 1961 | 9     | 1   | The term Mayor will be used instead of Burgess in Pennsylvania.                                                                                                                            |
| 1961 | 10    | 1   | Merger effective between Chemical Tank Lines and Leaman Transportation. Mergered company called Chemical-Leaman Tank Lines.                                                                |
| 1961 | 10    | 1   | Bicking Paper Mill #2 name changed to Daring Paper.                                                                                                                                        |
| 1961 | 11    | 9   | Downingtown's last Spanish American War veteran dies. John C. Kacy.                                                                                                                        |
| 1961 | 11    | 12  | Beaver Creek Elementary School dedicated.                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1961 |       |     | New police headquarters in Borough Hall basement.                                                                                                                                          |
| 1962 | 1     | 14  | Fire destroys Brandywine Paper Company's warehouse.                                                                                                                                        |
| 1962 | 1     |     | Pepperidge Farm purchased building on Boot Road from the Tabas brothers for their frozen food division.                                                                                    |
| 1962 | 1     |     | Budd Co. opens research facility at 122 Wallace Avenue.                                                                                                                                    |
| 1962 | 2     |     | Bob's Sporting Goods opens for business.                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1962 | 3     | 29  | Downingtown Paint and Wallpaper opens at PA and Wallae Avenues. Everett "Ev" Gill, proprietor.                                                                                             |
| 1962 | 4     | 13  | Daring Paper Company workers go on strike.                                                                                                                                                 |
| 1962 | 5     |     | Downingtown Flower Shop opens.                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1962 | 7     | 9   | Ackworth Material Corp. begins operations on Creek Road.                                                                                                                                   |
| 1962 | 9     |     | Don Greenleaf named assistant borough manager in Downingtown.                                                                                                                              |
| 1962 | 10    | 8   | Updated zoning ordinance adopted by Borough Council.                                                                                                                                       |
| 1962 | 11    | 8   | Grand opening of Jim & Bill's Wayside Tavern two miles south of Downingtown on Route 322. Formerly known as Calhoun's and 322 Bar.                                                         |
| 1962 | 11    | 10  | Central Presbyterian Church celebrates 100th anniversary of its chartering.                                                                                                                |
| 1962 | 11    | 24  | Post Office at 55 West Lancaster Avenue in Downingtown dedicated.                                                                                                                          |
| 1962 | 11    |     | Grand opening of Paul J. Devitt Hardware Co. at 125 East Lancaster Avenue (former Griffith's Hardware).                                                                                    |
| 1962 | 12    | 21  | Downingtown-Coatesville Bypass opens.                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1963 | 2     | 5   | School Board votes to lease firehouses for additional classroom space (Marshallton Fire Co. and Alert Fire Co.).                                                                           |
| 1963 | 2     |     | Loretta's Beauty Salon opens at 36 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                  |
| 1963 | 4     | 9   | Petition presented to Borough Council to annex 287 acres in East Caln.                                                                                                                     |
| 1963 | 5     | 13  | Mayor Creston Shoemaker proposes a children's zoo in Kerr Park.                                                                                                                            |
| 1963 | 6     | 11  | Discovery of bypassed water line at Brandywine Paper Co. Company fined \$8,333.33 plus \$16,166.67 in water usage,.                                                                        |
| 1963 | 6     | 22  | Fire at Morris Store causes it to close for a month for repairs.                                                                                                                           |
| 1963 | 7     | 1   | Five-digit ZIP Code 19335 becomes effective.                                                                                                                                               |
| 1963 | 7     | 10  | Downingtown-Coatesville Bypass dedicated.                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1963 | 7     | 15  | Downingtown National Bank's East End Office at 701 East Lancaster Avenue opens.                                                                                                            |
| 1963 | 7     | 24  | Ed Peterson is killed in an accident at his Atlantic Service Station at 132 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                         |
| 1963 | 7     | 30  | Bob's Sporting Goods goes out of business. Open since February 1962.                                                                                                                       |



| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                    |
|------|-------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1963 | 7     | 31  | Schanely's Jewelers at 130 East Lancaster Avenue went out of business. Was open at the same location for 13 years.                       |
| 1963 | 7     |     | Nelson Finance Company at 134 East Lancaster Avenue sells all its assets.                                                                |
| 1963 | 8     |     | First discussions held of merging Downingtown Borough and East Caln Township.                                                            |
| 1963 | 9     | 23  | Daring Paper Company re-opens after 16-month strike.                                                                                     |
| 1963 | 10    | 14  | Grand opening of Dolly's Luncheonette at 136 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                      |
| 1963 | 11    | 11  | Downingtown Borough Council votes 4-2 to add flouride to water supply.                                                                   |
| 1963 |       |     | Frank Manetta becomes proprietor of the Atlantic Richfield service station at 132 West Lancaster Avenue.                                 |
| 1964 | 1     | 6   | Downingtown Paper Company ceases operations after 330 union employees go on strike the following morning.                                |
| 1964 | 1     | 19  | "Decision at Marsh Creek" airs on WRCV Channel 3 showing the plight of Milford Mills resulting from the proposed damn project.           |
| 1964 | 1     | 26  | Local boys find dead body of a man in the Davey Paper Company mill race south of Downingtown.                                            |
| 1964 | 2     | 5   | Downingtown Paper Company striking employees return to work.                                                                             |
| 1964 | 2     | 10  | Council fails to override Mayor Creston Shoemakers veto of adding flouride to Dowington's water supply.                                  |
| 1964 | 2     | 19  | Downingtown's State Store moves from the former Grange Bank building to 130 East Lancaster Avenue where Schanely's jewelers was located. |
| 1964 | 5     | 5   | Pepperidge Farm purchases 13 acres of land on Chestnut Street that it had been leasing since 1949.                                       |
| 1964 | 5     | 17  | Downingtown residents can now dial "1" before making a call outside the area.                                                            |
| 1964 | 6     |     | Construction begins on the Downing Park Apartments at 300 East Pennsylvania Avenue.                                                      |
| 1964 |       |     | First units of Parke Run apartments on Chestnut Street are constructed.                                                                  |
| 1964 |       |     | First units of the Black Hawk apartments on East Lancaster Avenue are constructed during the summer.                                     |
| 1964 |       |     | Work begins on a new warehouse building behind Kissh Auto Parts store at 28 West Lancaster Avenue.                                       |
| 1965 | 2     |     | Italian Village opened at 821 West Lancaster Avenue (first at 721 East Lancaster?).                                                      |
| 1965 | 2     |     | Downingtown Paper Company purchases Wilson Box Company of Richmond, VA.                                                                  |
| 1965 | 3     | 27  | Grand opening of Sloan Motors on East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                  |
| 1965 | 3     |     | Swan Hotel torn down, Mar-Apr 1965.                                                                                                      |
| 1965 | 4     | 6   | Central Presbyterian Church purchases 4.6 acres on Uwchlan Avenue from the Scott Brothers.                                               |
| 1965 | 4     | 7   | Hutchinson's Pharmacy on East Lancaster Avenue stops selling Greyhound tickets and is no longer a stop for the bus.                      |
| 1965 | 5     | 27  | Mayor Creston Shoemaker warns of the dangers of the new fad of skateboarding - or sidewalk surfing.                                      |
| 1965 | 6     | 3   | Warning of rat problem in Downingtown.                                                                                                   |
| 1965 | 7     | 17  | Glen Isle Farm, the former Mclvaine estate is sold at auction.                                                                           |
| 1965 | 9     | 13  | Two annexation requests in the Borough's east end including the Downingtown United Methodist church are canceled.                        |
| 1965 | 9     |     | Polluted pond on grounds of Downingtown Motor Inn that fed into Parke Run of strong concern to residents.                                |
| 1965 | 11    |     | The Brandywine Shopping Center with seven storefronts opens on West Lancaster Avenue.                                                    |
| 1965 | 11    |     | Skating rink in constructed in Kerr Park. Wading pool in the summer.                                                                     |
| 1965 | 12    | 6   | Route 322 closes for one year for resurfacing and widening.                                                                              |
| 1965 | 12    | 11  | T. L Woodward & Son, office outfitter, opens at 60-62 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                             |
| 1965 | 12    |     | The Pit Stop opens at 115 East Lancaster Avenue. Slot car racing.                                                                        |
| 1965 |       |     | A two million gallon water tower is constructed on Boon Road.                                                                            |
| 1966 | 1     | 13  | Major fire at Gindy Manufacturing.                                                                                                       |
| 1966 | 5     | 3   | Grand opening of Studio 3 at 50 West Lancaster Avenue in the new Brandywine Shopping Center.                                             |
| 1966 | 6     | 9   | The Black Hawk Beauty Salon opens in the Black Hawk Convenience Center.                                                                  |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------|-------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1966 | 6     | 10  | Valleybrook Cleaners opens its new store in the Black Hawk Convenience Center.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1966 | 6     |     | First businesses in the new Black Hawk Center on East Lancaster Avenue open in June.                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1966 | 7     | 1   | Downingtown Area School District as it is now was created.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1966 | 7     | 15  | Pressed Steel Tank Company purchased by Aqua-Chem (site of Downingtown Iron Works) which was a division of Cleaver-Brooks of Lebanon, PA.                                                                                                                                 |
| 1966 | 8     | 9   | Walter and Helen Dunn open Dunn's Farm Market in the old Gatchell Building at 115 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1966 | 10    | 26  | Route 322 officially open after nearly a year of reconstruction.                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1966 | 10    |     | Cross Roads Diner opens on spot of former Downingtown Diner.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1966 | 11    | 21  | Grand opening of Tees Little Pub on Boot Road owned by Anthony Tavoni. Pub was at 945 East Lincoln Highway.                                                                                                                                                               |
| 1966 | 11    |     | Cable TV becomes available in Downingtown.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1966 |       |     | Burroughs Corporation leases buildings on Boot Road.                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1966 |       |     | Groundbreaking for Warren Pontiac-Buick's new facilities on Route 30 about two miles east of Downingtown. 1771 East Lincoln Highway.                                                                                                                                      |
| 1967 | 1     |     | Downingtown Travel Service opens for business.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1967 | 1     |     | Gindy Manufacturing Company begins to move to Eagle in Uwchlan Township.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1967 | 3     | 31  | Grand opening of Downingtown Savings and Loan on spot of the old Swan Hotel.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1967 | 4     |     | Halfway House torn down to expand Usher Motors.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1967 | 5     | 9   | Gunard O. Carlson donates 79 acres of land on Manor Avenue across from Downingtown High School to the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.                                                                                                                                        |
| 1967 | 6     | 10  | Grand opening of Whitford Country Club's new club house.                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1967 | 6     | 12  | Massive fire at Daring Paper Company.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1967 | 6     | 29  | Downing Center urban renewal project formally adopted by Borough Council.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 1967 | 6     |     | Warren Pontiac-Buick moves to new facilities at 1771 East Lincoln Highway.                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1967 | 10    | 1   | Beloit Eastern Corporation changes name to Downingtown Division, Beloit Corporation.                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1967 | 10    | 15  | Walter Leland retires as Downingtown Borough Manager. Replaced by Don Greenleaf.                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1967 |       |     | Golf course at Downingtown Motor Inn opens (now Downingtown Country Club).                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 1967 |       |     | F. X. McCool Pharmacy opens at location of former Greenleaf's Pharmacy, 207 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1968 | 1     |     | Old Sunoco Service Station on East Lancaster Avenue torn down. A new structure was built behind it closer to Washington Avenue.                                                                                                                                           |
| 1968 | 6     |     | Dopaco becomes a subsidiary of Sonoco in June 1968.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1968 | 8     | 28  | Mittel Building (former Downingtown Improvement Company Bulding) property on the corner of West Lancaster and Stuart Avenues was taken by the Borough for parking. The building had been vacant for years.                                                                |
| 1968 | 8     |     | Sonoco Products of Hartsville, SC purchased the Downingtown Paper Co. and Downingtown Paper Box Co. (as Sonoco's packaging division) as new separate divisions within the company.                                                                                        |
| 1968 | 8     |     | Mike Sciarretta opens Mike Motors at 148 West Lancaster Avenue. New and used cars.                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1968 | 9     | 13  | Grand opening of Bash Jewelers at 111 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1968 | 10    | 17  | Grand opening of Olin Siever's Mobile Service Station at Peck Road and Route 113.                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1968 | 10    | 20  | Dedication ceremonies for the new East Ward School.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1968 | 10    | 27  | 8,500 gallons of diesel fuel were spilled in the Penn Central Railroad's yard in Thorndale, threatening to contaminate the Borough's water supply.                                                                                                                        |
| 1968 | 11    | 5   | The Pennsylvania Avenue bridge over the Brandywine closes for major repairs.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 1968 | 12    | 28  | The Ashridge Mansion house on the Downingtown Inn property was destroyed by fire. The name 1796 House was changed from 1896 House due to a name dispute with the original restaurant in Massachusetts. The new name refers to the date the mansion house was constructed. |
| 1969 | 1     | 30  | Groundbreaking ceremonies for FMC Corporations American Viscous Division on Boot Road.                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1969 | 1     | 31  | Developer bids due for Downing Center.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1969 | 2     | 17  | Designaire Home Corporation leases manufacturing facilities on Boon Road. Firm builds modular unit homes.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 1969 | 2     | 27  | Grand opening of Leta's Fashion Shop at 131 East Lancaster Avenue. Leta Blackman owner.                                                                                                                                                                                   |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------|-------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1969 | 3     | 28  | Groundbreaking ceremonies for new office of National Bank of Chester County. Next to A&P and Barmay.                                                                     |
| 1969 | 6     |     | Mickey Rooney becomes half owner of the Downingtown Inn and Golf Resort.                                                                                                 |
| 1969 | 6     |     | Associated Innerscity Developers of Washington, DC selected as the developers of Downing Center.                                                                         |
| 1969 | 7     | 9   | Formal opening of the Downingtown Teen Center at the Minquas Fire House.                                                                                                 |
| 1969 | 7     |     | Two buildings at 27 and 29 East Lancaster Avenue torn down by Ray Sheeler to give him more parking. The buildings once housed Weldin furniture and McCorkles Restaurant. |
| 1969 | 10    | 15  | Downingtown Nation Bank Lionville branch robbed of \$40,000 after kidnapping of branch manager.                                                                          |
| 1969 | 11    | 13  | Grand opening of DiSante's Men's Shop at 119 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                      |
| 1969 |       |     | Downingtown considers new Borough Hall. Early 1969.                                                                                                                      |
| 1970 | 1     |     | Ralph Epperhimer's barn torn down. First building in Milford Mills to be demolished to make way for Marsh Creek Lake.                                                    |
| 1970 | 2     | 20  | Bash Jewelers robbed on Jewelry worth \$25,000.                                                                                                                          |
| 1970 | 7     | 8   | Work begins on Marsh Creek reservoir.                                                                                                                                    |
| 1970 | 9     |     | Hoopes building at 143 East Lancaster Avenue torn down for Downing Center urban renewal.                                                                                 |
| 1970 | 9     |     | Gatchell building at 115 East Lancaster Avenue torn down for Downing Center urban renewal.                                                                               |
| 1970 | 12    | 6   | A portion of the Downingtown Farmers Market destroyed by fire.                                                                                                           |
| 1970 | 12    | 31  | Final day of operation of the Aqua-Chem division of Cleaver-Brooks plant (former Downingtown Iron Works). A 1-6-71.                                                      |
| 1970 | 12    |     | Cleaver-Brooks closed plant (former Downingtown Iron Works). Re-opened by G.O. Carlson in December 1972.                                                                 |
| 1971 | 1     | 17  | Daring Paper Company shuts its operations.                                                                                                                               |
| 1971 | 2     | 2   | Fire destroys Devitt's Hardware on East Lancaster Avenue in the center of Downingtown.                                                                                   |
| 1971 | 3     | 9   | Paul J. Devitt of Devitt's Hardware purchases the building at 122 East Lancaster Avenue after his store burned down weeks before.                                        |
| 1971 | 4     | 16  | Grand opening of Devitt's Hardware's new location at 122 East Lancaster Avenue (the former Downingtown Department Store building).                                       |
| 1971 | 5     | 1   | Grand opening of T. L. Woodward & Son office equipment and supplies new location at 119 East Lancaster Avenue.                                                           |
| 1971 | 5     | 8   | Grand opening of Marchwood Shopping Center in Uwchlan Township.                                                                                                          |
| 1971 | 5     | 11  | Ground breaking ceremonies for the Suplee Dam (Struble Dam) near Honey Brook.                                                                                            |
| 1971 | 5     | 22  | Opening of new firehouse for the Lionville Fire Company.                                                                                                                 |
| 1971 | 6     | 20  | Official opening of the Norwood House apartments.                                                                                                                        |
| 1971 | 7     | 18  | Groundbreaking ceremonies for Central Presbyterian Church on Uwchlan Avenue.                                                                                             |
| 1971 | 7     |     | Groundbreaking for the Jerry Lewis Cinema at Marchwood Shopping Center.                                                                                                  |
| 1971 | 8     | 19  | Grand opening of The Village Shop in the Black Hawk Convenience Center.                                                                                                  |
| 1971 | 10    | 26  | Dedication of Struble Dam and Struble Lake near Honey Brook.                                                                                                             |
| 1971 | 10    | 28  | Grand opening of the Jerry Lewis Cinema in the Marchwood Shopping Center.                                                                                                |
| 1971 | 11    | 18  | Ramada and Downingtown Inn merge.                                                                                                                                        |
| 1971 | 12    | 1   | Zinn's Diner in Thorndale become the Ingleside Diner.                                                                                                                    |
| 1971 |       |     | Downingtown Carpet Center opens store on Lancaster Avenue across from the Farmer's Market.                                                                               |
| 1971 |       |     | Beloit Eastern closes the Downingtown plant.                                                                                                                             |
| 1972 | 1     | 27  | Downing Center developer chosen. Capitol Investment Development.                                                                                                         |
| 1972 | 4     | 8   | Grand opening of the Town House Deli at 211 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                       |
| 1972 | 7     | 12  | Topping out flag placed on steel structure at Exton Square Mall.                                                                                                         |
| 1972 | 7     | 21  | Grand Opening of County Volvo opens at 711 West Lincoln Highway.                                                                                                         |
| 1972 | 7     |     | Route 282/Creek Road bridge over the Brandywine taken down after it was significantly damaged from Hurricane Agens flood waters.                                         |
| 1972 | 8     | 1   | Demolition begins on existing structures to make way for Downing Center.                                                                                                 |
| 1972 | 10    | 10  | Daring Paper Company's 163-foot smokestack is demolished to make way for Downing Center construction.                                                                    |

| Year | Month | Day | Event                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|------|-------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1972 | 12    |     | G.O Carlson opens new plant in December 1972 at Pennsylvania and Wallace Avenues (former Downingtown Iron Works). Carlson's main office was in Thorndale.                                                       |
| 1973 | 1     | 3   | First issue of Brandywine Archive (former Chester County Archive and Downingtown Archive).                                                                                                                      |
| 1973 | 2     | 5   | Penn Central Railroad freight train derailment.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 1973 | 2     | 22  | Downingtown Borough Council votes 5-0 to purchase former Grange National Bank building.                                                                                                                         |
| 1973 | 3     | 15  | Grand opening of Exton Square Mall. Including opening of Chick-fil-A.                                                                                                                                           |
| 1973 | 4     | 9   | Downingtown Borough Council votes 4-2 to purchase former Grange National Bank building from the I.O.O.F. for \$31,000.                                                                                          |
| 1973 | 4     |     | DiSante's Men's Shop moves to 873 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                                        |
| 1973 | 5     | 16  | DAR place plaque on Downingtown Log House.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 1973 | 6     | 23  | Dedication of Downingtown's sewer plant on Route 322 south of the Borough. Goal to put plant online on 8/1/73.                                                                                                  |
| 1973 | 6     | 28  | Borough of Downingtown purchased the old Grange National Bank building from the Odd Fellows Association for \$31,000.                                                                                           |
| 1973 | 6     | 29  | Downingtown Borough purchases the former Grange National Bank property on East Lancaster Avenue for \$31,000.                                                                                                   |
| 1973 | 10    |     | Grange National Bank building razed in October 1973.                                                                                                                                                            |
| 1973 | 11    |     | Richard Gerhart opens Gerhart's Pharmacy at 207 West Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                                          |
| 1974 | 2     |     | Brentwood Motel in Exton is torn down.                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 1974 | 7     | 17  | Bicycle ordinance is enacted at Borough Council meeting. All bikes in the Borough need to be registered at \$1.                                                                                                 |
| 1974 | 9     | 1   | Date of the first issue of the East Branch Citizen weekly newspaper.                                                                                                                                            |
| 1974 | 11    | 11  | Sonoco Mill Number 4 closes indefinitely.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1974 |       |     | Downing Center construction begins.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1975 | 5     |     | O'Brien Machine Corp. begins operations at former Downingtown Beloit plant.                                                                                                                                     |
| 1975 | 7     |     | Bonaduce's Gulf Service Station at the southeast corner of West Lancaster and Viaduct Avenues is torn down.                                                                                                     |
| 1975 |       |     | Bob Cropper and his son John buy the property at 1155 Horseshoe Pike and build a supermarket that is four times larger than their original store. This location would eventually become Guthriesville Hardware. |
| 1976 | 2     | 8   | Official opening of the Downingtown Inn Sports Palace & Spa.                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1978 | 12    | 21  | Paul J. Devitt of Devitt's Hardware sells the building at 122 East Lancaster Avenue to Richard and Jeanne Francis.                                                                                              |
| 1984 | 10    | 5   | Exton Drive-In closes. Last movies shown are "Last House on the Left" and "Impulse".                                                                                                                            |
| 1988 | 3     | 21  | Log House is moved about 75 feet west to its present location.                                                                                                                                                  |
| 1988 |       |     | Brandywine Inn and Resort (former Downingtown Motor Inn) closes.                                                                                                                                                |
| 1992 | 2     | 24  | Downingtown railroad station burns down during the early morning hours of February 24, 1992.                                                                                                                    |
| 1994 | 9     | 18  | New water supply system went into service. The old one on Poorhouse Road went offline shortly.                                                                                                                  |
| 1994 |       |     | Buildings of the former Brandywine Inn and Resort (Downingtown Motor Inn) demolished.                                                                                                                           |
| 1995 |       |     | Downingtown Post Office moved to Boot Road.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1995 |       |     | Cropper's moves to the Brandywine Village Shopping Center.                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2002 |       |     | Cropper's Supermarket is purchased by Associated Wholesalers, Inc.                                                                                                                                              |
| 2005 |       |     | Large fire at Sonoco Paper Company. Mill closes permanently.                                                                                                                                                    |
| 2008 | 7     | 23  | Downingtown Borough purchases the former Sunoco Station property on East Lancaster Avenue.                                                                                                                      |
| 2011 |       |     | Associated Wholesalers, Inc., sell Croppers Supermarket to Stauffers.                                                                                                                                           |
| 2013 |       |     | Minquas Fire Company moves to new facilities on Wallace Avenue.                                                                                                                                                 |
| 2018 | 1     | 19  | Two smokestacks toppled by implosion at the former Downingtown Paper Company (later Sonoco).                                                                                                                    |
| 2023 | 12    | 2   | Amani's BYOB restaurant at 105 East Lancaster Avenue closes.                                                                                                                                                    |
| 2025 | 4     | 13  | Estrella Tacos y Mas last day of service.                                                                                                                                                                       |