

## June 20, 1863

### West Virginia Becomes a State

West Virginia is a state with something for everyone. It has beautiful mountain scenery, along with the wildlife, fishing, and hunting that go with it. There is skiing and white water rafting. In addition, the state parks and forests offer a variety of outdoor recreational activities. If you prefer to spend your time learning about what is important to the state's economy, there are tours of glass factories, orchards, and even an exhibition coal mine. One of the very popular events in the early fall takes place mainly on the campus of Davis & Elkins College. There you can see jousting tournaments, wood-chopping events, sawing contests, and archery exhibitions. You can also visit Cass, where you will find a scenic railroad powered by steam locomotives. You can visit Charles Town, which has the courthouse where John Brown was found guilty and several historic homes, including the home where James and Dolley Madison were married. Although a relatively small state, West Virginia has much exiting history to explore. Many famous people are from West Virginia, including Earle Neale, Gunner Gatski, Betty Zane, Harry F. Sinclair, Katherine G. Johnson, Chuck Yeager, Stonewall Jackson, Mary Lou Retton, and Joseph Eggleston Johnston.

Look at the map of West Virginia below. Label the capital of West Virginia. Locate the cities of Huntington, Parkersburg, Wheeling, Beckley, Madison, Harrisville, West Union, Middlebourne, Morgantown, Kingwood, Romney, Hamlin, Wayne, Elizabeth, Ripley, Moundsville, New Cumberland, Wellsburg, Keyser, Fayetteville, Weston, and Clarksburg, and label them on the map. Now label Spruce Knob, Bald Knob, White Top, the Allegheny Mountains, and the Blue Ridge Mountains. Also, locate the Ohio River, Kanawha River, New River, Big Sandy River, Guyandotte River, Little Kanawha River, Monongahela River, Cheat River, Buckhannon River, Elk River, Bluestone River, and Greenbrier River, and label them. Lastly, label the states or bodies of water that border West Virginia. When you have finished, move on to the timeline of West Virginia history on the next page and the research prompts that follow.



# Timeline of West Virginia History

## Answer Key

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1742

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1778

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1794

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1847

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1861

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1862

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1863

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1864

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1866

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1870

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1885

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1887

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1888

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1902

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1920

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1921

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1929

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1965

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1977

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1995

1. West Virginia becomes the thirty-fifth state in the Union
2. A paper mill is opened on the West Virginia-Maryland border by William Luke and his family
3. The first iron furnace west of the Allegheny Mountains is built in what is now West Virginia
4. The New River Gorge Bridge opens
5. The West Virginia legislature votes to establish West Virginia University at Morgantown
6. The first 4-H Club in the United States is established near Weston
7. During the Civil War, the Battle of Shepherdstown is fought
8. The United Mine Workers of America organizes miners in part of West Virginia
9. The Summersville Dam is completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
10. White Sulphur Springs, a resort at Greenbrier, is established
11. Charleston becomes the permanent capital of West Virginia
12. The Golden Delicious apple becomes the official state fruit of West Virginia
13. The Ruffner Pamphlet proposes an end to slavery west of the Blue Ridge Mountains
14. The Matewan Massacre occurs
15. During the Civil War, the Battle of Summit Point is fought
16. West Virginia University first admits women
17. The coal resources of West Virginia are discovered
18. A state library commission is established
19. The Battle of Philippi is sometimes referred to as the first land battle of the Civil War
20. Wheeling becomes the capital of West Virginia







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The first iron furnace west of the Allegheny Mountains is built in what is now West Virginia	1794	
	1847	The <i>Ruffner Pamphlet</i> proposes an end to slavery west of the Blue Ridge Mountains
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	1862	During the Civil War, the Battle of Shepherdstown is fought
West Virginia becomes the thirty-fifth state in the Union	1863	
	1864	During the Civil War, the Battle of Summit Point is fought
The West Virginia legislature votes to establish West Virginia University at Morgantown	1866	
	1870	Wheeling becomes the capital of West Virginia
Charleston becomes the permanent capital of West Virginia	1885	
	1887	A paper mill is opened on the West Virginia-Maryland border by William Luke and his family
West Virginia University first admits women	1888	
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The Matewan Massacre occurs	1920	
	1921	The first 4-H Club in the United States is established near Weston
A state library commission is established	1929	
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The New River Gorge Bridge opens	1977	
	1995	The Golden Delicious apple becomes the official state fruit of West Virginia