MINNESOTA TIMELINE

1654
Fur traders from France reached Wisconsin Minnesota.

1679
Daniel Greysolon Dulhut (Duluth) met with Indians near Mille Lacs Lake.

1680
Father Louis Hennepin was the first European to see the Falls of St. Anthony.

1695-1731
The French built forts and settlements in Minnesota.

1784
The North West Company became important in the fur trade after the Revolutionary War; Grand Portage was its headquarters.

1817
The American Fur Company, under the leadership of John Jacob Astor, began operations in Minnesota.

1818
All of Minnesota became American territory.

1832
Henry R. Schoolcraft discovered the source of the Mississippi River and named it Lake Itasca.

1841
The Chapel of St. Paul was built, giving the name to the future capital of the state.

1849
The Minnesota Territory was formed.

1850
Minnesota had a population of 6,077.

1853
The first state capitol was constructed.

1858
Minnesota became the thirty-second state on May 11.

1862
The first railroad in Minnesota opened between Minneapolis and St. Paul.

1865
The population of Minnesota was 250,099.

1881
The first state capitol burned and a second was built.

1884
The first iron ore was shipped from Minnesota, a product of the Vermillion Range. Six years later iron was discovered on the Mesabi Range.

1889
St. Marys Hospital, part of the Mayo Clinic, opened in Rochester.

1894
On September 1, killer forest fires started, destroying over 400 square miles near Hinckley and Sandstone. More than 418 people died.

1905
Minnesota's third and present state capitol was built.

1950
The state population was 2,982,483.

1959
The St. Lawrence Seaway opened, allowing ocean ships to get to Duluth.

1987
The Minnesota Twins won the World Series.

1991
The Minnesota Twins won their second World Series.

1996
A new record low temperature for the state was established at 9:10 a.m., February 2: 60º below zero in the City of Tower.

2000
The state population was 4,919,479.