

Timeline of American Planning History. Source:
<http://www.planning.org/pathways/default.htm>

1785-1899

- 1785** Ordinance of 1785. Provided for the rectangular land survey of the Old Northwest. The rectangular survey has been called "the largest single act of national planning in our history and ... the most significant in terms of continuing impact on the body politic" (Daniel Elazar). [Landmark Laws](#) [Economic Development](#)
- 1791** In his Report on Manufactures, Alexander Hamilton argues for protective tariffs for manufacturing industry as a means of promoting industrial development in the young republic. [Economic Development](#) [Landmark Publication](#)
- 1818** In a speech before Congress, Henry Clay proposes a plan (called the American System) to allocate federal funds to promote the development of the national economy by combining tariffs with internal improvements, such as roads, canals and other waterways. [Economic Development](#)
- 1825** Erie Canal completed. This artificial waterway connected the northeastern states with the newly settled areas of what was then the West, facilitating the economic development of both regions. [Economic Development](#) [Regional Planning](#)
- 1839** The National Road terminates in Vandalia, Illinois. Begun in 1811 in Cumberland, Maryland, it helps open the Ohio Valley to settlers. [Economic Development](#)
- 1855** First "model tenement" built in Manhattan. [Housing](#)
- 1862** Homestead Act opened the lands of the Public Domain to settlers for a nominal fee and five years residence. [Landmark Laws](#) [Economic Development](#) [Housing](#)
- 1862** Morrill Act. Congress authorizes land grants from the Public Domain to the states. Proceeds from the sale were to be used to found colleges offering instruction in agriculture, engineering, and other practical arts. [Economic Development](#) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1864** New York Council of Hygiene of the Citizens Association mounts a campaign to raise housing and sanitary standards. [Housing](#)
- 1868** [Frederick Law Olmsted](#) and Calvert Vaux begin the planning of Riverside Illinois, a planned suburban community stressing rural as opposed to urban amenities. [Planned Communities](#)
- 1869** The Union Pacific and the Central Pacific railroads meet at Promontory Point, Utah, on May 10 to complete the first transcontinental railroad. [Economic Development](#)
- 1878** [John Wesley Powell's Report on the Lands of the Arid Region of the United States](#) is published. Includes a proposed regional plan that would both foster settlement of the arid west and conserve scarce water resources. [Conservation & Environment](#) [Regional Planning](#) [Economic Development](#) [Landmark Laws](#) [Landmark Publication](#)
- 1879** *Progress and Poverty* published. In this influential book Henry George presents an argument for diminishing extremes of national wealth and poverty by means of a single tax (on land) that would capture the "unearned increment" of national development for public uses. [Landmark Publication](#)
- 1879** Debut of the "Dumbbell Tenement," so called because of its shape. A form of multifamily housing widely built in New York until the end of the century and notorious for the poor living conditions it imposed on its denizens (lack of light, air, space). [Housing](#)
- 1879** Establishment of U.S. Geological Survey to survey and classify all Public Domain lands. [Economic Development](#) [Conservation & Environment](#)
- 1880-** Building of Pullman, Illinois, model industrial town by [George Pullman](#). [Planned](#)

84 Communities

- 1890** *How the Other Half Lives*, by Jacob Riis, is published; a powerful stimulus to housing and neighborhood reform. [Landmark Publication Housing](#)
- 1891** General Land Law Revision Act gave President power to create forest preserves by proclamation. [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws](#)
- 1892** Sierra Club founded to promote the protection and preservation of the natural environment. John Muir, Scottish-American naturalist, and a major figure in the history of American environmentalism, was the leading founder. [Conservation & Environment](#)
- 1893** World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago commemorating the 400th anniversary of the discovery of the New World. A source of the City Beautiful Movement and of the urban planning profession. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1896** United States v. Gettysburg Electric Railway Co. The first significant legal case concerning historic preservation. The U.S. Supreme Court rules that the acquisition of the national battlefield at Gettysburg served a valid public purpose. [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws](#)
- 1897** Forest Management Act. Authorized some control by the Secretary of the Interior over the use and occupancy of the forest preserves. [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws](#)
- 1898** *Tomorrow: A Peaceful Path to Real Reform*, by Ebenezer Howard, a source of the Garden City Movement. Reissued in 1902 as *Garden Cities of Tomorrow*. [Landmark Publication Planned Communities](#)
- 1898** Gifford Pinchot becomes Chief Forester of the United States in the Department of Agriculture. From this position he publicizes the cause of forest conservation. [Conservation & Environment](#)

1900-1919

- 1901** New York State Tenement House Law. The legislative basis for the revision of city codes that outlawed tenements such as the "Dumbbell Tenement." Lawrence Veiller was the leading reformer. [Housing Landmark Laws](#)
- 1902** U.S. Reclamation Act. Created fund from sale of public land in the arid states to supply water there through the construction of water storage and irrigation works. [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws Economic Development](#)
- 1903** Letchworth constructed. First English Garden City and a stimulus to New Town movement in America (Greenbelt Towns, Columbia, etc.). [Planned Communities](#)
- 1903** President Theodore Roosevelt appoints a Public Lands Commission to propose rules for orderly land development and management. [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws](#)
- 1906** Antiquities Act of 1906: First law to institute federal protection for preserving archaeological sites. Provided for designation as National Monuments areas already in the public domain that contained "historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and objects of historic or scientific interest." [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws](#)
- 1907** Founding of New York Committee on the Congestion of Population. Fostered movement, led by its secretary, Benjamin Marsh, to decentralize New York's dense population. [Housing](#)
- 1907** President Roosevelt establishes an Inland Waterway Commission to encourage multipurpose planning in waterway development: navigation, power, irrigation, flood control, water supply. [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws](#)
- 1908** White House Conservation Conference. State governors, federal officials, and leading scientists assemble to deliberate about the conservation of natural resources. [Conservation & Environment](#)

- 1909 First National Conference on City Planning in Washington, D.C. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1909 [Daniel Burnham's](#) Plan of Chicago published. First metropolitan plan in the United States. (Key figures: Frederick A. Delano, Charles Wacker, Charles Dyer Norton.) [Regional Planning](#)
- 1909 Possibly the first course in city planning in this country is inaugurated in Harvard College's Landscape Architecture Department. Taught by James Sturgis Pray. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1911 Frederick Winslow Taylor publishes *The Principles of Scientific Management*, fountainhead of the efficiency movements in this country, including efficiency in city government. [Landmark Publication](#)
- 1912 Walter D. Moody's "Wacker's Manual of the Plan of Chicago" is adopted as an eighth-grade textbook on City Planning by the Chicago Board of Education. Possibly the first formal instruction in city planning below the college level. [Landmark Publication](#) [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1913 A chair in Civic Design, first of its kind in the U.S., is created in the University of Illinois's Department of Horticulture for Charles Mulford Robinson, one of the principal promoters of the World's Columbian Exposition. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1914 Flavel Shurtleff writes *Carrying Out the City Plan*, the first major textbook on city planning. [Landmark Publication](#) [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1914 Panama Canal completed and opened to world commerce. [Economic Development](#)
- 1914 Harland Bartholomew, eventually the country's best known planning consultant, becomes the first full-time employee in Newark, New Jersey, of a city planning commission. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1915 [Patrick Geddes](#), "Father of Regional Planning" and mentor of Lewis Mumford, publishes *Cities in Evolution*. [Landmark Publication](#) [Regional Planning](#)
- 1916 Nelson P. Lewis published *Planning of the Modern City*. [Landmark Publication](#) [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1916 Nation's first comprehensive zoning resolution adopted by New York City Board of Estimates under the leadership of George McAneny and Edward Bassett, known as the "Father of Zoning." [Housing](#) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1916 National Park Service established with sole responsibility for conserving and preserving resources of special value. [Conservation & Environment](#) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1917 [Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.](#) becomes first president of newly founded American City Planning Institute, forerunner of American Institute of Planners and American Institute of Certified Planners. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1918 U.S. Housing Corporation and Emergency Fleet Corporation established. Influenced later endeavors in public housing. Operated at major shipping centers to provide housing for World War I workers. [Housing](#) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1919 Three early unifunctional regional authorities--the Metropolitan Sewerage Commission, the Metropolitan Water Board and the Metropolitan Park Commission--combined to form the Boston Metropolitan District Commission. [Regional Planning](#)

1920-1939

- 1921 New Orleans designates the Vieux Carre Commission, the first historic preservation commission in the U.S. [Conservation & Environment](#)
- 1922 Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission created. First of its kind in the United States. (Hugh Pomeroy, head of staff.) [History of Planning Profession](#) [Regional Planning](#)
- 1922 Inauguration of Regional Plan of New York under Thomas Adams. [Regional Planning](#)

- 1923** Ground broken for construction of Mariemont, Ohio, in suburban Cincinnati. Mary Emery was its founder and benefactor; John Nolen, the planner. Some of its features (short blocks, mixture of rental and owner-occupied housing) foreshadow the contemporary New Urbanism movement. [Planned Communities](#)
- 1922** Pennsylvania Coal Co. v. Mahon. The first decision to hold that a land use restriction constituted a taking. The U.S. Supreme Court (Justice Brandeis dissenting) noted "property may be regulated to a certain extent, [but] if regulation goes too far it will be recognized as a taking," thus acknowledging the principle of a "regulatory taking." [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1924** U.S. Department of Commerce under Secretary Herbert Hoover issues a Standard State Zoning Enabling Act. [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1924-28** Sunnyside Gardens, a planned neighborhood designed by Clarence Stein and Henry Wright, is built by City Housing Corporation under Alexander Bing in Queens, New York. [Planned Communities](#)
- 1925** Publication of "Regional Plan" issue of *Survey Graphic*, influential essays on regional planning by Lewis Mumford and other members of the Regional Planning Association of America (e.g., Catherine Bauer). [Landmark Publication](#) [Regional Planning](#)
- 1925** Cincinnati, Ohio, becomes first major American city officially to endorse a comprehensive plan. (Alfred Bettman, Ladislav Segoe). [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1925** Ernest Burgess's "Concentric Zone" model of urban structure and land use is published. [Landmark Publication](#)
- 1925** In April, The American City Planning Institute and The National Conference on City Planning publish Vol. 1, No. 1 of *City Planning*, ancestor of present-day *Journal of the American Planning Association*. [Landmark Publication](#) [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1926** *Village of Euclid v. Ambler Realty*. Constitutionality of zoning upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court. (Case argued by Alfred Bettman.) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1928** U.S. Department of Commerce under Secretary Herbert Hoover issues a Standard City Planning Enabling Act. [Landmark Laws](#) [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1928** Robert Murray Haig's monograph "Major Economic Factors in Metropolitan Growth and Arrangement" is published in Volume I of *The Regional Survey of New York and Its Environs*. Viewed land use as a function of accessibility. [Landmark Publication](#) [Regional Planning](#)
- 1928** Construction of Radburn, New Jersey, begun. Planned community inspired by Howard's Garden City concept and designed by Stein and Wright. A forerunner of the New Deal's Greenbelt towns. [Planned Communities](#)
- 1929** Clarence Perry's monograph on the Neighborhood Unit is published in Volume VII of *The Regional Survey of New York and Its Environs*. [Landmark Publication](#) [Planned Communities](#)
- 1929** Wisconsin law, first instance of rural zoning, authorized county boards "to regulate, restrict and determine the areas within which agriculture, forestry and recreation may be conducted." [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1929** Stock market crash in October ushers in Great Depression and fosters ideas of public planning on a national scale. [Economic Development](#)
- 1931** National Land Utilization Conference convened in Chicago. Three hundred agricultural experts deliberate on rural recovery programs and natural resource conservation. [Conservation & Environment](#)
- 1932** Federal Home Loan Bank System established to shore up shaky home financing institutions. [Housing](#)
- 1932** Reconstruction Finance Corporation established at the outset of the Great Depression to revive economic activity by extending financial aid to failing financial, industrial, and agricultural institutions. [Economic Development](#)

- 1933** FDR inaugurated. New Deal begins with a spate of counter-depression measures.
- 1933** Home Owners Loan Corporation established to save homeowners facing loss through foreclosure. [Housing](#)
- 1933** The National Planning Board established in the Interior Department to assist in the preparation of a comprehensive plan for [public works](#) under the direction of Frederick Delano, [Charles Merriam](#), Wesley Mitchell. Its last successor agency, the National Resources Planning Board, was abolished in 1943. [Conservation & Environment](#) [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1933** Civilian Conservation Corps established to provide work for unemployed youth and to conserve nation's natural resources. [Conservation & Environment](#)
- 1933** Federal Emergency Relief Administration set up under Harry Hopkins to organize relief work in urban and rural areas. [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1933** [Tennessee Valley Authority](#) created to provide for unified and multipurpose rehabilitation and redevelopment of the Tennessee Valley, America's most famous experiment in river-basin planning. Senator George Norris of Nebraska fathered idea, and David Lilienthal was its most effective implementer. [Conservation & Environment](#) [Regional Planning](#) [Landmark Laws](#) [Economic Development](#)
- 1933** The Agricultural Adjustment Act is passed to regulate agricultural trade practices, production, prices, supply areas (and therefore land use) as a recovery measure.
- 1934** American Society of Planning Officials founded, an organization for planners, planning commissioners and planning-related public officials. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1934** National Housing Act. Established FSLIC for insuring savings deposits and the FHA for insuring individual home mortgages. [Housing](#) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1934** Taylor Grazing Act is passed, its purpose to regulate the use of the range in the West for conservation purposes. [Conservation & Environment](#) [Regional Planning](#) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1934** "Final Report" by the National Planning Board on its first year of existence. Includes a section entitled "A Plan for Planning" and an account of the "Historical Development of Planning in the United States." The latter views American planning history in the context of U.S. political and economic history. [Landmark Publication](#)
- 1935** Resettlement Administration established under Rexford Tugwell, Roosevelt "braintruster," to carry out experiments in land reform and population resettlement. This agency built the three Greenbelt towns (Greenbelt, Maryland; [Greendale, Wisconsin](#); Greenhills, Ohio) forerunners of present day New Towns: Columbia, Maryland; Reston, Virginia; etc.) [Planned Communities](#) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1935** Publication date of *Regional Factors in National Planning* by the National Resources Committee, a landmark in regional planning literature. [Landmark Publication](#) [Conservation & Environment](#) [Regional Planning](#)
- 1935** [Soil Conservation Act](#). Congress moves to make prevention of soil erosion a national responsibility. [Conservation & Environment](#) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1935** The Historic Sites, Buildings and Antiquities Act, a predecessor of the National Historic Preservation Act, passed. Requires the Secretary of the Interior to identify, acquire, and restore qualifying historic sites and properties and calls upon federal agencies to consider preservation needs in their programs and plans. [Conservation & Environment](#) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1935** Social Security Act passed to create a safety net for elderly. Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor and first woman cabinet member, was a principal promoter. [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1935** Congress authorizes construction of the Grande Coulee Dam in Central Washington State. Finished in 1941, it is the largest concrete structure in the U.S. and the heart of the Columbia Basin Project, a regional plan comparable in its scope to TVA. The project's purposes are irrigation, electric power generation and flood control in the Pacific Northwest. [Economic Development](#) [Regional Planning](#)

- 1936 Hoover Dam on the Colorado River completed. Creates and sustains population growth and industrial development in Nevada, California, and Arizona. [Economic Development](#) [Regional Planning](#)
- 1937 *Our Cities: Their Role in the National Economy*. A landmark report by the Urbanism Committee of the National Resources Committee. (Ladislas Segoe headed research staff.) [Landmark Publication](#) [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1937 U.S. Housing Act (Wagner-Steagall). Set the stage for future government aid by appropriating \$500 million in loans for low-cost housing. Tied slum clearance to public housing. [Housing](#) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1937 Farm Security Administration established, successor to the Resettlement Administration and administrator of many programs to aid the rural poor. [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1938 The American Institute of Planners, the planning field's professional organization, states as its purpose: "... the planning of the unified development of urban communities and their environs, and of states, regions and the nation, as expressed through determination of the comprehensive arrangement of land uses and land occupancy and the regulation thereof." [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1939 Homer Hoyt's influential "sector theory" of urban growth appears in his monograph, *The Structure and Growth of Residential Neighborhoods in American Cities*. [Landmark Publication](#) [Housing](#)

1940-59

- 1941 *Local Planning Administration*, by Ladislas Segoe, first of "Green Book" series, appears. [Landmark Publication](#) [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1941 Robert Walker's *Planning Function in Urban Government* published. [Landmark Publication](#) [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1944 Bretton Woods (New Hampshire) Agreement. The U.S. and allies meet to establish the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank). [Economic Development](#)
- 1944 Serviceman's Readjustment Act ("G.I. Bill"). Guaranteed loans for homes to veterans under favorable terms, thereby accelerating the growth of suburbs. [Housing](#) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1947 Housing and Home Financing Agency (predecessor of HUD) created to coordinate federal government's various housing programs. [Housing](#) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1947 Construction of Park Forest, Illinois, and Levittown, New York, begun. [Planned Communities](#)
- 1947 Secretary George C. Marshall uses his Harvard College commencement address to propose the Marshall Plan for the reconstruction of postwar Europe. [Economic Development](#) [Regional Planning](#)
- 1949 Housing Act (Wagner-Ellender-Taft Bill). First U.S. comprehensive housing legislation. Aimed to construct about 800,000 units. Inaugurated urban redevelopment program. [Housing](#) [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1949 The National Trust for Historic Preservation is created and chartered by Congress. [Conservation & Environment](#)
- 1954 In *Berman v. Parker*, U.S. Supreme Court upholds right of Washington, D.C. Redevelopment Land Agency to condemn properties that are unsightly, though non-deteriorated, if required to achieve objectives of duly established area redevelopment plan. [Landmark Laws](#) [Conservation & Environment](#)
- 1954 In *Brown v. Board of Education* (Topeka, Kansas), Supreme Court upholds school integration. [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1954 [Housing Act of 1954](#). Stressed slum prevention and urban renewal rather than slum

clearance and urban redevelopment as in the 1949 act. Also stimulated general planning for cities under 25,000 population by providing funds under Section 701 of the act. "701 funding" later extended by legislative amendments to foster statewide, interstate, and substate regional planning. [History of Planning Profession](#) [Regional Planning](#) [Landmark Laws](#)

- 1954** The Council of Government movement (COGS) begins in the Detroit area with the formation of a Supervisors' Inter-County Committee composed of the representatives of each county in southeastern Michigan for the purpose of confronting areawide problems. It soon spreads nationwide. [Regional Planning](#)
- 1956** Congress passes multibillion dollar Federal Aid Highway Act to create interstate highway system linking all state capitals and most cities of 50,000 population or more. [Landmark Laws](#) [Economic Development](#)
- 1957** F. Stuart Chapin publishes *Urban Land Use Planning*. [Landmark Publication](#)
- 1957** *Education for Planning*. A seminal, book-length inquiry by Harvey S. Perloff into the "appropriate intellectual, practical and 'philosophical' basis for the education of city and regional planners ..." [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1959** A "Multiple Land Use Classification System" (A. Guttenberg) published in *Journal of American Institute of Planners*. The first approach to the definition of land-use classifications in multidimensional terms. [Landmark Publication](#)
- 1959** Congress establishes the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR), with members from various branches of government. Serves primarily as a research agency and think tank in area of intergovernmental relations. [Landmark Laws](#) [Regional Planning](#)
- 1959** The American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ASCP) is born when a few department heads of planning schools get together at the annual ASIP conference to confer on common problems and interests regarding the education of planners. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1959** The St. Lawrence Seaway is completed. This joint U.S.-Canada project created, in effect, a fourth North American seacoast, opening the American heartland to sea-going vessels. [Economic Development](#) [Regional Planning](#)

1960-2000

- 1960** *Image of the City* by Kevin Lynch defines basic elements of city's "imageability" (paths, edges, nodes, etc.). [Landmark Publication](#)
- 1961** *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, by Jane Jacobs, includes a critique of planning and planners. [Landmark Publication](#) [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1961** Richard Hedman and Fred Bair publish *And On the Eighth Day*, a hilarious book of cartoons poking fun at the planning profession by two of our own. [Landmark Publication](#) [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1961** Hawaii becomes first state to institute statewide zoning. [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1961** A Delaware River Basin Commission representing the states of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania is created to foster joint management of the river's water resources. [Regional Planning](#)
- 1962** The urban growth simulation model emerges in the Penn-Jersey Transportation Study. [Regional Planning](#)
- 1962** "A Choice Theory of Planning," seminal article in *AIP Journal* by Paul Davidoff and Thomas Reiner, lays basis for advocacy planning concept. [Landmark Publication](#)
- 1962** Rachel Carson's book, *Silent Spring* is published and wakes the nation to the deleterious effects of pesticides on animal, plant and human life. [Landmark Publication](#) [Conservation & Environment](#)
- 1962** The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors establishes Virginia's first residential planned

community zone, clearing the way for the creation of Reston, a full-scale, self-contained New Town 18 miles from Washington, D.C. [Planned Communities](#)

- 1963** [Columbia, Maryland](#), a new town situated about halfway between Washington and Baltimore, featuring some class integration and the neighborhood principle. [Planned Communities](#)
- 1964** T.J. Kent publishes *The Urban General Plan*. [Landmark Publication History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1964** Civil Rights Act outlaws discrimination based on race, creed, and national origin in places of public accommodation. [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1964** *The Federal Bulldozer* by Martin Anderson indicts then-current urban renewal program as counterproductive to its professed aims of increased low- and middle-income housing supply. With Herbert Gans's *The Urban Villagers* (1962), a study of the consequences for community life in a Boston West End Italian-American community, contributes to a change in urban policy. [Landmark Publication Housing](#)
- 1964** In a commencement speech at the University of Michigan, President Lyndon Johnson declares war on poverty and urges congressional authorization of many remedial programs, plus the establishment of a cabinet-level Department of Housing and Community Development. [Economic Development](#)
- 1965** A White House Conference on Natural Beauty in America is convened on May 24 and 25, owing much to the interest and advocacy of the First Lady, Lady Bird Johnson. [Conservation & Environment](#)
- 1965** Housing and urban policy achieve cabinet status when the Housing and Home Finance Agency is succeeded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. [Robert Weaver](#) becomes HUD's first Secretary and nation's first African-American cabinet member. [Housing Landmark Laws](#)
- 1965** Congress passes the Water Resources Management Act authorizing Federal-Multistate river basin commissions. [Landmark Laws Regional Planning](#)
- 1965** The Public Work and Economic Development Act passes Congress. This act establishes the Economic Development Administration to extend coordinated, multifaceted aid to lagging regions and foster their redevelopment [Economic Development Landmark Laws Regional Planning](#)
- 1965** The Appalachian Regional Planning Act establishes a region comprising all of West Virginia and parts of 12 other states, plus a planning commission with the power to frame plans and allocate resources. [Economic Development Landmark Laws Regional Planning](#)
- 1965** John Reps publishes *The Making of Urban America*, the first comprehensive history of American urban planning beginning with colonial times. [Landmark Publication](#)
- 1966** The Demonstration Cities and Metropolitan Development Act launched the "model cities" program, an interdisciplinary attack on urban blight and poverty. A centerpiece of President Lyndon Johnson's "Great Society" program. [Housing Landmark Laws](#)
- 1966** *With Heritage So Rich*, a seminal historic preservation book, is published. [Conservation & Environment Landmark Publication](#)
- 1966** National Historic Preservation Act passed. Establishes the National Register of Historic Places and provides, through its Section 106, for the protection of preservation-worthy sites and properties threatened by federal activities. This act also creates the national Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and directs that each state appoint a State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws](#)
- 1966** Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act provides protection to parkland, wildlife refuges, and other preservation-worthy resources in building national roads. Unlike parkland and wildlife refuges, however, privately owned historic sites as well as those in public ownership are protected by Section 4(f). [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws](#)

- 1967** The planning profession reaches its 50th anniversary with a celebratory conference in Washington, D.C. Many of the earliest practitioners and founders of the profession attend together with eminent leaders of other professions. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1967** The "(Louis B.) Wetmore Amendment" drops the final phrase in the 1938 AIP declaration of purpose which tied it to the comprehensive arrangement and regulation of land use. The effect is to broaden the scope and membership of the profession by including "social planners" as well as "physical planners." [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1968** To implement Intergovernmental Relations Act of 1968 the Office of Management and Budget issues Circular A-95 requiring state and substate regional clearinghouses to review and comment on federally assisted projects to facilitate coordination among the three levels of government. [Landmark Laws Regional Planning](#)
- 1969** Ian McHarg publishes *Design with Nature*, tying planning to the natural environment. [Landmark Publication](#)
- 1969** National Environmental Policy Act requires an "environmental impact statement" for every federal or federally aided state or local major action that might significantly harm the environment. [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws](#)
- 1969** Mel Scott publishes *American City Planning Since 1890*. Reissued in 1995 by the American Planning Association. [Landmark Publication History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1970** First "Earth Day," January 1. [Conservation & Environment](#)
- 1970** Federal Environment Protection Agency established to administer main provisions of the Clean Air Act (1970). [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws Regional Planning](#)
- 1970** The Miami Valley (Ohio) Regional Planning Commission Housing Plan is adopted, the first such plan in the nation to allocate low- and moderate-income housing on a "fair share" basis. [Housing Regional Planning](#)
- 1971** AIP adopts a Code of Ethics for professional planners. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1972** [Coastal Zone Management Act](#) adopted. [Conservation & Environment Regional Planning Landmark Laws](#)
- 1972** General revenue sharing inaugurated under the U.S. State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act. [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1972** In *Golden v. Planning Board of Ramapo*, New York high court allows the use of performance criteria as a means of slowing community growth. [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1972** Demolition of St. Louis's notorious Pruitt-Igoe Project symbolizes a nationwide move away from massive, isolating, high-rise structures to a more humane form of public housing architecture: low-rise, less isolated, dispersed. [Housing](#)
- 1973** Endangered Species Act. Authorized Federal assistance to state and local jurisdictions to establish conservation programs for endangers plant and animal species. [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws](#)
- 1974** The Housing and Community Development Act replaces the categorical grant with the block grant as the principal form of federal aid for local community development. [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1975** Cleveland Policy Plan Report shifts emphasis from traditional land-use planning to advocacy planning. [Landmark Publication History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1976** Historic Preservation Fund established. [Conservation & Environment](#)
- 1977** First exam for AIP membership conducted. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1978** *Penn Central Transportation Co. v. City of New York*, 438 U.S. 104 (1978): U.S. Supreme Court upholds New York City's Landmark Preservation Law as applied to Grand Central Terminal. In this landmark decision, the Court found that barring some development of air rights was not a taking when the interior of the property could be

put to lucrative use. [Landmark Laws](#)

- 1978** American Institute of Planners (AIP) and American Society of Planning Officials (ASPO) merge to become American Planning Association (APA). [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1980** "Reagan Revolution" begins. Planning profession challenged to adapt to a new (counter-New Deal) policy environment: reduced federal domestic spending, privatization, deregulation, etc. Phase-out of some earlier aids to planning (e.g., sewer grants) and planning programs (e.g., "Title V Regions").
- 1980** Superfund Bill passed by Congress (Comprehensive Response, Compensation and Liability Act). Creates liability for persons discharging hazardous waste into the environment. Taxes polluting industries to establish a trust fund for the cleanup of polluted sites in cases where individual responsibility is not ascertainable. [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws](#)
- 1980** The Associated Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) is established to represent the academic branch of the planning profession. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1981** ACSP issues Volume 1, Number 1 of *The Journal of Education and Planning Research*. [Landmark Publication History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1983** In a case focusing on Mt. Laurel, New Jersey, the New Jersey Supreme Court rules that all 567 municipalities in the state must build their "fair share" of affordable housing. A precedent-setting blow against racial segregation. [Landmark Laws Housing Regional Planning](#)
- 1984** Construction begins on [Seaside, Florida](#), one of the earliest examples of the New Urbanism. (Andres Duany and Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk). Unlike most earlier planned communities, the New Urbanism emphasizes urban features -- compactness, walkability, mixed use -- and promotes a nostalgic architectural style reminiscent of the traditional urban neighborhood. The movement has links to the anti-sprawl, smart growth movement. [Planned Communities](#)
- 1986** The First National Conference on American Planning History is convened in Columbus, Ohio and leads to the founding of the Society Of American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH) the following year. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1987** In *First English Evangelical Lutheran Church v. County of Los Angeles*, U.S. Supreme Court finds that even a temporary taking requires compensation. In *Nollan v. California Coastal Commission*, it finds that land-use restrictions, to be valid, must be tied directly to a specific public purpose. [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1989** The Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) is recognized by the Washington-based Council on Post Secondary Education to be the sole accrediting agency in the field of professional planning education. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 1991** Passage of Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) includes provisions for a National Scenic Byways Program and for transportation enhancements, each of which includes a historic preservation component. [Conservation & Environment Landmark Laws](#)
- 1992** In *Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council*, the U.S. Supreme Court limits local and state governments' ability to restrict private property without compensation. [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1993** Enterprise Zone/Empowerment Community (EZ/EC) proposal signed into law. Aims tax incentives, wage tax credits, special deductions, and low-interest financing to a limited number of impoverished urban and rural communities to jumpstart their economic and social recovery. [Economic Development](#)
- 1994** In *Dolan v. City of Tigard*, the U.S. Supreme Court rules that a jurisdiction must show that there is a "rough proportionality " between the adverse impacts of a proposed development and the exactions it wishes to impose on the developer. [Landmark Laws](#)
- 1994** North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) among U.S., Canada and Mexico begins on January 1, its purpose to foster trade and investment among the three nations by removing or lowering non-tariff as well as tariff barriers. [Economic](#)

[Development](#) [Landmark Laws](#) [Regional Planning](#)

- 1999** American Institute of Certified Planners inaugurates a College of Fellows to recognize distinguished individual contributions by longer term AICP members. [History of Planning Profession](#)
- 2000** President Clinton Creates 8 new national monuments in 5 western states: Canyons of the Ancients (Colorado); Cascade-Siskiyou (Oregon); Hanford Reach (Washington); Ironwood Forest, Grand Canyon-Parashant, Agua Fria (Arizona); Grand Sequoia, California Coastal (California). He also expanded one existing national monument in California (Pinnacles). [Conservation & Environment](#)