

# **Notable Last Facts**

**A Compendium of Endings, Conclusions,  
Terminations and Final Events Throughout History**

**Compiled by  
William B. Brahms**



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To Gina-Marie, Matthew and Giovanna

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## Introduction

I started to accumulate information for *Notable Last Facts* in the early 1990s as a library student at Rutgers University. While reviewing core reference sources in a class on reference librarianship, the topic of researching famous or notable “firsts” was discussed and an excellent, encyclopedic resource was demonstrated. This prompted me to ask: Where would one go to research famous or notable “lasts?” When my question yielded nothing definitive, the idea (or rather the need) for an extensive basic reference work on “lasts” was born. I started collecting “lasts” in a file folder and then a database. This led to an organized exploration of specific subjects, searching for “lasts” for more than ten years. This first effort—a compilation of more than 16,000 “lasts”—is presented here as *Notable Last Facts*.

As a reference librarian, one of my goals in putting this material into print was to present it in the clearest, most concise way possible so that researchers can find the facts they seek quickly. Each “last” fact appears in boldface and is preceded by a bullet and the word “last” or an equivalent word, such as “end.” The entry is accompanied by a brief description of the category, using the fewest words necessary to convey helpful background information for the fact seeker. An expanded table of contents provides an overview of the subject matter. And a detailed index lists the many thousands of notable last facts included in the book.

The facts came from many sources. The books, magazines, journals, atlases, almanacs, encyclopedias and other sources that provided helpful information are listed in the References (Books) section at the back of the book. Additionally, more than 5,000 web sites were consulted. Web sites that were particularly helpful were extracted and are listed in the References (Web Resources) section.

Use *Notable Last Facts* as a pathway to find more information about a subject. It will greatly aid in narrowing down a web or literature search. For example, if you want to find more about the last Confederate Civil War general in the field to surrender, you might get a half million hits if you do a web search with the words: “last,” “Confederate,” and “general.” But *Notable Last Facts* will give you the name of that person: “General Stand Watie.” By searching “Stand Watie” on the web you can reduce the hits to those that specifically mention him.

Every attempt has been made to provide the most accurate information possible. Sometimes conflicting data cropped up. In those instances, I’ve used what I believe was the most credible source after considerable digging and cross-checking. Despite the care with which *Notable Last Facts* has been checked and rechecked, it would be foolhardy to think no errors have crept in. When working with a huge amount of data such as this, it is very easy to introduce an error simply by brushing against the wrong key. If you spot an error, we would appreciate hearing from you at [info@referencedeskpress.com](mailto:info@referencedeskpress.com) or at Reference Desk Press, Inc., 305 Briarwood Avenue, Haddonfield, NJ 08033-2907. Give your sources, and we will check them out. And, if there are “lasts” you would like to see included, let us know about them, too.

Bill Brahms

included Robert Henri, John Sloan, George Luks, Everett Shinn, William Glackens, Ernest Lawson, Maurice Prendergast and Arthur B. Davies.

• **Last joint exhibit of The Eight:** 1908, held in a gallery in New York, New York. It was also the only joint exhibit of The Eight.

• **Last surviving member of The Eight:** Everett Shinn, who died in New York on May 1, 1953, age 76.

#### Art—Artist Groups—Group of Seven

The Group of Seven were Canadian landscape painters who were inspired by Post-Impressionism. The group expanded and later operated under the name Canadian Group of Painters. They were active from 1910 to the 1930s. The original seven included Tom Thomson, J.E.H. MacDonald, Arthur Lismer, Frederick Varley, Frank Johnston, Franklin Carmichael and A.Y. Jackson. Lawren S. Harris joined in 1913 and Thomson died in 1917. When Frank Johnston resigned in 1926, A.J. (Alfred Joseph) Casson joined and became the youngest member of the group. Edwin Holgate and Lionel LeMoine Fitzgerald later were

part of the group

• **End of the Group of Seven:** disbanded in the early 1930s after the death of MacDonald.

• **Last surviving member of the Group of Seven:** A.J. (Alfred Joseph) Casson, who died in Toronto, Canada, on February 19, 1992, age 93.

#### Art—Artist Groups—Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood

The Pre-Raphaelite movement came along four centuries after the great Italian artist Raphael lived. It began in 1848 with the founding of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood by a group of English artists who scorned contemporary art and instead chose to imitate the simplicity of Raphael and other early Italian painters.

• **End of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood:** 1854, when the group divided because of different interests.

• **Last surviving member of the original Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood:** William Michael Rossetti, who was best known for his later role as an art critic. He died on February 5, 1919, age 89.

#### Art—Artists

##### Last Works of Some Major Painters and Sculptors

Artist	Last Work
<b>Bellini, Giovanni</b>	Several works were completed by Giovanni Bellini shortly before he died in Venice, Italy, in 1516 in his late 80s. • <b>Last masterpiece:</b> The work often cited as his last masterpiece is the <i>Feast of the Gods</i> , an oil on canvas, undertaken around 1514 and completed by the time Bellini died. The work was commissioned by Duke Alfonso d'Este. A portion was subsequently painted over by Dosso Dossi. Titian made more changes in 1529. Today, it hangs in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.
<b>Bernini, Giovanni Lorenzo</b>	Giovanni Lorenzo Bernini died in Rome, Italy, on November 28, 1680, age 81. • <b>Last sculpture:</b> <i>Bust of the Savior</i> (1679-80), completed when Bernini was 80. The bust is in the Chrysler Museum of Art in Norfolk, Virginia.
<b>Bonnard, Pierre</b>	Pierre Bonnard died in Le Cannet, France, on January 23, 1947, age 79. • <b>Last completed painting:</b> <i>Almond Tree in Blossom</i> , oil and charcoal on canvas painted the year he died. It depicts a flowering tree that was visible from Bonnard's bedroom window. He was frail as he completed the work, so he instructed his nephew to change the grass color in the

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Last Vought F4U Corsair produced:</b> an F4U-7, made for the French Navy and based on the F4U-4B. It rolled off the assembly line in 1952.</li> <li>• <b>Last Vought F4U Corsair in service:</b> 1964.</li> </ul>
<b>Vought F-8 Crusader</b>	<p>The Vought F-8 Crusader was the last U.S. fighter designed with guns as its primary weapon. It logged more than 2 million hours and more than 385,000 carrier landings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Last Vought F-8 Crusader in service:</b> RF-8G (BuNo. 146860), retired March 29, 1987. It was handed over to the National Air and Space Museum.</li> </ul>

**Aviation—Airlines—United States**  
**Last Year of Operation of Major American Airlines by Corporate Name**

Airline	Last Year Operated by That Name	Reason for Name Change
<b>AC/EA</b>	1968	Merged with Alaska Airlines.
<b>Air Cal</b>	1987	Merged with American Airlines.
<b>Air California</b>	1981	Renamed Air Cal.
<b>Air Oregon</b>	1982	Acquired by Horizon Airlines.
<b>Air West</b>	1970	Acquired by Howard Hughes and re-named Hughes Air West.
<b>Alaska Air Transport</b>	1939	Merged with Marine Airways as Alaska Coastal Airlines.
<b>Alaska Coastal Airlines</b>	1968	Merged with Alaska Airlines.
<b>Alaska Star Airlines</b>	1944	Renamed Alaska Airlines.
<b>Alaska-Washington Airways</b>	1932	Ceased operations.
<b>All American Airways</b>	1953	Renamed Allegheny Airlines.
<b>All American Aviation</b>	1949	Renamed All American Airways.
<b>Allegheny Airlines</b>	1979	Began operating as a USAir carrier.
<b>American Airways</b>	1934	Renamed American Airlines.
<b>Arizona Airways</b>	1950	Merged with Monarch Air and Challenger Airlines as Frontier Airlines.
<b>Boeing Air Transport</b>	1931	Merged with National Air Transport, Varney Air Lines and Pacific Air Transport as United Air Lines.
<b>Bonanza Air Lines</b>	1968	Merged with Pacific Air Lines and West Coast Airlines as Air West.
<b>Bonanza Air Services</b>	1945	Renamed Bonanza Air Lines.
<b>Braniff Airlines</b>	1930	Renamed Braniff Airways.
<b>Braniff Airways</b>	1946	Renamed Braniff International Airways.
<b>Braniff International Airways</b>	1992	Ceased operations. Resurrected as Braniff, Inc. (1984-89) and again as Braniff International (1991-92).
<b>Capital Airlines</b>	1960	Acquired by United Air Lines.
<b>Central Airways</b>	1967	Acquired by Frontier Airlines.
<b>Central Vermont Airways</b>	1940	Renamed Northwest Airlines.

- **Last known as the New York Curb Exchange:** 1921, when it was renamed the New York Curb Market Association.
- **Last known as the New York Curb Market Association:** 1953, when it was renamed the American Stock Exchange.

#### **Banking and Finance—Stock Exchanges—New York Stock Exchange**

The New York Stock Exchange was established as the New York Stock and Exchange Board in 1817.

- **Last known as the New York Stock and Exchange Board:** 1863, when it was renamed New York Stock Exchange. At that time, it moved to Wall Street.
- **Last time one person was able to command sufficient financial resources to change the course of an unfavorable market:** October 1907, when John Pierpont Morgan organized a group of major banks to subscribe more than \$25 million to support the market. A run on the banks had caused the market to fall.

#### **Banking and Finance—Stock Exchanges—Securities Pricing Format**

Fractional pricing gives price increments of 1/8 or 1/16 of a dollar.

- **Last time fractions were used by the U.S. securities industry:** August 28, 2000, when the industry changed its pricing format to decimals. The new format gave price increments of two decimal points, such as \$0.05 or \$0.10. Most foreign markets already used decimal pricing.
- **Last time fractions were used by U.S. stock exchanges:** January 29, 2001, when the New York Stock Exchange and the American Stock Exchange switched to decimals. The National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations (NASDAQ) made the switch in April.

#### **Books**

(See also Libraries; Literature.)

**Books—Almanacs—Banneker, Benjamin** Benjamin Banneker, of Maryland, was a self-taught mathematician and astronomer.

In 1791, he compiled the first in a series of almanacs that included the ephemeris (astronomical calculation of the celestial placement of planets and stars).

- **Last known issue of Benjamin Banneker's Almanac:** for the year 1797; however, he did continue to compile his astronomical calculations until 1804. Banneker died in Ellicott Mills, Maryland, on October 9, 1806, age 74.

#### **Books—Almanacs—Poor Richard's Almanack**

Benjamin Franklin began publishing *Poor Richard's Almanack* in 1732. He wrote the many maxims and adages that appeared in the almanac under the pen name Richard Saunders. Franklin died in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on April 17, 1790, age 84.

- **Last issue of Poor Richard's Almanack:** Signed July 7, 1757, before Franklin went to England to represent Pennsylvania colonists in a case against the Proprietors.

#### **Books—Dictionaries—Oxford English Dictionary**

The *Oxford English Dictionary* (OED) took more than 40 years to publish. It was published in fascicles (separate installments) under the name *A New English Dictionary on Historical Principles*.

- **Last OED fascicle published:** April 1928.
- **Last supplement to the original edition of OED published:** 1986. The supplements were later integrated into a single set that became the second edition.
- **Last surviving original OED lexicographer:** Charles T. Onions, who joined the staff in 1895, when he was 22. He died in 1965, age 91.

#### **Books—Dictionaries—Webster's Dictionary**

Noah Webster worked approximately 20 years on *An American Dictionary of the English Language*.

- **Last of Webster's 70,000 definitions completed:** 1828. The dictionary was published in November of that year.
- **Last work by Webster on the revised**

### **Education—Ivy League Schools**

Ivy League is a term used to describe a group of older East Coast private colleges: Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Columbia, Dartmouth, Cornell, University of Pennsylvania and Brown.

- **Last Ivy League school to be established:** Cornell in 1865.
- **Last all-male college in the Ivy League:** Columbia University. Women were admitted in 1983.

### **Education—Military Schools**

The United States service academies are United States Air Force Academy, United States Coast Guard Academy, United States Merchant Marine Academy, United States Military Academy and United States Naval Academy.

- **Last all-male enrollment at the U.S. service academies:** 1976. That year, President Gerald Ford signed Public Law 94-104, which required the United States service academies to open their enrollment to women. Females were admitted for the first time in the fall of 1976. The service academies graduated their last all-male classes in 1979.
- **Last all-male publicly funded schools in the U.S.:** Virginia Military Institute (VMI). In 1996, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that VMI would have to admit women if it wished to remain a public institution. The Class of 2000 was VMI's last all-male class.

### **Education—Nursing Schools**

- **End of all-female enrollment in state-operated nursing schools:** July 1, 1982, with the U.S. Supreme Court's 5-4 ruling that state-operated nursing schools cannot constitutionally exclude males.

### **Education—Rhodes Scholars**

The Rhodes Scholars program started in 1904 at Oxford University in England, after Cecil Rhodes left part of his fortune to support Oxford scholarships for male students in British colonies and the United States.

- **Last year Rhodes Scholars candidates were males only:** 1975. That year, the Brit-

ish Sex Discrimination Act gave trustees of the will of Rhodes permission to change the men-only provision. Women were admitted as Rhodes Scholars the following year.

### **Education— American Colleges and Universities—Name Changes**

#### **Alabama State University**

- **Last known as Alabama Colored People's University:** 1889.
- **Last known as Normal School for Colored Students:** 1929.
- **Last known as State Teacher's College:** 1948.
- **Last known as Alabama State College for Negroes:** 1954.
- **Last known as Alabama State College:** 1969.

#### **Albion College**

- **Last known as Albion Female Collegiate Institute:** 1857.
- **Last known as Wesleyan Seminary and Female College at Albion:** 1861.

#### **Alcorn State University**

- **Last known as Alcorn University:** 1878.
- **Last known as Alcorn Agricultural and Mechanical College:** 1974.

#### **Alfred University**

- **Last known as Select School:** 1843.
- **Last known as Alfred Academy:** 1857.

#### **Arcadia University**

- **Last known as Beaver Female Seminary:** 1872.
- **Last known as Beaver College and Musical Institute:** 1907.
- **Last known as Beaver College:** 2001.

#### **Auburn University**

- **Last known as East Alabama Male College:** 1872.
- **Last known as Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical College:** 1899.
- **Last known as Auburn Polytechnic Institute:** 1960.

major campaign issue.

- **Last of the oleo tax:** 1950.
- **Last state to lift the ban on yellow oleo:** Wisconsin, in 1967. In its original state, oleomargarine is white. When it was first marketed, by law it could not be sold colored. The white oleo was sold with a separate yellow coloring packet. The consumer had to do the mixing. After World War II, states began to repeal the law banning the sale of colored oleomargarine. By 1955, only two holdouts remained: Minnesota and Wisconsin, both major dairy states.

### Games and Toys

- Games and Toys—Chess—Morphy, Paul**  
American-born chess genius Paul Charles Morphy was considered one of the greatest players of his era. He was the national chess champion when he was 20.
- **Morphy’s last games:** 1859, when he was 22. After that, he give up competing and studied law. He died in New Orleans, Louisiana, on July 10, 1884, age 47.

### Game and Toys—Lawn Darts (Jarts)

- Lawn Darts (Jarts), a popular outdoor game, consisted of large dart-shaped objects with pointed tips that were thrown underhand at a target. When misused, the darts could puncture a human skull. The darts resulting in 700 injuries in one year and in the death of three children before they were banned.
- **Last time Lawn Darts were sold in the U.S.:** December 19, 1988, banned by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission. Lawn darts with metal tips were banned in Canada in 1989.

### Games and Toys—Mr. Potato Head

- Mr. Potato Head, the popular children’s toy, was introduced in 1952 as a set of accessories to be used with a real potato.
- **Last time Mr. Potato Head was sold for use with a real potato:** 1964.
  - **Last time Mr. Potato Head was sold with a pipe:** 1987. The pipe was eliminated under pressure by Surgeon General C. Everett Coop. Mr. Potato Head handed his pipe over to Dr. Coop at a press conference for the Great American Smokeout.

### Glass, Pottery, Porcelain and Ceramics Last of Some Major American Glass, Pottery, Porcelain and Ceramics Manufacturers

Company	Ceased Operation	Description
<b>Amelung Glass (New Bremen Glass Manufactory)</b>	1795	Established in 1784 by German glassmaker John Frederick Amelung as the New Bremen Glass Manufactory near Frederick, Maryland. He employed glassmakers from Bohemia and Germany. Among the company’s products were bowls, bottles and goblets. Amelung died in 1798.
<b>American Art China Company</b>	1894	Established in 1891 by John C. Rittenhouse and George Evans in Trenton, New Jersey. It remained in business just three years. The company made exceptionally fine Belleek ware.
<b>American China Manufactory (Bonnin and Morris)</b>	1772	Established in 1770 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by Gousse Bonnin and Anthony Morris. They were the first major American manufacturers of porcelain. Morris left the business in 1771, and Bonnin went to England in 1772. A month later, the kilns, buildings and equipment were put up for sale at public auction. There were no buyers.



### Minimum Wage in the United States

Old Rate	Last Year at Old Rate	New Rate
25¢/hr.	1939	30¢/hr.
30¢/hr.	1944	40¢/hr.
40¢/hr.	1949	75¢/hr.
75¢/hr.	1955	\$1.00/hr.
\$1.00/hr.	1960	\$1.15/hr.
\$1.15/hr.	1962	\$1.25/hr.
\$1.25/hr.	1966	\$1.40/hr.
\$1.40/hr.	1967	\$1.60/hr.
\$1.60/hr.	1973	\$2.00/hr.
\$2.00/hr.	1974	\$2.10/hr.
\$2.10/hr.	1975	\$2.30/hr.
\$2.30/hr.	1977	\$2.65/hr.
\$2.65/hr.	1978	\$2.90/hr.
\$2.90/hr.	1979	\$3.10/hr.
\$3.10/hr.	1980	\$3.35/hr.
\$3.35/hr.	1989	\$3.80/hr.
\$3.80/hr.	1990	\$4.25/hr.
\$4.25/hr.	1996	\$4.75/hr.
\$4.75/hr.	1997	\$5.15/hr.

### Labor—Worker’s Compensation Insurance

The first worker’s compensation insurance law was enacted in Maryland in 1902.

- **Last state to require worker’s compensation:** Mississippi, in 1948.

### Languages—Extinct Languages

The following “lasts” are documented last native speakers of languages worldwide that have become extinct or at one time were extinct. It does not include Native American languages. For those lasts, *see* Native Americans—Languages.

#### Languages—Extinct—Aasáx (Tanzania)

A victim of German colonialism, power struggles, economics and other factors, the Aasáx language spoken in Tanzania moved toward extinction in the 20<sup>th</sup> century as many native speakers died off and others shifted to another language.

- **Last remaining native Aasáx speaker:** died in 1976. The Aasáx have survived as an ethnic group; however, their language has disappeared.

#### Languages—Extinct—Ainu (Japan)

Karafuto Ainu, a dialect of the Ainu people of South Sakhalin, was spoken occasionally among the elderly Karafuto Ainu who relocated to Hokkaido after World War II.

- **Last speaker of Karafuto dialect of Ainu:** Asai Take, who died on April 30, 1994, age 92.
- **Last speaker of Shizunai dialect of Ainu:** Sute Orita, who worked with a linguist in Hokkaido in the 1980s.

#### Languages—Extinct—Bare (Brazil and Venezuela)

The Bare language was once spoken by thousands of Indians who lived along the Upper Rio Negre in Brazil and Venezuela.

- **Last fluent speaker of Bare in Brazil:** Candeláno de Silva, who worked with a linguist in 1991. His death left only a few Bare speakers in Venezuela.

#### Languages—Extinct—Cornish (England)

Cornish, a Celtic language, was spoken by the early people of Cornwall, Devon and West Somerset, England. Its use began to decline in the 17<sup>th</sup> century with the introduction of the English language in books and in commerce.

- **Last traditional Cornish speakers:** Some linguists claim Cornish lost its last traditional speaker in 1777, when Dolly Pentreath died. William Bodinar, who died in 1789, also has been identified as one of the last to have spoken the language fluently. And more recently John Davey, who died in 1891, was claimed to be the last fluent speaker of the Cornish language. However, other linguists argue that the language never died out. Today, Cornish has 2,000 speakers and many people are studying the language.

#### Languages—Extinct—Dalmatian (Croatia)

Dalmatian, a Romance language, was spoken along the Adriatic shores of Croatia and on the nearby islands. It may have been in

reign of Ptolemy I (323-285 B.C.), made Alexandria, Egypt, the intellectual center of the Hellenistic world. It is said to have contained some 700,000 volumes. The library was damaged by a fire in 47 B.C. It sustained more damage during a civil war in the late 200s A.D.

• **Last of the original Alexandrian Library:** 391 A.D., when it was destroyed by order of Byzantine Emperor Theodosius. A new library was accumulated, but it was burned by outsiders around 641 A.D. In the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, steps were taken to begin rebuilding the Alexandrian Library.

**Libraries—Library of Congress**

The Library of Congress was in the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C., from its founding until 1897.

• **Last of the original U.S. Library of Congress:** 1814, when the British set fire to the Capitol during the War of 1812. The Library of Congress was restored in 1815 and restocked with more than 6,400 books purchased from the personal library of Thomas Jefferson.

• **Last of many of Jefferson’s books:** destroyed in 1851, when another fire in the Capitol Building destroyed 35,000 of the 55,000 books in the Library of Congress. About two thirds of the books purchased from Jefferson were lost in the fire.

**Libraries—Library of Congress—Card Catalogs**

The Library of Congress began selling duplicates of its 3-by-5-inch catalog cards to libraries around the world in 1902. The peak year for the cards was 1968, when 78 million were sold. By 1996, annual sales had dropped to less than 580,000. Most libraries began converting to online public access catalogs (OPACs) in the 1980s and 1990s. By the late 1990s, with the dwindling number of card catalogs in use, the Library of Congress decided to suspend production of its catalog cards.

• **Last day libraries could order catalog cards from the Library of Congress:** February 28, 1997. Some commercial vendors still produce the cards to support the remaining card catalogs.

**Lighthouses**

**Last of Some American Lighthouses**

Name and Location of Lighthouse	Last Used	Description
<b>Avery Rock</b> Machias Bay, Machias, Maine	1946	Built in 1875 on Avery Rock, about three miles from the mainland. The station was automated and the keeper was removed after a violent storm in 1926. Demolished in a storm in 1946. • <b>Last keeper:</b> Edward Pettigrew.
<b>Back River</b> Hampton, Virginia	1936	Built in 1829. Deactivated in 1936. Fell into disrepair. Destroyed in a hurricane.
<b>Ballast Point</b> San Diego, California	1961	Built as a harbor light in 1890. Torn down to make room for U.S. Navy base expansion. The fog bell is now in the San Diego Maritime Museum. • <b>Last keeper:</b> Radford Franke.
<b>Bayou Bonfouca</b> Northern Lake Ponchartrain, Louisiana	1862	Built in 1848. Destroyed during the Civil War when it was burned by Confederate troops after Union forces captured New Orleans.
<b>Bergen Point</b> Newark Bay, near Bayonne, New Jersey	1949	Built in 1849. Rebuilt in 1857-59. Deactivated in 1949. Torn down two years later and replaced by a skeleton tower.

by the film-making industry, causing the MPAA on November 1, 1968, to implement a voluntary system using the G, PG, R and X rating system.

• **Last chief censor of MPAA:** Geoffrey M. Shurlock (1954-69). He succeeded Joseph Breen as Production Code head and stayed until the G, PG, R, X rating system was installed. Shurlock died in Woodland Hills, California, on April 26, 1976, age 81.

### Movies—Serials

Serials were adventure film series shown in short weekly episodes, usually in 12 to 15 installments of less than 20 minutes each. Three studios were the major producers of serials: Republic, Columbia Pictures and Universal Studios. The Golden Age of movie serials was the late 1930s and early 1940s.

• **Last Republic serials:** 1955. *Panther Girl of the Kongo* (12 chapters) and *King of the Carnival* (12 chapters).

• **Last Columbia Pictures serial:** 1956. *Perils of the Wilderness* (15 chapters) and *Blazing the Overland Trail* (15 chapters).

• **Last Universal serials:** 1946. *The Scarlet Horsemen* (13 chapters); *Lost City of the Jungle* (13 chapters); and *The Mysterious Mr. M* (13 chapters).

• **Last serial by a studio other than the Big Three:** 1937. *Blake of Scotland Yard* (Victory Pictures, 15 chapters).

### Movies—Silent Films

Warner Brothers announced in August 1928 that all of its films planned for the 1928-29 fiscal year would have sound. United Artists made the same announcement in November 1928. Twentieth-Century Fox announced in February 1929 that it had made its last silent movie. Columbia Pictures released its last silent movie (*The Quitter*) on April 1, 1929.

• **Last major silent film made in the early years of sound film:** *Modern Times* (re-

leased 1936), starring Charlie Chaplin. It was not entirely silent. Chaplin does sing and use some sound effects.

• **Last year a large number of silent films were produced:** 1929. By then, most films were being made with sound. Some film historians contend that the “Silent Era” was over when *Modern Times* was released.

• **Also considered the last films of the “Silent Era”:** Charlie Chaplin’s *City Lights*, begun in 1928 but released in 1931, and F.W. Murnau’s *Tabu* (1931), an Academy Award winner for Best Cinematography.

• **Last major studio to convert to sound:** MGM.

• **Last silent movie by MGM:** *The Kiss*, which wrapped up filming in September 1929. *The Kiss* was also Greta Garbo’s last silent movie.

• **Last surviving silent film director:** believed to be Andrew Lysander Stone, who directed the silent films *The Elegy* (1927) and *Liebensraum* (1928). Stone died in Los Angeles, California, on June 6, 1999, age 96.

• **Last silent movie to win the Academy Award for Best Picture:** *Wings* (1927).

• **Last silent movie nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture:** *The Patriot* (1928).

• **Last silent *Our Gang* comedy:** *Saturday’s Lesson* (1929).

• **Last silent *Laurel & Hardy* comedy:** *Angora Love* (1929).

• **Last country to show silent films routinely:** Thailand. The Thai film industry was disrupted during World War II and all Thai feature films made until the 1960s were shot silent on 16mm film. Sound was added in the theater by actors reading lines offstage. The practice ended in 1970 with the adoption of 35mm sound film.

• **Last silent movie produced by Hollywood:** *Legong: Dance of the Virgins* (1935). The movie was filmed in Bali and features an all-native cast. It was directed by Henri de La Falaise.

<b>Welles, Orson</b>	<i>Filming Othello</i> (documentary; 1978).	Died in Los Angeles, California, October 10, 1985, age 70.
<b>Wilder, Billy</b>	<i>Buddy, Buddy</i> (1981).	Died in Beverly Hills, California, March 27, 2002, age 95.
<b>Wood, Edward D. (Jr.)</b>	<i>Necromania</i> (1971).	Died in North Hollywood, California, December 10, 1978, age 54.
<b>Wood, Sam</b>	<i>Ambush</i> (1949). Last silent movie: <i>Queen Kelly</i> (1929). Uncredited; film had several directors and was finally credited to Erich von Stroheim.	Died in Hollywood, California, September 22, 1949, age 66.
<b>Wyler, William</b>	<i>The Liberation of L. B. Jones</i> (1970). Last silent movie: <i>The Shakedown</i> (1929).	Died in Los Angeles, California, July 27, 1981, age 79.
<b>Zinnemann, Fred</b>	<i>Five Days One Summer</i> (1982).	Died in London, England, March 14, 1997, age 89.

### Movies—Performers

(See also Entertainers—Theater—Performers; Movies—Directors.)

Name	Last Feature Movie(s) and Last TV Movie(s)	Comment
<b>Abel, Walter</b>	<i>The Ultimate Solution of Grace Quigley</i> (1984).	Died in Essex, Connecticut, March 26, 1987, age 88.
<b>Abbott, Bud</b>	Last “Meet” movie: <i>Abbott and Costello Meet the Mummy</i> (1955). Last movie with Lou Costello: <i>Dance with Me Henry</i> (1956).	The team of Abbott and Costello split up in 1957. Abbott died in Woodland Hills, California, April 24, 1974, age 78.
<b>Adams, Nick</b>	<i>Fever Heat</i> (1968).	Died in Los Angeles, California, February 7, 1968, age 36.
<b>Akins, Claude</b>	<i>Falling from Grace</i> (1992). Last TV movie: <i>Sherlock Holmes and the Incident at Victoria Falls</i> (1991).	Died in Altadena, California, January 27, 1994, age 71.
<b>Albertson, Jack</b>	<i>Dead and Buried</i> (1981). Last TV movie: <i>Grandpa, Will you Run with Me?</i> (1982).	Died in Hollywood Hills, California, November 25, 1981, age 74.
<b>Allen, Gracie</b>	<i>Two Girls and a Sailor</i> (1944).	Died in Hollywood, California, August 27, 1964, age 58.
<b>Allgood, Sara</b>	<i>Sierra</i> (1950).	Died in Woodland Hills, California, September 15, 1950, age 66.
<b>Ameche, Don</b>	<i>Corrina, Corrina</i> (1994).	Died in Scottsdale, Arizona, December 6, 1993, age 85, soon after completing his scenes.
<b>Ames, Leon</b>	<i>Jake Speed</i> (1986).	Died in Laguna Beach, California, October 12, 1993, age 91.
<b>Anderson, Dame Judith</b>	<i>Impure Thoughts</i> (narrator, 1986).	Died in Santa Barbara, California, January 3, 1992, age 93.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Last film:</b> <i>The Beach Boys: The Nashville Sound</i> (as herself, 1996). In 1997 and 1998, she lent her voice to a character on a few episodes of the animated TV series <i>King of the Hill</i>. Her last episode was “The Unbearable Blindness of Laying,” December 21, 1997.</li> </ul>
<b>Young, Lester</b>	<p>Jazz saxophonist Lester Willis Young died in New York, New York, on March 15, 1959, age 49.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Last recording with the Count Basie Band:</b> Newport Jazz Festival, Newport, Rhode Island, July 7, 1957, live concert recording.</li> <li>• <b>Last recording with Billie Holiday:</b> TV program, <i>The Sound of Jazz</i>, December 8, 1957. They recorded “Fine and Mellow.”</li> <li>• <b>Last recording of Young:</b> March 4, 1959, with the Lester Young Quintet in Paris, France.</li> <li>• <b>Last album:</b> <i>Laughin’ to Keep from Cryin’</i> (1958).</li> <li>• <b>Last film as himself:</b> <i>Jammin’ the Blues</i> (short, 1944).</li> <li>• <b>Last film as actor:</b> <i>Policy Man</i> (1938).</li> </ul>
<b>Zappa, Frank Mothers of Invention</b>	<p>Singer/guitarist/composer Frank Zappa formed The Mothers of Invention in 1965. He died in Laurel Canyon, California, on December 4, 1993, age 52.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Last Mothers of Invention album with Zappa:</b> <i>Bongo Fury</i> (1975).</li> <li>• <b>Last Zappa Mothers of Invention album with Howard Kaylan and Mark Volman:</b> <i>Just Another Band from L.A.</i> (1971). The two left to record on their own as Flo and Eddie.</li> <li>• <b>Last albums of Zappa:</b> <i>The Yellow Shark</i>, orchestral music, released in 1993, just before he died. <i>Civilization III</i> was released posthumously in 1995.</li> <li>• <b>Last Top 40 Billboard hit (Pop Charts) during Zappa’s lifetime:</b> “Valley Girl,” which entered the charts on September 4, 1982. It featured his daughter Moon Unit Zappa.</li> <li>• <b>Last concert appearance:</b> <i>Yellow Shark</i> concert in Frankfurt, Germany, September 17, 1992, performed by the Ensemble Modern. Zappa made only one short appearance due to his illness.</li> <li>• <b>Last public performance as a guitarist:</b> Budapest, Hungary, as a guest guitarist, June 29, 1991.</li> <li>• <b>Last major tour:</b> 1988. Last concert of the tour, June 9, 1988, Genoa, Italy. Zappa limited his live appearances after 1988.</li> <li>• <b>Last film score:</b> <i>Peef eeyatko</i> (1991), a documentary about himself that he also starred in and produced.</li> <li>• <b>Last film as himself:</b> <i>The Revenge of the Dead Indian</i> (1993).</li> <li>• <b>Last film Zappa wrote and directed:</b> <i>The True Story of Frank Zappa’s 200 Motels</i> (1988). In 1991, he lent his voice to a character in an episode of the animated series <i>The Ren and Stimpy Show</i>.</li> </ul>

### Nations

(see also United States)

#### Nations—Afghanistan, (Transitional) Islamic State of

Afghanistan is north of Pakistan and east of Iran in southern Asia.

- **End of the Anglo-Afghan Wars:** 1919. Afghanistan engaged in three wars with

Great Britain. The first began in 1839 and ended in 1842 with Great Britain withdrawing from Afghanistan. The second war began in 1878 and ended in 1880 with a pro-British ruler. The third war was waged in 1919 over whether Afghanistan should be independent.

- **End of British control over Afghan foreign affairs:** August 8, 1919, when Afg-

Shackley, research archaeologist at the University of California at Berkeley, observed that the arrowheads Ishi made were not Yahai but very possibly Nomlaki or Wintu. The many projectile points Ishi made while living at the museum had long blades, concave bases and side notches, whereas Yahai arrowheads are short and squat, with contracting stems and base notches.

**Newspapers**  
**Last of Some Major American Newspapers**

Title	Last Issue	Description
<b><i>American Weekly Mercury</i></b>	May 22, 1746	Founded in 1719, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. First newspaper published in Pennsylvania and only the fourth in America.
<b><i>Arkansas Gazette</i></b>	October 18, 1991	Founded in 1865 as <i>Arkansas State Gazette</i> . Published as <i>Little Rock Daily Gazette</i> (1865-66), <i>Daily Arkansas Gazette</i> (1866-89), <i>Arkansas Gazette</i> (1889-1991).
<b><i>Baltimore Evening Sun</i></b>	September 15, 1995	<i>Evening Sun</i> founded on April 4, 1910. Ceased publication after 85 years. The <i>Morning Sun</i> began on May 17, 1837, and is still published as <i>The Sun</i> .
<b><i>Baltimore News American</i></b>	May 27, 1986	Created when the <i>Baltimore American</i> and <i>Baltimore News Post</i> merged in 1964.
<b><i>Boston Evening Transcript</i></b>	April 30, 1941	Founded in 1830 as <i>Daily Evening Transcript</i> . Other early names: <i>Boston Transcript</i> (1854-66) and <i>Boston Daily Evening Transcript</i> (1866-72). Issued as <i>Boston Evening Transcript</i> since 1872.
<b><i>Brooklyn Daily Eagle</i></b> (New York)	January 28, 1955	Founded 1841. Never missed an issue for 114 years then ceased publication after it experienced a prolonged strike.
<b><i>Chicago Daily News</i></b>	March 4, 1978	Founded in 1875. Absorbed by <i>Post &amp; Mail</i> in 1878, <i>Journal</i> in 1929 and <i>Evening Post</i> in 1932.
<b><i>Chicago Today</i></b>	September 13, 1974	Founded as <i>Chicago American</i> in 1900. Published as <i>Herald American</i> (1939-58), <i>Chicago's American</i> (1958-69) and <i>Chicago Today</i> (1969-74).
<b><i>Dallas Times Herald</i></b>	December 9, 1991	<i>Dallas Daily Times</i> was founded in 1879. <i>Dallas Daily Herald</i> was first published in 1873. The two papers merged in 1888 as the <i>Dallas Times Herald</i> .
<b><i>Elizabeth Daily Journal</i></b> (New Jersey)	January 3, 1992	Founded in 1779. New Jersey's oldest newspaper and the nation's second oldest.
<b><i>Evening News</i></b> (Newark, New Jersey)	August 31, 1972	Founded in 1873. Once New Jersey's largest and most important newspaper. It closed shortly after an 11-month strike.

**Postal Service (U.S.)—U.S. Post Office Department**

The first Post Office Department was established in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1775. The U.S. Congress gave the department permanent status in the 1790s. It became an executive department in 1872.

• **Last of the U.S. Post Office Department:** abolished by Congress with the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970. The law created the U.S. Postal Service that began operation July 1, 1971.

**Postal Service (U.S.)—ZIP Codes**

In 1963, the U.S. Postal Service introduced the Zoning Improvement Plan, or ZIP Code, a postal addressing system aimed at speed-

ing up the processing of mail. Mr. ZIP, an advertising character, was created to promote the new system. Mr. ZIP became one of the most successful trademark identification campaigns in history.

• **Last use of Mr. ZIP image by the United States Postal Service:** 1980, when the character was retired with the introduction of the ZIP +4 system.

• **Last time United States mail was processed without ZIP codes:** 1963. The five-digit ZIP code system for sorting mail faster and more efficiently began to be phased in that year. When the ZIP code was introduced, the United States Post Office also introduced two-letter abbreviations for all states.

**Postal Service (U.S.)—Postal Rates (U.S.)  
First-Class Postage**

Old Rate	Last Date at Old Rate	New Rate	Date Effective
2 cents	July 5, 1932	3 cents	July 6, 1932
3 cents	July 31, 1958	4 cents	August 1, 1958
4 cents	January 6, 1963	5 cents	January 7, 1963
5 cents	January 6, 1968	6 cents	January 7, 1968
6 cents	May 15, 1971	8 cents	May 16, 1971
8 cents	March 1, 1974	10 cents	March 2, 1974
10 cents	December 30, 1975	13 cents	December 31, 1975
13 cents	May 28, 1978	15 cents	May 29, 1978
15 cents	March 21, 1981	18 cents	March 22, 1981
18 cents	October 31, 1981	20 cents	November 1, 1981
20 cents	February 16, 1985	22 cents	February 17, 1985
22 cents	April 2, 1988	25 cents	April 3, 1988
25 cents	February 2, 1991	29 cents	February 3, 1991
29 cents	December 31, 1994	32 cents	January 1, 1995
32 cents	January 9, 1999	33 cents	January 10, 1999
33 cents	January 6, 2001	34 cents	January 7, 2001
34 cents	June 29, 2002	37 cents	June 30, 2002

**Postal Service (U.S.)—Postal Rates (U.S.)  
Postcards**

Old Rate	Last Date at Old Rate	New Rate	Date Effective
1 cent	December 31, 1951	2 cents	January 1, 1952
2 cents	July 31, 1958	3 cents	August 1, 1958
3 cents	January 6, 1963	4 cents	January 7, 1963
4 cents	January 6, 1968	5 cents	January 7, 1968
5 cents	May 15, 1971	6 cents	May 16, 1971
6 cents	March 1, 1974	8 cents	March 2, 1974

**Railroads**  
**Last Spike Ceremonies for**  
**Some Major United States and Canadian Railroads**

Railroad and Location	Date and Place Last Spike Was Driven	Description
<p><b>Alaska Railroad</b>            (connecting Seward and Anchorage, Alaska)</p> <p>(completion of railroad connecting Seward and Nenana, Alaska)</p>	<p>September 10, 1918, between Bird Creek and Girdwood, Alaska</p> <p>July 15, 1923            Nenana, Alaska</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Last spike:</b> presented to Colonel Mears in 1918. Now owned by the Southern California Arms Collectors Association.</li> <li>• <b>Last spike driven:</b> by President Warren G. Harding. Now on display at the Harding Home Museum, Marion, Ohio. Harding died while returning from this trip.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Baltimore &amp; Ohio Railroad</b>            (connecting Baltimore, Maryland, and the Ohio River)</p>	<p>December 24, 1852, Roseby's Station, near Wheeling, West Virginia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Last spike location:</b> marked by a boulder with the inscription "Roseby's Rock, Track Closed. Christmas Eve, 1852." The rock is named for Roseby Carr, who was in charge of the construction teams.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Canadian Northern Railway</b>            (connecting Montreal, Quebec, and Vancouver, British Columbia)</p>	<p>January 23, 1915, Basque, British Columbia</p>	<p>Known as "Canada's second transcontinental railway."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Last spike driven:</b> by railroad owner William Mackenzie.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Canadian Pacific Railway</b>            (connecting Lake Superior and Winnipeg, Manitoba)</p> <p>(connecting Winnipeg, Manitoba, and Montreal, Quebec)</p> <p>(completion of railway connecting Atlantic and Pacific coasts)</p>	<p>June 19, 1882, Feist Lake, near Dryden, Ontario</p> <p>May 16, 1885, Noslo, near Jackfish, Ontario</p> <p>November 7, 1885, Craigellachie, British Columbia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Last spike driven:</b> by Jennie Fowler, sister of engineer Robert Fowler.</li> <li>• <b>Last spike driven:</b> by Colonel Oswald of the Montreal Light Infantry.</li> <li>• <b>Last spike driven:</b> by Donald A. Smith, Lord Strathcona, a director of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The last spike was immediately removed, cut up and handed out as souvenirs. A small obelisk marks the spot. Event was the subject of Pierre Berton's book <i>The Last Spike</i>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Chesapeake &amp; Ohio Railway</b>            (connecting Richmond, Virginia, and Huntington, West Virginia)</p>	<p>January 29, 1873, Hawk's Nest, West Virginia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Last spike driven:</b> by General Williams C. Wickham. John Henry had his legendary contest against a machine while working on this rail line.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Chicago, Milwaukee &amp; St. Paul Railroad</b></p>	<p>May 19, 1909, Garrison, Mont-</p>	<p>Through freight service between Chicago and Seattle was established July 4,</p>



**Religion—State Religions**  
**Former State Religions of Nations**

A state religion (also called an “established church” or “state church”) is a religion or religious body or creed officially endorsed by the government as the official religion. Many nations have state religions. Only those nations that have disestablished their state religion are listed.

Country	State Church and Denomination	Last Year
<b>Albania</b>	Atheism	1991
<b>Armenia</b>	Armenian Orthodox Church (Oriental Orthodox)	1921
<b>Austria</b>	Roman Catholic Church (Catholic)	1918
<b>Bulgaria</b>	Bulgarian Orthodox Church (Eastern Orthodox)	1946
<b>Cambodia</b>	Buddhism	1975
<b>China</b>	Confucianism	1912
<b>Estonia</b>	Church of Estonia (Lutheran)	1940
<b>Ethiopia</b>	Ethiopian Orthodox Church	1974
<b>France</b>	Roman Catholic Church (Catholic)	1905
<b>Georgia</b>	Georgian Orthodox Church (Eastern Orthodox)	1921
<b>Guyana</b>	Anglican	1966
<b>Ireland</b>	Church of Ireland (Anglican)	1874
<b>Italy</b>	Roman Catholic Church (Catholic)	1984
<b>Japan</b>	Shintoism	1945
<b>Latvia</b>	Roman Catholic Church (Catholic)	1940
<b>Lithuania</b>	Roman Catholic Church (Catholic)	1940
<b>Nepal</b>	Hinduism	1990
<b>Peru</b>	Roman Catholic Church (Catholic)	1979
<b>Portugal</b>	Roman Catholic Church (Catholic)	1910
<b>Romania</b>	Romanian Orthodox Church (Eastern Orthodox)	1947
<b>Russia</b>	Russian Orthodox Church (Eastern Orthodox)	1917
<b>Sweden</b>	Church of Sweden (Lutheran)	1999
<b>Turkey</b>	Islam	1922
<b>Wales</b>	Church in Wales (Anglican)	1920

**Religion—State Religions—United States**  
**Former State Religions in the United States**

Nine of the original 13 American colonies had established state religions by the beginning of the American Revolution. The 1st Amendment to the United States Constitution explicitly prohibited the federal government from establishing a state church. However, this amendment was often interpreted as allowing for state governments to maintain existing state churches. With the passage of the 14th Amendment in 1868, the prohibition on established churches was interpreted as a general prohibition on state support or endorsement of religion.

State	State Church and Denomination	Last Year
<b>Connecticut</b>	Congregational Church	1818
<b>Georgia</b>	Anglican Church	1777
<b>Maryland</b>	Anglican Church	1775

## Slavery and Involuntary Servitude

### Abolition of Slavery Worldwide

Country	Year Slavery Was Abolished
<b>Afghanistan</b>	1923
<b>Angola</b>	1858
<b>Argentina*</b>	1813/1825/1853
<b>Austria*</b> (Austrian domains; later Austro-Hungary)	1781 (serfdom; edict) 1848-9 (serfdom; Constitution of Austria)
<b>Bechuanaland</b>	1936
<b>Belgian Congo</b>	1910
<b>Bohemia*</b>	1780 (serfdom)
<b>Bolivia</b>	1831
<b>Brazil**</b>	1871 (newborns of slaves: Rio Banco Law) 1885 (slaves over 60) 1888 (Golden Law)
<b>British Colonies*</b> (including Belize, British West Africa, British West Indies, Antigua, Barbuda, Guyana and Jamaica)	1833 (Abolition Act) 1834 (children under 6 years) 1838 (everyone else)
<b>Burma</b>	1926
<b>Cambodia*</b>	1877/1884
<b>Cameroon</b>	1923
<b>Canada*</b>	1791/1818 Upper Canada 1833/1838 (rest of Canada: Abolition Act of 1833)
<b>Central America, United Provinces of</b>	1824
<b>Chile</b>	1823
<b>China*</b>	1910 (chattel) 1950s (ximlim)
<b>Colombia</b>	1851-52

<b>Cuba*</b>	1870 (slaves over 60; newborns back to 1868: Moret Law) 1878 (veterans: Treaty of Zanjón) 1886 (royal decree; end of 8-year patronato)
<b>Danish Colonies</b> (including Danish West Indies)	1847 (newborns) 1848 (everyone else)
<b>Denmark</b>	1788 (serfdom)
<b>Dutch Colonies</b> (Dutch West Indies)	1860
<b>Ecuador</b>	1851-52
<b>Ethiopia</b>	1942
<b>France ***</b>	1848
<b>French Colonies</b> (including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique and Réunion)	1848
<b>Gold Coast (Africa)</b>	1874
<b>Great Britain</b>	1833 (Abolition Act) 1834 (children under 6 years) 1838 (everyone else; end of 5-year apprenticeship)
<b>Haiti</b> (Saint Domingue)	1803 (Sonthonax abolished slavery) 1804 (decree of 16 pluviôse II, abolishing "Negro slavery in the colonies")
<b>Holland</b>	1863
<b>Hungary</b>	1780 (serfdom)
<b>India*</b>	1843 (abolishment as a legal institution) 1860 (prohibition of slave ownership) 1976 (bonded labor)
<b>Iran</b>	1928
<b>Iraq</b>	1923

- **Last home run hit at the Polo Grounds (IV):** September 18, 1963, by Jim Hickman of the New York Mets, off Chris Short of the Philadelphia Phillies.
- **Last of the Polo Grounds (IV):** demolition began on April 10, 1964. Today, the grounds are the site of Willie Mays Field (playground) and Polo Grounds Towers (four 30-story apartment buildings).
- **Last New York Giants games at Saint George Cricket Grounds:** 1890. The Giants began playing there in 1889, while the Polo Grounds was being constructed.
- **Last New York Highlanders game at Hilltop Park (New York American League Park):** October 5, 1912. The Highlanders began playing there in 1903. They moved to the Polo Grounds in 1913 and were renamed the New York Yankees.
- **Last of Hilltop Park:** demolished in 1914. The park was between Broadway and Fort Washington Avenue, 165<sup>th</sup> and 168<sup>th</sup> streets. The land is now part of the Columbia University campus.
- **Last surviving New York Highlander player who played at Hilltop Park:** Chester (“Chet”) Cornelius Hoff, who joined the Highlanders in 1911. Hoff died in Daytona, Florida, on September 17, 1998, age 107.

#### Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

- **Last Philadelphia A’s game at Columbia Park:** 1908. The Philadelphia Athletics began playing there in 1901. In April 1909, the Athletics moved to Shibe Park and took the sod and home plate with them.
- **Last known as Shibe Park:** 1953, when it was renamed Connie Mack Stadium.
- **Last Philadelphia Athletics game at Connie Mack Stadium:** September 19, 1954. In 1955, the Athletics moved to Kansas City, Missouri.
- **Last Phillies game at Connie Mack Stadium:** October 1, 1970. Home plate was moved to Veterans Stadium, the Phillies’ new park, in 1971. Many of the Connie Mack Stadium seats were moved to Duncan Park in Spartanburg, South Carolina, and to War Memorial Stadium in Greensboro, North Carolina.
- **Last of Connie Mack Stadium:** damaged by fire on August 20, 1971. The stadium was demolished in June 1976. The land is now the site of the Deliverance Evangelistic Church.
- **Last Phillies game at Veterans Stadium:** September 28, 2003. The Phillies moved to the new Citizens Bank Park in 2004.
- **Last of Veterans Stadium:** demolished by implosion on March 21, 2004.
- **Last Philadelphia Phillies game at Baker Bowl:** June 20, 1938. When it opened in 1887, the park was officially called National League Park. Informally, it was known as Huntingdon Street Baseball Grounds and as Philadelphia Base Ball Park. The park was destroyed by fire in 1894. It was rebuilt and dedicated on May 2, 1895. In 1913, the park was renamed Baker Bowl for its new owner, William F. Baker. The Phillies moved to Shibe Park in 1938.
- **Last of Baker Bowl:** demolished in 1950. The old Baker Bowl grounds now hold a parking lot, car wash, gas station and bus garage.

#### Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

- **Last Pittsburgh Pirates game at Exposition Park:** June 29, 1909. The team moved to Forbes Field and played their first game there on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1909.
- **Last Pittsburgh Pirates game at Forbes Field:** June 28, 1970. Pittsburgh beat the Chicago Cubs 3-2 and 4-1. The Pirates then moved to Three Rivers Stadium.
- **Last of Forbes Field:** damaged by fires on December 24, 1970, and July 17, 1971. Demolition of the park began on July 28, 1971. University of Pittsburgh buildings now occupy the grounds. Home plate was kept at the site and encased in glass in the Galleria of the Forbes Quadrangle.
- **Last Pirates game at Three Rivers Stadium:** October 1, 2000. The Pirates moved to

<p>bout to Joe Louis in a first-round knockout in New York, New York.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Last fight:</b> October 31, 1948, in Berlin, Germany, a loss to Reidel Vogt.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Tunney, Gene</b> James Joseph (“Gene”) Tunney was also known as “The Fighting Marine.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Last fight:</b> July 26, 1928, an 11<sup>th</sup>-round knockout against Tom Heeney. Tunney formally announced his retirement July 31, 1928.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Walcott, Jersey Joe</b> Arnold Raymond Cream, who fought professionally as Jersey Joe Walcott, died in Camden, New Jersey, on February 25, 1994, age 80.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Last held the heavyweight title:</b> September 23, 1952, when he lost to Rocky Marciano in a 13<sup>th</sup>-round knockout in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.</li> <li>• <b>Last fight:</b> May 15, 1953, in Chicago, Illinois, a first-round knockout loss to Rocky Marciano.</li> </ul>

**Sports—Football**

**Sports—Football—Intercollegiate—All-White**

- **Last all-white collegiate football team to win a championship:** University of Texas Longhorns in 1969.

**Sports—Football—Intercollegiate—Coaches—Rockne, Knute**

Knute Rockne coached the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame for 13 years. He was killed in a plane crash in Bazaar, Kansas, on March 31, 1931, age 43.

- **Last game as coach at Notre Dame:** December 6, 1930. Notre Dame beat the University of Southern California Trojans 27-0 in Los Angeles, California, giving the Fighting Irish a perfect season record of 10-0 and Rockne a career record of 105 wins, 12 losses and 5 ties.

**Sports—Football—Intercollegiate—Players—All Americans—Walter Camp’s**

In 1889, Walter Chauncey Camp and col-

laborator Caspar Whitney began selecting annual All-American football teams composed of the best intercollegiate players in the U.S. Camp’s lists were later published each year in *Collier’s* magazine. They became the standard for outstanding gridiron performance. Camp died in New York while attending a Football Rules Committee meeting on March 14, 1925. He had regularly attended these meetings since 1878.

- **Last All-American list by Camp:** appeared in 1924, and consisted of:

- [End] Charlie Berry (Lafayette)
- [End] Henry Bjorkman (Dartmouth)
- [Tackle] Ed Weir (Nebraska)
- [Tackle] Ed McGinley (Pennsylvania)
- [Guard] Ed Slaughter (Michigan)
- [Guard] Babe Hornell (California)
- [Center] Ed Garbisch (Army)
- [Quarterback] Harry Stuhldreier (Notre Dame)
- [Half Back] Red Grange (Illinois)
- [Half Back] Walt Koppisch (Columbia)
- [Full Back] Homer Hazel (Rutgers).

**Sports—Football—Intercollegiate—Defunct Bowl Games**

Bowl Name and Location	Last Year	Last Game Results
<b>All-American Bowl</b> (Birmingham, Alabama)	1990	North Carolina State 31, Southern Mississippi 27
<b>Aloha Bowl</b> (Honolulu, Hawaii)	2000	Boston College 31, Arizona State 17
<b>Aviation Bowl</b> (Dayton, Ohio)	1961	New Mexico 28, Western Michigan 12
<b>Bacardi Bowl</b> (Havana, Cuba)	1937	Auburn 7, Villanova 7

out of service on December 12, 1991.

• **Last pay AT&T phones:** AT&T stopped manufacturing pay telephones in 1995. On February 2, 2001, BellSouth announced it was getting out of the pay phone business.

• **Last time AT&T manufactured rotary phones:** the mid-1980s. However, many

dial phones continue to be used in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

• **Last time AT&T made enclosed telephone booths:** 1974. The company had problems with both vandalism and wear and tear. The solution was a phone mounted to a steel post imbedded in concrete.

**Television**  
**Last Original Episode or Telecast of Some Popular**  
**Television Programs That Ran a Year or Longer**

Title	Type	First Telecast	Last First-Run Episode or Last Telecast of Original Run
<i>Adam-12</i>	police drama	September 21, 1968	May 20, 1975, "Something Worth Dying For" (Part 2)
<i>Addams Family, The</i>	sitcom	September 18, 1964	April 8, 1966, "Ophelia's Career"
<i>Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet, The</i>	sitcom	October 3, 1952	March 26, 1966
<i>Adventures of Robin Hood, The</i>	adventure	September 26, 1955	September 22, 1958
<i>Alan Young Show, The</i>	comedy/variety	April 6, 1950	June 21, 1953
<i>Alcoa Hour, The</i>	drama	October 16, 1955	September 22, 1957, "Night"
<i>Aldrich Family, The</i>	sitcom	October 2, 1949	May 29, 1953
<i>Alf</i>	sitcom	September 22, 1986	March 24, 1990, "Consider Me Gone"
<i>Alfred Hitchcock Presents</i> (1955-63); <i>Alfred Hitchcock Hour</i> (1963-65)	suspense	October 2, 1955	<i>Alfred Hitchcock Presents</i> , May 24, 1963, "Death of a Cop"; <i>Alfred Hitchcock Hour</i> , May 10, 1965, "Off-Season"
<i>Alias Smith and Jones</i>	western	January 5, 1971	January 13, 1973, "Only Three to a Bed"
<i>Alice</i>	sitcom	August 31, 1976	March 19, 1985, "Th-th-th-that's All, Folks"
<i>All in the Family</i> (1971-79); <i>Archie Bunker's Place</i> (1979-83)	sitcom	January 12, 1971	<i>All in the Family</i> : April 8, 1979, "Too Good Edith." <i>Archie Bunker's Place</i> : April 4, 1983, "I'm Torn Here"
<i>Ally McBeal</i>	sitcom	September 8, 1997	May 20, 2002, "Bygones"
<i>Amen</i>	sitcom	September 27, 1986	May 11, 1991, "Deliverance" (Part 2)
<i>America's Funniest People</i>	comedy/human interest	September 8, 1990	August 28, 1994

ago Tunnel Company) was fully operational by 1906. The company went bankrupt in 1956.

• **Last time the Chicago Freight Subway was used:** May 13, 1959, when the entire system was closed.

**Transportation—Taxicabs—Checker Cab**

Checker was the most prolific of the manufacturers of taxicabs in the United States. Checker taxicabs were most widely used in New York, New York.

• **Last time Checker Cab Company operated in New York:** July 8, 1982, when the company ceased operations.

• **Last New York Checker Cab:** taken out of service July 1999, with 994,050 miles. It was sold for \$134,500 by Sotheby’s Auction House in December 1999.

**Transportation—Trolleys**

Trolleys, sometimes called trolley cars, are streetcars that are connected with overhead power transmission lines called trolleys. They became popular in the mid-1880s. Many cities began removing their trolley systems in the 1940s, after World War II. Today, only seven American cities continue to run trolley service.

• **Last surviving trolley line in New Orleans:** The Saint Charles Avenue Route (home of the Streetcar Named Desire).

**Transportation—Trolleys—Canada**  
Last Year Trolleys Operated in  
Some Canadian Cities

City	Year
<b>Calgary, Alberta</b>	1975
<b>Montreal, Quebec</b>	1966
<b>Halifax, Nova Scotia</b>	1969
<b>Toronto, Ontario</b>	1993

**Transportation—Trolleys—U.S.**  
Last Year Trolleys Operated  
in Some American Cities

City	Year
<b>Akron, Ohio</b>	1959
<b>Albuquerque, New Mexico</b>	1928

<b>Baltimore, Maryland</b>	1962
<b>Buffalo, New York</b>	1950
<b>Butte, Montana</b>	1937
<b>Charleston, West Virginia</b>	1939
<b>Charlotte, South Carolina</b>	1938
<b>Chattanooga, Tennessee</b>	1947
<b>Chicago, Illinois</b>	1973
<b>Cincinnati, Ohio</b>	1951
<b>Cleveland, Ohio</b>	1954
<b>Columbus, Ohio</b>	1965
<b>Corpus Christi, Texas</b>	1931
<b>Denver, Colorado</b>	1950
<b>Des Moines, Iowa</b>	1964
<b>El Paso, Texas</b>	1974
<b>Honolulu, Hawaii</b>	1933
<b>Houston, Texas</b>	1940
<b>Indianapolis, Indiana</b>	1941
<b>Kansas, City, Missouri</b>	1959
<b>Los Angeles, California</b>	1963
<b>Miami, Florida</b>	1947
<b>Milwaukee, Wisconsin</b>	1965
<b>New Haven, Connecticut</b>	1948
<b>New York, New York</b>	1957
<b>Pensacola, Florida</b>	1931
<b>Phoenix, Arizona</b>	1948
<b>Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania</b>	1999
<b>Providence, Rhode Island</b>	1948
<b>Rochester, New York</b>	1956
<b>Saint Louis, Missouri</b>	1932
<b>Seattle, Washington</b>	1941
<b>Sioux Falls, South Dakota</b>	1929
<b>Tacoma, Washington</b>	1938
<b>Troy, New York</b>	1933
<b>Washington, D.C.</b>	1961

**Transportation—Trolleys—Manufacturers**

• **Last trolley built by Pullman Car Company:** 1951, #3321 delivered to Boston, Massachusetts.

• **Last trolley built by Yellow Coach:** 1938, Model 1208 delivered to Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light Company.

• **Last trolley built by Sunbeam:** 1962, Model MF2B, #301, delivered to Bourne-mouth, Dorset, England. This was also the last trolley delivered to any English company.

• **Last trolley built by Brill:** 1954.

## United States—Flag—Stars and Stripes

By May 1, 1795, the United States flag had 15 stars and 15 stripes. As new states were added, it became obvious that limits had to be placed on changes to the design. Congress ordered the number of stripes to be limited to 13 after July 4, 1818; however, new stars would be added as states entered the Union. The act also provided that the changes would be made to the flag on the Independence Day after each new state was admitted to the Union.

Last Time Flag Had	Date	Reason for Change
<b>13 stars</b>	1795	That year, two were added for Vermont, Kentucky.
<b>15 stars</b>	1818	Five added for Indiana, Louisiana, Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee.
<b>20 stars</b>	July 3, 1819	One added for Illinois, July 4, 1819.
<b>21 stars</b>	July 3, 1820	Two added for Alabama, Maine, July 4, 1820.
<b>23 stars</b>	July 3, 1822	One added for Missouri, July 4, 1822.
<b>24 stars</b>	July 3, 1836	One added for Arkansas, July 4, 1836.
<b>25 stars</b>	July 3, 1837	One added for Michigan, July 4, 1837.
<b>26 stars</b>	July 3, 1845	One added for Florida, July 4, 1845.
<b>27 stars</b>	July 3, 1846	One added for Texas, July 4, 1846.
<b>28 stars</b>	July 3, 1847	One added for Iowa, July 4, 1847.
<b>29 stars</b>	July 3, 1848	One added for Wisconsin, July 4, 1848.
<b>30 stars</b>	July 3, 1851	One added for California, July 4, 1851.
<b>31 stars</b>	July 3, 1858	One added for Minnesota, July 4, 1858.
<b>32 stars</b>	July 3, 1859	One added for Oregon, July 4, 1859.
<b>33 stars</b>	July 3, 1861	One added for Kansas, July 4, 1861.
<b>34 stars</b>	July 3, 1863	One added for West Virginia, July 4, 1863.
<b>35 stars</b>	July 3, 1865	One added for Nevada, July 4, 1865.
<b>36 stars</b>	July 3, 1867	One added for Nebraska, July 4, 1867.
<b>37 stars</b>	July 3, 1877	One added for Colorado, July 4, 1877.
<b>38 stars</b>	July 3, 1890	Five added for Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington, July 4, 1890.
<b>43 stars</b>	July 3, 1891	One added for Wyoming, July 4, 1891.
<b>44 stars</b>	July 3, 1896	One added for Utah, July 4, 1896.
<b>45 stars</b>	July 3, 1908	One added for Oklahoma, July 4, 1908.
<b>46 stars</b>	July 3, 1912	Two added for Arizona, New Mexico, July 4, 1912.
<b>48 stars</b>	July 3, 1959	One added for Alaska, July 4, 1959.
<b>49 stars</b>	July 3, 1960	One added for Hawaii, July 4, 1960.

### United States—Military

#### United States—Military—Billeting of Soldiers

In 1774, the Quartering Act—the last of several Intolerable Acts enacted by the British Parliament—required Americans to house and feed soldiers. The colonists viewed the action as a threat to their liberty.

They called a congress to address the issue. It was one of the actions that led to the American Revolution.

• **End of peace-time billeting of soldiers in homes without consent of the homeowner:** December 15, 1791, with ratification of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. During wartime, the manner of quartering was to be prescribed by law.

died in Sarasota, Florida, on May 2, 1968, age 75.

• **Last surviving French World War I fighter ace (French Air Service):** Paul-Louise Weiller, who died in Geneva, Switzerland, on December 20, 1993, age 100.

#### **Wars and Battles—World War I—Aviation—Germany**

• **Last surviving German World War I fighter pilot (Imperial German Air Service):** Otto Roosen, who died in Heintsville, Ontario, Canada, on May 27, 1998, age 102.

• **Last German airship raid on Great Britain:** October 19, 1917, when 11 Zeppelins attacked. Five of the German airships were lost. *See also* Aviation—Airships.

• **Last aerial victory of German World War I ace Richthofen:** April 20, 1918, in a Fokker Dr.I Triplane. German aviator Baron Manfred von Richthofen, “The Red Baron,” was credited with shooting down 80 aircraft during World War I. The baron’s final two adversaries were both flying the Sopwith F-1 Camel.

• **Last airplane hit by Richthofen:** the Sopwith Camel flown by 19-year-old RAF pilot 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. D.G. Lewis, who survived the crash. The next day, April 21, Richthofen was killed in action. His plane was not badly damaged when it crashed, but the Australians found him dead in the cockpit. Souvenir hunters hacked apart the aircraft before the British Army Headquarters staff could reach the crash.

• **Last surviving witness to Richthofen’s crash:** Eric Abraham, an Australian signaler who was on the ground. Abraham witnessed the shooting down of the Red Baron and asserted that Arthur Roy Brown brought down the plane. Abraham died in Brisbane, Australia, on March 20, 2003, age 104

#### **Wars and Battles—World War I—Aviation—Great Britain**

• **Last surviving pilot from the Royal Flying Corps (RFC):** Aviation ace Hubert Williams, a Welsh pilot who joined the RFC in 1915. He flew the legendary Sopworth Camel in combat. Williams died in Cardiff,

Wales, in September 2002, age 106.

#### **Wars and Battles—World War I—Aviation—United States**

• **Last surviving U.S. World War I Navy fighter pilot:** Herbert S. Kirk, who died in Bozeman, Montana, on October 3, 2001, age 106.

• **Last surviving U.S. World War I fighter ace:** James William Pearson, who joined the Royal Flying Corps in 1917. He may have shot down 33 enemy aircraft, but received credit for only 12. He was a recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross. Pearson died in Montclair, New Jersey, on January 26, 1993, age 97. Some sources identify Arthur Raymond (“Ray”) Brooks as the last surviving American fighter pilot ace from World War I. He was assigned to the 139<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Aero Squadron in France. Brooks was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for downing six planes. He died in Summit, New Jersey, on July 17, 1991, age 95.

• **Last surviving U.S. World War I pilot (Army Air Corps):** Lieutenant Colonel John (“Jack”) Potts. He was one of the five original Army aviators. Potts served as a flight instructor at Park Field in Tennessee in 1918. He later served in World War II and Korea and officially retired in 1957. Potts died in Florida on August 17, 2002, age 106.

• **Last World War I aerial victory of American ace Eddie Rickenbacker:** October 30, 1918. He brought down a Fokker at St. Juvin and a balloon at Remonville. Rickenbacker was America’s top ace with 26 victories (24 planes and 2 balloons). Rickenbacker saw additional military service in World War II. His B-17 left Oahu, Hawaii, on October 21, 1942, then crashed in the Pacific Ocean north of Samoa. Rickenbacker and seven crew members were adrift for 24 days. They were found on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Rickenbacker died in Zurich, Switzerland, on July 23, 1973, age 82.

#### **Wars and Battles—World War I—Battles**

• **End of the Battle of Belleau Wood:** June



## Index

- A & P Gypsies* (radio), 446  
A. J. Beatty Glass Company, 168  
A.W.H.C. Robertson (company), 165  
Aaliyah, 319  
Aalto, Alvar, 16  
Aaron, Hank, 562, 563, 564  
Aasáx language (Tanzania), 182  
Abbas Hilmi Pasha (Abbas II), 373  
Abbasid dynasty (Iraq), 413  
Abbey's Theater (New York, New York), 149  
abbeys and religious houses (England), 484  
*Abbie & Slats* (comic strip), 70  
*Abbott and Costello Show, The* (radio), 447  
Abbott, Bud, 242  
Abbott, Fay, 591  
Abbott, John, 677  
Abbott, Oliver N., 677  
Abd al-Aziz Ibn Saud, 408  
Abdul-Jabbar, Kareem, 575, 576  
Abdullah I, King (Transjordan), 390  
Abdul-Mejid II, Caliph (Turkey), 416  
Abe, Kobo, 193  
Abel, Walter, 242  
*Abie's Irish Rose* (radio), 447, 461  
*Abie's Irish Rose* (show), 148  
*Abington School District v. Schempp*, 110  
Aborigines, Australian, 358  
*Abraham Lincoln*, USS (submarine), 541  
Abraham, Eric, 696  
Abu Dhabi (emirate), 418  
Abu Simbel (Egypt), 132  
AC/EA (airline), 46  
Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS), 236  
Academy of Music (New York, New York), 149  
Academy Theater (New York, New York), 150  
Accawmack County, Virginia, 669  
Ace (motorcycle maker), 232  
Ace, Goodman, 453  
Achaean League, 7  
Achaemenid dynasty (Persia), 122  
*Achille Lauro* (liner), 501  
*Achilles* (sailing ship), 500  
Acme Colored Giants (baseball), 563  
Acme Theater (New York, New York), 150, 153  
Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), 171  
Acre (Akko, Israel), 484  
Act of Supremacy, (England), 486  
Act of Union (1707, England), 420  
Act of Union (1841, Canada), 364  
Actium, Battle of, 122  
Acuff, Roy, 319  
Adai (Native Americans), 423  
Adam, Robert, 16  
*Adam-12* (TV), 612  
*Adams* (sloop), 537  
Adams, Alexander, 501  
Adams, Edward H., 501  
Adams, Franklin P., 566  
Adams, John (mutineer), 501  
Adams, John (president), 650, 675  
Adams, John (sailor), 694  
Adams, John Quincy, 441, 442, 546, 651  
Adams, Major Michael, 44  
Adams, Maude, 139  
Adams, Nick, 242  
*Addams Family, The* (TV), 612  
Adderley, Julian "Cannonball", 319  
Adena (Chillicothe, Ohio), 17  
Adirondack Lodge (Clear Lake, New York), 175  
Adrian II, Pope, 486  
Adrian IV, Pope, 486  
Adrian VI, Pope, 486  
Adrianople, Treaty of, 690  
Adrin (pesticide), 153  
ADT, 63  
*Adventure* (schooner), 532  
*Adventure Comics* (comic book), 73  
advertising legal services, 186  
advertising, smoking, 173  
Aeolia, 7  
Aeronautical Division, U.S. Army Signal Corps, 647  
Afanasyev, Viktor, 549  
Affirmed (horse), 597  
Afghanistan, 113, 543  
Afghanistan, (Transitional) Islamic State of, 355  
Afghanistan, Democratic Republic of, 356  
AFLAC, Inc, 63  
AFL-CIO, 181  
Africa, 7, 121  
Afrika Korps, 701  
Afrikaners, 678  
*Against the Storm* (radio), 447  
*Agamemnon* (liner), 529  
Agee, James, 193  
Agricultural Adjustment Administration (AAA), 636, 654  
Agricultural and Mechanical College of Kentucky, 106  
Agricultural and Mechanical College of Kentucky University, 106  
Agricultural College of Pennsylvania, 106  
Agricultural College of Utah, 108  
Agriculture, U.S. Department of, 636, 637, 638, 722  
Aguas Claras, Battle of, 691  
Ahern, Gene, 72  
Ahern, Michael, 94  
Ahmad Fuad Pasha (Fuad I), 374  
Ahmed Ibn Said, Sultan (Muscat and Oman), 402  
Ahmed Shah (shah of Persia), 386  
Ahren, Gene, 463  
AIDS, 171  
*Ain't It a Grand and Glorious Feelin'?* (comic strip), 70  
*Ain't Misbehavin'* (show), 148  
Ainu language (Japan), 182  
Air Cal (airline), 46  
Air California (airline), 46  
Air Canada Centre (Toronto, Canada), 575  
Air Cooled Motor Corp., 29  
Air Corps, U.S., 647  
Air Force Academy, U.S., 102  
Air Force Museum, U.S. (Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio), 37  
Air Force Museum, U.S. (Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio), 42, 43, 44  
Air Force, U.S., 38, 40, 42, 647  
Air France, 35  
Air National Guard, U.S., 43, 45  
Air Oregon (airline), 46  
Air Service, U.S., 647  
Air West (airline), 46  
aircraft, civil, 34  
aircraft, military, 37  
aircraft, propeller-driven, 41  
Airship, Age of the, 52  
Aishcum County, Michigan, 662  
Aix-la-Chapelle, Treaty of, 678, 688  
Ajman (emirate), 418  
AJS (Albert John Stevens) (motorcycle maker), 233  
Akashi Kaikyo Bridge (Japan), 126  
Akins, Claude, 242  
Akkadian (language), 11  
*Akron* (ZRS-4) (airship), 52, 92, 93  
Akron Indians (football), 587  
Akron Pros (football), 587  
Akron, Ohio (trolleys), 635  
*Al Pearce and His Gang* (radio), 447  
Alabama, 545, 655  
Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical College, 102  
Alabama Colored People's University, 102  
Alabama State College, 102  
Alabama State College for Negroes, 102  
Alabama State University, 102  
Alabama Territory, 655, 663  
*Alabama*, USS (battleship), 502  
al-Adid (Fatimid caliph), 120  
Alamein, El, 700  
Alamo Siege, 671  
*Alan Young Show, The* (TV), 612  
*Alarm*, HMS (frigate), 676  
Alaska, 112, 655

## *What is a Notable Last Fact?*

A “Notable Last Fact” is any historically significant event, person, place or thing that marks the end of its kind or its era. A “Notable Last” might be the last speaker of a now-extinct language, the last surviving witness to a historic event, the last work produced by a major artist, theatrical performer, author or musician, or the last remaining example of an object, such as an automobile, airplane or motorcycle.

Or it might be the last journey of an aircraft or ship. Or the last surviving building of a style of architecture.

Lasts are important because when an ending occurs, a part of our history is frozen in time. Lasts carry symbolic demarcations of our advances, failures and changes.

Some Lasts are sad. Others are triumphant. But all are historic milestones by which life’s passages can be measured.

Many Firsts are often heralded as news stories and may be documented with patents and even with celebrations. “Famous Firsts” have been studied and recorded for a long time. It is not unusual to find lists of Firsts in almanacs or encyclopedias. Authors have written entire books about Firsts in specific categories, such as a city or branch of science. This is only natural, given the importance our society places on innovation, ingenuity and discovery. Firsts are easy to research and authenticate.

Lasts, on the other hand, frequently can be elusive and difficult to track down.

Lasts, though equally as important as Firsts, have never been the subject of a comprehensive, large-scale study until now. *Notable Last Facts* strives to be the first and last word in Lasts. The book will greatly aid the librarian, historian, author, news writer or merely the curious.

Regardless of what has drawn you to *Notable Last Facts*, you will find this truly original core library reference to be fascinating and informative.

