1824 Explorer John Oxley travels up the Brisbane River and camps at Stones Corner, now part of inner-city Bowen Hills.

1825 The Moreton Bay convict settlement, established in Redcliffe in 1824, is transferred to the banks of the Brisbane River near the northern end of the Victoria Bridge.

1828 Botanist Alan Cunningham discovers the Darling Downs and a gap through the Great Dividing Range, which allows access to the Darling Downs from Brisbane.

1828-1830 The Commercial Stone and the Old Windmill are built in Brisbane, and today are the only remaining convict-built structures in Queensland.

1837 Explorer Andrew Petrie and his family arrive on the “James Wort”, the first steamer to enter Moreton Bay.

1838 German missionaries establish the Zion Hill Mission (now Nundah) to bring Christianity to the aborigines in Brisbane.

1842 The Moreton Bay district is officially opened to free settlement.

1846 Queensland’s first newspaper, the Moreton Bay Courier, is published. This later became The Courier, then the Brisbane Courier, and since 1913 The Courier-Mail.

1847 The Port Curtis settlement is established. In 1853 it becomes a permanent settlement and is renamed Gladstone.

1851 The first wool is shipped from Moreton Bay to England.

1854 The Archer brothers try the Fitzroy Valley and settle at Goonoo, near Richmond.

1859 On December 10, Queensland’s first Governor, Sir George Ferguson Bowen, and his wife Lady Diamantina, arrive in Brisbane. The proclamation establishing the Colony of Queensland ends the convict settlement.

1860 The first Queensland elections are held. Robert George Wyndham Herbert announces the role of Queensland’s first Premier on May 22. The Queensland Parliament sits for the first time. The Alienation of Crown Lands Act 1860 is passed in order to open lands for selection. The first Queensland stamps are issued.

1861 Warwick and Murgon are officially recognized as municipalities. Explorers Robert O’Hara Burke and William Wills die near Cooper Creek after successfully crossing the continent from south to north. In April, the first telegraph line in Queensland is established, revolutionizing communication in the colony.

1863 The Kanakas (Melanesian people from South Pacific) arrive in Queensland to work in Queensland sugar cane fields until 1904. Ipswich Grammar School is established as Queensland’s first grammar school following the Grammar Schools Act 1860.

1864 Captain John Black, a business partner of Sydney merchant Robert Farquhar, becomes an important shipping port. The Queensland vs New South Wales cricket match is played. Queensland’s first women’s hospital opens on Lutwyche Hill in Spring Hill, providing care for the growing population.

1865 Queensland’s first railway line opens between Ipswich and Grandchester. Cattle gets its first Queensland coach route between Brisbane and Ipswich. The first run starts on 1 January 1865.

1866 Queensland Treasury banknotes are issued for the first time.

1867 James Nash discovers gold on the Mary River near Gympie, which sparks gold rushes.

1868 The new Parliament House in George Street is opened.

1870 Free primary education is introduced in Queensland, the first in Australia.

1871 Missions aboard the Surprise arrive at Eidsv (now Darnley Island) in the Torres Strait — an event often known as the “Opening of the Light”. Missionaries Clarke and Fraser discover reef gold in the Townsville Harbour and at a place they name “Chariton, which later became Charleville.

1874 Queensland’s first permanent bridge is built. Designed by Robinson and Larnach, the bridge was constructed from wrought iron lattice girders on cast-iron piers.

1875 The Education Act 1875 establishes the basis for Queensland’s system of free primary education.

Timeline source: www.qld.gov.au/about/about-qld/vistor/timeline/1800s