

The first of these was the Declaration of Independence, which was adopted on July 4, 1776. It declared that the thirteen colonies were no longer part of the British Empire, but were now free and independent states.

The second was the Constitution, which was adopted on September 17, 1787. It established the framework of the federal government, and provided for the separation of powers between the executive, legislative, and judicial branches.

The third was the Bill of Rights, which was adopted on September 12, 1791. It guaranteed the basic rights of the citizens, such as freedom of speech, religion, and the press.

The fourth was the Louisiana Purchase, which was completed in 1803. It doubled the size of the United States, and opened up new lands for settlement.

The fifth was the War of 1812, which was fought between the United States and Great Britain. It resulted in the United States gaining recognition as an independent nation.

The sixth was the Missouri Compromise, which was passed in 1820. It established the boundary between free and slave states, and helped to maintain the balance of power in the Senate.

The seventh was the Mexican-American War, which was fought from 1846 to 1848. It resulted in the United States gaining control of California, New Mexico, and Arizona.

The eighth was the Civil War, which was fought from 1861 to 1865. It was the bloodiest war in American history, and resulted in the abolition of slavery.

The ninth was the Reconstruction era, which lasted from 1865 to 1877. It was a period of rebuilding the South, and of integrating African Americans into the political and social life of the country.

The tenth was the Progressive era, which lasted from the 1890s to the 1920s. It was a period of social and political reform, and of the rise of the modern state.

The eleventh was the World War era, which lasted from 1914 to 1945. It was a period of global conflict, and of the United States emerging as a superpower.

The twelfth was the Cold War era, which lasted from 1945 to 1991. It was a period of tension between the United States and the Soviet Union, and of the United States leading the world in the nuclear age.

The thirteenth was the Post-Cold War era, which lasted from 1991 to the present. It was a period of global change, and of the United States facing new challenges in a world of globalization and terrorism.