Timeline of Mount Rushmore
Chronological Copywork

December 28, 1923: Doane Robinson proposes the idea of building a sculpture in the Black Hills

1924: Doane Robinson and Gutzon Borglum travel to the Black Hills to choose a location for the sculpture

March 5, 1925: The South Dakota governor signs the bill for a sculpture in the Harney National Forest

October 1, 1925: Mount Rushmore is dedicated

August 10, 1927: Gutzon Borglum begins drilling at a ceremony attended by President Calvin Coolidge

October 4, 1927: Carving begins on Mount Rushmore

1929: The United States begins providing the funds for Mount Rushmore

July 4, 1930: The carving of George Washington is dedicated

June 10, 1933: Mount Rushmore is made a part of the National Park System

1936: Bill to add Susan B. Anthony to Mount Rushmore is introduced but ultimately fails

August 30, 1936: The carving of Thomas Jefferson is dedicated at a ceremony attended by President Franklin D. Roosevelt

September 17, 1937: The carving of Abraham Lincoln is dedicated

1939: Work on the Hall of Records inside Mount Rushmore is halted

July 2, 1939: The carving of Theodore Roosevelt is dedicated

1940: The Sculptor's Studio is finished

March 6, 1941: Gutzon Borglum dies

October 31, 1941: Lincoln Borglum finishes the drilling, and Mount Rushmore is completed

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August 11, 1952: A 3-cent commemorative stamp is issued by the U.S. Post Office to celebrate Mount Rushmore's 25th anniversary

1957: The first visitor's center at Mount Rushmore is completed

October 15, 1966: Mount Rushmore is listed in the National Register of Historic Places

1976: The Avenue of Flags is opened

July 3, 1991: Mount Rushmore is dedicated at a 50th anniversary ceremony attended by people including President George H. W. Bush and Jimmy Stewart

1998: The Grand View Terrace, new Visitor Center, Lincoln Borglum Museum, and Presidential Trail are added, and a version of the Hall of Records is completed

2019: The last living carver to have worked on Mount Rushmore, Nick Clifford, dies

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