New York Chronology, 1777–1790

1777

April 20 State constitution adopted

June George Clinton elected first governor

1778

February 6 Legislature adopts Articles of Confederation

1780

September 3 Alexander Hamilton calls for national convention

September 7 Governor Clinton addresses legislature asking for more power for Congress

September 26 Legislature appoints commissioners to Hartford Convention
October 10  Legislature instructs delegates to Congress and Hartford Convention commissioners to give more power to Congress

November 8–22  Hartford Convention

1781

March 19  Legislature adopts Impost of 1781

1782

July 21  Legislature calls for national convention and increased powers for Congress

November 30  Preliminary Peace Treaty signed

1783

March 15  Legislature repeals its adoption of Impost of 1781

April 18  Congress proposes Impost of 1783
November 25  British evacuate New York City

March 22  State impost enacted

March 31  Legislature refuses to compensate Loyalists for confiscated estates

May 4  Legislature invites Congress’ request to counteract British commercial police respecting America

June 3  Massachusetts petitions Congress claiming ownership of western New York

August 27  *Rutgers V. Waddington*

November 18  Legislature approves state impost

April 4  Legislature approves 30 April 1784 grant of temporary power to Congress to regulate commerce
April 9  Legislature adopts amendment to Articles of Confederation changing method of apportioning expenses of government

April 14  Senate defeats Impost of 1783

1786

February 15  Congress asks New York to reconsider Impost of 1783

March 14  Legislature receives Virginia’s call of Annapolis Convention

March 17  Legislature approves appointment of commissioners to Annapolis Convention

April 18  Paper money act becomes law

April 20  Assembly appoints commissioners to Annapolis Convention

May 4  Legislature conditionally adopts Impost of 1783
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Senate agrees with appointment of commissioners to Annapolis Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 11</td>
<td>Congress requests New York to reconsider its approval of Impost of 1783</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 23</td>
<td>Congress again requests New York to reconsider its approval of Impost of 1783</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 11–14</td>
<td>Annapolis Convention</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 16</td>
<td>Hartford agreement between New York and Massachusetts over land in western New York</td>
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**1787**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 13</td>
<td>Legislature receives Annapolis Convention report</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 26</td>
<td>Legislature adopts state bill of rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>Assembly refuses to alter its approval of Impost of 1783</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
February 20  Legislature instructs delegates to Congress to move for appointment of a constitutional convention

February 21  Congress rejects New York’s call for a convention and accepts amended motion by Massachusetts for a convention

February 23  Legislature receives congressional resolution of 21 February calling Constitutional Convention

February 28  Legislature authorizes election of delegates to Constitutional Convention

March 6  Legislature elects three delegates (Alexander Hamilton, John Lansing, Jr., and Robert Yates) to Constitutional Convention

April 18  Senate rejects Alexander Hamilton’s motion for appointment of two additional delegates to Constitutional Convention

May 25  Robert Yates and Alexander Hamilton first attend Constitutional Convention
June 2  John Lansing, Jr., first attends Constitutional Convention

June 16  Lansing’s speech in Constitutional Convention

June 18  Hamilton’s “plan” submitted to Constitutional Convention

June 10  Yates and Lansing leave Constitutional Convention

June 21  Hamilton publicly attacks Governor Clinton for his opposition to Constitutional Convention

September 3  Hamilton, who had left in late June, returns to Constitutional Convention

September 17  Constitutional Convention signs Constitution with Hamilton signing for New York

September 21  Constitution first printed in New York (Daily Advertiser and New York Packet)
September 27  Cato series first printed

October 18  Brutus series first printed

October 27  Publius, The Federalist, first printed

November 1  Cincinnatus series first printed

November 2  Americanus series first printed

November 8  Federal Farmer pamphlet first printed

November 19  *New York Journal* becomes a daily

November 21  A Countryman (Hugh Hughes) series first printed

December 6  A Countryman (De Witt Clinton) series first printed

December 11  Examiner series first printed
December 21  Yates and Lansing write letter to Governor Clinton explaining why they left Constitutional Convention early

1788

January 11  Governor Clinton transmits Constitution and Yates-Lansing letter to legislature

January 14  Yates-Lansing letter first printed

January 31  Assembly adopts resolution calling state convention

February 1  Senate concurs with Assembly’s resolution calling state convention

February 7  Constitution burned at Montgomery, Ulster County

March 22  Volume I of Publius, The Federalist, printed (36 essays)

April 13–14  Doctors’ riots in New York City
April 15  
John Jay’s A Citizen of New-York pamphlet printed

April 17  
A Plebeian pamphlet printed

April 29–May 3  
Elections for state convention

May c. 18  
Federal Republican Committee formed in New York City

May 27  
Ballot boxes opened and votes counted for election to state convention

May 28  
Volume II of Publius, *The Federalist*, printed (49 essays)

June 17  
State Convention convenes in Poughkeepsie

June 17  
George Clinton elected president of Convention

June 18  
Convention reads Constitution

June 19  
Henry Outhoudt elected chairman committee of the whole
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<tr>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>News of New Hampshire’s ratification of Constitution arrives in Poughkeepsie</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2</td>
<td>News of Virginia’s ratification of Constitution arrives in Poughkeepsie</td>
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<td>July 7</td>
<td>Convention finishes discussion of Constitution, and John Lansing, Jr., presents a bill of rights to be prefixed to Constitution</td>
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<td>July 10</td>
<td>Lansing presents plan of ratification with conditional amendments</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 11</td>
<td>John Jay proposes unconditional ratification</td>
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<td>July 15</td>
<td>Melancton Smith proposes limited ratification of Constitution</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>John Sloss Hobart’s motion to adjourn defeated</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>Lansing proposes conditional ratification with amendments</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 23</td>
<td>New York City Federal Procession</td>
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July 23  Samuel Jones’s amendment to ratify “in full confidence” that amendments would be adopted

July 23  Convention’s committee of the whole votes to ratify Constitution without conditional amendments 31 to 29

July 24  Lansing proposes limited-term ratification

July 25  Convention rejects Lansing’s motion for limited-term ratification

July 26  Convention adopts Constitution 30 to 27 with proposed amendments

July 26  Circular Letter to states approved

July 27  Sacking of Thomas Greenleaf’s print shop

October 30  Federal Republican Committee reorganizes in New York City to work for a second constitutional convention

1789
February 7  Legislature resolves to ask Congress to call a convention to draft amendments to the Constitution

1790

January 13  Legislature receives proposed twelve amendments to Constitution

February 26  Legislature adopts eleven of twelve proposed amendments to Constitution