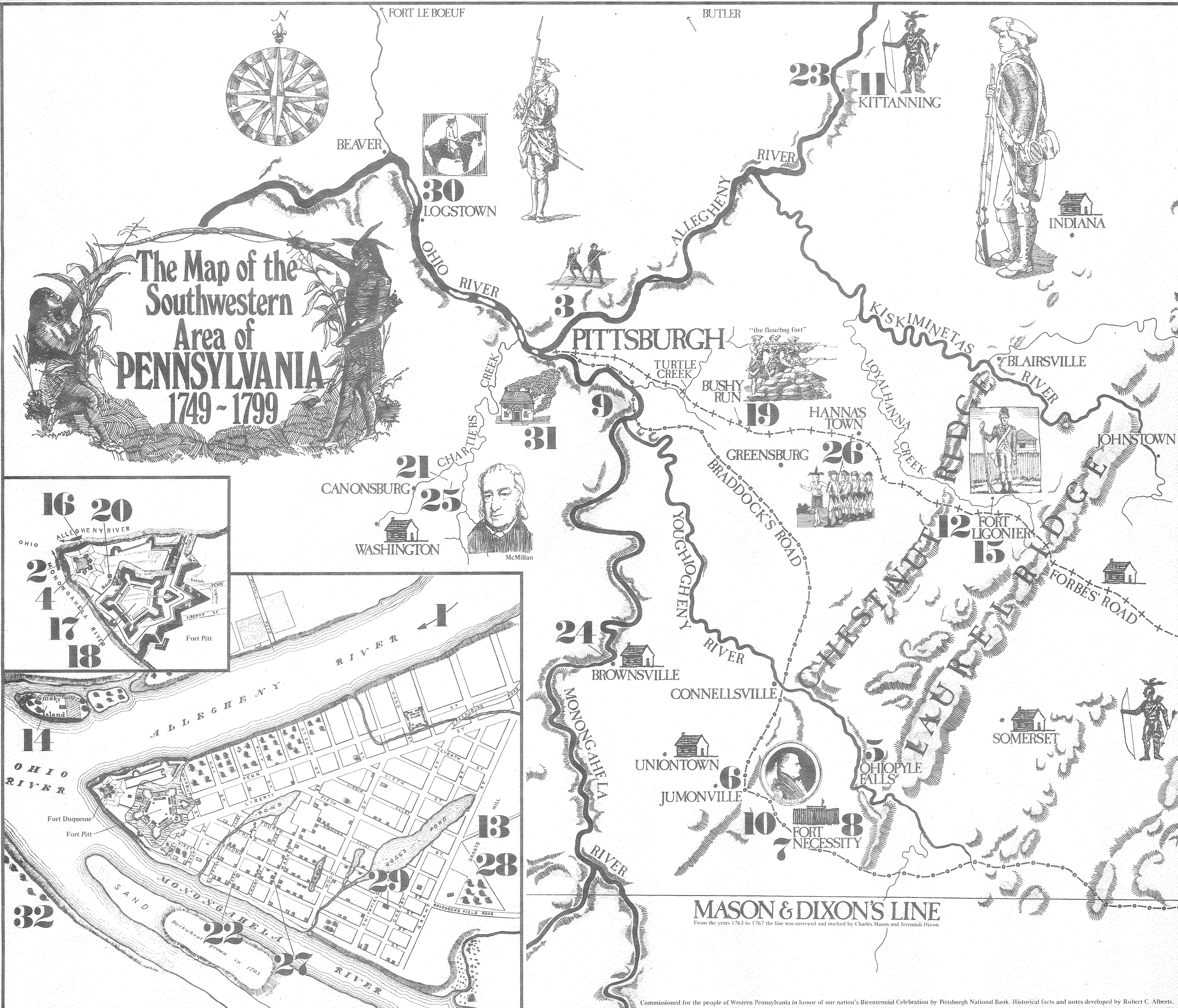
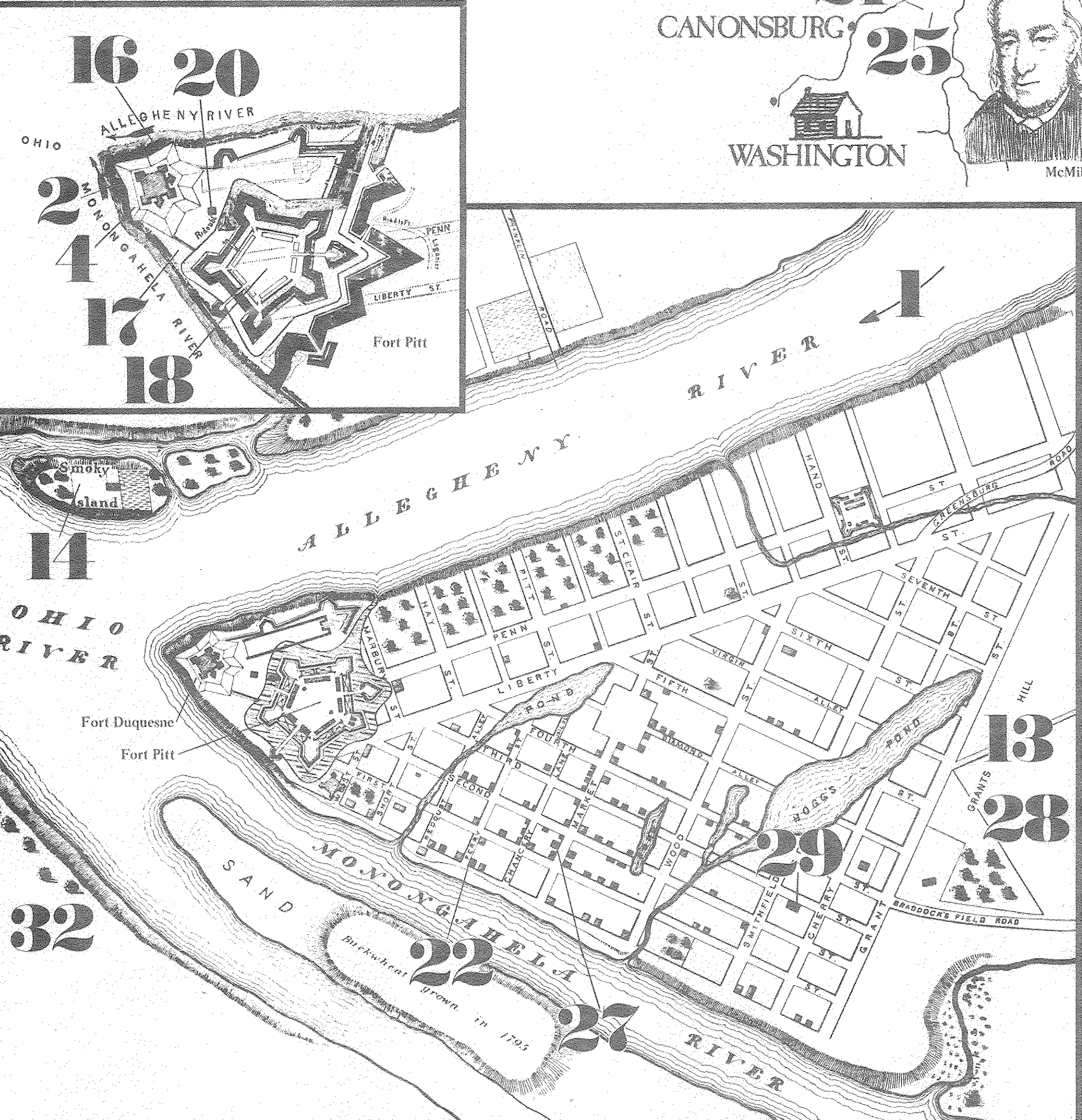


LEGEND

- 1** 1749
Célon de Blainville leads a force of some 213 French, Canadians, and Indians down the Allegheny River into the Ohio Valley, claiming the whole region for France and warning the English and American traders and settlers to depart.
- 2** November 22-30, 1753
George Washington, age 21, stops at the Forks of the Ohio on a mission to the French outposts to the north. He carries a letter from the governor of Virginia demanding that the French leave the Ohio Valley.
- 3** December 29, 1753
Returning to Virginia with his guide, Christopher Gist, and carrying a French refusal to leave, Washington is thrown from a raft while crossing the Allegheny River. They spend a freezing night on an island without a fire and next morning cross the river on the ice.
- 4** April 17, 1754
A 500-man French army occupies the Forks of the Ohio, drives out a handful of Virginians, and begins to build Fort Duquesne.
- 5** May 21, 1754
Colonel Washington, in command of a small force of Virginians, inspects the Falls of the Youghiogheny (Ohio) and realizes he cannot descend on Fort Duquesne by that water route.
- 6** May 28, 1754
Washington and his men capture or kill all but one of a force of 33 French soldiers at Jumonville's Glen.
- 7** June 3, 1754
Washington completes "a small palisade fort" on the "Great Meadows," later calls it "Fort Necessity."
- 8** July 3-4, 1754
Washington is defeated at Fort Necessity. The French permit him to withdraw to Virginia, leaving the Ohio Valley in the possession of France.
- 9** July 9, 1755
General Edward Braddock, in command of a large army of English and Americans, is attacked and routed just after crossing the Monongahela River at Turtle Creek. Washington distinguishes himself for bravery in the battle.
- 10** July 13-14, 1755
Braddock dies of his wounds on the retreat and is buried on the line of march. Washington commands the burial party.
- 11** September 8, 1756
Colonel John Armstrong and a force of 300 frontiersmen destroy the Indian village of Kittanning, which is a rendezvous point for Indian war parties and a collecting point for white captives. It is the only American victory in almost three years of fierce French and Indian attacks on the western frontier.
- 12** Summer 1758
A large army under command of British General John Forbes marches westward across Pennsylvania to attack Fort Duquesne. Washington commands one of the regiments of Americans. Fort Ligonier is built as the last protective outpost before the assault.
- 13** September 14, 1758
Major James Grant, leading a large scouting party, decides to make an unauthorized daybreak attack on Fort Duquesne. 270 of his men are killed or captured.
- 14** September 1758
The Indians torture and kill a number of Grant's men in a public ceremony held on an island in the Allegheny River across from the Point.
- 15** October 12, 1758
The army at Fort Ligonier drives off an attack by French and Indians.
- 16** November 25, 1758
Forbes' army takes Fort Duquesne without resistance, the French fleeing up the Allegheny and down the Ohio. After five years of trying, Washington sees the British-Americans firmly in control at the Forks of the Ohio.
- 17** 1759-1760
The British build Fort Pitt, the largest, strongest, and costliest fort on the western frontier. By September 1760, the French have been driven out of North America.
- 18** May-August 1763
An Indian uprising under Chief Pontiac ravages the frontier and captures eight English forts. Fort Pitt, crowded with 330 men, 104 women, and 196 children, withstands a three-month siege.
- 19** August 5-6, 1763
Colonel Henry Bouquet, marching with an all-professional British army to save Fort Pitt, builds a fort of fourbags at Bushy Run and defeats the Indians in a great victory. Fort Pitt and its inhabitants are rescued.
- 20** 1764
Colonel Bouquet builds a blockhouse outside the northwest bastion of Fort Pitt from which sharpshooters could fire on attackers approaching from the Monongahela River. He uses the fort as his main base of operations on a successful expedition against the Indians in Ohio, as a result of which almost all the living captives are recovered.



The Map of the Southwestern Area of PENNSYLVANIA 1749 - 1799



MASON & DIXON'S LINE

From the years 1763 to 1767 the line was surveyed and marked by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon.

- 21** 1775
Charities Presbyterian Church is founded near Canonsburg by the Reverend John McMillan, "Presbyterian Cardinal of the West," who will serve it for more than 50 years.
- 22** May 16, 1775
Pittsburghers elect a seven-man "resolution committee" to express a policy on the Patriot uprising against the British in New England. It meets in Semple's Tavern at Ferry and Water Streets and resolves to support "the spirited behavior of our brethren" in opposing "the invaders of American rights and privileges." The citizens erect a "liberty pole" and burn two 10-gallon kegs of tea at its base.
- 23** January 1777
In the severest winter cold in living memory, the Eighth Regiment of the Pennsylvania Line leaves its camp at Kittanning and makes one of the most heroic marches in American history to join the Continental Army in New Jersey.
- 24** Spring 1778
Colonel George Rogers Clark comes from a meeting in Williamsburg with orders to recruit men and collect supplies in the Pittsburgh area for a frontier army. (Until 1779, Virginia claimed to own southwestern Pennsylvania.) Clark embarks from Fort Redstone (Brownsville) on a historic expedition that captured Kaskaskia, Vincennes, and the Northwest Territory from the British.
- 25** 1780
The Reverend John McMillan builds Log College near Canonsburg. It is one of the ancestors of Washington and Jefferson College.
- 26** July 13, 1782
In one of the last attacks of the Revolutionary War, a force of British, Tories, and Indians assault and burn Hannastown, killing some of the inhabitants and taking others with them to Canada as captives.
- 27** July 29, 1786
John Scull, a young immigrant from the east, prints the first newspaper west of the Alleghenies, the Pittsburgh Gazette. He produces it on a handpress in a log house on Market Street.
- 28** June 1788
Citizens gather on the slopes of Grant's Hill on the edge of town to celebrate the ratification of the U. S. Constitution. They hear an oration by Hugh Henry Brackenridge, Pittsburgh lawyer and author, and burn 13 piles of wood.
- 29** 1789
The Pittsburgh Academy (incorporated in 1787) begins its first classes on Third Street (now Avenue). It is the ancestor of the University of Pittsburgh.
- 30** April 30, 1793
"Mad Anthony" Wayne, having encamped and trained an army for six months near Logstown, breaks camp and starts for the Ohio Country. At the Battle of Fallen Timbers he will defeat the last armed Indian resistance to settlements in the Northwest Territory.
- 31** July 17, 1794
Some 500 "Whiskey Rebels," angered by the federal government, attack and burn the mansion of John Neville, inspector of excise.
- 32** 1797
General James O'Hara and Major Isaac Craig begin the erection of a glass works in Pittsburgh, the first of many that will make the city famous for its fine glass. By 1800 O'Hara and Craig will produce their first window glass.
- 33** 1799
Prince Demetrius Augustine Gallitzin, young Russian nobleman turned Roman Catholic convert and pioneer missionary, ordained in Baltimore in 1795, builds a log chapel in the frontier community that was to be named Loretto. (It stood on the site that now holds St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church.) There Prince Gallitzin settled, lived, died, and is buried.