

## Corpus Christi Time Line

- 1839 Henry Lawrence Kinney established a ranch/trading post
- 1845 Corpus Christi named a post office  
General Zachary Taylor established headquarters at Corpus Christi - Ft. Marcy - first federal post established in Texas  
Old Bayview Cemetery established
- 1846 Nueces County created
- 1849 Centennial House completed by Captain Forbes Britton
- 1850 Population** estimate at 689
- 1851 Merriman-Bobys House built (originally on 801 S. Broadway) by Walter Merriman
- 1852 City of Corpus Christi incorporated, Benjamin F. Neal elected mayor  
First Lone Star Fair promoted by Kinney
- 1853 First Methodist Church organized  
Old Saint Patrick Church organized
- 1854 Kinney deeds an acre for Artesian Park  
yellow fever epidemic
- 1857 first Courthouse completed
- 1860 Population:** 175 - City, 2,906 - County  
Church of the Good Shepherd organized
- 1862 bombardment of Corpus Christi by U.S. Navy
- 1867 yellow fever epidemic (300 people died)  
First Presbyterian Church organized
- 1870 Population:** 2,140 - City, 3,975 County  
Westergren-Young House built  
Hebrew Rest Cemetery established
- 1871 Corpus Christi Pioneer Fire Company No 1 formed
- 1872 Incarnate Word Academy opened
- 1873 Lone State Hook and Ladder Company formed
- 1874 First Morgan Steamship, *Gussie*, docked after channel dredged to 8 feet  
Lichtenstein Store opened  
Corpus Christi Fire Department formed from Pioneer and Lone Star Companies
- 1875 second Courthouse completed  
Nuecestown raid  
St. John Baptist Church organized
- 1876 Corpus Christi, San Diego and Rio Grande Railroad completed (later Tex Mex)  
Savage-Sidbury-Thompson House built (1402 Chaparral)
- 1877 *The Corpus Christi Free Press* newspaper established
- 1878 First Baptist Church organized

- 1880 Population:** 3,257 - City, 7,673 - County
- 1883 first cotton shipped from port  
*Caller* newspaper established from *Corpus Christi Free Press* and *Sunday Morning Ledger*
- 1886 San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railroad reached Corpus Christi (acquired by Southern Pacific)
- 1890 Population:** 4,387 - City, 8,093 - County
- Corpus Christi Electric company organized
- 1991 *Caller* newspaper becomes a daily
- 1892 first telephone - Dr. Harry G. Heany had telephone number 1
- 1893 Sidbury House built by Charlotte Cook Scott Sidbury
- 1900 Population:** 4,703 - City, 10,439 - County
- 1901 Jalufka House built by James L. Jalufka at 1401 N. Mesquite Street
- 1905 La Retama Club organized  
 Spohn Sanitarium opened on North Beach - operated by Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word (later became Spohn Hospital)  
 first oil well drilled at White Point  
 Gugenheim House built by Simon Gugenheim at 1101 N. Chaparral  
 Lichtenstein House built by Julius Lichtenstein
- 1907 Grande-Grossman House built by Benito Grande on Artesian Street
- 1908 French-Galvan House built by A.M. French  
 McCampbell House built by Mary Alice Ward McCampbell on Water Street
- 1909 La Retama Library established  
 home rule charter adopted
- 1910 Population:** 8,222 - City, 21,955 - County
- Times* newspaper established  
 Street Railway Company organized
- 1911 first Nueces Bay causeway built
- 1912 Street lights installed
- 1913 first natural gas well drilled at White Point  
 Nueces Hotel opened
- 1914 third Nueces County courthouse completed  
 San Antonio, Uvalde and Gulf Railroad reaches Corpus Christi (acquired by Missouri Pacific)
- 1915 Confederate Memorial Fountain dedicated
- 1916 major hurricane strikes Corpus Christi
- 1919 major hurricane strikes Corpus Christi
- 1920 Population:** 10,522 - City - 22,807 - County
- 1923 Saxet Gas Field discovered
- 1924 Chamber of Commerce established (Commercial Club)

- 1926 bayfront breakwater completed  
Port of Corpus Christi opened
- 1927 Cliff Maus Airport opened  
La Retama Library sold to the City  
Nixon Building erected (now Wilson Building)
- 1928 Plaza Hotel opened  
*Times* newspaper purchased by Harte and Hanks
- 1929 first radio station - KGFI (evolved in KRYS) - owned by Eagle Broadcasting Co.  
*Caller* newspaper purchased by Harte and Hanks

- 1930 Population:** 27,789 - City, 51,779 - County  
oil discovered in Saxet Field on the property of John Dunn
- 1933 Southern Alkali - first industrial plant on ship channel built at Avery Point
- 1935 Braniff begins first regularly scheduled airline passenger service
- 1938 Taylor Refining Co. and Columbia Carbon Plant built on ship channel  
first dial telephone service (over 6,500 telephones were in service)
- 1939 Centennial Museum opened (now South Texas Institute for the Arts)

- 1940 Population:** 57,301 - City, 92,661 - County  
seawall completed
- 1941 Naval Air Station commissioned  
T-Heads and L-Head completed
- 1942 Intracoastal Canal completed to Corpus Christi  
Driscoll Hotel opened
- 1944 Memorial Hospital opened
- 1945 council-manager form of government adopted - Jack Speer - City Manager
- 1949 University of Corpus Christi opened

- 1950 Population:** 108,287 - City, 165,471 - County  
Padre Island causeway opened
- 1952 City Hall on Shoreline opened
- 1954 first television station, KVDO-TV
- 1957 Corpus Christi Junior Museum opened
- 1958 Wesley Seal Dam dedicated
- 1959 Harbor Bridge opened

- 1960 Population:** 167,690 - City, 221,573 - County  
Corpus Christi National Airport opened
- 1961 ARADMAC opened (now CCAD)  
Hurricane Carla
- 1967 Hurricane Beulah
- 1968 Padre Island National Seashore dedicated

**1970** **Population:** 204,525 - City, 237,544 - County  
Hurricane Celia

**1980** **Population:** 232,134 - City  
Hurricane Allen  
Bayfront Auditorium  
Bayfront Plaza Convention Center  
Hershey Hotel

**1990** **Population:** 257,453 - City  
Texas State Aquarium  
1992 Lexington Museum of the Bay  
Mine Warefare

**2000** **Population:** 277,454 - City