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- 1820's Lincoln's population is 278. The oldest surviving homes in Lincoln date back to this decade.
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- 1825-1830 Several mills built along the New Haven River in Lincoln boost town's economy.
- 1827 Businessmen from Ackworth, NH build sawmill and forge in West Lincoln, naming their settlement Ackworth. A second forge is built downstream from there, and a whetstone factory is placed just below the second forge.
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- 1830 Lincoln's population increases to 639 due to mills and abundant mountain land. In July, a freshet (flood) wipes out entire whetstone factory. A wall of water reaching up to twenty-five feet above the river's normal level follows a path of destruction beginning in South Lincoln, destroying homes, crops, mills, machinery, and bridges. In West Lincoln, a sawmill, iron forge, coal, coal houses and iron stock were swept away.
- 1832 Russell Taber builds factory to manufacture iron plows in West Lincoln.
- 1835 July 23, Lincoln gets its first post office. Dr. Luther Kent is first postmaster.
- 1839 Lincoln-Ripton mission established under Rev. Nathaniel Stearns. It was the beginning of Methodism in Lincoln. The mission was discontinued May 26, 1862.
- 1840 Oliver W. Burnham owns all three forges in Lincoln; manufactured iron until his death in 1861. Iron works form the nucleus of the town's economy well into the 1850's.
- 1840 Christian church organized in Lincoln with 20 members.
- 1847 November 12, part of Avery's Gore annexed to Lincoln. Avery's Gore was located on the Green Mountain ridgeline bordering Lincoln, Ripton and Granville.
- 1856 Watson Morgan branches out from blacksmithing to manufacture wagons and sleighs, building a strong and long-lasting business.
- 1857 Oliver W. Burnham owns most of the buildings in West Lincoln and probably built them as well. Many houses here share a common gable front, one and one-half story form and some have Greek Revival style door surrounds.
- 1860's Small settlement of Lincoln (Center) chosen as site for two churches and a post office because it is closest to the geographical center of the town. Classic cottage-type houses are the choice of residents at this time.
- 1862 May 26, Lincoln Methodist Episcopal Church organized with 81 members.

- 1863 Union Church Building erected by Free Will Baptists and Christian Church on site where United Church building now stands on corner of Quaker Street and West River Road.
- 1863 Methodist Church building erected south of what is now known as the Old Hotel on East River Road.
- 1867 Postal delivery begins in Lincoln. Mail went from Lincoln to Boston and back in 24 hours!
- 1868 A strip of land in Ripton was last annexation of land to Lincoln.
- 1869 New Haven River floods again. Several mills are damaged.
- 1873 Diphtheria epidemic resulted in 12 deaths from May 1 - August 1.
- 1876 Lincoln cornet band formed, naming themselves the Lincoln Valley Band. By 1882 they had 17 members and were known as the Lincoln Cornet Band. They gave regular concerts in the bandstand which stood where Burnham Hall now stands. During this decade the lumber industry becomes the mainstay of Lincoln's economy, centered in the village of Lincoln.
- 1878 Good Templars Hall burned. Rebuilt in 1899 and shared with Ladies Aid. The 1899 building burned in 1924. (The Good Templars had disbanded in 1909.) A 1899 cornerstone was found in Burnham Hall in 2005.
- 1880 Lincoln reaches industrial prosperity with population peak of 1,368. Lincoln Center is center of profitable industries. Vernacular homes as well as hotel/boardingshouses built to accommodate new residents.
- 1882 June, a railroad meeting in Bristol involved 100 wagons from Lincoln. They were loaded with lumber to demonstrate the need of a railroad for shipping products. (Source - Vermont Life Magazine, Autumn 1971)
- 1884 An elaborate late Gothic Revival style home is built for Webster Gove, dealer in dry goods and lumber. Now owned by the Perfect family.
- 1884 There are 12 school districts in Lincoln. The cost of maintaining all these schools is \$1,134.16, or just under \$4.00 for each of the 285 students.

- 1886 Lincoln approaches its zenith as an industrial town. Milling has replaced forges as the primary industry. Agriculture, especially dairying and sugaring have become profitable to a number of residents as well. There are 15 mills in operation, mostly cutting coarse lumber, clapboards, and shingles, also butter tubs. Over 100 men employed in mills, many more making a living cutting timber, hauling logs to the mills, or hauling finished products to market. Many of the mills are operated by water power.
- 1886 Ladies Aid of the Baptist Church organized.
- 1887 October 18, D.F. Hank's mill in north part of town burned.
- 1888 Elaborate District School #7 is built, an example of the vernacular French Second Empire style with a bracketed door hood and Mansard-roofed belfry in West Lincoln. According to Clark Atkins, the building previously used as the school was moved and became part of the barn he now owns on corner of Atkins and West River Roads.
- 1889 March 22, Center Post Office moved to M.B. Gove's store.
- 1890 Lincoln has 3 post offices (South, West, and Lincoln Center) for 50 years.
- 1890 There are three General Stores (J.L. Lincoln's in West Lincoln; Gove & Green's in the Center; M.J. Stearns' in the Center). E.M. Whitney sold groceries in South Lincoln while Moses B. Gove dealt in boots and shoes. Dr. Joseph Dodge and Moses Gove prepare medicines, flavoring, and extracts in the doctor's home in Lincoln Center and employ several men as road salesmen. Dr. Dodge lived in the house now owned by Claude Offray where Robert and Betty Atkins live.
- 1890 The Lincoln Lumber Company is organized. Starting with \$16,000 capital, they build a large, spacious two-story mill in Lincoln Center where present pallet mill is located. They also oversee the construction of several homes along newly opened Creamery Street. The following year the company begins production, becoming highly successful.
- 1891 November 25, Bristol railroad shipped the first load of freight. The station, 83 North Street, is now the residence of Alan Lathrop.

- 1893 House Lot #14 (where church parsonage is on Creamery Street) deeded from Webb Gove to Christian Church.
- 1894 Fire destroys Lincoln Lumber Company Mill. An even larger new one is built, to which many innovations are added. From 1892-1899 production goes from 19,000 to 222,528 butter tubs annually. The company has 25 men on the payroll and operates successful general store in the Center. Company owns 1400 acres of local woodland but also buys local timber. The company also provides gas and electric power locally, but only generates during working hours.
- 1895 Industrial Society of the Methodist church was organized.
- 1896 June 25, H.E. Ayers of the Lincoln and Bristol Telephone Company installed a switchboard in V.L. Perkins store in Warren to be connected with the Lincoln/Bristol exchange. August 13, Dr. Dodge extended his telephone line from Quaker Street to Starksboro village.
- 1898 April 22, Post Office moved to the store of Lincoln Lumber Co. (where Dan and Vaneasa Stearns' store is now located).
- 1899 The Lincoln Creamery Company established on Creamery Street. Milk wagons line up daily to sell them milk, and the company purchases butter tubs from local mills. This building is currently the residence of Sandra Rhodes.
- 1900 Lincoln Store Ice House is built. Summer storage of ice, insulated in sawdust, was located on what is now Don Gale's property, diagonally across West River Road from the parsonage.
- 1900 March 10, Library trustees organized. Promoters included Annette Morgan, M.S. Gove, Dr. Dodge, and G.A. Thayer.
- 1901 December 5, Lincoln Lumber Co. destroyed by fire. Forty people out of work. The penstock was cut, flooding the yard and saving some lumber.
- 1903 May, forest fires on both West and East mountains.
- 1903 December 24, Nelson Murray's butter tub factory in South Lincoln burned.

- 1904 January, 19 cases of smallpox.
- 1904 Dr. Ernest Dodge growing ginseng; he was one of only 3 or 4 doing so in Vermont.
- 1905 Butterfield's Store is built. Store later owned by Clinton Pierce who sold it in 1958. Martyn Hutchins lived next door; bought it in 1959 to use as a garage.
- 1905 May 1, Christian Free Baptist and Methodist Episcopal churches became known as the Federated Churches of Lincoln.
- 1905 May 11, 25 acres of land off Downingsville Road sold for Bristol water supply.
- 1905 January 3, Mt. Abraham Grange #172, organized in 1875, was reorganized as Prospect Grange #331, and reorganized again in 1919. Disbanded in 1961. (From *The Grange in Vermont* by Moulton)
- 1907 January, Town Hall was built. It was nearer Quaker Street in the vicinity of the present Town Clerk's office.
- 1907 February 7, acetylene gaslight used for the first time in the Good Templars Hall. (See 1878 regarding this hall).
- 1908 November 14, the Union Baptist Church was formed, and legally incorporated December 31, 1908. Members are of the former Christian and Free Baptist churches.
- 1909 October, the Christian parsonage and land and 7 pews in the Union Meeting House, deeded from the Christian Church to the Union Baptist Church.
- 1909 August 5, Lincoln Lumber Co. dry house burned.
- 1909 August 26, Nelson Murray's dry house in West Lincoln burned.
- 1911 New England Telephone Company put in a line from Downingsville to South Starksboro.
- 1915 October 21, Prospect Grange, assisted by others, sponsored the first

Community Fair. There were many others in following years including 1927 and 1942.

- 1916 Lincoln Coop. Creamery buys \$13,000 of butterfat from local farmers in the month of June.
- 1916 Around this time, clear glass windows in both Baptist and Methodist church buildings were replaced with stained glass memorial windows.
- 1916 November, hundreds of Christmas trees being shipped.
- 1918 January 11, sawmill and butter tub factory owned by Nelson Murray in West Lincoln destroyed by fire. It was built about 54 years before by Captain Lincoln on the site of an old forge.
- 1918 William Bedore drives a wagonload of potatoes to the Bristol railroad station weighing in at five and a half tons or 155 bushels.
- 1919 January, influenza: 149 cases and 4 deaths. More cases and deaths were reported later.
- 1919 W.S. Burnham Foundation purchased land where Burnham Hall stands.
- 1920 Cota & Noyes purchase Lincoln Lumber and go bankrupt within three years.
- 1920 Burnham Hall constructed - brick structure with stone details in Colonial Revival styles with funds left by a boyhood resident, Walter S. Burnham. (He died January 26, 1918 in Cleveland, Ohio.)
- 1923 October 11, Walter L. Parker Co. of Lowell, Mass. bought bankrupt property of Lincoln Manufacturing Co. and will manufacture bobbins.
- 1924 January 2, three buildings in center of Lincoln destroyed by fire: a blacksmith shop owned by Walter L. Parker Co.; the Jackman and Garland General Store; and the Ladies' Aid Hall. Nearby buildings were damaged, i.e., Burnham Memorial Hall, Walter Parker Co. Garage, and C.R. Bicknell's house across the road (now owned by Paul and Doris Rotax).

- 1924 January 10, Ladies Aid rented rooms from Mrs. Hannah Morgan (now Elizabeth Steadman's house) for use as a library and for their meetings.
- 1924 The Johnson Lumber Company, founded in 1906, bought land formerly owned by Green Mountain Pulp Company and moved from the Lake Dunmore area to the South Lincoln property in 1925. In 1936, the company purchased land south of Bristol village and began operating there in 1938. (L.S. notes; summary by Andrew Johnson; History of Bristol, third edition).
- 1925 Two of the 12 schools in Lincoln close their doors.
- 1925 May, Johnson Lumber Co. set poles for electric wires and are wiring houses for their employees.
- 1925 June 11, former Methodist parsonage (built about 1862) burned. Roof and belfry of church building were scorched, but a waterline was formed to the river, and the building was saved.
- 1926 June 3, dedication of stone monument with a bronze plaque listing 128 veterans of four wars. It is located on a triangular plot near the church and store in the center of town.
- 1927 Another major flood roars through Lincoln. Bridges, roads, breakwaters, and foundations are damaged or destroyed. Burnham Hall is surrounded by water up to ground floor window sills, more than a foot deep inside.
- 1927 October 13, Mt. Abraham Club for women organized.
- 1927 Electric power at Burnham Hall (Town Report for year ending February 1, 1928); at the Town Hall by 1931, but not available in outlying areas until later - Quaker Street in 1940 and West Hill Road in 1948.
- 1929 New bridge replaced the "Garland" covered bridge on the corner of East River, Lincoln Gap and South Lincoln Roads.
- 1929 September 5, clapboard and lumber mill owned by John H. Davis of South Lincoln destroyed by fire. Sparks ignited a nearby house which also burned.

- 1930 July, the District #2 "Corner" schoolhouse was moved from its location on Quaker Street between the house now owned by Christine Dumond on the corner of Quaker Street and Downingsville Road and Kate Farr's former home. It sat in the road for days and traffic went around it by driving on private property. It continued on its way to its present location near the Downingsville Brook – about one-tenth of a mile from the intersection of Quaker Street and Downingsville Road.
- 1932 September 23, first floor of the annex to Burnham Hall completed for use as a library. The books were moved from their location in the front of the downstairs room used as a dining room.
- 1936 January, new electric street lights in West Lincoln and the center.
- 1937 Autumn, covered bridge on Quaker Street, north of Elder Hill Road to be replaced by a modern span.
- 1938 September 23, flood washes through Lincoln causing \$100,000 damage. Iron Bridge in Center, along with two other bridges, was washed away, along with many homes and work places. The Lincoln Ladies' Aid Library was almost completely destroyed. Damage here exceeded that of the 1927 flood. Water reached a depth of 5'2" in Burnham Hall.
- 1938 One of many years the Vergennes Weeks School played outdoor concerts in the center. In August, 160 automobiles were parked near Burnham Hall for the last concert of the season!
- 1940's The first rope ski tow was in use on what is now Lincoln Sports property. World War II with gas rationing and youth entering the military may have caused its closing.
- 1940's During World War II, local residents volunteered to do "airplane spotting" in a small building located on the hill behind the Perfect's house, across from Burnham Hall.
- 1941 January, an Allis-Chalmers KO tractor for plowing snow was delivered over Lincoln Gap, towing a car behind it. It allowed for previously unplowed roads to be open for use during the winter season.
- 1942 Lincoln Creamery closes.

- 1942 June 6, three of six children of Ralph Tomlinson's family died in house fire in S. Lincoln.
- 1943 December 31, West Lincoln Post Office closed (established April 29, 1879).
- 1946 August, the town clerk's office was moved from Carpenter's Store to the Town Hall on Quaker Street.
- 1946 September 8, fire at E.C. Carpenter IGA Store, a 2 1/2 story building containing the post office and 1 or 2 apartments, seriously damaged the 150-year old building. The store was later reopened in a one-story portion of the building; the ell having been removed. This is the store in the center now owned by D. and V. Stearns.
- 1947 Mary H. Purinton promoted the last class of students in Downingsville.
- 1948 May 6, Marshall Hutchins of Groton, Vermont, buys bobbin mill from Walter L. Parker Company.
- 1949 November, Lincoln Volunteer Fire Co. organized.
- 1950's Three more schools close and consolidate into the Lincoln Community School.
- 1950 Sixty-four year old one-room Center School destroyed by fire. Classes were held in the Town Hall (near the present town office on Quaker Street in the village center) until a two-room school was built in 1954.
- 1950 Hurricane caused wind damage.
- 1950 August 12, Victor Duclos' old blacksmith shop purchased by Lincoln Volunteer Fire Co.
- 1952 November 15, S. Lincoln Post Office closed. (Established March 15, 1888.)
- 1954 September 21, dedication of new two-room center school house. It is part of the present community school.

1956

1957

1963

1965

1966

1967

1968

- 1956 November 13, a memorial to 62 WW II veterans, erected by the Mt. Abraham Women's Club, was publicly dedicated and presented to the town. The granite stone with a bronze plaque is located on the east lawn of Burnham Hall.
- 1957 Local creameries began a transition from accepting milk in cans to requiring farmers to have bulk tanks. By 1967, milk was accepted only from bulk tanks. Some small dairies went out of business.
- 1963 West Lincoln school becomes the last one room schoolhouse to close in Lincoln. Harriet Brown taught the last class of 30 pupils.
- 1965 January, Lincoln Sports, Inc. opens rope ski tow on Gove Hill. It closed in 1978 due to soaring insurance premiums.
- 1967 March, zoning ordinances adopted.
- 1967 December, Lincoln Sports, Inc. purchased approximately 40 acres of land adjacent to Gove Hill and the Volunteer Fire Co.
- 1968 April 30, Postmaster Lindley B. Bicknell mails letter to himself marked "last mail of the Lincoln Post Office established July 23, 1835" from post office in Lincoln Center. Lindley had worked at post office since 1919 when his father was postmaster. Mailing address now RD #1, Bristol, VT 05443. Mail is delivered to each residence by rural mail carriers - a 75-mile route.
- 1968 Last 8th grade to graduate from Lincoln schools. In the fall, 7th and 8th grade students attend Mt. Abraham Union High School in Bristol.
- 1968 Modern three-bay firehouse constructed on site of the old blacksmith shop that had been used by the Volunteer Fire Co.
- 1972 May 1, Hutchins' Bobbin mill burned. September, Martyn Hutchins constructed a new building for the manufacture of pallets (low platforms used for storing and transporting products).
- 1973 New town office built and nearby Town Hall torn down. March 5th town meeting was held in Burnham Hall instead of in the Town Hall.
- 1973 First annual August "Hill Country Holiday". First Winter Carnival in

1975. Both events, sponsored by Lincoln Sports, Inc., continue today.
- 1973 September, Lincoln Cooperative Preschool opened with 13 students.
- 1976 August, another flood.
- 1976 New bylaws for Methodist and Baptist congregations were adopted; now known as the United Church of Lincoln.
- 1976 Lincoln became a "wet" town by voting to license malt and vinous beverage sales.
- 1977 October 30, suspicious fires destroyed three unoccupied buildings: the "Benton" farmhouse on East River Road owned by Dan Garland; the Elder Hill schoolhouse; and a shed on the Eisenwinter property (later owned by Ron Hadley) on West Hill Road.
- 1976 Lincoln Sports new tennis court in use.
- 1978 Tornado touched down in several areas in town, twisting down trees, but sparing buildings.
- 1979 September, Lincoln Preschool began classes in their new building across River Road from the Community School.
- 1981 April 17, the Baptist Church building was destroyed by fire early Good Friday morning. It was located in the center on Quaker Street where the United Church building now stands.
- 1981 High water caused concern and precautions were taken to protect Burnham Hall.
- 1981 August, Lincoln celebrated its' 200th year with a large parade, dinners, ball games and fireworks.
- 1981 November 30, the former Methodist church building (referred to as the "upper church") was moved down the street from its location just south of the Old Hotel to a new foundation where the Baptist building had burned on the corner of West River Road and Quaker Street.
- 1983 Weathervane United, Inc. was organized and 2 houses were remodeled

- to provide 6 apartments for the elderly.
- 1984 May 18, bylaws of the newly formed Lincoln Historical Society adopted.
- 1985 Dan and Diane Adam bought the pallet mill from Martyn Hutchins. The Lincoln Pallet Mill, Inc. continues to manufacture pallets.
- 1986 Federal government whole herd buy-out of dairy cows. Herbert Parker on York Hill sold his dairy.
- 1987 Mr. & Mrs. Melendy sold campground in Downingsville to Sunray Peace Village.
- 1988 May, a 19th century house was moved from Grimes Road in South Lincoln to the Center to become the Lincoln Historical Society Museum. The ell had been removed and one was rebuilt on site. (Reference - Burlington Free Press "Weekend" May 25, 1989)
- 1988 Danforth Pewters move from Downingsville to Middlebury.
- 1990 An old English style post and beam barn was erected on Lincoln Historical Society property.
- 1990 May, first annual Town Wide Yard Sale, sponsored by Weathervane United, Inc. It continues to date.
- 1990 Addition built on firehouse for use as a meeting room.
- 1991 An addition on the church was built for Sunday School rooms.
- 1991 Lincoln General Store purchased by Dan and Vaneasa Stearns.
- 1991 Norman Strickholm moved his dairy from the Brown farm on Brown's Road to Colorado.
- 1992 Tom Densmore auctioned dairy cattle on Paul Goodyear's farm, thus ending dairy farming in Lincoln.
- 1992 A new building containing 4 apartments was constructed by Weathervane United.

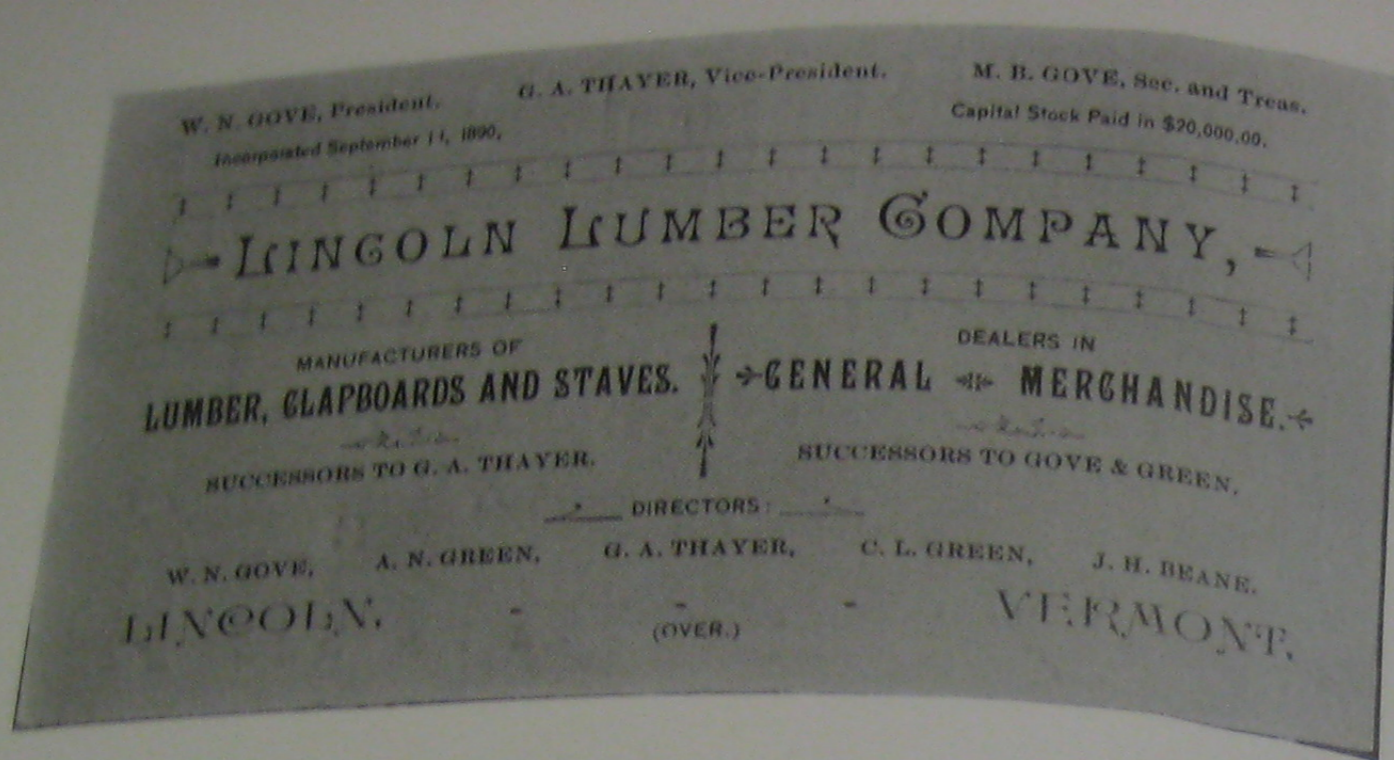
- 1992 September 10, Arson destroyed a barn owned by Fred Fried on the Lincoln Gap Road. Consumed in the blaze was a valuable collection of Coney Island artifacts, including carrousel figures. (Reference - Addison Independent - October 1, 1992 and March 1993).
- 1993 February, Neighborhood Watch was established.
- 1996 Maple Landmark Woodcraft moved from Brown's Road to Middlebury.
- 1997 All roads in town were named in preparation for the emergency 911 phone service that went into effect in 1998. Mailing addresses include assigned mailbox number, name of road, and are now Lincoln, VT 05443 (changed from Bristol, VT 05443).
- 1998 January ice storm caused less damage in Lincoln than in other nearby areas where damage was severe. Lengthy electric power outages.
- 1998 June 27, a severe flood along the New Haven River and tributaries - comparable to 1938. Extensive damage to roads, effectively isolated Lincoln for a time. Some repairs to roads washed out 4 days later when another storm hit the area. Many library books in Burnham Hall were destroyed.
- 1998 Autumn, Reverend David and Donna Wood purchased the Old Hotel. Their son, Matthew, manages it as a Bed and Breakfast.
- 1999 Drought! Many families lost their water supply. 1899 was also a dry year!
- 2000 June 24, "Little Red Wagon Parade" when children and adults moved books from the upstairs of Burnham Hall to the new library.
- 2000 August 5, dedication of the new library building located on West River Road, near Maple Cemetery.
- 2001 Summer, new town garage built on South Lincoln Road south of the Garland Bridge on property formerly owned by Margaret Urz.
- 2001 Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) first became available in Lincoln. By 2003, it was fully available. DSL is a high speed internet connection that uses the existing phone lines to transfer data.

- 2001 Sawmill on West Hill Road in operation. Vermont Heritage Woodworks owned by Steve Taylor provides custom sawing and sells native lumber.
- 2003 The Town purchased a new 14-yard tandem axle Mack truck - a 10-wheel diesel with 10 gears for steep hills. The 1988 International truck was sold.
- 2003 The 1929 "Garland" bridge deck was replaced with pre-cast cement bridge.
- 2007 July 20, the last pallet was made in the Lincoln Pallet Mill owned by Dan and Diane Adam.

Sources of information for this listing of Lincoln events include: "The Lincoln History of a Mountain Town" published in 1980; "A Walk Through Historic Lincoln" by the 5th and 6th grade class in 1996-1997, Alice Leeds, teacher; Articles and notes collected by Lois Marie Sargent; records of organizations; town records and memories of individuals.



Larry Masterson driving the caterpillar tractor purchased in 1941. Known as "the Cat", it was able to open snow-drifted roads.



Mary Pierce recalls the following rink located across the brook from the "Cushman" residence on East River R now owned by Rev. Randy and Sue Rice.

Aliza Reeves
 Died of the heaves
 In the year 1911
 Her soul went out
 From the old skating rink
 Either to hell or to heaven.



In the 1850 census, Lincoln was credited with:

Horses	156
Milch cows	321
Working oxen	215
Other cattle	332
Sheep	1,434
Swine	157
Wheat, bushels of	1,623
Rye, bushels of	553
Indian corn, bushels of	5,696
Oats, bushels of	8,102
Potatoes, bushels of	20,552
Wool, pounds of	7,450
Buckwheat, bushels of	1,058
Butter, pounds of	22,600
Cheese, pounds of	6,825
Hay, tons of	2,775
Hops, pounds of	5,950
Flax, pounds of	337
Maple Sugar, pounds of	31,201
Beeswax & honey, pounds of	1,259

Miscellaneous

Lincoln Lumber Co. and Company Store records show the following: (This information provided by Mr. Charles Herrmann of Shoreham)

August 29, 1902 -	National Horseshoe Co., 1180 Boxes	
March 23, 1903 -	W. A. Lee, Drawing ice, hauling	\$51.92
	105 cakes of ice from J. Dow	
August 20, 1903 -	W.J. Elliott returns corset	4.20
	W. J. Brown purchased shoes and rubbers	1.50
	F. C. Dyer purchases 11,000 feet lumber	2.80
	W.S. Farr purchases scythe & cheese	187.00
	J. H. White purchases 1 butter tub & boxes	.86
September 14, 1903 -	J. H. White & Sons purchases lumber	.60
	Payment in "Gold Dust"/tubs	45.00
February 13, 1904 -	Town of Lincoln purchase of opium	
	for a citizen in pain	.40
February 25, 1904 -	W. E. York 96 #10 Sugarpails	8.64
	2 pieces of 8 feet 2 X 4	.24