

Washington State Historical Society Chronology:

- 1891 - the Society is organized
- 1896 - the Society is incorporated
- 1903 - the State Legislature passes an act designated the Society as a trustee agency of state government
- 1909 - the State Legislature appropriates \$25,000 to the Society to build its own building on Stadium Way in Tacoma
- 1911 - the original Society building is dedicated
- 1931 - the Society merges with the Ferry Museum that had been built adjoining its building
- 1941 - the Hewitt Research Library is established
- 1973 - a new wing is added to the facility on Stadium Way
- 1986 - the Society's board of trustees adopt a long range plan to guide its growth
- 1987 - the Society commences publication of COLUMBIA Magazine
- 1987 - the State Legislature appropriates planning funds for a new museum
- 1993 - the Society merges with the State Capital Museum in Olympia
- 1995 - the Heritage Capital Projects program is created under the auspices of the Washington State Historical Society to support historic preservation statewide

- 1996 - the Society opens the new Washington State History Museum next to the restored Union Station in downtown Tacoma
- 1999 - the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Advisory Committee is created under the auspices of the Washington State Historical Society
- 2000 - Society's board adopts a new strategic plan for 2000-2010
- 2004 – Washington State Historical Society receives accreditation from the American Association of Museums
- 2005 – Women's History Consortium is created by the Washington State Legislature, led by the Society
- 2010 - Society organizes the Washington Women's Suffrage Centennial commemoration, receiving an Award of Merit from the American Association of State and Local History the following year for its efforts
- 2011 – Longtime Society Director David Nicandri retires, succeeded by Jennifer Kilmer, current Director
- 2012 – Middle Village/ Station Camp highway interpretive site opens to the public in Ilwaco, WA, the result of a partnership between the Society, National Park Service, and the Chinook Tribe.
- 2012 - Society adopts new strategic plan for 2012-2017
- 2015 – Society celebrates 10th Annual In the Spirit Native American Arts Festival and 20th Annual Model Train Festival
- 2016 – Society celebrates its 125th year of service to the people of Washington