

1731

[Benjamin Banneker](#), one of the first African American intellectuals, is born on the Baneky farm situated on a hillside of the Patapsco River near what is now Oella. A mathematician, astronomer, compiler of almanacs, inventor, writer, and freeman he would later become friends with George Ellicott.



1772

The Ellicott Brothers – Joseph, Andrew and John arrive from Bucks County, Pennsylvania to establish Mills along the Patapsco River. At first called “The Hollow” then the town of Ellicott Mills is founded.



1776

Charles Carroll of Carrollton, signer of the Declaration of Independence for Maryland resides at Doughoregan Manor. He works with the Ellicott Brothers to convert the main crop of Howard County from tobacco to wheat.



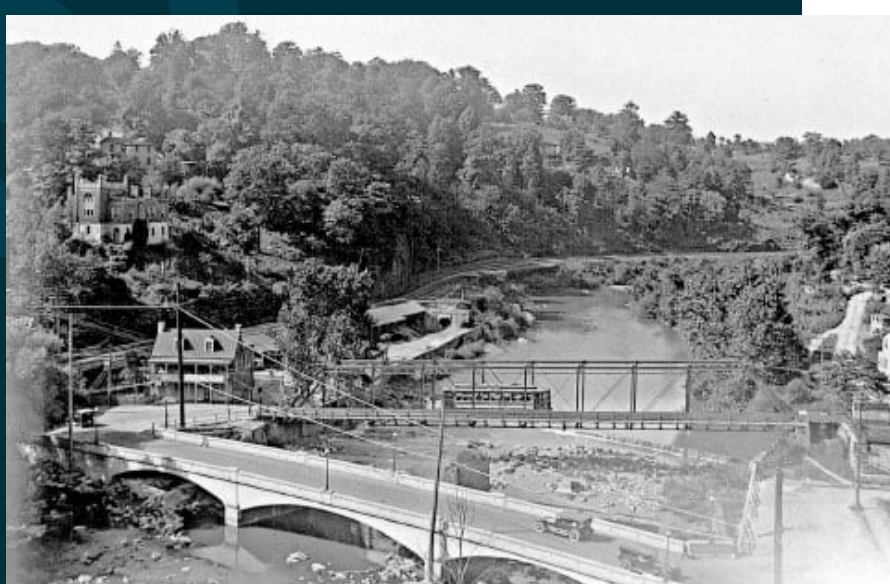
1830

The first railroad terminus built in America is located in Ellicott Mills. Visit the [Baltimore & Ohio Ellicott City Station Museum](#) to see the historical trains and artifacts.



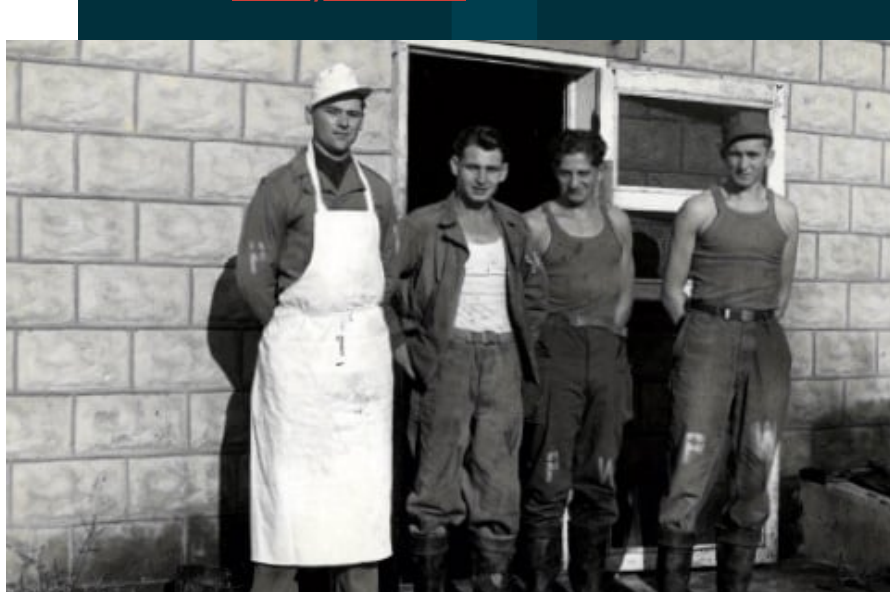
1837

On January 1, 1837, the [Patapsco Female Institute](#) opens its doors for female students. This school is not just a “finishing school” but a full college including courses on chemistry, biology, languages and sociology.



1899

With the completion of the trolley bridge over the Patapsco River, the trolley system ran to Ellicott City. The Ellicott City Trolley Line ran from the terminus at Fels Lane to Catonsville Junction. [The Trolley Stop Cafe](#) and [Trolley Trail #9](#) are both located on the original trolley line.



1942

During the World War II years, Ellicott City saw many changes. Saloons seemed to occupy half of Main Street buildings. Outsiders moved into town to work at the mills and military men from Fort Meade visited for “R&R” (rest and relaxation).



1972

A renaissance occurred in Ellicott City after the Hurricane Agnes flood by celebrating the Bicentennial of the town. There was a pageant, parade and other events to renew the town. Reenactors depicted the Ellicotts, Benjamin Banneker, and Charles Carroll as well as townspeople dressed in colonial era clothes.