Astronomy Timeline

Mercury, Venus, Sun, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, all visible to the naked eye (this is the order in which the order in which they appear from Earth- 0-1600 A.D.

Appearance of the telescope, debated creator (Hans Lippershey)-1608

Kepler’s “New Astronomy”-1609

Galileo’s Starry Messenger-March 1610

Galileo forbidden to believe Heliocentric system-February 1616

Copernicus’s book banned by the Vatican until 1835- February 1616

Pope Urban VIII Inquisition against Galileo-1633

Micrometer modeled after spider web in telescope-1639

Pendulum Clock, Huygen-1650s

Newton’s Reflector-January 1672

Romer transit instrument and equatorial mounting-late 1600s

James Short Parabolic Mirror-1736

John Dollond Achromatic Lens-1758

William Herschel discovers Uranus-March 13, 1781

Improved lens making with stirring-1805

Niepce and Daguerro work on astronomical photography-1830s

Successful moon picture-September 1839

U.S. National/Naval Observatory-1842

Neptune is discovered-September 18, 1846

Harvard’s Observatory to match Russia’s-1847

Images on glass, Frederick Archer-1850

Alvan Clark gains notoriety for telescope manufacturing-1859

Massive refractors, end of an era- 1880s-1890s

Pluto discovered February 18, 1930