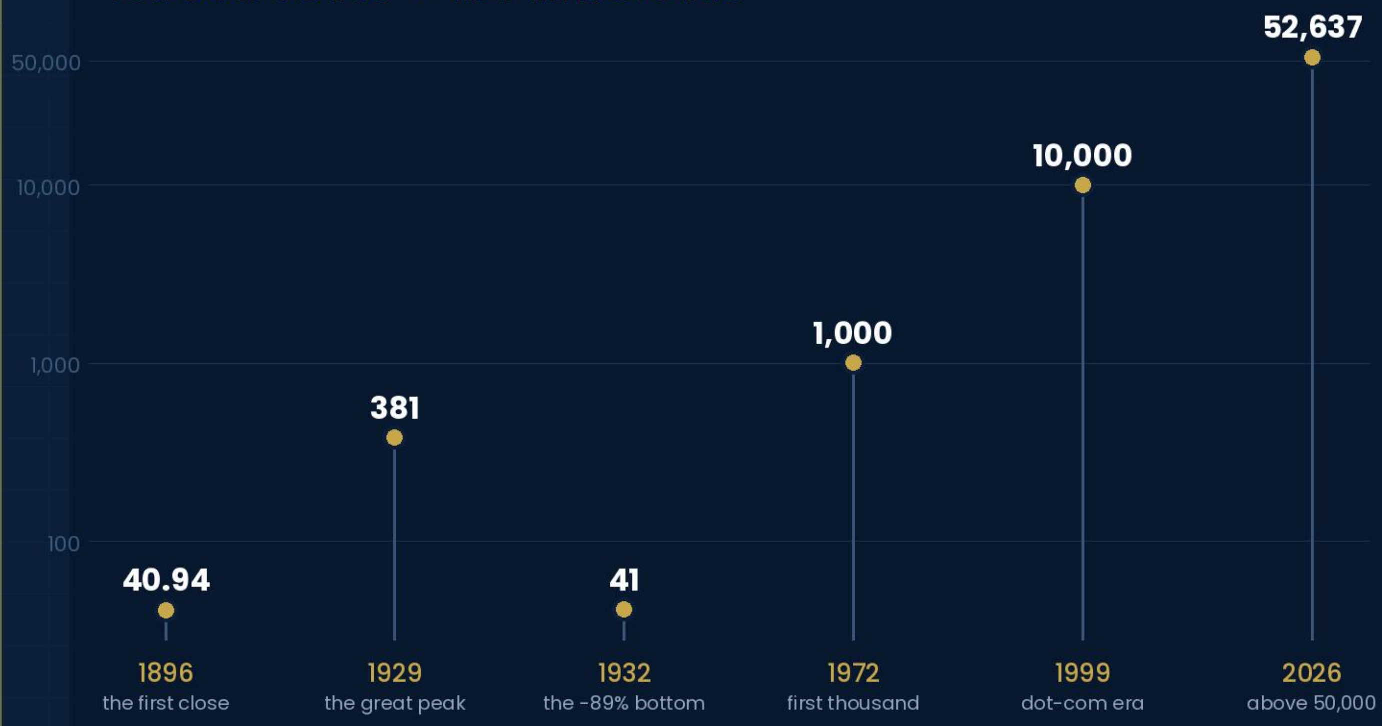
THE COMPLETE
TRADER'S *Edge*
FRAMEWORK · MIND · METHOD · MONEY

CTE RESEARCH SHEET · No. 01

The US Stock Market

230 Years of Booms, Busts, and Lessons

THE DOW JONES · KEY MILESTONES



Verified milestone values, log scale. Not a continuous price path.

Inside: the full timeline, the recurring lessons, and the key numbers.

PART ONE

The Timeline

FOUNDATIONS · 1792-1895

- **1792** 24 brokers sign the Buttonwood Agreement, founding the NYSE
- **1869** Black Friday: Gould & Fisk's gold corner collapses the market

THE AGE OF TITANS · 1896-1928

- **1896** Charles Dow launches the Dow Jones Industrial Average
- **1901** Morgan builds U.S. Steel, the first billion-dollar company
- **1907** J.P. Morgan single-handedly halts the Panic of 1907

CRASH & REBUILD · 1929-1970

- **1929** The Great Crash: the Dow peaks at 381, then falls 89%
- **1934** The SEC is created to police the market after the crash
- **1954** The Dow finally reclaims its 1929 high, 25 years later
- **1957** The S&P 500 launches as the market's true benchmark

THE LONG BOOM · 1971-1999

- **1971** The NASDAQ opens as the world's first electronic exchange
- **1976** Bogle launches the first index fund, mocked as 'Bogle's Folly'
- **1987** Black Monday: the Dow falls 22.6% in a single day
- **1999** The Dow crosses 10,000 at the height of the dot-com mania

THE MODERN MACHINE · 2000-2026

- **2000** The dot-com bubble bursts; the NASDAQ falls 78%
- **2008** Lehman collapses; the Dow is cut in half by March 2009
- **2020** COVID triggers the fastest bear market in history
- **2021** The meme-stock revolt: retail briefly beats Wall Street
- **2026** The Dow crosses 50,000 for the first time

PART TWO

The Recurring Lessons

1. **The instruments change; human nature does not.**
   Every cycle is driven by the same two forces: greed and fear.
2. **Leverage without respect is the killer.**
   It turned 1929 and 2008 from corrections into catastrophes.
3. **Every crash looked permanent from inside.**
   And the market recovered from every single one.
4. **The crowd is most dangerous when most certain.**
   The great contrarian trades were made against total consensus.
5. **Survival comes before profit.**
   You cannot compound an account you have blown up.
6. **The names at the top always change.**
   No company, sector, or trend stays on top forever.
7. **Structure is written in the last disaster.**
   The rules that protect you were forged in past wreckage.

> *"There is nothing new in Wall Street. Whatever happens in the stock market today has happened before and will happen again."*
> — Jesse Livermore

THE TRANSFORMATION

40.94 → 52,637

From 24 brokers under a buttonwood tree to a $60-trillion market.

-89%
the 1929 crash, 25 years to recover

-22.6%
Black Monday 1987, the worst day ever

~10%
long-run annual return with dividends