

Allegheny County

Created on September 24, 1788, from parts of Westmoreland and Washington Counties and named for the Allegheny River. General John Forbes named Pittsburgh, the county seat, in November 1758 in honor of William Pitt, a British statesman. It was incorporated as a borough on April 22, 1794 and as a city on March 18, 1816.

The conflict between the British and French over claims in this area was settled in 1758 when Gen. John Forbes and his British and American army forced the French to abandon Fort Duquesne, a post they had built in 1754. The British completed Fort Pitt in 1761. After the defeat of an Indian resurgence in 1763 and the end of a dispute for control with Virginia (1780), settlement swelled. This was an outfitting point for settlers who rafted down the Ohio River, and soon shipbuilding developed. A blast furnace erected by George Anshutz about 1792 began the long rise of the iron and steel industry. In 1845 a fire destroyed one-third of Pittsburgh, but in 1852 the Pennsylvania Railroad was opened to Philadelphia and in 1859 coke was first used in a blast furnace and cold rolling was invented. Pittsburgh was a major manufacturing center during the Civil War. Between 1874 and 1880 oil refineries, papermaking, and wood products industries were pushed to other locations because products that were made through high heat processes took over in Pittsburgh. From 1882 to 1901 the partnership of Henry Clay Frick and Andrew Carnegie achieved world leadership in steel. Violent labor strikes included the railroad strike of 1877, the Homestead Steel strike in 1892, and the SWOC 1936 strike. In 1901 Carnegie sold out to the new U. S. Steel Company. In 1920 the “value added by manufactures” figure for Pittsburgh’s industry began to decline, but from 1939 to 1954 steel experienced a second period of grandeur. In 1946 the “Pittsburgh Renaissance” city revivals (I and II) were first conceived. From about 1970 to the present, an era of deindustrialization has prevailed. However, an increase of 15 percent in the county’s figure for value added from manufactures between 1987 and 1992 suggests that the economy may have finally stabilized. The peak of Allegheny County’s population was 1,628,587 in 1960; the peak for Pittsburgh was 676,806 in 1950—and it is now only 369,879. The county has also been a major bituminous producer, blessed with the magnificent Pittsburgh coal vein. In the last five years subsurface mining has almost ceased. Farms still cover 9.2 percent of the land, and Allegheny is the ninth ranked mushroom-producing county.

ALLEGHENY COUNTY - 2nd Class

Formed on September 24, 1788 from parts of Westmoreland
and Washington Counties

Second Class City

<u>Name of City</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Prior Status</u>
Pittsburgh	Mar. 18, 1816	Laid out as a town in 1764. Incorporated as a borough on April 22, 1794

Third Class Cities

<u>Name of City</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Prior Status</u>
Clairton	Jan. 1, 1922	Incorporated as a borough on April 12, 1903 from Jefferson Township
Duquesne	1910	Settled in 1789. Incorporated as a borough on September 3, 1842
McKeesport	Jan. 15, 1891	Laid out as a town in 1795. Incorporated as a borough on September 3, 1842.

Boroughs

<u>Name of Boroughs</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Aspinwall	1893 ^{1,2}		Incorporated from O'Hara Twp.
Avalon	Dec. 28, 1892 ³	S About 1800	Kilbuck Township
Bell Acres	Mar. 14, 1960	S About 1808	Formerly Sewickley Township which was erected as a town- ship on June 28, 1854
Baldwin	Oct. 27, 1950		Baldwin Township
Bellevue	Sept. 7, 1867	S 1796-1804	Ross Township
Ben Avon	Jan. 1891		Kilbuck Township
Ben Avon Heights	1891		Kilbuck Township
Bethel Park	Mar. 17, 1949	S About 1800	Formerly Bethel Township which was erected in 1886
Blawnox	Apr. 13, 1925		O'Hara Township

ALLEGHENY COUNTY - 2nd Class (cont'd)

Boroughs (cont'd)

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Brackenridge	Sept. 21, 1901		
Braddock	June 8, 1867	S 1755	
Braddock Hills	May 2, 1946	S 1753	Formerly Braddock Township which was erected in 1885
Bradford Woods	May 3, 1915		Marshall Township
Brentwood	Nov. 6, 1915		Baldwin Township
Bridgeville	July 27, 1901	S About 1830	Upper St. Clair Township
Carnegie	Mar. 1, 1894		Consolidation of Mansfield and Chartiers Boroughs
Castle Shannon	Dec. 20, 1919		Baldwin, Bethel and Mt. Lebanon Townships
Chalfant	June 11, 1901		Wilkins Township
Cheswick	Mar. 4, 1902		Springdale Township
Churchill	Jan. 1, 1934		
Coraopolis	June 7, 1886	S About 1773	Moon Township
Crafton	Jan. 8, 1894	1872	
Dormont	1909		Scott Township
Dravosburg	Mar. 21, 1903		Mifflin Township
E. McKeesport	Dec. 14, 1895		North Versailles Township
E. Pittsburgh	Apr. 2, 1895		Braddock and Wilkins Twps.
Edgewood	1888		Sterrett and Wilkins Twps.
Edgeworth	1904		Leet Township
Elizabeth	Apr. 5, 1834	1787 ¹ 1784 ²	Forward Township
Emsworth	1897 ¹ July 14, 1896 ²	S About 1802	Kilbuck Township
Etna	Sept. 16, 1868		Shaler Township
Forest Hills	1920 ¹ June 1919 ²		
Fox Chapel	Jan. 1, 1935		
Franklin Park	Aug. 10, 1961	S 1800	Formerly Franklin Township
Glassport	July 23, 1902		Port Vue Township
Glenfield	Dec. 4, 1875	S About 1796	Aleppo Township
Green Tree	July 1885		Union Township
Haysville	Sept. 15, 1902		Aleppo Township
Heidelberg	1893		
Homestead	Sept. 18, 1880	Aug. 1871	Mifflin Township
Ingram	1902	1823	Chartiers Township
Jefferson	July 20, 1950	S About 1784	Formerly Jefferson Township which was erected in 1828

ALLEGHENY COUNTY - 2nd Class (cont'd)

Boroughs (cont'd)

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Leetsdale	1904	S 1827	Leet Township
Liberty	Sept. 7, 1912		Port Vue Township
Lincoln	June 2, 1958	S 1782	Formerly Lincoln Township which was erected on March 29, 1869
McKees Rocks	Mar. 15, 1892	S 1764	Stowe Township
Millvale	Feb. 13, 1868	S 1789	Shaler Township and Duquesne Borough
Monroeville	Jan. 25, 1951	S About 1765	Formerly Patton Township which was erected March 4, 1849
Mt. Oliver	Nov. 9, 1892		Lower St. Clair Township
Munhall	June 4, 1901		Mifflin Township
North Braddock	Apr. 1897		Braddock Township
Oakdale	Sept. 1872		North and South Fayette Twps.
Oakmont	1889		Verona Borough
Osborne	Mar. 10, 1883 ^{1,3} 1890 ²		Aleppo Township
Pitcairn	June 9, 1891 ¹ 1894 ²		Patton Township
Pleasant Hills	Apr. 1, 1947		Jefferson Township
Plum	Mar. 1, 1956	S 1788	Formerly Plum Township which was erected in June, 1789
Port Vue	Sept. 20, 1892		Liberty Township
Rankin	Mar. 9, 1892	S 1870	Braddock Township
Rossllyn Farms	May 10, 1913		Robinson Township
Sewickley	July 6, 1853 ^{1,3} 1854 ²	1808	Sewickley Township
Sewickley Heights	Aug. 3, 1935		
Sewickley Hills	Oct. 9, 1958		Formerly Sewickley Heights Township
Sharpsburg	Mar. 26, 1842 ¹ Dec. 14, 1841 ^{2,3}	S 1826	O'Hara and Shaler Townships
Springdale	Sept. 1906	S 1820	Springdale Township
Swissvale	July 1898		Braddock Township
Tarentum	Mar. 7, 1842	Nov. 1829	East Deer and Frazer Twps.
Thornburg	June 1909		Robinson Township
Turtle Creek	July 25, 1892		Patton and Wilkins Townships
Verona	May 10, 1871	S About 1769	Plum and Penn Townships

ALLEGHENY COUNTY - 2nd Class (cont'd)

Boroughs (cont'd)

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Versailles	Dec. 19, 1892 1894		South Versailles Township
Wall	Mar. 7, 1904		North Versailles Township
West Elizabeth	May 3, 1848 Mar. 3, 1848 ²	1833	Jefferson Township
West Homestead	1900		Mifflin Township
West Mifflin	Dec. 11, 1942		Formerly Mifflin Township which was erected in 1788
West View	Mar. 1905		
Whitaker	1906 ¹ Jan. 1, 1904 ²		
White Hall	Apr. 11, 1947		Baldwin and Bethel Townships
White Oak	June 24, 1948	S About 1778	Formerly Versailles Twp. which was incorporated in 1788
Wilkinsburg	Oct. 5, 1887	About 1790	Wilkins Township
Wilmerding	Mar. 1890		Patton and North Versailles Twps.

First Class Townships

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Became First Class Twp.</u>	<u>Incorporated as a Twp.</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Aleppo	Nov. 8, 1960	June 7, 1876		Kilbuck Township
Baldwin	1901	Feb. 24, 1844	About 1780	Upper and Lower St. Clair, Jefferson and Mifflin Townships
Collier	Dec. 1911	June 7, 1875	1773	
Crescent		1855	1794	Moon Township
Fast Deer	1921	1836	About 1792	Deer Township
Elizabeth		1788	About 1779	
Harrison	Mar. 1900	1863	About 1795	Fawn Township
Kennedy	Nov. 8, 1960	1903		Stowe Township
Leet		1869	1796	Sewickley Township
McCandless	Nov. 4, 1952	Mar. 22, 1851	1795	Pine Township

ALLEGHENY COUNTY - 2nd Class (cont'd)

First Class Townships (cont'd)

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Became First Class Twp.</u>	<u>Incorporated as a Twp.</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Mount Lebanon		1920*		Scott Township
		1912		
Neville	Mar. 4, 1901	Apr. 8, 1865	1800	Moon, Fayette, Ohio and Robinson Twps.
		Apr. 8, 1845		
North Versailles		Sept. 1869	1778	Versailles Twp. which was incorporated in 1788
O'Hara		June 8, 1875	About 1796	Indiana Township
Penn Hills	1912	July 8, 1850	1770	Wilkins Township called Penn Township until 1958
Reserve		Oct. 1835	About 1800	Ross Township
Robinson	Nov. 6, 1956	June 1801 ¹ 1799 ²	1768	Fayette Township
Ross	Jan. 1, 1922	Nov. 1809	1795	
Scott		1861	1773	Upper St. Clair Township
Shaler	Mar. 1900	Mar. 20, 1847	1789 or 1790	Originally known as Marion Township
South Fayette	1911	Mar. 16, 1842	About 1770	Fayette Township
South Versailles		Sept. 1869	1778	Versailles Twp. which was incorporated in 1788
Springdale	1921	1875	1795 or 1796	Pitt Township
Stowe		Dec. 1869	1763	Robinson Township
Upper St. Clair	Nov. 4, 1953	1806	About 1766	St. Clair Twp. which was incorporated in 1788
Wilkins	1901	Nov. 10, 1821	About 1753	Pitt Township

Second Class Townships

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Fawn	Mar. 28, 1858 ¹ 1857 ²	1794	East Deer Township
Findlay	Jan. 1822	About 1776	Moon Township
Forward	Mar. 29, 1869	About 1773	Elizabeth Township
Frazer	1920		

ALLEGHENY COUNTY - 2nd Class (cont'd)

Second Class Townships (cont'd)

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Hampton	Feb. 16, 1861	About 1786	McCandless, West Deer and Indiana Townships
Harmar	June 8, 1875	1794	Indiana Township
Indiana	Dec. 26, 1805	About 1798	Pitt Township
Kilbuck	Mar. 9, 1869	1796	Ohio Township
Marshall	June 3, 1863	About 1811	Franklin Township
Moon	1790 ¹ 1788 ²	Before 1769	
North Fayette	Mar. 16, 1842	1774	Fayette Township which was incorporated in 1790
Ohio	Sept. 1803 ¹ 1796 ²	1801	Pitt Township
Pine	1796	About 1796	
Richland	1862	1806	West Deer and Pine Twps.
Snowden	Oct. 6, 1845	About 1762	Upper St. Clair and Jefferson Townships
West Deer	1836	About 1796	Deer Township which was incorporated in 1796

¹ Godcharles

² History of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, Pa.: L. H. Everts and Company, 1876).

³ H. C. Bell et al., History of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania (Chicago, Ill.: A. Warner and Company, 1889).

* Township Commissioners indicated two different dates of incorporation.