

Bradford County

Created on February 21, 1810, from parts of Luzerne and Lycoming Counties and named Oneida County for the lake of the same name. On March 24, 1812 it was formally renamed for William Bradford, second Attorney General of the United States. Towanda, the county seat, was incorporated as a borough on March 5, 1828 and named for Towanda Creek.

After the Revolution, veterans of the Sullivan expedition against the Indians and Dutch immigrants from New York settled the area. French refugees flourished at Azilium from 1793 to 1804. The county was part of the area plagued by disputes over land claims based on settlement by people from Connecticut. Englishman Robert Barclay began coal mining in 1812, which buttressed the economy and spawned a canal and a railroad. As Barclay's mines were closing, a lumber boom began, and it flourished until about 1930. Dairy farming is presently the backbone of the economy; the county has many small farms. These cover 46 percent of the land. Athens, Towanda, and Canton were Underground Railroad stations, and David Wilmot struggled against slavery in Congress with his many Wilmot Provisos. The myth of the French Queen Marie Antoinette's plan to flee to French Azilium has provided local color. Also, the history of the misdeeds of members of a family named Pool once gave rise to a theory that they had a genetic criminal makeup. This was musician Stephen Foster's home.

BRADFORD COUNTY - 6th Class

Formed on February 21, 1810 from parts of Lycoming and Luzerne
Counties. Called Ontario County until March 24, 1812

Boroughs

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Alba	Feb. 4, 1864	S May 1803	Canton Township
Athens	Mar. 29, 1831	S 1783	Athens Township
Burlington	Feb. 14, 1854 ¹ 1853 ²		Burlington Township
Canton	May 10, 1864 ¹ May 23, 1864 ²	S 1796	Canton Township
LeRaysville	May 16, 1863		Pike Township
Monroe	May 19, 1855	1828	Monroe Township
New Albany	Dec. 6, 1879	S About 1819	Albany Township
Rome	Feb. 7, 1861 ¹ Feb. 1860 ²		Rome Township
Sayre	Jan. 27, 1891	1871	Athens Township
South Waverly	Jan. 28, 1878		Athens Township
Sylvania	May 5, 1853		Columbia Township
Towanda	Mar. 5, 1828	S 1784	
Troy	Apr. 11, 1845		Troy Township
Wyalusing	Feb. 16, 1887 ¹ Mar. 16, 1887 ²		Wyalusing Township

Second Class Townships

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Albany	Feb. 1824	1800	Asylum and Monroe Twps.
Armenia	Feb. 1843	1808	Canton and Troy Twps.
Asylum	Nov. 1814	1793	Wyalusing Township
Athens	Jan. 1797	1783	Incorporated while part of Luzerne County
Barclay	May 1867	1856	Franklin Township
Burlington	1802	1790	Wysox Township
Canton	Aug. 1804	1796	Burlington Township
Columbia	Aug. 1813	1795	Smithfield Township
Franklin	Sept. 1819	1795	Canton, Troy and Burlington Townships
Granville	Feb. 1831	1799	Canton, Troy, Burlington and Franklin Townships

BRADFORD COUNTY - 6th Class (cont'd)

Second Class Townships (cont'd)

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>		<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Herrick	Feb.	1838	1808	Pike, Wysox and Orwell Townships
Le Roy	Dec.	1835	1795	Canton and Franklin Twps.
Litchfield	Dec.	1821	1788	Athens Township
Monroe	Sept.	1821	1775	Burlington and Towanda Twps.
North Towanda	Dec.	1851	1785	Towanda Township
Orwell		1801	1796	Incorporated while part of Luzerne County
Overton	Feb.	1853	1806	Albany, Franklin and Monroe Townships
Pike	Apr.	1813	1790	Pike Township
Ridgebury	Feb.	1818	1805	Athens and Wells Twps.
Rome	Dec.	1831	1796	Orwell and Sheshequin Twps.
Sheshequin	May	1820	1783	Ulster Township
Smithfield		1809	1792	Ulster Township
South Creek	May	1835	1804	Wells and Ridgebury Twps.
Springfield	Aug.	1813	1803	Smithfield Township
Standing Stone	Sept.	1841	1774	Herrick and Wysox Twps.
Stevens	June 3,	1926		Pike Township
Terry	May	1859	1787	Asylum Township
Towanda	Mar.	1790 ¹ 1808 ²	1774	Incorporated while part of Luzerne County
Troy	Dec.	1815	1793	Burlington Township
Tuscarora	Feb.	1830	1775	Wyalusing Township. Called "Spring Hill" until 1856
Ulster	Jan.	1797	1785	
Warren	Apr.	1813	1798	Orwell and Pike Townships
Wells	Apr.	1813	1792	Smithfield Township
West Burlington	Feb.	1855	1790	Burlington Township
Wilmot	May	1849	1784	Asylum Township
Windham	Apr.	1813	1800	Orwell Township
Wyalusing	Mar.	1790	1773	Incorporated while part of Luzerne County
Wysox	Apr.	1795	1785	

¹ Godcharles

² Clement F. Heverly, History and Geography of Bradford County, 1615 - 1924 (Towanda Pa.: Bradford County Historical Society, 1926).