

## Clarion County

Created on March 11, 1839 from parts of Venango and Armstrong Counties and named for the Clarion River. Clarion, the county seat, was incorporated as a borough on April 6, 1841.

Formed on land acquired from Indians by the Treaty of Fort Stanwix in 1784, it was first owned by the Holland, Pickering, and Bingham land development companies. Settlement began in 1797, and a lumber industry sprang up which relied on floating logs down the Clarion River to the Allegheny. Boat building developed and lumber was also used for making charcoal—needed for a local iron industry—but the lumber based economy played out by 1900 because the trees were not replaced. Cook Forest State Park is the home of the only significant stand of primeval trees in the state. An oil boom lasted from 1869 to 1879; bituminous coal mining began in 1877. Surface strip bituminous coal mining has been in operation since 1920. Having both fire clay and natural gas, a pottery industry flourished in the nineteenth century. The Philadelphia and Erie Railroad was built through the county in the 1870s. The 40,000 population of 1880 was not equaled again until the 1980 census. There is a farming tradition; in total receipts from farm products Clarion ranks about 44<sup>th</sup> among the 67 counties. Farms occupy 31 percent of the land. There were Underground Railroad stations at Clarion, Rimersburg, and Shippensville.

CLARION COUNTY - 7th Class

Incorporated on March 11, 1839 from parts of Venango and  
Armstrong Counties

Boroughs

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Callensburg	1851	1826	Licking Township
Clarion	Apr. 6, 1841	1839	Clarion Township
East Brady	May 29, 1869	1866	Brady Township
Foxburg	1930	1870	Richland Township
Hawthorne	May 10, 1916		Redbank Township
Knox	1877		
New Bethlehem	1853	1840	Porter Township
Rimersburg	1853	S 1829	Toby Township
St. Petersburg	Feb. 1872	S 1820	Richland Township
Shippenville	Dec. 23, 1889	1826	Elk Township
Sligo	Sept. 20, 1878	1828	Clarion Township
Strattanville	1850	1828	Clarion Township

Second Class Townships

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Ashland	1856	1804	Elk and Richland Twps.
Beaver	1806	1801	Richland Township
Brady	1866	1830	Madison Township
Clarion	1806		Redbank Township
Elk	Mar. 1806		Incorporated while part of Venango County
Farmington	1806		Incorporated while part of Venango County
Highland	1848		Paint and Farmington Twps.
Knox	May 7, 1853	1820	Highland and Washington Townships
Licking	1804		
Limestone	1842	1800	Redbank Township
Madison		1800	Toby Township
Millcreek		1820	Redbank Township
Monroe	1832	1800	Incorporated while part of Armstrong County
Paint		1820	Incorporated while part of Armstrong County

CLARION COUNTY - 7th Class (cont'd)

Second Class Townships (cont'd)

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Perry		1800	Incorporated while part of Venango County
Piney		1798	
Porter	1839	1800	Redbank Township
Redbank	Sept. 18, 1806		Incorporated while part of Armstrong County
Richland		1806	Incorporated while part of Venango County
Salem	1856		Beaver and Richmond Twps.
Toby		1797	Incorporated while part of Armstrong County
Washington	1843	1815	Piney, Elk and Farmington Townships

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1 Godcharles

2 A. J. Davis, (ed.) History of Clarion County, Pennsylvania (Syracuse, N. Y.: D. Mason and Company, Publishers, 1887).