

Clinton County

Created on June 21, 1839, and was probably named for Governor DeWitt Clinton of New York, a promoter of the Erie Canal. Actually, the name seems to have been substituted, as a political maneuver, for the name "Eagle," which had been first proposed. This thwarted opponents of the new county. Lock Haven, the county seat, derived its name from its position on the West Branch Canal that was completed to Lock Haven in 1834. Lock Haven was incorporated as a borough on May 25, 1840, and as a city on March 28, 1870.

First settlement was by squatters on Great Island, possibly in 1762. The area south of the West Branch River was purchased from the Indians in 1768; that north of the river in 1784. The Fair Play area, which lasted from 1768 to 1784, arose due to an ambiguity in the description of the 1768 purchase. In 1769 an influx of settlers created Old Town. The Farrandsville iron furnace and coal mine and Nathan Harvey's Mill Hall began before the county was created. Jeremiah Church founded Lock Haven and worked to have the county formed. The North Branch Canal opened up the economy. Iron manufacturing declined due to competition, but the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad arrived in 1859. During the lumber boom Lock Haven competed with Williamsport. Woolrich Mills began in 1830 and is one of the oldest Pennsylvania industries. Paper and silk industries flourished from the late nineteenth century, and dyes were manufactured. The Piper Aircraft Company arrived in 1937. Surface coal mining continues and the county ranks about eighteenth in the State. The agricultural sector is not strong, although a high percentage of the population claims German descent, a traditionally farming people. Farms occupy 8 percent of the land. Floods in 1889, 1936, and 1972 damaged the county's economy. There were Underground Railroad stations at Clinton, Keating, and Glen Union. The Native American Chief Bald Eagle, the Fair Play Settlers' Pine Tree Declaration of Independence, and log raftsman Miles King are local legends.

CLINTON COUNTY - 7th Class

Formed on June 21, 1839 from parts of Lycoming and Centre Counties

Third Class City

<u>Name of City</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Prior Status</u>
Lock Haven	Mar. 28, 1870	Laid out as a town in 1833. Incorporated as a borough on Apr. 25, 1840 and became the county seat in 1844

Boroughs

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Avis	Apr. 21, 1908	1901	Pine Creek Township
Beech Creek	Feb. 1868	1812	Beech Creek Township
Flemington	1864 and 1895	Late 1830's	Allison Twp. Incorporated as a borough in 1864. In 1870 it was annexed to the City of Lock Haven. In 1877 it separated from city and became a part of Allison Township until 1895 when it was again incorporated as a borough
Loganton	1864 ¹ Jan. 18, 1870 ^{2, 3}	1840	Greene Township. Called Logansville Borough until 1888
Mill Hall	Feb. 16, 1849	S 1806	Bald Eagle Township
Renovo	1860 May 15, 1866	1825	Chapman Township
South Renovo	Jan. 31, 1888	1881	Chapman Township

Second Class Townships

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Allison	Before 1839 and 1878	1850	Organized before formation of Clinton County but annexed to City of Lock Haven. Re-incorporated in 1878 as a township
Bald Eagle	Before 1839	1769	Organized before Clinton County was formed

CLINTON 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>
Beech Creek	May 1850	1793	Bald Eagle Township
Castanea	Dec. 10, 1877		Dunstable Township
Chapman	Before 1839	1780	Incorporated while part of Lycoming County
Colebrook	Before 1839	Fall 1777	
Crawford	Jan. 14, 1841	1776	Wayne Township
Dunnstable	Before 1839	1785	Bald Eagle Township
East Keating	1875	1805	Keating Township
Gallagher	Sept. 18, 1849	1835	Colebrook Township
Greene	Feb. 1840	About 1830	Logan Township
Grugan	1851 ¹ 1852 ²	1785	Chapman and Colebrook Townships
Lamar	1817	1800	Incorporated while part of Centre County
Leidy	1847 ¹ 1848 ²	1813	Chapman Township
Logan	Before 1839	About 1775	Incorporated while part of Centre County
Noyes	1875	About 1775	Chapman Township
Pine Creek	Before 1839	1772	
Porter	May 1840 ¹ 1841 ^{2, 3}	1795	Lamar Township
Wayne	Before 1839	1768	Incorporated while part of Northumberland County
West Keating	1875	1805	Keating Township
Woodward	1841 ^{1, 3} 1842 ²	1792	Dunnstable Township

¹ Godcharles

² The Pennsylvania Writer's Project, Work Projects Administration, A Picture of Clinton County (Lock Haven, Pa.: The commissioners of Clinton County, 1942).

³ John Blair Linn, History of Centre and Clinton Counties, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, Pa.: Louis H. Everts, 1883).