

Dauphin County

Created on March 4, 1785, from part of Lancaster County, and named for the Dauphin, the title of nobility given to the eldest sons of kings of France. Harrisburg, the county seat, was named for its founder, John Harris, and was incorporated as a borough on April 13, 1791. It was chartered as a city on March 19, 1860.

John Harris's trading post stood on the Susquehanna as early as 1720. Presbyterian groups at Paxton and Manada Gap were the earliest settlers, but German Lutherans formed the Hummelstown and Middletown communities in the 1760s. The Paxton Boys movement of 1763–1764 slaughtered helpless Indians and tried to intimidate the provincial government into providing more defense on the frontier and more legislative representation. The State's capitol was moved from Lancaster to Harrisburg in 1812, and the next year Lebanon County was created from Dauphin's eastern townships. In the mid-nineteenth century Dauphin was a canal and railroad center. Later, steel mills went up in Steelton. In Middletown, American Tube and Iron Co. flourished, and railroad cars were made there. Today, Milton Hershey's industrial legacy is still apparent and AMP is a national leader. Thirty percent of the land is farmed, and this is a leading county in sheep and poultry. In total value its farm products rank twenty-fifth among the state's sixty-seven counties.

DAUPHIN COUNTY - 4th Class

Formed on March 4, 1785 from part of Lancaster County and named in honor of Louis, the Dauphin of France

Third Class City

<u>Name of City</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Prior Status</u>
Harrisburg	Apr. 20, 1860	First settled about 1719. Laid out as a town in 1785. Incorporated as a borough on April 13, 1791

Boroughs

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Berrysburg	Dec. 14, 1869	1819	Mifflin Township
Dauphin	Mar. 31, 1845	1825	Paxton Township
Elizabethtown	1893	1817	Washington Township
Gratz	Apr. 3, 1852	1805	Mifflin Township
Halifax	May 29, 1875	July 18, 1784	Halifax Township
Highspire	Feb. 1867 & Dec. 23, 1903	1814	Swatara Twp. Borough charter was annulled in 1868. Reincorporated as a borough in 1904
Hummelstown	Aug. 26, 1874	1762	Derry Township
Lykens	Apr. 3, 1872 ¹ Aug. 28, 1871 ²	1848	Wiconisco Township
Middletown	Feb. 19, 1828	1755	Lower Swatara Township
Millersburg	Apr. 8, 1850	July 1807	Upper Paxton Township
Paxtang	July 3, 1914		Swatara Township
Penbrook	July 10, 1894		Susquehanna Township
Royalton	Sept. 27, 1892		Londonderry Township
Steelton	Jan. 26, 1880 ¹ Oct. 1880 ²	Apr. 1866	Mifflin Township
Uniontown	Apr. 20, 1864		Mifflin Township
Williamstown	June 22, 1877	1869	

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>
Lower Swatara	Nov. 7, 1961			Swatara Township
Susquehanna	Nov. 6, 1951	May 1, 1815		Paxton Township
Swatara	1911	1799		Lower Paxton Township

DAUPHIN COUNTY - 4th Class (cont'd)

Second Class Townships

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Conewago	Apr. 2, 1850	1755	Derry and Londonderry Twps.
Derry	June 9, 1729 ^{1,2} Aug. 1, 1729 ³	About 1717	Incorporated as a Twp. while part of Lancaster County
East Hanover	Mar. 14, 1842	About 1717	Hanover Township
Halifax	Mar. 1804		Upper Paxton and Middle Paxton Townships
Jackson	Aug. 23, 1828 ^{1,2} Nov. 1828 ³		Halifax Township
Londonderry	Feb. 1768 ^{1,2} Feb. 1767 ³		Incorporated as a Twp. while part of Lancaster County
Lower Paxton	1729 ^{1,2} 1767 ³	About 1717	Paxton Township
Lower Swatara	Mar. 18, 1840		Swatara Township
Lykens	Sept. 3, 1810	About 1732	Upper Paxton Township
Middle Paxton	Aug. 1787	1750	Paxton Township
Mifflin	Mar. 12, 1819		Upper Paxton and Lykens Twps
Reed	Apr. 6, 1849		Middle Paxton Township
Rush	Mar. 14, 1820		Middle Paxton Township
South Hanover	Mar. 14, 1842		Hanover Township
Upper Paxton	Aug. 1767		Paxton Township
Washington	Jan. 23, 1846 ^{1,2} Sept. 3, 1845 ³		Mifflin Township
Wayne	May 1878		Jackson Township
West Hanover	May 14, 1842		Hanover Township
Wiconisco	July 2, 1839		Lykens Township
Williams	Feb. 7, 1869		Wiconisco Township

¹ Godcharles

² William Henry Egle, M. D., History of the Counties of Dauphin and Lebanon in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, Everts and Peck, 1883).

³ Luther Reily Kelker, History of Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, Vol. I (New York: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1907).