

Franklin County

Created on September 9, 1784 from part of Cumberland County and named for Benjamin Franklin. Benjamin Chambers, for whom it was named, founded Chambersburg, the county seat, in 1764. It was incorporated as a borough on March 21, 1803.

Benjamin Chambers's settlement in 1730 was the first permanent settler community. The lower Cumberland Valley was included in a purchase from the Indians in October 1736, but this was the scene of heavy Indian fighting in the period 1756 to 1763. From 1837 on, the Cumberland Valley Railroad gave the county marketing opportunities. Franklin has always had an agricultural base, but its early iron furnaces lost out to competition elsewhere. Paper, lumber, and crushed stone, however, were successfully produced. The Confederate Army twice captured Chambersburg, and the second time, in July 1864, they burned it. In 1920, Franklin was the state's seventh ranked agricultural producer, and in 1992 it was fourth in receipts from livestock and tenth in crops. Dairying is especially successful. Farms cover 51.6 percent of the land.

FRANKLIN COUNTY - 6th Class

Formed on September 9, 1784 from part of Cumberland County

Boroughs

| <u>Name of Borough</u> | <u>Incorporated</u> | <u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u> | | <u>Incorporated From</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|------|---|
| Chambersburg | Mar. 21, 1803 | June | 1764 | First settled in 1730 |
| Greencastle | Mar. 25, 1805 | | 1782 | Antrim Township |
| Mercersburg | Feb. 1831 | | 1780 | Montgomery and Peters Twps. Settled in 1729 |
| Mont Alto | July 22, 1913 | | | Quincy Township |
| Orrstown | May 3, 1847 | | 1834 | Southampton Township. Settled in 1783 |
| Waynesboro | Dec. 21, 1818 | Dec. 29, 1797 | | Washington Township. Borough charter repealed in 1824, reincorporated in 1831 |

Second Class Townships

| <u>Name of Township</u> | <u>Incorporated</u> | | <u>Settled</u> | | <u>Incorporated From</u> |
|-------------------------|---------------------|------|----------------|------|---|
| Antrim | May | 1741 | | | Incorporated while part of Lancaster County |
| Fannett | | 1761 | | | Incorporated while part of Cumberland County |
| Greene | | 1788 | | 1744 | |
| Guilford | | 1751 | About | 1749 | Incorporated while part of Cumberland County |
| Hamilton | | 1752 | About | 1737 | Incorporated while part of Cumberland County |
| Letterkenny | 1761 or | 1762 | About | 1736 | Incorporated while part of Cumberland County |
| Lurgan | | 1743 | | 1736 | Incorporated while part of Lancaster County |
| Metal | | 1795 | | 1763 | Fannett Township |
| Montgomery | Jan. | 1781 | About | 1730 | Incorporated while part of Cumberland County |
| Peters | | 1751 | | 1720 | Incorporated while part of Cumberland County |
| Quincy | | 1838 | | 1733 | Washington Township |
| St. Thomas | | 1818 | About | 1731 | Peters and Hamilton Twps. |
| Southampton | | 1783 | | | Lurgan Township |

FRANKLIN 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> |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------|--|
| Warren | 1798 | | Incorporated while part of Bedford County |
| Washington | Jan. 1779 | 1735 | |

Frederic A. Godcharles, Pennsylvania, Political, Governmental, Military and Civil: Political and Civil History Volume (New York: American Historical Society, Inc., 1933).

I. H. M'Cauley, Historical Sketch of Franklin County, Pennsylvania, 2nd edition (Harrisburg, Pa.: Patriot Publishing Company, 1878).

Samuel P. Bates, J. Fraise Richard et al., History of Franklin County, Pennsylvania (Chicago: Warner, Beers and Company, 1887).