

Greene County

Created on February 9, 1796, from part of Washington County and named for General Nathanael Greene. *Waynesburg*, the county seat, named for Major General Anthony Wayne, was laid out in 1796 and incorporated as a borough on January 29, 1816.

First permanent settlement is believed to have been the Swan-VanMeter-Hughes party from Virginia, in 1767. Once the Indian hostility and Whiskey Rebellion problems had passed, this county was formed in order to benefit small farmers. Beginning with the Merino Sheep bonanza of the 1820s, wool became a major product. Although overshadowed by production elsewhere in the world, Greene still leads other Pennsylvania counties in sheep (occasionally challenged by Washington County). When the Monongahela River slackwater system reached Rice's Landing in 1857, it became easier to market products. Bituminous coal mining began in 1902; in recent years this been Pennsylvania's highest producing county, nearly all from subsurface mines. Natural gas was also found in abundance. Forty percent of the land is in farms, although cash receipts from agriculture are low. The tradition that it rains somewhere in the county every July 29 is a popular myth begun by a local pharmacist. Home of Governor Edward Martin.

GREENE COUNTY - 6th Class

Formed on February 9, 1796 from part of Washington County

Boroughs

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Carmichaels	1855	S 1768	Cumberland Township
Clarksville		S About 1769	Morgan Township
Greensboro	Jan. 13, 1879	1781	Monongahela Township
Jefferson		1795	Jefferson Township
Rices Landing	May 15, 1903		Cumberland Township
Waynesburg	Jan. 20, 1816	Oct. 28, 1796	

Second Class Townships

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Aleppo	1821		Springhill Township
Center	1820		Franklin and Morris Twps.
Cumberland			
Dunkard	1798	About 1754	Greene Township
Franklin	1787		
Freeport	1932		
Gilmore	1857		Richhill Township
Gray	1932		
Greene	1782	About 1767	
Jackson	1839	About 1774	Richhill Township
Jefferson	1798	1776	Morgan Township
Monongahela	1822	1764	Greene Township
Morgan			
Morris	1798		Richhill Township
Perry	1842		Greene Township
Richhill		1805	
Springhill	1860	About 1773	Aleppo and Gilmore Twps.
Washington	1838		Morgan Township
Wayne	1808		Franklin Township
Whiteley	1798		Greene Township

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

William Hanna, History of Greene County, Pennsylvania (no publisher), 1892.