

## Lebanon County

Created on was created on February 16, 1813, from parts of Dauphin and Lancaster Counties and named for old Lebanon Township. Lebanon is a Biblical name meaning “White Mountain.” Lebanon, the county seat, was laid out in 1750. It was incorporated as a borough on March 28, 1799, but the citizens did not accept incorporation. It was finally chartered as a borough on February 20, 1821 and as a city in 1885.

Palatine Germans from New York were the first large group, first arriving in 1732. Conrad Weiser became their leader. Today 42 percent of the residents still claim German descent. Indian attacks troubled the area from 1755 to 1763, and the Hanover Resolves of 1774 anticipated the Revolution. Jacob Albright established the Evangelical Association whose Albright College was located in Myerstown from 1895 to 1928. A turnpike in 1817 followed by the Union Canal in 1828 opened up business markets. Iron mines, especially those of the Coleman family, led to iron making. Cornwall Furnace was productive from 1742 to 1883; Cornwall’s iron mine operated into the 1970s.

There was an important limestone industry, and items manufactured included carriages, shoes, cigars, Miller Organs, whiskey, and Lebanon Bologna. Agriculture leads the economy today, the county being a leader in livestock and dairy products—sixth in the state—and an important grain producer. It is one of only four counties in which half or more of the area is farmed. The first National Guard annual training camps were at Mount Gretna. Since World War II, the Federal dollar input in the county has been high because of Indiantown Gap Military Reservation.

LEBANON COUNTY - 6th Class

Formed on February 16, 1813 from parts of Dauphin and Lancaster Counties

Third Class City

<u>Name of City</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Prior Status</u>
Lebanon	1868 1885	Laid out as a town in 1756 and originally called Steitztown. Incorporated as a borough on February 20, 1821

Boroughs

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Cleona	Mar. 25, 1929		North Cornwall and North Lebanon Townships
Cornwall	Oct. 11, 1926		Cornwall and South Lebanon Townships
Jonestown Mt. Gretna	Aug. 20, 1870 1926	1761	Swatara Township South Londonderry and West Cornwall Townships
Myerstown	1910	1768	Jackson Township
Palmyra	Nov. 10, 1913		Londonderry Township
Richland	Oct. 17, 1906		Millcreek Township

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>
Annville	1912	Sept. 1799	1762	
West Lebanon	1902 * or 1906	Mar. 13, 1888		North Lebanon Township

Second Class Townships

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Bethel	May 1793	About 1737	Lebanon Township
Cold Spring	Nov. 3, 1853	About 1775	Union and East Hanover Twp.
East Hanover	Feb. 1785		Hanover Township

LEBANON 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>
Heidelberg	Feb. 1757	About 1720	Incorporated while part of Lancaster County
Jackson	1813	1700	Bethel and Heidelberg Twps.
Millcreek	Feb. 26, 1844	1720	Jackson and Heidelberg Twps.
North Annville	July 30, 1845		Annville Township
North Cornwall		1737	Cornwall Township
North Lebanon	Mar. 18, 1840		Lebanon Township
North Londonderry	Mar. 16, 1894		Londonderry Township
South Annville	July 30, 1845		Annville Township
South Lebanon	Mar. 18, 1840 <sup>1</sup>		Lebanon Township
	Mar. 14, 1840 <sup>2</sup>		
South Londonderry	Mar. 16, 1894		Londonderry Township
Swatara	1813	About 1737	Bethel and Hanover Twps.
Union	Sept. 26, 1842	About 1738	East Hanover Township
West Cornwall	Mar. 13, 1893		Cornwall Township

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1 Godcharles

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

\* Township Commissioners indicate both dates.