

## Lycoming County

Created on April 13, 1795, from part of Northumberland County and named for Lycoming Creek. The name is derived from a Delaware Indian word meaning “sandy or gravelly creek.” Williamsport, the county seat was laid out in 1795, incorporated as a borough on March 1, 1806, and became a city on January 15, 1866. There are various theories about the origin of the city’s name: that it was so called for Judge William Hepburn; that Michael Ross named it for his own son William; or that William Ross, a boatman, used it as a port years before the town was founded.

Native American groups had many communities in this area. Part of the county was obtained by Pennsylvania from Indians at the Fort Stanwix Treaty of 1768 and the remainder at Fort Stanwix in 1784 (the “Last Purchase”). A mapping ambiguity in the 1768 deed left an independent settlement area—a “no-man’s land”—known as the “Fair Play tract” which lasted until the 1784 deed clearly made it Pennsylvania’s land. Heroic fighting against Native Americans occurred during the Revolution, especially the exploits of the Bradys. Lumber was the backbone of the economy from the start. There was good access from major roads, and the West Branch Canal reached to Williamsport in 1833, but production really soared after the Susquehanna Boom was built at Williamsport, between 1846 and 1851, giving greater control over the lumber that was floated down river to its markets. A “Millionaires Row” of houses arose in Williamsport. But the 1889 flood destroyed the boom, much of Williamsport, and all the sawmills. A paper box industry later rose, relying on wood pulp, and Muncy became a manufacturing center. Today, Williamsport makes electronics and metal products. Only one-fifth of the county is farmed, largely along the river, but Lycoming is in the upper half of Pennsylvania counties in value of total farm products. Dairy products and mushrooms are the specialties of greatest economic value.

LYCOMING COUNTY - 5th Class

Formed on April 13, 1795 from part of Northumberland County

Third Class City

<u>Name of City</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Prior Status</u>
Williamsport	Jan. 15, 1866	Settled in April, 1769. Laid out as a town on July 4, 1796. Incorporated as a borough on March 1, 1806

Boroughs

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Duboistown	Oct. 14, 1878	S 1852	Armstrong Township
Hughesville	Apr. 23, 1852	1816	Muncy Township
Jersey Shore	Mar. 15, 1826	1800	Porter Township
Montgomery	Mar. 27, 1887	S 1783	Clinton Township
Montoursville	Feb. 19, 1850 <sup>1, 2</sup>	1820	Fairfield Township
	Feb. 14, 1850 <sup>3</sup>		
Muncy	Mar. 15, 1826	1797	
Picture Rocks	Sept. 27, 1857	S 1848	
Salladasburg	Jan. 12, 1884	1837	
South Williamsport	Nov. 29, 1886	S 1790	

Second Class Townships

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Anthony	Sept. 7, 1844		Lycoming Township
Armstrong	Feb. 7, 1842	1795	Clinton Township
Bastress	Dec. 13, 1854	1837	Susquehanna Township
Brady	Jan. 31, 1855	1790	Washington Township
Brown	May 3, 1815	About 1796	
Cascade	Aug. 9, 1843	1843	Hepburn and Plunketts Creek Townships
Clinton	Dec. 1825	1825	Washington Township
Cogan House	Dec. 6, 1843	1825	Jackson and Mifflin Twps.
Cummings	1832	1784	Mifflin and Brown Twps.
Eldred	Oct. 12, 1858 <sup>1</sup>		Hepburn Township
	Nov. 16, 1858 <sup>2, 3</sup>		

LYCOMING COUNTY - 5th Class (cont'd)

Second Class Townships (cont'd)

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Fairfield	Bet. Aug. 1825- December 1826	About 1742	Muncy Township
Franklin	1822		Moreland Township
Gamble	Jan. 30, 1875	1784	Lewis and Cascade Twps.
Hepburn	1804	About 1784	Loyalsock Township
Jackson	Sept. 1824	1811	Lycoming Township
Jordan	Feb. 7, 1854	1812	Franklin Township
Lewis	1835	1812	Hepburn Township
Limestone	Dec. 4, 1824	1789	Nippenose and Wayne Twps.
Loyalsock	Feb. 1786	1768	Muncy Township
Lycoming	Apr. 26, 1858 <sup>1</sup> Dec. 2, 1858 <sup>2,3</sup>	About 1773	
McHenry	Aug. 21, 1861	1785	Brown and Cummings Twps.
McIntyre	1848	1805	Lewis Township
McNett	Feb. 10, 1878	About 1805	McIntyre Township
Mifflin	1803	About 1790	Old Lycoming Township
Mill Creek	Feb. 25, 1879		Muncy Township
Moreland	1813	1790	Muncy Township
Muncy	Apr. 9, 1772	About 1772	Incorporated while part of Northumberland County
Muncy Creek	1797	S About 1773	Muncy Township
Nippenose	May 1786	About 1769	Bald Eagle and Upper Bald Eagle Townships
Old Lycoming	Aug. 22, 1785	About 1773	Incorporated while part of Northumberland County
Penn	1828	1774	Muncy Township
Piatt	Apr. 30, 1858	1769	Mifflin Township
Pine	Nov. 18, 1856 <sup>1,2</sup> Jan. 27, 1857 <sup>3</sup>	1807	
Plunketts Creek	1838	About 1776	Davidson and Franklin Twps.
Porter	May 6, 1840	1772	Mifflin Township
Shrewsbury	1804	1794	Muncy Township
Susquehanna	Dec. 1838	1801	Nippenose Township
Upper Fairfield	Sept. 12, 1851		Fairfield Township
Washington	Aug. 23, 1785	About 1760	Bald Eagle Township

LYCOMING COUNTY - 5th Class (cont'd)

Second Class Townships (cont'd)

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Watson	Jan. 1845	1784	Cummings and Porter Townships
Wolf	Sept. 1834	About 1777	Muncy Township
Woodward	Nov. 23, 1855	1772	Anthony Township

---

1 Godcharles

2 John F. Meginness, (ed.), History of Lycoming County, Pennsylvania (Chicago: Brown, Runk and Company, 1892).

3 Col. Thomas W. Lloyd, History of Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, Vol. I (Indianapolis, Ind.: Historical Publishing Company, 1929).