

## **Pike County**

Created on March 26, 1814, from part of Wayne County and named for General Zebulon Pike. Milford, the county seat, was incorporated as a borough on December 25, 1874, and probably named for Milford Haven in Wales.

Originally a remote section of Bucks County, the land that became Pike was first settled about 1700. Purchases from the Indians in 1749 and 1768 legitimized settlement, and an agreement with Connecticut in 1786 confirmed Pennsylvania's authority. Violence with Native Americans lasted through the Revolution. Milford was settled in 1796 and just kept growing. Millwrights and ferry masters were early settlers. Canals, beginning in 1827, made Pike a connecting point with New York, and an aqueduct was built to carry canal boats over the Delaware. Railroads arrived in 1848, and lumber was rafted out to Easton and Trenton. A tanning industry once flourished, and bluestone quarries were productive. The population grew with the lumbering industry, but by 1914 the stands of trees were exhausted. Few stayed on. Although rural, Pike is not a significant farming area. The summer tourist population, a feature for over a century, is often ten times the permanent population. Farms occupy only 1½ percent of the land. Many national leaders spent creative periods secluded in Pike: Charles Peirce, Dan Beard, Grover Cleveland, William Howard Taft, Thomas Edison, Zane Grey, and Horace Greeley, for example.

PIKE COUNTY - 8th Class

Formed on March 26, 1814 from part of Wayne County

Boroughs

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Matamoras	Jan. 18, 1905		Westfall Township
Milford	Dec. 25, 1874	1796	

Second Class Townships

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Blooming Grove	Dec. 17, 1850	1810	Lackawaxen and Palmyra Townships
Delaware	Before 1766	1735	Incorporated while part of Northampton County
Dingman	Apr. 17, 1832	1750	Upper Smithfield
Greene	Apr. 24, 1839	1809	Palmyra Township
Lackawaxen	1798	1775	Incorporated while part of Wayne County
Lehman	Aug. 19, 1829	1700	Delaware Township
Milford	Apr. 17, 1832		Upper Smithfield Township
Palmyra	1798	1750	Incorporated while part of Wayne County
Porter	Dec. 16, 1851	1849	Delaware and Lehman Twps.
Shohola	Sept. 25, 1852	1775	Lackawaxen, Westfall and Milford Townships
Westfall	Jan. 31, 1839	1755	Milford Township

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1 Godcharles

2 Alfred Mathews, History of Wayne, Pike and Monroe Counties, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia: R. T. Peck and Company, 1886).