

Susquehanna County

Created on February 21, 1810, from part of Luzerne County and named for the Susquehanna River. It remained attached to Luzerne County until 1812. Montrose, the county seat was laid out in 1812 and incorporated as a borough on March 19, 1824. Its name is a combination of “mont,” the French word for “mountain” and Rose, for Dr. L. R. Rose, a prominent citizen.

In 1787 entrepreneur John Nicholson sent some settlers to the site of Brooklyn, although a Hessian deserter may have been the very first in the area. Pennsylvania purchased the land from Indians at Fort Stanwix in 1784, and Connecticut formally yielded its claim in 1786 (although individual Connecticut settlers eventually re-purchased their land from Pennsylvania). Maple sugar was the first major product; lumbering followed. Woodworking factories developed, producing furniture, artistic scrolls and designs, and toys. A fire in Montrose in 1886 destroyed a large toy factory. Tanning was important while the stands of hemlock survived. Valuable anthracite was discovered at Forest City in 1871. Good railroad connections with Lake Erie and New York did much for the economy. Once Susquehanna had a superior dairy production that was marketed to urban areas by railroads. Flagstone is profitable to mine. Bendix Corporation came to Montrose in 1951, and its flight systems division now employs one thousand in South Montrose. Farms cover 36 percent of the county land, and Susquehanna has the twelfth largest number of cows among the sixty-seven counties and the twelfth highest figure for cash receipts from dairy products. It is also a major producer of hay.

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY - 7th Class

Formed on February 21, 1810 from part of Luzerne County

Boroughs

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Forest City	Aug. 15, 1888	1871	Clifford Township
Friendsville	1847 ¹ 1848 ³	1819	Choconut, Apolacon and Middletown Townships
Great Bend	Nov. 1861	1862	Great Bend Township
Hallstead	1874		Great Bend Township
Hop Bottom	1881	S 1799	Lathrop Township
Lanesboro	1888		Harmony Township
Little Meadows	1859	S 1800	Apolacon Township
Montrose	Mar. 29, 1824	1812	Bridgewater Township
New Milford	Dec. 1859	S 1789	New Milford Township
Oakland	1884		Oakland Township
Susquehanna Depot	Aug. 1853		Oakland Township
Thompson	1876		Thompson Township
Uniondale	1885		Herrick Township

Second Class Townships

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Apolacon	1846	1800	Rush Township
Ararat	Aug. 1852	1810	Herrick, Thompson and Gibson Townships
Auburn	Apr. 1814	1797	Braintrim Township, Luzerne County
Bridgewater	Jan. 1805	1798	Incorporated while part of Luzerne County
Brooklyn	Apr. 1814	1787	Bridgewater Township
Choconut	Jan. 1814 ¹ Jan. 1813 ³	1806	Rush Township
Clifford	Apr. 1806	1799	Incorporated while part of Luzerne County
Dimock	Dec. 1832	1796	Springville Township
Forest Lake	May 1836	1799	Middletown, Bridgewater and Silver Lake Townships
Franklin	Dec. 1835	1797	Bridgewater and Lawsville Townships

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY - 7th Class (cont'd)

Second Class Townships (cont'd)

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Gibson	Nov. 1812 ¹ Nov. 1813 ³	1792	Clifford Township
Great Bend	1791 ^{1, 3} 1793 ²	1787	Incorporated while part of Luzerne County
Harford	Jan. 1808	1790	Incorporated while part of Luzerne County
Harmony	1809	1789	Willingborough Township
Herrick	May 1825	1789	Gibson and Clifford Twps.
Jackson	Dec. 1814 ¹ Dec. 1815 ^{2, 3}	1809	Harmony Township
Jessup	Apr. 1806 ¹ Apr. 1846 ^{2, 3}	1799	Bridgewater, Rush and Middletown Townships
Lathrop	Apr. 1846	1799	Brooklyn Township
Lenox	Aug. 1795	1797	Called Nicholson Twp. while part of Luzerne County. Name changed Jan. 1813
Liberty	1798	1799	Called Lawsville Township until Sept. 1836
Middletown	1813	1799	Rush Township
New Milford	Aug. 1807	1790	Incorporated while part of Luzerne County
Oakland	Dec. 1853	1787	Harmony Township
Rush	Nov. 1801	1794	Incorporated while part of Luzerne County
Silver Lake	Aug. 1813	1809	Bridgewater Township
Springville	Apr. 1814	1800	Bridgewater Township
Thompson	Apr. 1833	1820	Jackson Township

¹ Godcharles

² Emily C. Blackman, History of Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia: Claxton, Rimsen and Haffelfinger, 1873).

³ Rhamanthus M. Stocker (ed.), Centennial History of Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia: R. T. Peck and Company, 1887).