

Wayne County

Created on March 21, 1798, from part of Northampton County and named for General Anthony Wayne. Honesdale, the county seat after 1842, was laid out in 1827 and incorporated as a borough on January 28, 1831. It was named for Philip Hone, president of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. Earlier county seats included Wilsonville (1799–1802), Milford (1802–1805), and Bethany (1805–1841).

Part of the Pennsylvania lands claimed by Connecticut settlers, eventually supported by their government until 1786, this area was also contested with Indians in 1755–1757 and again in the Wyoming Massacre campaign of 1778. At a high altitude and originally heavily forested, Wayne yielded lumber which was floated down the Delaware. This was the first industry. The county was soon found to be good for grazing livestock. Originally not thought to have any coal itself, Wayne profited from being on the route of the coal carrying Delaware and Hudson Canal and its railroad extension from Honesdale to Carbondale. Philip Hone from New York was an early developer. In 1829 the first locomotive to run in North America, the “Stourbridge Lion,” ran in Wayne County. Christian Dorflinger came from New York to White Mills in 1865 and built a glassmaking complex. He died in 1915, and his factory closed in 1921. Dairy farming and poultry are important but have declined since 1980. Farms today occupy 30 percent of the land. The county includes the very northeastern tip of the Northern Anthracite field. Mining was profitable from the late nineteenth century until about 1946. Sharing with Pike and Monroe Counties the phenomenal residential growth, produced by immigrants from New York and New Jersey arriving since 1975, the county’s economy is now shifted toward tourism, health services, and home construction. Many new dwellings have gone up, mostly outside the old community centers.

WAYNE COUNTY - 7th Class

Formed on March 21, 1798 from part of Northampton County

Boroughs

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Bethany	Mar. 31, 1821	S 1800	
Hawley	Jan. 23, 1884	S 1803	Palmyra Township
Honesdale	Jan. 26, 1831 ¹	1826	
	Jan. 28, 1831 ²		
Prompton	Sept. 1850	S 1818	Texas, Canaan and Clinton Townships
Starrucca	1853	S 1800	Preston and Scott Townships
Waymart	Apr. 8, 1851	S 1790	Canaan Township

Second Class Townships

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Berlin	Nov. 27, 1826 ¹	About 1800	Dyberry Township
	Nov. 28, 1826 ²		
Buckingham	1798	1790	
Canaan	1798	1783	
Cherry Ridge	Apr. 30, 1844 ^{1, 3}	1794	Texas, Palmyra and Canaan Townships
	Dec. 1843 ²		
Clinton	1825 ¹	1812	Canaan, Mt. Pleasant and Dyberry Townships
	Nov. 17, 1834 ²		
Damascus	1798	About 1750	
Dreher	Sept. 7, 1877	1794	Sterling Township
Dyberry	Sept. 1803 ¹	1797	Damascus, Palmyra and Canaan Townships
	1805 ²		
	Spring 1804 ³		
Lake	1877	About 1803	Salem and South Canaan Townships
Lebanon	1818 ¹	1810	Damascus Township
	1819 ²		
Lehigh	Dec. 15, 1883	About 1856	Dreher Township
Manchester	Aug. 30, 1826	1800	Buckingham Township
Mt. Pleasant	1798	June 1789	
Oregon	May 12, 1847	About 1827	Damascus and Berlin Twps.
Palmyra	1798	1792	
Paupack	1850	1783	Palmyra Township

WAYNE 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>
Preston	Apr. 28, 1828	About 1812	Buckingham, Scott and Mt. Pleasant Townships
Salem	Jan. 1808	1770	Canaan and Delaware Townships
Scott	1821	1812	Buckingham Township
South Canaan	Feb. 1852	1804	Canaan Township
Sterling	Apr. 25, 1815	About 1800	Salem Township
Texas	Nov. 23, 1837	1765	Dyberry Township

1 Godcharles

2 Phinias G. Goodrich, History of Wayne County, Pennsylvania (Honesdale, Pa.:
Haines and Beardey, 1880).

3 Alfred Matthews, History of Wayne, Pike and Monroe Counties (Philadelphia:
R. T. Peck and Company, 1886).