

Lancaster County

Created on May 10, 1729 from part of Chester County and named for Lancashire, England. Lancaster, the county seat, also named for its English counterpart, was laid out in 1730. It was chartered as a borough on May 1, 1742 and as a city on March 10, 1818.

The area was rapidly settled after 1709 by a mix of peoples: Swiss Mennonites, Huguenots, Scotch-Irish, English, Welsh, and Rhineland Germans. This was the first new county since the original three of 1682. Its rich limestone soil meant farming had to prosper. Coupled with the charitable humanitarianism of its religious values there developed a tradition that the poor could find opportunity here—"the buttermilk way." Before 1776, Lancaster was the largest inland city in Britain's American colonies. The decade 1800–1810 was stagnant, but then new enterprises began: gristmills, limeburning, and iron. A turnpike linked Lancaster to Philadelphia in 1800, and the Columbia and Philadelphia Railroad opened in 1834. The Conestoga Slackwater Canal facilitated trade with Baltimore. In the late nineteenth century there was a manufacturing take off including: cigars, cotton and silk cloth, beer, stoves, watches and clocks, and farm tools. The county ceased manufacturing iron. In this century, Armstrong Cork, R.C.A., Raybestos, Sperry-Rand, and Kerr Glass Company prospered, and some of the garments industry continues. Always Pennsylvania's most prolific agricultural county, two-thirds of Lancaster County is farmland; animal products make up over 90 percent of farm cash receipts. Only the high prices paid for Chester County's mushrooms compete with the cash returns from Lancaster's harvests.

The Christiana Riots against slavery in 1851. Lancaster was the home of Congressman Thaddeus Stevens who led the movement for justice for African Americans.

LANCASTER COUNTY - 3rd Class

Formed on May 10, 1729 from part of Chester County

Third Class City

<u>Name of City</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Prior Status</u>
Lancaster	Mar. 20, 1818	Laid out as a town in Mar. 1730. Incorporated as a borough on August 13, 1742

Boroughs

<u>Name of Borough</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Town Laid Out or Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Adamstown	Apr. 2, 1850	1761	East Cocalico Township
Akron	1884		
Christiana	Mar. 1, 1894 ¹ 1885-1886 ²	1833	Sadsbury Township
Columbia	Feb. 25, 1814	1788	Hempfield Township
Denver	1900	1863-1869	Cocalico Township
East Petersburg	Dec. 20, 1946	1812	East Hempfield and Manheim Townships
Elizabethtown	Apr. 13, 1872	1751	West Donegal and Mount Joy Townships
Ephrata	1891	1732	Ephrata Township
Lititz	Apr. 24, 1888	1757	Warwick Township
Manheim	May 16, 1848 ¹ May 16, 1838 ^{2,3}	1762	Rapho Township
Marietta	Mar. 6, 1812 ¹ 1830 ²	1803	Donegal Township
Millersville	1932	1764	Manor Township
Mount Joy	Feb. 10, 1851	1812	Mount Joy Township
Mountville	1900	1814	West Hempfield Township
New Holland	1895	1760	Earl Township
Quarryville	Dec. 1, 1892	S 1791	Eden Township
Strasburg	Mar. 13, 1816	S 1733	Strasburg Township
Terre Hill	1900		East Earl Township
Washington	May 1, 1827 ^{1,2} Apr. 13, 1827 ³	1810	Manor Township

LANCASTER COUNTY - 3rd Class (cont'd)

First Class Township

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Became First Class Twp.</u>	<u>Incorporated as a Twp.</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Manheim	Nov. 4, 1952	June 9, 1729	1729	

Second Class Townships

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Bart		1744	Sadsbury Township
Brecknock	Jan. 10, 1740	1737	
Caernarvon	June 9, 1729	1730	
Clay		1853	Elizabeth Township
Colerain	Feb. 1738	1758	Drumore Township
Conestoga		1712 ¹ 1718 ²	Erected while part of Chester County
Conoy		1842	West Donegal Township
Drumore	Aug. 5, 1729		
Earl	June 9, 1729	1717	
East Cocalico		1838	1732 Cocalico Township
East Donegal	June 24, 1838	1716	Donegal Township
East Drumore		1883	1700 Drumore Township
East Earl	Nov. 20, 1851	1722	Earl Township
East Hempfield		1818	1717 Hempfield Township
East Lampeter		1841	1723 Lampeter Township
Eden		1855	About 1830 Bart Township
Elizabeth		1757	Warwick Township
Ephrata		1838	1732 Cocalico Township
Fulton		1844	About 1733 Little Britain Township
Lancaster		1729	1717-1720 Conestoga Township
Leacock	June 9, 1729		1728
Little Britain	Feb. 7, 1738	About 1714	Drumore Township
Manor		1730	1717
Martic		1730 ¹ Aug. 1729 ²	1691
Mount Joy		1759 ¹ 1759 or 1767 ²	1735 Donegal Township
Paradise		1843	1710 Strasburg Township
Penn		1846	About 1735 Warwick Township
Pequea		1853	Conestoga Township
Providence		1853	1720 Martic Township

LANCASTER COUNTY - 3rd Class (cont'd)

Second Class Townships (cont'd)

<u>Name of Township</u>	<u>Incorporated</u>	<u>Settled</u>	<u>Incorporated From</u>
Rapho	1741	About 1721	Donegal Township
Sadsbury	1729	1691	Incorporated while part of Chester County
Salisbury	1729	1710 or 1712	
Strasburg	About 1730	1712	
Upper Leacock	June 17, 1843 ¹ June 19, 1843 ²	1731	Leacock Township
Warwick	June 9, 1729	1716	
West Cocalico	1838	1732	Cocalico Township
West Donegal	June 24, 1838	About 1719	Earl Township
West Earl	Nov. 18, 1833	About 1719	
West Hempfield	1818	1718	Hempfield Township
West Lampeter	1841		Lampeter Township

¹ Godcharles

² H. M. J. Klein (ed.), Lancaster County, Pennsylvania - A History, Vol. I
(New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1924).

³ Franklin Ellis and Samuel Evans, History of Lancaster County with Biographical
Sketches of Many of Its Pioneers and Prominent Men (Philadelphia: Everts and Peck, 1883).