

The Origins of Pennsylvania's 67 County Names

the German "Lecha," which comes from the Indian "Lechauwekind," meaning "where there are forks"

◆ **Luzerne**, in honor of the French Minister to the US, Chevalier de la Luzerne ◆ **Lycoming**, derived from a Delaware Indian word meaning "sandy or gravelly creek" ◆ **McKean**, in honor of Governor Thomas McKean ◆ **Mercer**, in honor of General Hugh Mercer ◆ **Mifflin**, in honor of Governor Thomas Mifflin ◆ **Monroe**, in honor of President James Monroe ◆ **Montgomery**, for landowner Isaac Morris ◆ **Montour**, in honor of Madame Montour, a prominent woman of both Indian and French descent ◆ **Northampton**, was subsequently named for Northamptonshire, England ◆ **Northumberland**, probably named for the English county of the same name ◆ **Perry**, in honor of Oliver Hazard Perry, victor in the Battle of Lake Erie ◆ **Philadelphia**, the name signified "brother love" to PA founder, William Penn ◆ **Pike**, in honor of General Zebulon Pike ◆ **Potter**, in honor of General James Potter ◆

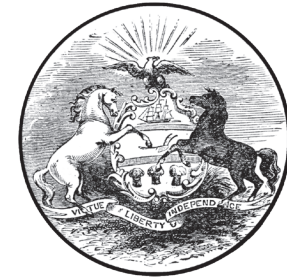
Schuylkill, named for the Schuylkill River ◆ **Snyder**, in honor of Governor Simon Snyder

◆ **Somerset**, named for Somersetshire, England ◆ **Sullivan**, in honor of Senator Charles C. Sullivan ◆ **Susquehanna**, named for the Susquehanna River ◆ **Tioga**, named for the Tioga River ◆ **Union**, allusion to the Federal Union ◆ **Venango**, comes from the Indian name for French Creek ◆ **Warren**, in honor of General Joseph Warren ◆ **Washington**, in honor of George Washington ◆ **Wayne**, in honor of General Anthony Wayne ◆ **Westmoreland**, named for a county in England ◆ **Wyoming**, named for the Wyoming Valley ◆ **York**, named either for the Duke of York, an early patron of the Penn family, or for the city and shire of York in England.

Created by the
House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
and
Capitol Visitor Services

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Pennsylvania's Counties



Pennsylvania's history is revealed in the names of its counties.

From former presidents to Native American terminology and outstanding geological features, Pennsylvania's county names are as diverse as the citizens who live within their boundaries.

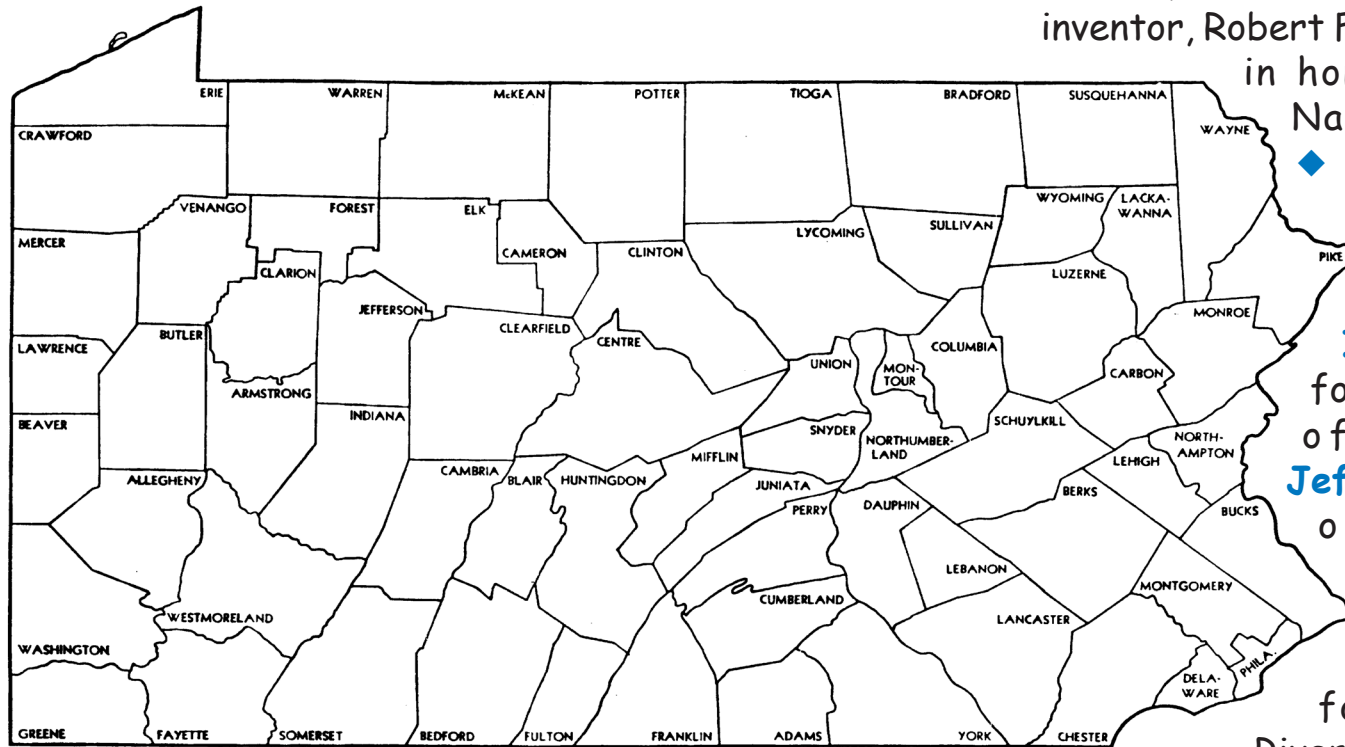
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- ◆ **Adams**, in honor of President John Adams
- ◆ **Allegheny**, for the Allegheny River
- ◆ **Armstrong**, in honor of General John Armstrong
- ◆ **Beaver**, for the Beaver River
- ◆ **Bedford**, named for Fort Bedford
- ◆ **Berks**, for Berkshire, England
- ◆ **Blair**, in honor of prominent citizen, John Blair
- ◆ **Bradford**, second U.S. Attorney General William Bradford
- ◆ **Bucks**, for Buckinghamshire, home of the Penns of Pennsylvania
- ◆ **Butler**, in honor of General Richard Butler
- ◆ **Cambria**, named for Cambria Township of Somerset County
- ◆ **Cameron**, in honor of US Senator Simon Cameron

Carbon, alludes to its deposits of anthracite coal

- ◆ **Centre**, refers to its geological location at the center of the state
- ◆ **Chester**, derives from Chesire, England
- ◆ **Clarion**, for the Clarion River
- ◆ **Clearfield**, named for Clearfield Creek
- ◆ **Clinton**, named for NY Governor DeWitt Clinton

Color the Counties



- ◆ **Columbia**, a poetic allusion to America
- ◆ **Crawford**, in honor of Colonel William Crawford, a frontier hero
- ◆ **Cumberland**, for Cumberland County, England
- ◆ **Dauphin**, the title

- of the eldest son of the French King
- ◆ **Delaware**, named for the Delaware River
- ◆ **Elk**, for the herd of elk that used to roam the county
- ◆ **Erie**, named for Lake Erie
- ◆ **Fayette**, in honor of the Marquis de la Fayette
- ◆ **Forest**, for its extensive forests
- ◆ **Franklin**, in honor of Benjamin Franklin
- ◆ **Fulton**, in honor of steamboat inventor, Robert Fulton
- ◆ **Greene**, in honor of General Nathaniel Greene
- ◆ **Huntingdon**, named for its county seat of Huntingdon
- ◆ **Indiana**, named for the Territory of Indiana
- ◆ **Jefferson**, in honor of President Thomas Jefferson
- ◆ **Juniata**, named for the Juniata River
- ◆ **Lackawanna**, named for the Lackawanna River
- ◆ **Lancaster**, named for Lancashire, England
- ◆ **Lawrence**, named for Perrys flagship, Lawrence
- ◆ **Lebanon**, named for old Lebanon Township
- ◆ **Lehigh**, derived from