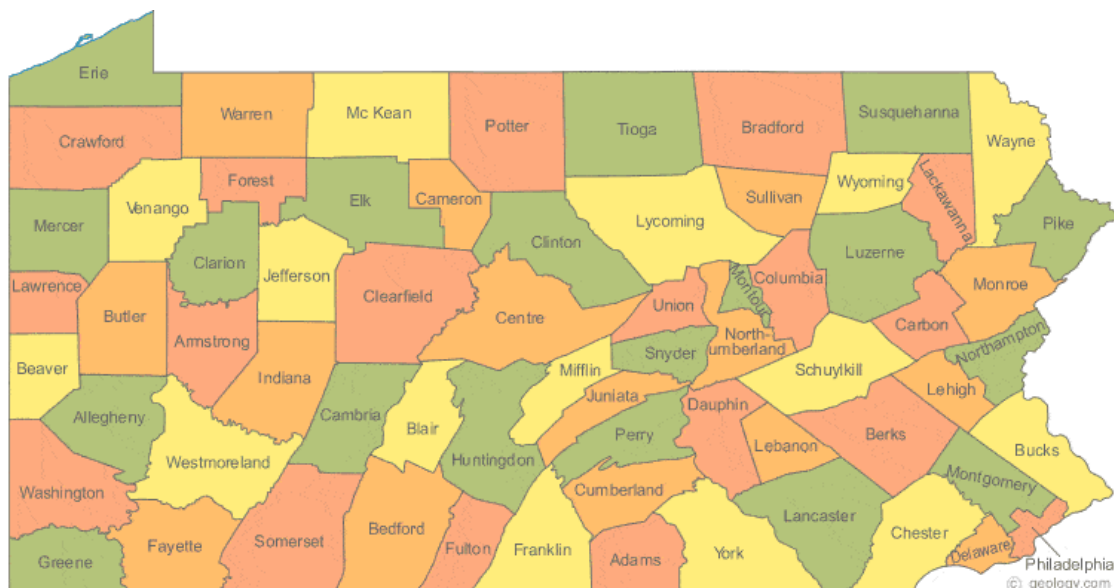


Blair County, Pennsylvania Locality Guide

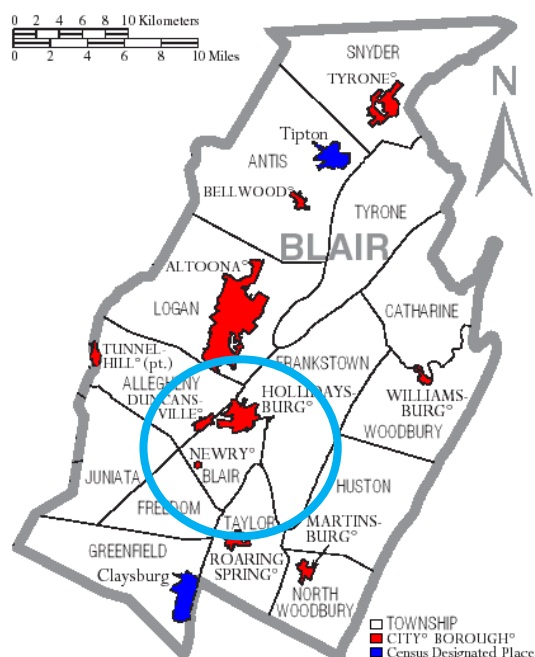
Focusing on resources for the Bradley family (1820s-1850s immigrants from Co. Tyrone, Ireland)

Mary Kircher Roddy, CG®

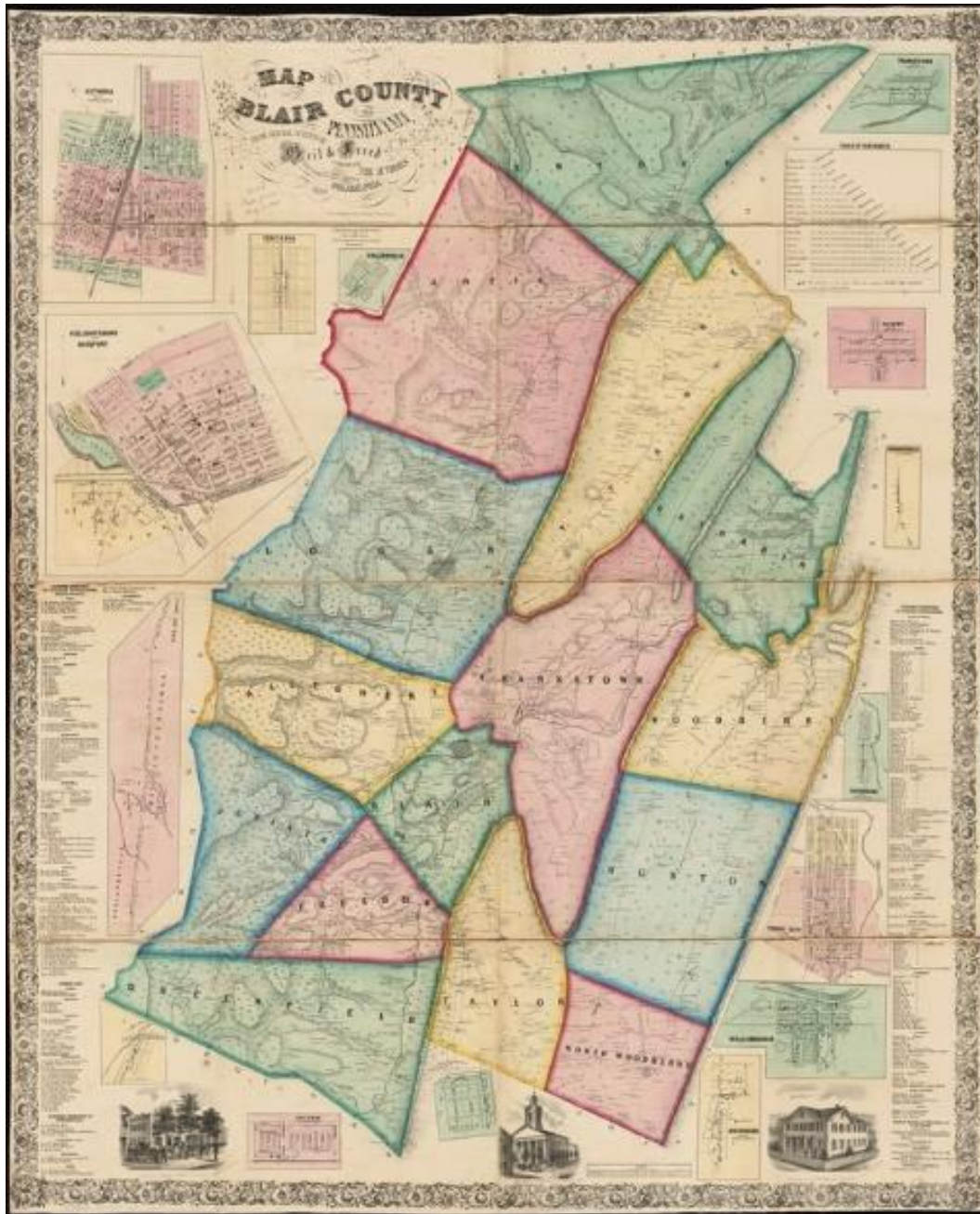


Map of townships in Blair County – Source: Wikimedia Commons, “Map of Blair County Pennsylvania With Municipal and Township Labels.png”,

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Map_of_Blair_County_Pennsylvania_With_Municipal_and_Township_Labels.png



[1859 Map of Blair County¹](https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth:4m90f4966) - saved to MER computer at high res. Available at <https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth:4m90f4966>



¹ Freed, Isaac G., Barnes, Rufus L., Geil & Freed, and Thos. S. Wagner's Lith. "Map of Blair County, Pennsylvania." Map. 1859. *Norman B. Leventhal Map & Education Center*, <https://collections.leventhalmap.org/search/commonwealth:4m90f4966> (accessed June 04, 2020).

Localities in the County:²

Townships:

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------------|
| • Allegheny | • Freedom | • North Woodbury |
| • Antis | • Greenfield | • Snyder |
| • Blair | • Huston | • Taylor |
| • Catharine | • Juniata | • Tyrone |
| • Frankstown | • Logan | • Woodbury |

Boroughs:

- Bellwood – in Antis Twp
- Duncansville – borders Allegheny and Newry Twps
- Hollidaysburg – touches Blair, Allegheny and Frankstown Twps
- Martinsburg – Huston Twp in the Morrison's Cove section of Blair County
- Newry – in Blair Twp
- Roaring Springs in Taylor Twp
- Tunnelhill – in Allegheny Twp, bordering Cambria County
- Tyrone – in Snyder Twp
- Williamsburg – in Catherine Twp, bordering Woodbury Twp

Census-designated places (CDPs)

- Claysburg – in East Greenfield Twp on border with Bedford County
- East Freedom – in Freedom Twp
- Foot of Ten – in Allegheny and Juniata Twps, abt a mile west of Duncansville and 2.5 miles nort of Newry
- Grazierville – in Snyder Twp, 1 mile south of borough of Tyrone
- Greenwood – in Logan Twp, adjacent to northeast Altoona
- Lakemont – in Allegheny and Logan Twps, between Altoona and Hollidaysburg
- Northwood – in Snyder Twp, close to borough of Tyrone
- Tipton – in Antis Twp between Tyrone and altoona

Unincorporated communities

- Bald Eagle
- Canoe Creek – in Frankstown Twp
- Culp – In Tyrone Twp
- Curryville – south-southwest of Martinsburg
- Puzzletown – formerly called Poplar Run, west-southwest of Newry
- Skelp – in Tyrone Twp
- Sproul – in Greenfield Twp, south of Claysburg
- Yellow Spring – east of Altoona

² See Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blair_County,_Pennsylvania)

Historical background

Blair County is located in central Pennsylvania. It was created 26 February 1846 from Bedford and Huntingdon counties. The county seat is Hollidaysburg. Bordering counties are Centre, Huntingdon, Bedford, Cambria and Clearfield.³

Courthouse information⁴

Blair County Courthouse
423 Allegheny St.
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648-2022
Phone: 814-693-3050
Clerk of Courts: 814-693-3080
Orphan's Court: 814-693-3080
Recorder of Wills and Deeds: 814-693-3095
Prothonotary: 814-693-3080

Table of available record dates⁵

Known Beginning Dates for Major County Records ^[3]						
Birth*	Marriage	Death*	Court	Land	Probate	Census
1894	1885	1894	1846	1846	1846	1790
Statewide registration for births and deaths began in 1906. General compliance by 1915.						

Record losses, including courthouse fires

No known courthouse disasters

Cemeteries

Newry:

St Patricks (New) - [https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/46221/saint-patricks-cemetery-\(new\)?](https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/46221/saint-patricks-cemetery-(new)?)

³ FamilySearch Research Wiki (<https://www.familysearch.org/wiki>), "Blair County, Pennsylvania," rev. 16:02, 1 June 2020.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid

St Patricks (Old) - [https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2580168/saint-patricks-cemetery-\(old\)?](https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2580168/saint-patricks-cemetery-(old)?)

Catholic Church Records:

Newry:

St Patrick's church, congregation formed about 1801. First church built in 1816.

<https://stpatricknewry.org/>

Hollidaysburg:

- *St. Mary's*, 312 Clark St., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648, 814-695-0622.
<http://www.webparish.com/aj/saintmarys/>
- *St. Michael the Archangel*, 301 Spruce St., Hollidaysburg, PA 16648 814-695-0912,
<https://stmichael-hldg-pa.org/>

St. Patrick's records – published by Blair County Genealogical Society (BCGS)⁶:

- *St. Patrick's Church Records, Newry, Transcribed from the original church records. Volume 1, - 1828-1844. Volume 2, 1845-1907* [Note: Available at Seattle Genealogical Society, PA 7-6a and b]
- *St. Patrick's Catholic Cemetery, Newry, PA, 2005* [Note: Available at Seattle Genealogical Society, PA 7-5]
-

St. Mary's records – published by BCGS:

- *Church of St. Mary, Baptismal Records, Hollidaysburg, 1844-1920 Copied and typed from original records by Evelyn Antenucci*

Online resources for the state and county/city, including digital images

FamilySearch: FamilySearch has few records for Blair County

- Deeds: None online
- Tax records – 1 book, *Blair County tax records, 1846; from original county tax assessment records, Blair County, Pennsylvania* (Altoona: Blair County Genealogical Society, 1981) 200 pgs., available at FHL 974.875 R4. Also available at Seattle Public Library, 929.37487 B5753 1846

Linkpendium - <http://www.linkpendium.com/blair-pa-genealogy/>

⁶ Blair County Genealogical Society library website, <https://www.bcgslibrary.org/pub.php> : accessed 4 June 2020

Map resources

James E Butts, Paul Kurtz, *Know Your Blair County* (Altoona: Blair County Commissioners, date unknown)
– 15 page book, with maps, description of terrain, people, etc.

<https://digital.libraries.psu.edu/digital/collection/digitalbks2/id/21427>

County/city resources (at county, or at state level)

Newspapers:

Newspapers.com

- *Altoona Mirror* – 1898-2009, with gaps
- *Altoona Times* – 1884-1925, with gaps
- *Altoona Tribune* – 1858-1957, with gaps
- *Altoona Tribune, The* – 1872-1889, with gaps
- *Bedford Gazette* – 1854-1955, and 2009, with gaps
- *Bedford Inquirer* – 1855-1870, with gaps

Local, regional, and state historical and genealogical societies and library collections. Also, Research repositories

Blair County Genealogical Society

Roller-Hojeth Memorial Library

431 Scotch Valley Rd.

Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

Phone: 814-696-3492

Website: <http://www.bcgslibrary.org/>

Collection covers Blair and surrounding counties, particularly Huntingdon, Cambria, and Bedford Counties.

Tyrone Area Historical Society

P.O. Box 1850

Tyrone, PA 16686-0102

Phone: (814) 684-5141

Website: <http://tyronehistory.org/search/>

The Office/Research Library of the Tyrone Area Historical Society is located in the northeastern end of the Tyrone Shopping Center. The library contains a sizable collection of books, newspapers, genealogies, historical maps, and other reference materials pertinent to all areas of Tyrone History. Several Tyrone-related artifacts also are on display.

Blair County Historical Society –

<http://www.blairhistory.org/>

Publications including local histories and research guides

"Blair County History," *Pennsylvania GenWeb* - <http://pagenweb.org/~blair/history.htm>

George Wolf, Floyd Hoenstine, *Blair County's First Hundred Years* (Hollidaysburg: Blair County Historical Society, 1945) - <https://digital.libraries.psu.edu/digital/collection/digitalbks2/id/90908/rec/1>

William Henry Egle, *An illustrated history of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, civil, political, and military, from its earliest settlement to the present time including historical descriptions of each county in the state, their towns, and industrial resources* (Harrisburg: DeWitt C. Goodrich, 1876). Blair county chapter pp. 397-404 - <https://archive.org/stream/cu31924028829947#mode/1up>

Charles B. Clark, *A history of Blair county, Pennsylvania. From its earliest settlement, and more particularly from its organization, in 1846 to June 1896* (Altoona: C. B. Clark, 1896) - <https://archive.org/details/historyofblairco00clar/mode/2up>