Laurel Hill, Laurel Swamp; presence of laurel.
Lavalla; see Farmersville.
Lechawitank; see Easton.
Lechaw (Lechay, Lecha); see Lehigh River.
Lefebre's (Lefever) Creek; see Bushkill Creek.
Lehighton (Lebleston) Creek; see Bushkill Creek.
Lehigh Gap; gap made in Blue Mountain by the Lehigh River. The Indian name was “Buchkabuchka” meaning “mountains butting opposite each other.”
Lehigh (Lecha, Lechaw, Lebeigh, Lehi) Mountain; see South Mountain.
Lehigh River; named by Delaware Indians Lechawwe(s)ki (Lechaweki, Lechauwicinch, Lechauwkeink, Lechaweling), “where there are forks” or “the fork of a road,” of which the present name is a corruption. Heckewelder states “this name was given to the river, because through it struck an Indian path or thoroughfare coming from the lower part of the Delaware country, which thoroughfare, on the left bank of the river forked off into various trails, leading North and West.” Other writers believe that the name was given because of the stream being a fork of the Delaware River. It was originally called the West Branch of the Delaware. Also called Lecha, Lechaw, Lechay, Lechy, Lehi and Lephy. On most of the maps prepared between 1750 and 1800 it is written Lecha. Germans shortened term to Lecha and English adopted present form.
Lehigh Township; erected in October 1752, was named by the Court. The inhabitants at the time requested the Court to name the township Selmsy in honor of an Indian by the name of Seim, an early Moravian convert.
Lehigh Valley; frequently called Lecha Thal.
Lehighville; see Berlinsville.
Leitsville; for the Leith family, early settlers and large property owners in the region.
Lenapehittuck; see Delaware River.
Lime Ridge; see Redington.
Little Bushkill; east branch of Bushkill Creek. See Bushkill. It appears that this stream was called Lefebre's (Lefever's) Creek although this name was applied to the larger stream on certain maps.
Little Gap; small gap or notch in Blue Mountain. Was early called “Die Klee Kaff" or "Die Kleine Kaff.”
Little Martins Creek; eastern tributary of Martins Creek.
Little Offset; minor offset in Blue Mountain, north of Bangor.
Lockport; named because of a lock in the canal at that point.
Lost Cave; long known as Hellertown Cave. Present name given when it was reopened as a commercial venture. Name has no significance.
Lower Mount Bethel Township; erected in 1787. See Mount Bethel for derivation of name.
Lower Nazareth Township; erected in 1807. See Nazareth for derivation of name.
Lower Saucon Township; erected in 1742. See Saucon. The first settlers were Mennonite Baptists who are believed by some to have arrived in this township about 1718. Nathaniel Irish was one of the first to be definitely named. He is reported to have arrived as early as 1720 and as late as 1728. He built the first grist mill in the country, near the mouth of Saucon Creek.
Macada; name proposed by William H. Best for the post office established there while John Wannamaker was Postmaster General. Name derived from “macadam” as it was proposed at that time to have the road that passes by the place macadamized.
Mack's Ferry; see Hartzells Ferry.