DISSOLVING CITIES

121 Yale L. J. __ (forthcoming 2012) Michelle Wilde Anderson

APPENDICES

(DRAFT 3/5/2012)

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Appendix A: Methodology for Locating Dissolution Activity

Defining "Dissolution Activity"

I defined approved dissolutions (captured in Appendix B) as those that have received all required consent and approval from electorates and reviewing authorities, whether or not the dismantling of the municipal government has been completed. It may be that the city has long departed, or it may be that it is still winding down operations, as the transition back to unincorporated status can take a year or more to complete.

Rejected and abandoned dissolutions (captured in Appendix C) are those that were legally, formally proposed and put to a vote or other approval mechanism but did not pass or were ultimately abandoned. By "legally, formally proposed," this category refers to cities that went through official procedures to consider dissolution, such as an election, a city council vote, or, at least, the convening of a commission to study the mechanics and costs of a city's dissolution. For a city to fall in this second category, those legal procedures ended in non- dissolution, either because dissolution was rejected by decisionmakers or because proceedings were halted in some other way (i.e., because upon reading the recommendations of a commission, a city council determined that dissolution was not a desirable option).

The third category of dissolutions (captured in Appendix D) includes pending dissolutions, where formal legal procedures have commenced but have not yet been resolved. As with the above categories, cities in this group have taken significant official steps towards dissolution, but those proceedings have not yet concluded in approval or rejection by the electorate and/or a reviewing body. This category also includes those cities where dissolution has been approved by voters but is subject to a legal dispute that renders an ultimate outcome uncertain. By definition, such dissolution activity is quite recent—no longer than the time it takes for dissolution to be approved or litigation to run its course.

Our fourth and final category of dissolution activity is the most diffuse and preliminary. Inchoate dissolutions (captured in Appendix E) are those in which residents, local leaders or employees, state officials, or an outside review board have advocated dissolution, but no party has completed the steps necessary to obtain the requisite consent and approval. Typical scenarios in this category would include cities in which the governing body has debated launching dissolution procedures, residents have begun but not completed the circulation of a dissolution petition, or an outside review board (such as a grand jury) has issued a non-binding recommendation that a city should dissolve to address solvency or mismanagement issues. Such dissolution activity need not be as date limited as in the "pending" category—it would include cities where dissolution is no longer a live issue, but was investigated and abandoned prior to the commencement of formal legal proceedings. The fact that source data for this category, as described further below, is local media and selected recollections from officials creates a kind of de facto outer limit on the speculative nature of this category; talk of dissolution must be credible or specific enough to have surfaced in news reports or officials' reports.

Locating Dissolution Activity: Appendix B

There is no single national dataset listing dissolved cities. To build such a list in Appendix A, research for this Article relied upon official state records confirmed and supplemented by federal Census records, as well as media reports of and historical references to dissolutions.

Where available, official state records of dissolved cities proved to be the most reliable and detailed source of

dissolution information. Such data was assembled one state at a time, and I was able to locate such information in 13 of the 37 states with dissolution laws and/or dissolution activity. The sources of data ranged from a secretary of state's office, a state data center or other department of a state library, a state historical society, non-profit municipal research center, or association representing cities or state boundary agencies. Some of these lists are or date limited or otherwise non-comprehensive. I and my research team used reasonable efforts to locate such lists in all states; the absence of complete coverage indicates either that missing states do not keep historic records of boundary changes, or that such records are not known to state staff or otherwise reasonably available.

Two additional layers of data were collected from the U.S. Census of Governments. First, since 1957, the U.S. Census of Governments has surveyed municipalities every five years, 1 and completion of the five-year survey provides a solid indication of on-going existence as a municipality. The Census then presents the yield from these surveys in a city-specific format, which offers a list, every five years, of the nation's municipalities. The response rate for these surveys is imperfect but impressively high (95%), and thus I have treated the failure to appear on this list from one period to the next as an initial indicator of a city's dissolution. In other words, comparison of the cities that appear on the Census list from one decade to the next (for instance, to compare the list of the nation's cities in 1997 with the list in 2007) gives a list of cities that fall away. Of course, such dropouts could be explained by things other than dissolution (such as a failure to respond to the survey or merger with another city), and thus Census data offered only an indicator of dissolution that required corroboration. In addition, Census data alone could not tell us the precise year of dissolution, which would leave our causal picture that much less refined. Lists of Census dropouts were assembled for each 10-year span from 1957-2007.

The second layer of data at the US Census Bureau is Geographic Change Notes.¹ This is an online database of geographic changes, including the "dissolution of entities." Records for each change include the entity, the state, and specifying notes regarding the change. Were it complete, this resource would be a treasure trove—a true national list of dissolutions. Alas, relatively few dissolutions have been recorded this way. Dozens of confirmed dissolutions identified on official state lists did not surface on the Geographic Change Notes. The dissolutions that were recorded through the Geographic Change Notes were nonetheless helpful as a source of supplemental information. For instance, they helped to eliminate some false positives of dissolutions caused by merger with another city, but marked simply as a dissolution in state records.

Due to the coverage gaps in the state records and the census data, I also relied upon news reports and academic histories to locate and corroborate dissolution activity. Disbanding a town is likely to be a newsworthy matter if that town is a subject of attention to local publications, and extensive searches of the Lexis-Nexis "all news" archive (which holds 4700 publications, including many very small market local papers, dating back to at least 1969²) yielded thousands of hits in which dissolutions were discussed from their inception to their completion. From these articles, I assembled a list of cities where dissolution was approved and no longer subject to legal dispute. In addition, this data source served as the base of knowledge for rejected and legally proposed dissolutions. Alone, news reporting would lead to very significant omissions, because some towns are simply too far from a publication included in this dataset or too small to warrant the attentions of journalists covering the region. Yet as an additional layer of information, this reporting was vast,

 $^{^{1}}$ These surveys collect data on financing, debt, public employees, and other issues.

² Except, of course, in papers that originated more recently than 1969.

valuable, and interesting.

To reach the final composite list in Appendix B, the lists generated from federal, state, and academic/news data sources were compared against one another. Where a city appeared on a Census list but not on one of the state or news lists (or the reverse—an appearance on a state list or news list but not on the Census list), I consulted county and municipal government websites to confirm or deny a dissolution hypothesis. Where I or my researchers did find what appeared to be a "local government website," we verified that such places continued to be legal cities with functioning governing bodies, rather than mere "Census-designated places" that were formerly, but no longer, a legal municipality.

Every city that emerged from this research was investigated for accuracy to exclude false positives resulting from mergers, consolidations, or other reorganization-based boundary changes that did not ultimately remove the municipal tier of government. This was an important and active screening device that eliminated dozens of boundary changes classified in the state or federal records as a dissolution, but in fact only a stepping stone to merger.

Appendix B is a draft that undoubtedly suffers from omissions. Omissions are most likely to be found in two weak spots in the data: (1) dissolutions prior to 1956 and after 2007, when we lack the centralized data source provided by the Census, and (2) those states where we lack a centralized state record to capture cities that dissolved prior to the advent of the Census records or too recently to appear on the Census list. And in general, the further back in time we reach, the more likely there are to be omissions due to incomplete state records, the unavailability of news archives, and the generally diffuse and inconsistent nature of municipal historical data.

As to the passage of time, my focus was on the year of the boundary change itself; in other words, I did not track whether any given territory later became a city or part of a city. As long as a city dissolved back into the primordial sea without immediate/simultaneous reorganization (for instance through merger), I did not inquire as to the length of time that territory remained unincorporated. Such an exercise would require intensive historical research, if not tracking of local boundaries using GIS technology.

Locating Dissolution Activity: Appendices C-D

Lacking any kind of centralized government records, my research team identified the rejected, pending, and inchoate dissolutions identified in Appendices C and D from the Lexis news database described above, along with academic references to specific dissolution cases. Here too, due to the absence of any kind of centralized source, the picture of rejected, pending, and inchoate dissolutions is incomplete to an undetermined (and undeterminable) extent, no doubt leading to an "undercount" of dissolution activity. It is my hope that the present Article will succeed at surfacing national, state, and academic discussion about dissolution, leading researchers within individual states to begin keeping complete records of all dissolution activity, past and present.

³ "Census designated places" are defined by the Census Bureau as "densely settled concentrations of population that are identifiable by name, but are not legally incorporated places." The definition goes on to note that a CDP's boundaries may change with changes in the settlement pattern. U.S. Census Bureau, *Appendix A: Area Classifications* (2000) A-9.

Appendix B: Approved Dissolutions 1857-2010

This appendix contains a list of formally approved, enacted dissolutions of incorporated municipalities. Entries are grouped by alphabetically-ordered states, then listed according to the date of approval (most recent first). The list reflects reasonably available state and federal information and may not be comprehensive for every state. Available data becomes stronger and more multi-faceted over time, and as such, the period following 1980 is most likely to be inclusive of most disincorporations. Data regarding "ghost towns" is only included where the information is explicitly based on incorporation under state law, as opposed to establishment of a federal post office or other measure of settlement. As described in the Article, this list reflects a definition of dissolution that omits mergers, reclassifications, and other changes that constitute the reorganization of territory under municipal governance. All available information has been presented; blanks represent gaps in data. Please see Appendix E for more information on methodology.

KEY to dates: A=Approved; D=Dissolved

| Name of Municipality | Year of Dissolution | Type of Municipality |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| ALABAMA | Dissolution | |
| | 0 / lo o lo o o 7 (D) | Town |
| | 04/29/2007 (D) | |
| 2. Gantts Quarry | 12/31/2001 (D) | Town |
| 3. Macedonia | 07/10/2001 (D) | Town |
| 4. Blue Mountain | 12/15/2000 (D) | Town |
| 5. County Line | 09/27/1999 (D) | Town |
| 6. Wilmer | 09/30/1993 | Town |
| ALASKA | | |
| 7. Haines | 10/17/2002 (D) | City |
| 8. Tuluksak | 03/07/1997 | City (1970) |
| 9. Tununak | 02/28/1997 | City (1975) |
| 10. Newtok | 01/28/1997 | City (1976) |
| 11. Kasigluk | 10/21/1996 | City (1982) |
| 12. Yakutat | 09/22/1992 | City |
| 13. Akiachak | 01/31/1990 | City (1974) |
| 14. Atmautluak | 02/07/1996 | City (1976) |
| 15. Bay City/John F. Kennedy City | | |
| 16. Donnelly | | |
| 17. Long Island | | |
| 18. Skagway city | 06/20/2007 | City |
| ARKANSAS | , | , |
| 19. Reader | 10/11/2002 | Town |
| CALIFORNIA | | |
| 20. Hornitos | 1973 (D) | City (1970) |
| 21. Cabazon | 06/20/1971 (A) | City (1955) |
| | 1972 (D) | , |
| 22. North Sacramento | 1963 | City |
| 23. Pismo Beach | 1940 (reincorp. in 1946) | City |

| | | T cu |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 24. Bayshore | 1940 | City |
| 25. Kennett | 1930 | City |
| 26. McKittrick | 1927 | City |
| 27. Potter Valley | 1926 | City |
| 28. Stanton | 1924 (reincorp. | City |
| | in 1956) | |
| 29. Orangethorpe | 1923 | City |
| 30. Coram | 1918 | City |
| 31. Felton | 1917 | City |
| 32. Boulder Creek | 1915 | City |
| 33. Kelseyville | 1902 | City |
| 34. Columbia | 1870 | City |
| 35. Dutch Flat | 1866 | City |
| COLORADO | | |
| 36. Watkins | 11/30/2006 (D) | Town (2004) |
| 37. Prospect Heights | 06/14/1994 | Town |
| 38. Keota | 02/19/1991 | Town (1919) |
| 39. Rosedale | 02/04/1987 | Town (1939) |
| CONNECTICUT ⁴ | | |
| 40. Stafford Springs | 11/01/1991 | Borough (1873) |
| 41. Colchester | 7/01/1990 | Borough (1824/1846) |
| 42. Willimantic | 1983 | Borough (1833) |
| 43. Branford | 1970-1979 | Borough (1867) |
| 44. Wallingford | 1958 | Borough (1853) |
| 45. Southington | 1948 | Borough (1889) |
| 46. Farmington | 1947 | Borough (1901) |
| 47. Unionville | 1947 | Borough (1921) |
| 48. Guilford | 1941 | Borough (1815) |
| 49. New Canaan | 1935 | Borough (1889) |
| 50. Greenwich | 1932 | Borough (1854) |
| 51. Ridgefield | 1921 | Borough (1901) |
| 52. Fair Haven East | 1897 | Borough (1875) |
| 53. Southport | 1854 | Borough (1831) |
| 54. Clifton | J 1 | Borough (1833) |
| 55. Humphreysville | | Borough (1836) |
| 56. Sharon | | Borough (1853) |
| 57. Worthington | | Borough (1834) |
| FLORIDA | | 3 (37/ |
| 58. Cedar Grove | 10/21/2008 (D) | Town |
| 59. Doral | 09/15/2004 (D) | City |
| 60. Golfview | 1998 (D) | Town |
| 61. Wimauma | 06/23/1993 (D) | City |
| 62. Ward Ridge | 1987 (D) | |
| 63. Pennsuco | 1986 (D) | 1 |
| 64. Hacienda Village | 1984 (D) | + |
| 04. Hacienua village | 1904 (D) | |

⁴ Each dissolution in Connecticut is that of a borough into a town; the state has few incorporated boroughs left. Boroughs are analogous to villages in New York or Ohio.

| 65. North Key Largo Beach | 1982 | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| 66. Painters Hill | 1981 (D) | |
| 67. Bayview | 1977 (D) | |
| 68. Bithlo | 01/00/1977 (D) | |
| 69. Munson Island | 1977 (D) | |
| GEORGIA ⁵ | | |
| 70. Preston | 01/01/2009 | City |
| 71. Weston | 01/01/2009 | Town |
| 72. Coleman | 01/01/2007 (D) | City |
| 73. Lithia Springs | 06/21/2001 (D) | City |
| 74. Cusseta | 11/5/2003 | City |
| 75. Corinth | 05/01/2000 (D) | Town |
| 76. Mineral Bluff | 11/04/1999 (D) | Town |
| 77. Appling | 07/01/1995 | Town |
| 78. Chattahoochee Plantation | 07/01/1995 | Town |
| 79. Hepzibah | 07/01/1995 | Town |
| 8o. Mountville | 07/01/1995 | Town |
| 81. Omaha | 07/01/1995 | City |
| 82. Russell | 07/01/1995 | City |
| 83. Starkville | 07/01/1995 | City |
| IDAHO | | |
| 84. Chatcolet City | 12/13/1994 (D) | City |
| 85. Parkline | 09/07/2001 (D) | City |
| ILLINOIS | | |
| 86. Birds | 04/07/2009 | Village |
| 87. Milford | 06/04/2007 | Town |
| 88. Central City (Grundy County) | 10/22/1998 | Town |
| 89. Hamletsburg | 03/17/1998 (D) | Village |
| 90. National City | 02/05/1998 (D) | Village |
| 91. Barnard Mill | 11/07/1995 | Village |
| 92. Urbain | 03/15/1988 | Village |
| 93. Valley View | 06/03/1980 | Village |
| 94. Leesville | 03/25/1964 | Village |
| 95. Sag-Bridge | 04/22/1958 | Village |
| 96. Rainbow Gardens | 01/06/1958 (D) | Village |
| 97. Torino | 07/08/1957 | Village |
| 98. Pearl Harbor | 12/04/1947 | Village |
| 99. Lily Lake | 02/20/1942 | Village |
| 100. Grantsburg | 02/21/1933 | Village |
| 101. Renault | 02/29/1932 | Village |
| 102. Modoc | 05/27/1931 | Village |
| 103. Ledford | 01/20/1931 | Village |
| 104. Neoga | 11/08/1929 | City |
| 105. Burksville | 08/03/1929 | Village |
| 106. L'erable | 10/25/1927 | Village |
| L | | <u> </u> |

⁵ The listed dissolutions in Georgia in 1995 represent a small segment of the 187 total cities that lost their charter upon passage of state municipal inactivity legislation in 1995. The full list is not yet available.

| 107. Rockport | 06/07/1927 | Village |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 108. Acacia Park | 04/16/1927 | Village |
| 109. East Wenona | 06/26/1926 | Village |
| 110. Cable | 06/21/1926 | Village |
| 111.New Memphis | 10/24/1922 | Village |
| 112. Sunfield | 11/02/1921 | Village |
| 113. East Springfield | 10/08/1921 | Village |
| 114. Laurel | 10/8/1921 | Village |
| 115. Sandusky | 10/08/1921 | Village |
| 116. Himrod | 10/06/1921 | Village |
| 117. Hunt City | 08/24/1921 | Village |
| 118. Swedona (Berlin) | 04/09/1921 | Village |
| 119. Brookville | 07/20/1920 | Village |
| 120. Mulkeytown | 06/09/1919 | Village |
| , | 04/15/1919 | Village |
| | 04/15/1919 | Village |
| | | 3 |
| 123. Marquette 124. West Salem | 08/17/1916 06/09/1914 | Village Village |
| , | | |
| 125. Wetaug 126. Hillary | 06/27/1914 | Village |
| | 05/14/1912 | Village |
| 127. Shobonier | 10/18/1911 | Village |
| 128. Tullamore | 08/26/1909 | Town |
| 129. Mapleton | 06/08/1904 | Village |
| 130. Maeystown | 03/28/1904 | Village |
| 131. Gifford | 02/01/1904 | Village |
| 132. East Bufaloe | 08/26/1902 | Town |
| 133. Kankakee | 08/26/1902 | Town |
| 134. Buffalo | 02/04/1902 | Town |
| 135. Campus | 02/04/1902 | Town |
| 136. Liverpool | 02/04/1902 | Village |
| 137. Mound Station | 01/04/1902 | Village |
| 138. Arcadia | 08/26/1901 | Town |
| 139. Bedford | 08/26/1901 | Town |
| 140. Berwick | 08/26/1901 | Town |
| 141. Camargo | 08/26/1901 | Town |
| 142. Cold-Brook | 08/26/1901 | Town |
| 143. Greenbush | 08/26/1901 | Town |
| 144. Harrisonville | 08/26/1901 | Town |
| 145. Hyde Park | 08/26/1901 | Village |
| 146. Jefferson | 08/26/1901 | Village |
| 147. Oak Park | 08/26/1901 | Town |
| 148. Shiloh Hill | 08/26/1901 | Town |
| 149. Tennerytown | 08/26/1901 | Town |
| 150. Uniontown | 08/26/1901 | Town |
| 151. Western Saratoga | - 01- C1 | Town |
| | 08/26/1901 | TOWIT |
| 152. Young | 08/26/1901 | Town |
| | | |

| 155 Di | llon | 06/06/1001 | Town |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| | ndsor | 06/26/1901 | Town |
| 156. Wi | nasor | 04/22/1878, but filed 10/22/1901 | Village |
| 157 Brou | ghton | Tiled 10/22/1901 | Town |
| | ownsville | | Town |
| | | | Town |
| | ron | | Town |
| | rlyle enterville | | |
| | | | Town |
| | ımmington ankfort | | Town |
| | | | Town |
| · · | rguson | | Village |
| | vejoy | | Town |
| | awnee City | | Town |
| | ebster | | Town |
| INDIANA | Action 1 | 61. 1 | - |
| 168. | Milford | 06/04/2007 | Town |
| 169. | Lake Hart | 1997-2007 | Town |
| 170. | Carefree | 10/08/1992 | Town |
| 171. Judson | | 12/30/1993 | Town |
| 172. | Ravenswood | 1989 | |
| 173.North | | 1987 | |
| 174. | Lynhurst | 1986 | |
| IOWA | | | |
| 175.Littlep | | 08/09/2004 (D) | City |
| 176. | Athelstan | 10/21/2004 (D) | City |
| 177. Kent | | 08/19/2003 (D) | City |
| 178. | Moneta | BCN: 09/1997 (D) | City |
| 179. | Oneida | 08/09/1994 (D) | City |
| 180. | Green Island | 12/30/1993 (D) | City |
| 181. | Donnan | 03/15/1991 (D) | City |
| 182. | Plain View | 1987 | |
| 183. | Hurtsville | 1985 | |
| KANSAS | | | |
| 184. | Harris | 04/06/2001 (D) | City |
| 185. | Monticello | 11/21/2002 | Township |
| 186. | Shawnee | 11/21/2002 | Township |
| 187. | Township No. 6 | 01/01/1996 | Township |
| 188. | Township No. 4 | 01/01/1995 | Township |
| (Morris | County) | | |
| 189. | Township No. 3 (Morris County) | 01/01/1993 | Township |
| 190. | Harrison (Morris County) | 01/01/1992 | Township |
| 191. | Jefferson (Chautauqua County) | 01/01/1992 | Township |
| 192. | Salt Creek | 01/01/1992 | Township |
| 193. | Sedan | 01/01/1992 | Township |
| 194. | Summit | 01/01/1992 | Township |
| 195. | Washington | 01/01/1992 | Township |
| KENTUCKY | | | |
| 196. | Lone Oak | 12/04/2008 | City (1981) |
| | | | |

| 197. Latonia Lakes 11/05/2007; City (1953) 12/16/2006 (BCN) 198. Visalia 11/00/2006 (BCN) | |
|---|--|
| 198. Visalia 11/00/2006 City (BCN) | |
| (BCN) | |
| | |
| | |
| (reincorp. 1976) | |
| 3/13/1869 (D) | |
| 199. | |
| 200. Hiseville 11/02/2004 City | |
| 201. Louisville 01/06/2003 City | |
| 202. Annville 12/15/2000 City (1988) | |
| 203. Van Lear 11/13/1996 City (1991) | |
| 204. Blandville 03/09/1991 City | |
| 205. Foster City 01/01/1990 City | |
| 206. Caseyville 11/03/1987 City (1837) | |
| 207. Newburg 02/25/1987 City (1983) | |
| 208. Tollesboro 11/16/1986 City (1976) | |
| 209. Lockport 06/06/1986 City (1854) | |
| 210. Yorktown 04/28/1986 City (1962) | |
| 211. Penn Run No. 1 04/21/1980 City (1979) | |
| 212. Phelps 04/07/1980 City | |
| 213. East Bernstadt 06/21/1978 City | |
| 214. Big Clifty 03/28/1978 City (1890) | |
| 215. Gilbertsville 06/15/1976 City(1953) | |
| 216. Pittsburg 12/31/1973 City | |
| 217. Combs 03/16/1968 City (1967) | |
| 218. Freeburn 03/19/1959 City (1950) | |
| 219. Fancy Farm 03/02/1959 City | |
| 220. Seneca Vista 03/12/1957 City (1946) | |
| 221. Weeksbury 12/07/1953 City (1917) | |
| 222. Gracey 06/12/1953 City | |
| MAINE ⁶ | |
| 223. Centerville 06/30/2004 Town | |
| 224. Madrid 08/01/2000 Town | |
| 225. Greenfield 07/01/1993 Town | |
| 226. E Plantation 07/01/1990 Plantation | |
| 227. Prentiss 07/01/1990 Plantation | |
| 228. Benedicta 1987 Town | |
| 229. Township 14 1986 Town | |
| 230. Blanchard 1985 Town | |
| 231. Elliottsville 1983 Town | |
| 232. Township 21 1983 Town | |
| 233. Barnard 1982 Township? | |
| 234. Grand Falls 1981 Town | |

⁶ Each of the towns in Maine to have dissolved reverted to "unorganized territory" under state jurisdiction, not unincorporated county land. State law leaves education to be assumed by the state and other services to be provided by contract to counties.

| MADY AND | 1 | |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| MARYLAND | | |
| 235. Piscataway | 1964 | |
| 236. St. Mary's City | | |
| 237. Arundel on the Bay | | Village |
| MINNESOTA | | |
| 238. Ronneby | 05/04/2009 (D) | City |
| 239. Island View | 02/27/1992 | City |
| MISSISSIPPI | | |
| 240. Tillatoba | 1994 | Town |
| 241. Newport | 04/01/1990 | Town |
| MISSOURI | | |
| 242. Bradleyville | 08/17/2009 | Village |
| 243. La Tour | 04/09/2009 | Village |
| 244. North Wardell | 06/29/2007 | Village |
| 245. Biehle | 11/06/2003 (D) | Village |
| 246. Sundown | 11/00/2001 | Village |
| 247. Hayward | 01/24/2000 (D) | Town |
| 248. Phelps City | 11/02/1999 (D) | Village (BCN says town) |
| 249. Eugene | 1997-2007 | Town |
| 250. Lakeland | 1997-2007 | Town |
| 251. Lakeside | 1997-2007 | City |
| 252. Lakeview | 1997-2007 | Village |
| 253. Oakland Park | 1997-2007 | Village |
| 254. Peerless Park | 1997-2007 | City |
| 255. Wakenda | 12/15/1996 | Town |
| 256. The Landing | 07/24/1995 | Village |
| 257. Hartwell | 03/02/1995 (D) | Village |
| 258. Rocky Ridge | 06/03/1993 | City |
| 259. Hurricane Deck | 1988 | Village |
| 260. Times Beach | 1985 | City |
| 261. Tarsney Lakes | 1984 | Village |
| 262. Northwye | 1983 | Village |
| 263. Wittenberg | 1983 | Town |
| 264. Circle City | 1980 | Village |
| NEBRASKA | -300 | · ···~9~ |
| 265. Lake | 1989 | |
| 266. Dickens | 02/1998 | Village |
| 267. Grainton | 1997-2007 | Village |
| 268. Marsland | 1997-2007 | Village |
| 269. Tamora | 1997-2007 | Village |
| NEVADA | -33/ 200/ | 9 |
| 270. Gabbs | 05/08/2001 | City |
| 271. Hawthorne | 1956 | , |
| 272. Searchlight | 1919 | |
| 273. Rieptown | 1919 | |
| 274. Austin | 1881 | |
| 2/4. /1030111 | 1 1001 | |

| | 1 | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------|
| 275. Gold | | 1881 | |
| 276. Virgi | , | 1881 | |
| 277.Hamilt | | 1875 | |
| 278. Auro | | 1866 | |
| 279. Sher | | | |
| 28o. Star | , | | |
| 281. Trea | sure City | | |
| NEW JERSEY | | | |
| 282. Belle | | 1876 | City |
| 283. Coha | , | 1748 | Township |
| 284. Cent | | | Township |
| 285. Clem | nenton | | Township |
| NEW YORK | | | |
| 286. Altm | nar | 11/10/2010 (A) | Village |
| | ysburg (Village of) | 2010 (A) | Village |
| | Randolph (Village of) | 2010 (A) | Village |
| | dolph (Village of) | 2010 (A) | Village |
| | eca Falls (Village of) | 2010 | Village |
| 291. Lime | estone (Village of) | 2009 | Village |
| 292. Pike | (Village of) | 12/31/2008 | Village |
| | es (Village of) | 12/31/2003 | Village |
| 294. Fillm | nore (Village of) | 01/01/1994 (D) | Village |
| 295. Moo | ers (Village of) | 1994 (BCN: | Village |
| | | 01/01/1997) | |
| 296. Sche | evenus (Village of) | 1993 | Village |
| | | 01/01/1995 (D) | |
| | derson (Village of) | 1992 | Village |
| 298. Tico | nderoga (Village of) | 1992 | Village |
| | | 01/01/1993 (D) | |
| 299. Wes | tport (Village of) | 1992 | Village |
| | | 01/01/1993 (D) | |
| | Bloomfield (Village of) | 1990 | Village |
| 301. Holc | | 1990 | Village |
| 302. Pin | ie Valley | 1990 | Village |
| | | 12/31/1991 (D) | |
| | odhull (Village of) | 1986 | Village |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | pomingdale (Village of) | 1985 | Village |
| | Hill (Village of) | 1985 | Village |
| <u> </u> | zabethtown (Village of) | 1981 | Village |
| | eville (Village of) | 1979, 1930 | Village |
| | sendale (Village of) | 1979 | Village |
| | annah (Village of) | 1979 | Village |
| | ndship (Village of) | 1977 | Village |
| | ovington (Village of) | 1976 | Village |
| | am (Village of) | 1975 | Village |
| | elham (Village of) | 1975 | Village |
| | tsburg (Village of) | 1972 | Village |
| 315. Amc | hir (Village of) | 1968 | Village |

| 316. Downsville (Village of) | 1050 | Village |
|---|----------------|--------------------|
| 310. Downsville (Village of) 317. The Landing (Village of) | 1950 | Village |
| | 1939 | |
| 318. North Bangor (Village of) 319. Forestport (Village of) | 1939 | Village Village |
| | 1938 | |
| 320. Old Forge (Village of) | 1933 | Village |
| 321. Jamaica Square | 1931 | Village |
| 322. Northville (Village of) 323. Belleville | 1930 | Village |
| | 1930 | Village |
| 324. Marlborough (Village of) 325. Sound Avenue | 1928 | Village Village |
| | 1927 | 3 |
| 326. Eastwood (Village of) 327. Newfield (Village of) | 1926 | Village |
| | 1926 | Village |
| 328. Pleasant Valley (Village of) | 1926 | Village |
| 329. Oramel (Village of) | 1925 | Village |
| 330. Brookfield (Village of) | 1923 (A) | Village |
| 331.LaFargeville (Village of) | 1922 | Village |
| 332. Marlboro | 1922 | Village |
| 333.Union (Village of) | 1921 | Village |
| 334. Rifton (Village of) | 1919 | Village |
| 335. Roxbury (Village of) | 1900 | Village |
| 336. Prattsville (Village of) | 1900 | Village |
| NORTH CAROLINA | | - |
| 337. Alexander Mills | 1999 | Town |
| 338. Long Beach | 1997-2007 | Town |
| 339. Sloop Point | 1997-2007 | Village |
| 340. Yaupon Beach | 1997-2007 | Town |
| NORTH DAKOTA | , , | - |
| 341. Slope Center | 04/02/2007 | Township |
| 342. Buchanan Valley | 03/13/2007 | Township |
| 343. Lincoln | 01/01/2007 | Township |
| 344. Hofflund | 01/01/2006 | Township |
| 345. Whetstone | 01/01/2006 | Township |
| 346. Alden | 01/01/2005 | Township |
| 347. Indian Creek | 01/01/2005 | Township |
| 348. Larson | 06/30/2003 (D) | City |
| 349. Dovre | 01/01/2003 | Township |
| 350. Maza | 07/01/2002 | City |
| 351. Hove Mobile Park | 07/19/2002 (D) | City |
| 352. Rawson | 03/31/2002 | City |
| 353. Hazelton | 01/01/2001 | Township |
| 354. Otter Creek | 03/21/2000 | Township |
| 355. McCulley | 03/01/1998 (D) | Township |
| 356. Barton | 05/01/1997 (D) | City |
| 357.Danbury | 03/01/1997 (D) | Township |
| 358. Wood | 12/01/1996 (D) | Township |
| 359. Russell | 04/14/1996 (D) | City |
| 360. Russell | 04/01/1996 (D) | Township |
| 361. Harding | 04/01/1995 (D) | Township |

| a6a Loonard | 12/21/2007 (D) | Township |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------|
| 362. Leonard | 12/21/1994 (D) | Township |
| 363. Fairview | 12/31/1994 (D) | <u> </u> |
| 364. Prairie View | 04/01/1994 (D) | Township |
| 365. Wheelock | 01/01/1994 (D) | City |
| 366. Engelter | 12/31/1993 (D) | Township |
| 367. Red Wing | 12/31/1992 (D) | Township |
| 368. Cow Creek | 01/01/1992 (D) | Township |
| 369. Hanks | 01/01/1992 (D) | City |
| 370. Economy | 12/00/1990 (D) | Township |
| 371. Merricourt | 08/07/1990 (D) | City |
| 372. Ideal | 1989 | |
| 373.Berwick | 1988 | |
| 374. Snake creek | 1988 | |
| 375. Patent Gate | 1986 | |
| 376. Northfork | 1986 | |
| OHIO | | |
| 377. Alvordton | 09/01/2007 | Village |
| 378. Lawrenceville | 08/20/2005 | Village |
| 379. Kimbolton | 04/00/2005 | Village |
| 38o. New Rome | 09/11/2004 | Village |
| 381. Brilliant | 11/24/1993 | Village |
| 382. Darbydale | 1986 | |
| 383. Clyde | 09/14/2006 | Township |
| OKLAHOMA | | |
| 384. Hall Park | 10/01/2003 | Town |
| 385. New Tulsa | 02/23/2001 | Town |
| 386. Quay | 08/23/2000 | Town |
| 387. Swink | 12/01/2000 | Town |
| 388. Jamestown | 07/01/1998 | Town |
| 389. Dale | 1997-2007 | Town |
| 390. Lone Chimney | 1997-2007 | Town |
| 391. New Woodville | 1997-2007 | Town |
| 392. Wardville | 09/00/1996 | Town |
| 393. McBride | 04/20/1995 | Town |
| 394. Quinlan | 09/02/1994 | Town |
| 395. Sandy Point | 1987 | Town |
| 396. Arkansas Colored Town | 1920-1930 | Town |
| 397. Bookertee | 1920-1930 | Town |
| 398. Canadian Colored Town | 1920-1930 | Town |
| 399. Chilesville | 1920-1930 | Town |
| 400. Douglas City | 1920-1930 | Town |
| 401. Emanuel | 1920-1930 | Town |
| 402. Ferguson | 1920-1930 | Town |
| 403. Homer | 1920-1930 | Town |
| 404. Lincoln City | 1920-1930 | Town |
| 405. Melvin | | Town |
| 406. North Fork Colored | 1920-1930 | Town |
| • | 1920-1930 | |
| 407. Mule Barn | 01/01/2008 | Town |

| . a O Avand | ! ! | Taura |
|---------------------------|------------|----------|
| 408. Avard | 01/01/2010 | Town |
| PENNSYLVANIA ⁷ | | |
| 409. West Alexander | 01/01/2009 | Borough |
| 410. South Philipsburg | 01/01/2007 | Borough |
| 411. West Lawn | 01/01/2006 | Borough |
| 412. Temple | 01/01/1999 | Borough |
| 413. Fairview | 01/00/1998 | Borough |
| 414. West Fairview | 01/01/1998 | Borough |
| 415. Jacksonville | 1993 | Borough |
| SOUTH CAROLINA | | |
| 416. Chappells | 01/02/1996 | Town |
| 417. City View | 05/30/1996 | Town |
| 418. Mount Carmel | 07/01/1991 | Town |
| 419. Black Dog | 1989 | |
| 420. Woodside | 1988 | |
| SOUTH DAKOTA | | |
| 421. Dorman | 01/16/2008 | Township |
| 422. Mission | 06/05/2008 | Township |
| 423. Carlock | 09/01/2007 | Township |
| 424. Lake | 06/05/2007 | Township |
| 425. Pahapesto | 04/20/2007 | Township |
| 426. Rowe | 03/01/2006 | Township |
| 427. Butte | 06/01/2006 | Township |
| 428. Reliance | 04/05/2005 | Township |
| 429. Sioux | 04/12/2005 | Township |
| 430. Fairland | 04/26/2005 | Township |
| 431. Little Buffalo | 10/17/2005 | Township |
| 432. Ree Heights | 03/02/2004 | Township |
| 433. Brushy | 03/19/2004 | Township |
| 434. Media | 01/14/2003 | Township |
| 435. Ellston | 3/15/2002 | Township |
| 436. Delaney | 3/28/2002 | Township |
| 437. Valley | 5/01/2002 | Township |
| 438. Stony Butte | 4/21/2001 | Township |
| 439. Whetstone | 5/30/2001 | Township |
| 440. Union | 5/20/1991 | Township |
| 441. Lone Star | 08/10/1999 | Township |
| 442. Corn Creek | 03/01/1999 | Township |
| | 03/01/1999 | Township |
| 443. Mahto | | <u>'</u> |
| 444. Morningside | 05/12/1997 | Township |
| 445. Logan | 05/00/1997 | Township |
| 446. Pioneer | 03/04/1997 | Township |
| 447. Dewey | 02/19/1997 | Township |
| 448. Albee | 07/01/1996 | Town |
| 449. Tracy | 04/04/1996 | Township |

⁷ Each listed dissolution in Pennsylvania refers to the dissolution of a borough into a township. These dissolutions are thus distinct from the dissolution policy proposal for Pennsylvania towns discussed in *Dissolving Cities*.

| / FO Liberty | 05/00/1005 | Township |
|----------------------|------------|----------|
| 450. Liberty | 05/09/1995 | Township |
| 451. Cadillac | 03/01/1995 | Township |
| 452. Winfred | 01/01/1995 | Township |
| 453. Walker | 01/04/1994 | Township |
| 454. Grand Valley | 06/01/1993 | Township |
| 455. Lincoln | 05/04/1993 | Township |
| 456. Antelope | 12/00/1992 | Township |
| 457. Harmony | 10/00/1992 | Township |
| 458. Riverside | 07/07/1992 | Township |
| 459. Hope | 03/11/1992 | Township |
| 46o. Applegate | 09/24/1992 | Township |
| 461. Earling | 11/19/1991 | Township |
| 462. Kennebec | 08/27/1990 | Township |
| 463. Twin Butte | 07/20/1990 | Township |
| 464. Sylvia | 04/24/1990 | Township |
| 465. Dryden | 1989 | Township |
| 466. White River | 1988 | Township |
| 467. Degrey | 1987 | Township |
| 468. Harrold | 1987 | Township |
| 469. Annin | 1986 | Township |
| 470. Grouse Creek | 1986 | Township |
| 471. Mclaughlin | 1986 | Township |
| 472. Murdo | 1986 | Township |
| TENNESSEE | | |
| 473. Midtown | 01/01/2005 | City |
| 474. Hickory Withe | 10/09/2002 | Town |
| 475. Walnut Grove | 07/01/2001 | Town |
| 476. Helenwood | 10/04/1999 | Town |
| 477.Rickman | 1989 | |
| TEXAS | | |
| 478. Westminster | 05/24/2005 | City |
| 479. Nesbitt | 01/01/2000 | Town |
| 480. Rangerville | 01/01/2000 | Village |
| 481. Oakhurst | 05/09/2000 | City |
| 482. Northcrest | 1997-2007 | City |
| 483. Sunset | 04/19/2007 | City |
| 484. Marshall Creek | 11/19/2007 | Town |
| 485. Center Point | 10/12/1999 | City |
| 486. San Elizario | 12/6/1999 | City |
| 487. Rolling Meadows | 01/30/1995 | City |
| 488. Fort Gates | | |
| 489. Chateau Woods | 05/23/1994 | City |
| | 08/14/1993 | City |
| 490. Bronson | 05/01/1993 | City |
| 491. Luella | 05/01/1993 | Town |
| 492. Lawrence | 12/00/1986 | Village |
| 493. Grayburg | 1975 | City |
| 494. Lake Dallas | 08/08/1964 | City |
| UTAH | | |

| 495. Hiawatha | 11/20/1992(D) | Town |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------|
| VERMONT | | |
| 496. Bradford | 12/01/2004 | Village |
| 497. Milton | 04/22/2003 | Village |
| 498. Stowe | 07/01/1996 | Village |
| 499. Richford | 1990-2000 | Village |
| 500. Bristol | 1/01/1993 | Village |
| VIRGINIA | | |
| 501. Castlewood | 1997-2007 | Town |
| WASHINGTON | | |
| 502. Elberton | 1965 | |
| 503. DuPont | 1926 (reincorp. | |
| | 1951) | |
| WEST VIRGINIA | | |
| 504. Jefferson | 02/21/2007 | Town |
| 505. Littleton | 08/03/2004 | Town |
| 506. Osage | 02/17/1995 (D) | Town |
| WISCONSIN | | |
| 507. Cable | 1984 | |
| 508. Orwell | 1885 | |

Appendix C: Rejected or Abandoned Dissolutions 1980-2010

| Name of Municipality | Year Diss'n Considered (C) Rejected(R) or Abandoned (A) ⁸ | Type of Municipal Gov't | Legal Dissolution Proposal ⁹ | Mechanism of defeat ¹⁰ |
|---|---|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| CALIFORNIA | | | | |
| 1. Portola | 2005 | City | Р | S |
| 2. Clearlake | 1990 | City | Р | S |
| 3. Long Beach | 1896 (dissolved) 1897 (reincorp) | City | | IR |
| COLORADO | | | | |
| 4. Foxfield | 2002 (R) | Town | E | E |
| FLORIDA | | | | |
| 5. Port Richey | 2009 (A) | | GB | GB |
| 6. Miami | 1997 (R) | City | E | E |
| 7. San Antonio | 1992 (C) | City | S | |
| ILLINOIS | | | | |
| 8. Campton Hills | 2008 | | E | E |
| Sammons Point Village | 2008 | Village | E | IR |
| 10. Murrayville | 1912 (reincorp. 1914) | Village | IR | IR |
| KENTUCKY | | | | |
| 11. Allen | 2006 (R) | City | P, E | E |
| MAINE | | | | |
| 12. Sherman | 1987(C)/1988(R) | | Р | S |

⁸ "Rejected dissolutions" includes cities where dissolution was formally, legally proposed and then was defeated or legally abandoned (i.e., did not obtain the state-mandated form of consent). It would not include a petition drive that failed or was aborted, a dissolution that was discussed but never initiated formally, or other inchoate dissolution attempt.

⁹ KEY: Dissolution legally considered via:

S=official study undertaken or exploratory commission established by the City Council

GB=defeated by a vote of the municipality's governing body

E = put to vote/referendum

P = Petition

¹⁰ KEY: Dissolution defeated by:

GE, SE, or E=defeated by voters in a general or special election (note E where information on the type of election is not available)

GB=defeated by a vote of the municipality's governing body

S=rejected by the state legislature or state or regional reviewing agency

JR=rejected by a reviewing court or rejected pursuant to litigation

A=supporters withdraw proposal

O=rejected or abandoned for unclear reasons

IR=successfully dissolved, then reincorporated within 5 years

| MISSOURI | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|----------|------|----|
| 13. Macks Creek | 2004(C)/2005(R) | Town (?) | E | E |
| NEW YORK | | | | |
| 14. Whitesboro (Village of) | 2011 (R) | Village | Е | SE |
| 15. Cuba (Village of) | 2010 (R) | Village | Е | Е |
| 16. Farnham (Village of) | 2010 (R) | Village | E | E |
| 17. Lake George (Village of) | 2010(R) | Village | S | GB |
| 18. Lakewood (Village of) | 2010 (R) | Village | Е | E |
| 19. North Collins (Village of) ¹¹ | 2010 (R) | Village | GB | GB |
| 20. Odessa (Village of) | 2010 (R) | Village | E | E |
| 21. Sloan (Village of) | 2010 (R) | Village | E | E |
| 22. Williamsville (Village of) | 2010 (R) | Village | Е | E |
| 23. Brockport (Village of) | 2009 (C); 2010 (R) | Village | Е | E |
| 24. Port Henry (Village of) | 2009 (C); 2010 (R) | Village | S, E | E |
| 25. Johnson City (Village of) | 2009 (R) | Village | Е | E |
| 26. Speculator (Village of) | 2008 (R) | Village | Е | E |
| 27. Macedon (Village of) | 2007(C); 2008 (R); 2010 (R) | Village | P, E | E |
| 28. Windsor (Village of) | 2007(C) | Village | 0 | 0 |
| 29. Alden (Town of) | 1994(C)/1996 | Town | Е | Е |
| ОНЮ | | | | |
| 30. Cleves | 1998 (R) | | E | E |
| 31. North Bend (Village of) | 1999 (C); 2003 (R) | Village | Е | E |
| 32. Amelia (Village of) | 2009 (R) | Village | Е | Е |
| WASHINGTON | | | | |
| 33. Kalama | 1890 | | IR | IR |
| WISCONSIN | | | | |
| 34. Eagle (Village of) | 2004 (R) | Village | E | Е |

¹¹ The village of North Collins also considered dissolving in 1993. The Village Board passed and then rescinded a resolution to study the dissolution of the village. Buffalo News.

Appendix D: Legally Proposed But Unresolved Dissolutions 2008-2010

| Name of Municipality | Year Diss'n Proposed | Legal Step(s) Taken | Type of Municipal Gov't |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| CALIFORNIA | · | | |
| City of Vernon | 2010 | Assembly Bill for Involuntary Dissolution | City |
| FLORIDA | | · | |
| 2. Islandia | 2010 | Scheduled for county election; but inactive government since 2002 | City |
| NEW YORK | | | |
| 3. Chaumont | 2011 | Supervisiors commissioned study on effects of dissolution | Village |
| 4. Candor (Village of) | 2010 | Mayor established dissolution committee | Village |
| 5. Corinth (Village of) | 2010 | Study group assembled | Village |
| 6. Edwards (Village of) | 2010 | Studying dissolution; vote scheduled for March, 2011 | Village |
| 7. Medina (Village of) | 2010 | Studying dissolution | Village |
| 8. Potsdam (Village of) | 2010 | Studying dissolution | Village |
| 9. Saranac Lake (Village of) | 2010 | 11-2-10 vote canceled but GB to address through resolution | Village |
| 10. Schuylerville (Village of) | 2010 | Study conducted; Will e put to vote in March 2011. | Village |
| 11. Victory (Village of) | 2009 – 2010 | Villagers signed petition to force a vote; village was conducting a study as of 1/10 and vote will occur in the next few years. | Village |
| 12. East Aurora (Village of) | 2009 | Referendum scheduled? | Village |
| 13. Rye (Town of) | 2009 | Supervisiors commissioned study on effects of dissolution | Town |
| TENNESSEE | | | |
| 14. Lakewood UTAH | 2010 | vote | |
| 15. Powder Mountain | | HB466; HB218;SB34; in legal battle in the Utah Supreme Court. | |