

HISTORY - TOWN OF DICKINSON

The town's namesake is for Daniel S. Dickinson – Binghamton's first mayor in 1834. He served as lieutenant governor of New York State from 1842-1844 and as the only person from Broome County as a U.S. Senator, 1844-1851. During the Civil war he was appointed as the U.S. attorney for the New York City area. A statue of him stands in the front of the Broome County Courthouse, erected in 1924.

Dickinson is the youngest of the towns of Broome County, 1890. But, it is home of the first settlement located on the western side of the Chenango River, 1787, by Captain William Leonard, Colonel William Rose, Joshua Whitney, his son Joshua William, and Ebenezer Greene. A New York State marker north of the entrance to Sunrise Terrace tells of the first court held under an elm tree near the Whitney farm.

The 3.4 square miles of the town was a part of the Town of Chenango. When the Town of Chenango was divided this area became a part of the Town of Binghamton. The village of Binghamton became the City of Binghamton in 1867 and continually grew its boundaries until it cut the Town of Binghamton into two parts. The northern part officially became the Town of Dickinson in 1890. Inhabitants at that time numbered 525 which included the County's Poor Farm.