

# ALLEGAN COUNTY GUIDE

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## ARCHIVES OF MICHIGAN



Allegan County was established by the legislature in 1831 and organized in 1835. The county coordinates are Ranges 11 West through 16 West (11W - 16W) and Townships 1 North through 4 North (1N - 4N). Adjacent counties include Ottawa (north), Kent (northeast), Barry (east), Kalamazoo (southeast), and Van Buren (south). Lake Michigan is the western border of Allegan County.

Original records from Allegan County are available at the Archives of Michigan. The list below is organized by record type; each record type lists specific records, the years of coverage and the record group (RG) number assigned to that collection. A more detailed list of each collection can be found in finding aids at the archives.

Some of the collections below are housed at the Western Michigan University Archives & Regional History Collections in Kalamazoo - these are indicated with a \* after the RG number. For assistance with these records, please contact the Western Michigan University Archives directly.

### BUSINESS RECORDS

- **Articles of association**, from **1873 to 1909** – RG 82-92\*
- **Articles of incorporation of religious societies**, from **1859 to 1943** – RG 82-92\*
- **Index of business conducted under assumed name**, from **1907 to 1916** – RG 82-92\*
- **Index to certificates of co-partnership**, from **1907 to 1956** – RG 82-92\*
- **Record of docked horses**, from **1901 to 1903** – RG 82-92\*
- **Record of estrays**, from **1871 to 1941** – RG 82-92\*

### CEMETERY RECORDS

- **Allegan County files**, from **1968 to 1976** – RG 83-53

## CENSUS RECORDS

- **State census of agriculture**, from 1894 – RG 81-15

## COURT RECORDS

- **Assignment docket**, from 1888 to 1898 – RG 82-93\*
- **Certificates of conviction**, from 1899 to 1900 – RG 82-93\*
- **Chancery calendar**, from 1849 to 1906 – RG 82-93\*
- **Chancery case files**, from 1849 to 1900 – RG 82-93\*
- **Chancery common rule book**, from 1852 to 1901 – RG 82-93\*
- **Chancery journal**, from 1849 to 1859 – RG 82-93\*
- **Chancery order book**, from 1873 to 1911 – RG 82-93\*
- **Chancery orders publication**, from 1891 to 1925 – RG 82-93\*
- **Chancery record of decrees**, from 1851 to 1914 – RG 82-93\*
- **Chancery sale of real estate of infants**, from 1894 to 1916 – RG 82-93\*
- **Chancery special motions book**, from 1852 to 1904 – RG 82-93\*
- **Circuit Court calendar**, from 1836 to 1895 (RG 82-93\*
- **Circuit Court final judgment record**, from 1838 to 1840 – RG 82-93\*
- **Circuit Court journal**, from 1836 to 1901 – RG 82-93\*
- **Circuit Court journal, dismissals**, from 1830 to 1916 – RG 82-93\*
- **Common rule book**, from 1839 to 1921 – RG 82-93\*
- **County Court calendar**, from 1847 to 1851 and from 1878 to 1888 – RG 82-93\*
- **County Court journal**, from 1847 to 1851 – RG 82-93\*
- **Court blotter**, from 1894 to 1910 – RG 82-93\*
- **Criminal calendar**, from 1887 to 1903 – RG 82-93\*
- **Criminal case files**, from 1838 to 1900 – RG 82-93\*
- **Justice of Peace transcripts**, from 1849 to 1900 – RG 82-93\*
- **Law case files**, from 1846 to 1900 – RG 82-93\*
- **Law index**, not dated – RG 82-93\*
- **Order pro confesso**, from 1890 to 1901 – RG 82-93\*
- **Special motions book**, from 1840 to 1910 – RG 82-93\*

## LAND RECORDS

- **Deeds prepared by county treasurer for lands sold for delinquent taxes**, from 1840 and from 1842 – RG 71-46\*

## MILITARY RECORDS

- **Civil War volunteers from Allegan County, from 1861 to 1863** – RG 82-92\*
- **Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) post records, from 1876 to 1945** – RG 63-19
  - *Allegan County GAR posts include: Post 34 (Otsego); Post 46 (Ganges); Post 56 (Allegan); Post 74 (Wayland); Post 80 (Monterey); Post 148 (Douglas); Post 269 (Plainwell); Post 287 (Cheshire); Post 346 (Hamilton); Post 371 (Fennville); Post 412 (Burnips Corners); Post 422 (Saugatuck); Post 460 (Saugatuck)*
- **Indigent soldiers and sailors burial record, from 1887 to 1925** – RG 82-92\*
- **Record of local draft board, from 1917** – RG 82-92\*
- **Relief granted to dependents of military servicemen, from 1862 to 1865** (RG 71-46 \*)

*See also Guide No. 4: War Records, Guide No. 7: Post-War Records, Guide No. 4 c: Spanish American War, and Guide No. 4 d: World War I*

## NATURALIZATION RECORDS

- **Certificates, from 1908 to 1955** – RG 98-14
- **Declarations of Intention, from 1850 to 1855** – RG 94-342
- **Petitions, from 1894 to 1956** – RG 94-342
- **Repatriations, from 1930 to 1955** – RG 94-342

## OCCUPATIONAL RECORDS

- **List of physicians returned by assessor, from 1900 to 1915** – RG 82-92\*
- **Record of dentists, from 1907 to 1958** – RG 82-92\*
- **Record of medical practitioners, from 1883 to 1959** – RG 82-92\*
- **Record of nurses, from 1912 to 1936** – RG 82-92\*
- **Record of optometrists, from 1910 to 1958** – RG 82-92\*
- **Record of osteopathy and chiropractic, from 1902 to 1953** – RG 82-92\*
- **Register of notary public & Justice of Peace, from 1871 to 1956** – RG 82-92\*
- **Registration of drugless healers, from 1925 to 1934** – RG 82-92\*

## POLITICAL RECORDS

- **Record of township & village officers, from 1873 to 1910** – RG 82-92\*

## POOR HOME / RELIEF RECORDS

- **Report of County Relief Board, Spanish-American War, from 1899** – RG 82-92\*

## PRISON RECORDS

- **Sheriff's reports of meals furnished prisoners in county jail, from 1920 to 1924** – RG 82-92\*

*See also Guide No. 3: Correctional Facilities Records*

## PROBATE RECORDS

- **Estate files, from 1839 to 1890** – RG 88-48\*

## RECREATION RECORDS

- **Bounties, from 1920 to 1933** – RG 82-92\*
- **Hunter's license record, from 1895 to 1916** – RG 82-92\*
- **Record of licenses concealed weapons, from 1912 to 1917** – RG 82-92\*

## SCHOOL RECORDS

- **Family census cards (Otsego Township), from 1926 to 1957** – RG 89-276
- **Record of school examiners, from 1887 to 1891** – RG 82-92\*

## TAX RECORDS

- **Assessment rolls, from 1843 to 1900** – RG 77-58\*
- **Certificate of sale of land for delinquent tax and receipts for tax paid on land, from 1839 to 1845** – RG 71-46\*
- **Certificates of land sold for delinquent taxes of 1836, from 1839** – RG 71-46\*
- **Delinquent returns, from 1836 to 1858** – RG 77-58\*
- **Primary school and swamp land receipts, from 1873 to 1882** – RG 82-92\*
- **Record of delinquent tax receipts, from 1928 to 1940** – RG 82-92\*
- **Record of tax receipts, from 1873 to 1925** – RG 82-92\*
- **Statement of lands upon which taxes were unpaid, from 1837 to 1842** – RG 71-46\*
- **Statement of taxes delinquent, rejected by Auditor General, from 1837 to 1847 and from 1852** – RG 71-46\*
- **Tax returns, from 1844 to 1849** – RG 77-58\*
- **Tax sales, from 1836 to 1861 and from 1896 to 1900** – RG 77-58\*

## VITAL RECORDS

*See Guide No. 19: Vital Records*

## VOTER RECORDS

- **Record of elections, from 1867 to 1947 – RG 82-92\***

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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