

BARRY COUNTY GUIDE

ARCHIVES OF MICHIGAN



Barry County was set off by the legislature in 1829 and organized in 1839. The county coordinates are Ranges 11 West through 16 West (11W-16W) and Townships 1 North through 4 North (1N-4N). Adjacent counties include Ionia (northeast), Eaton (east), Calhoun (southeast), Kalamazoo (southwest), Allegan (west), and Kent (northwest).

Original records from Barry 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

- **Freeport House hotel register (Freeport)**, from **1915 to 1918** – RG 68-25

CEMETERY RECORDS

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

CENSUS RECORDS

- **Federal census**, from **1850 to 1880** – RG 60-23
- **State census**, from **1884 and 1894** – RG 60-23

COURT RECORDS

- **Justice docket (Yankee Springs Township)**, from **1915 to 1939** – RG 2006-50

LAND RECORDS

- **Rural Property Inventories**, from circa **1939** – RG 89-25

MILITARY RECORDS

- **Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) post records**, from **1876 to 1945** – RG 63-19
 - *Barry County GAR posts: Post 82 (Nashville); Post 99 (Bowens Mills); Post 122 (Assyria); Post 125 (Hastings); Post 159 (Middleville); Post 249 (Banfield); Post 418 (Thornapple Lake)*
- **Record of burial of indigent soldiers**, from **1886 to 1958** – RG 60-23*
- **Record of local draft board**, from **1917** – RG 60-23*
- **Record of soldiers discharged from service**, from **1863 to 1866** – RG 60-23*

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

- **Certificate stubs**, from **1907 to 1958** – RG 2004-68
- **Declarations of Intention**, from **1840 to 1929** – RG 2004-68
- **Petitions for Naturalization**, from **1894 to 1958** – RG 2004-68
- **Petitions granted**, from **1928 to 1958** – RG 2004-68

POLITICAL RECORDS

- **Record of township officers**, from **1875 to 1896** – RG 60-23*

PRISON RECORDS

- **Record of jail**, from **1873 to 1911** – RG 67-41*

See also Guide No. 3: Correctional Facilities Records

PROBATE RECORDS

- **Case files**, from **1860 to 1873** and from **1879 to 1913** – RG 67-38*
 - from **1863 to 1966** – RG 68-15*
 - from **1846 to 1940** – RG 71-143*

TAX RECORDS

- **Assessment rolls**, from **1852 to 1901** and from **1930** – RG 67-41*
 - from **1860 and 1940** – RG 67-108*
 - from **1881** – RG 71-29*
- **Delinquent tax receipt book**, from **1850 to 1865** – RG 67-41*
- **Delinquent tax receipt ledger**, from **1845 to 1849** – RG 67-41*
- **Lands advertised for unpaid tax**, from **1839 to 1840** – RG 67-41*
- **Lands sold for unpaid tax**, from **1846 and 1848** – RG 67-41*
- **Record of lien on lands sold for delinquent taxes**, from **1919 to 1920** – RG 67-41*
- **Tax rolls**, from **1911 to 1985** – RG 2007-50
 - from **1979 to 1999** – RG 2021-13

VITAL RECORDS

See Guide No. 19: Vital Records

CONTACT INFORMATION

[Archives of Michigan](#)
Michigan History Center
Michigan.gov/mhc/archives
702 W. Kalamazoo Street
Lansing, MI 48915
archives@michigan.gov

Revised August 2022