

CASS COUNTY GUIDE

ARCHIVES OF MICHIGAN



Cass County was officially organized in 1829. The county coordinates are Ranges 13 West through 16 West (13W-16W) and Townships 5 South through 8 South (5S-8S). Adjacent counties include Saint Joseph (east), Elkhart [IN] (southeast), St. Joseph [IN] (southwest), Berrien (west), Van Buren (north), and Kalamazoo (northeast).

Original records from Cass 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. More detailed lists of these collections 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

- **Account ledger sheets (Pokagon Township)**, from **1936 to 1983** – RG 2003-44
- **Grist mill book**, from **1874 to 1878** – RG 75-35*
- **Record of estrays**, from **1871 to 1903** – RG 75-35*

CEMETERY RECORDS

- **Cass County files**, from **1968 to 1976** – RG 83-53
- **Cemetery registry book (Marcellus Township)**, from **1880 to 1914** – RG 2019-63

COURT RECORDS

- **Civil and criminal docket (Marcellus Township)**, from **1910** – RG 2019-63
- **Common rule book**, from **1839 to 1864** – RG 75-35*
- **Justice Court record**, from **1852 to 1872** – RG 2008-12
- **Justice Courts, Docket of judgement**, from **1841 to 1872** – RG 75-35*
- **Justice docket**, from **1852 to 1882** – RG 72-21*
- **Justice docket (Marcellus Township)**, from **1874 to 1887** – RG 2019-63

LAND RECORDS

- **Applications for building permits (Marcellus Township)**, from **1978 to 1990** – RG 2019-63
- **Delinquent returns**, from **1956 to 1957** – RG 77-70*
- **Farm assessment records (Marcellus Township)**, not dated – RG 2019-63
- **List of non-resident lands**, from **1836 to 1842** – RG 72-21*
- **Rural Property Inventory (Marcellus Township)**, from **1939** – RG 2019-63
- **Rural Property Inventory (Milton Township)**, from **1938** – RG 2014-139
- **Rural Property Inventory (Pokagon Township)**, from **1938** – RG 2003-44

MILITARY RECORDS

- **Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) post records**, from **1876 to 1945** – RG 63-19
 - *Cass County GAR posts: Post 44 (Pokagon), Post 47 (Dowagiac), Post 57 (Marcellus), Post 65 (Jones), Post 96 (Union), Post 157 (Cassopolis), Post 230 (Wakelee), Post 341 (Calvin), Post 448 (Edwardsburg)*
- **Soldiers and Sailors record of service**, from **1916 to 1919** – RG 75-35*

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

POLITICAL RECORDS

- **Bonds and oaths (Marcellus Township)**, from **1877 to 1939** – RG 2019-63
- **Bonds and oaths (Milton Township)**, from **1921 to 1957** – RG 2019-52*
- **Clerk's account book (Milton Township)**, from **1903 to 1959** – RG 2019-52*
- **Election returns, Justice of the Peace**, from **1837 to 1876** – RG 75-35*
- **Township general record (Marcellus Township)**, from **1843 to 1896** – RG 2019-63
- **Treasurer's account book (Milton Township)**, from **1866 to 1947** – RG 2019-52*

POOR HOME / RELIEF RECORDS

- **Record of volunteers' relief fund, from 1862 to 1865** – RG 72-21*

PRISON RECORDS

See also Guide No. 3: Correctional Facilities Records

SCHOOL RECORDS

- **Teacher's daily register book (Marcellus Township), from 1891 to 1918** – RG 2019-63

TAX RECORDS

- **Record of taxes, from 1850 to 1858** – RG 72-21*
- **Record of township treasurers' bonds, from 1895 to 1897** – RG 72-21*
- **Statement of lands for unpaid taxes, from 1841 to 1846** – RG 72-21*
- **Tax assessment rolls, from 1845 to 1880** – RG 71-163*
- **Tax assessment rolls (Milton Township), from 1882 to 1935** – RG 2014-139
 - from **1901 to 1934** – RG 2019-52*
 - from **1936** and from **1944** – RG 2019-63
- **Tax master file (Marcellus Township), from 1985** – RG 2019-63
- **Tax rolls, from 1846 to 1943** – RG 2008-32**
 - from **1900 to 1940** – RG 72-21
 - from **1944 to 1957** – RG 77-70*
- **Tax rolls (Pokagon Township), from 1932 to 1935** – RG 2003-44
 - from **1942 to 1944** and from **1955 to 1957** – RG 2004-70*

***Available online at Michiganology: www.michiganology.org*

VITAL RECORDS

See Guide No. 19: Vital Records

VOTER RECORDS

- **Register of electors (Marcellus Township), from 1859 to 1882** – RG 2019-63
- **Voter registration – female (Marcellus Township), from 1919 to 1935** – RG 2019-63

- **Voter registration book (Marcellus Township), from 1892 to 1946 – RG 2019-63**

CONTACT INFORMATION

[Archives of Michigan](#)
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Revised October 2022