

# MUSKEGON COUNTY GUIDE

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## ARCHIVES OF MICHIGAN



Muskegon County was organized in 1859. The county coordinates are Range 13 West through 18 West (13W-18W) and Township 9 North through 12 North (9N-12N). Adjacent counties include Oceana (north), Newaygo (northeast), Kent (east), and Ottawa (south). Lake Michigan is on the west border of Muskegon County.

Original records from Muskegon 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 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.

Some of the collections below have access restrictions – these are indicated with a # after the RG number. Student records at the Archives of Michigan that are more than 75 years old may be made available for research if the researcher provides a copy of the student's death record; for assistance with these records, please check with the Archives of Michigan Reference staff.

### **BUSINESS RECORDS**

- **Articles of association, from 1859 to 1948** – RG 84-32
- **People's State Bank expense books, from 1928 to 1939** – RG 84-31

### **CEMETERY RECORDS**

- **Muskegon County files, from 1968 to 1980** – RG 83-53

## CENSUS RECORDS

- **Federal census**, from **1870** – RG 84-32
- **State census**, from **1884** and from **1894** – RG 75-89 and RG 2022-66

## COURT RECORDS

- **Chancery calendars**, from **1859 to 1931** – RG 84-31
- **Chancery case files**, from **1859 to 1939** – RG 84-31
  - from **1905 to 1921** and from **1931 to 1940** – RG 2012-23
- **Chancery decrees**, from **1874 to 1931** – RG 84-31
- **Chancery journals**, from **1860 to 1874** – RG 84-31
- **Chancery order books**, from **1873 to 1936** – RG 84-31
- **Chancery register**, from **1907 to 1908** – RG 84-31
- **Circuit court calendar**, from **1917 to 1918** – RG 84-84
- **Circuit court commissioners' dockets**, from **1936 to 1940** – RG 2012-23
- **Circuit court commissioners' registers**, from **1880 to 1936** – RG 84-31
- **Circuit court docket ledgers**, from **1921 to 1931** – RG 2012-23
- **Circuit court journals**, from **1859 to 1932** – RG 84-31
- **Coroner's inquests**, from **1863 to 1920** – RG 88-31
  - from **1871**, from **1881**, from **1893 to 1932**, and from **1939 to 1953** – RG 84-32
- **Criminal calendars**, from **1873 to 1931** – RG 84-31
- **Criminal case files**, from **1876 to 1931** – RG 84-31
  - from **1931 to 1940** – RG 2012-23
- **General docket**, from **1880 to 1883** – RG 84-31
- **Justice court civil dockets (Muskegon)**, from **1860 to 1904** – RG 56-4
- **Justice court criminal dockets (Muskegon)**, from **1870 to 1911** – RG 56-4
- **Justice court transcripts**, from **1858 to 1940** – RG 84-84
- **Law calendars**, from **1859 to 1932** – RG 84-31
- **Law case files**, from **1856 to 1935** – RG 84-31
  - from **1931 to 1940** – RG 2012-23
- **Law indexes**, from **1859 to 1932** – RG 84-31
- **Motion calendars**, from **1888 to 1934** – RG 84-31
- **Prosecuting attorney's criminal case files**, from **1905** and from **1911 to 1925** – RG 84-84
- **Prosecuting attorney's general files**, from **1889 to 1921** – RG 84-84
- **Sheriff's civil writs**, from **1905 to 1914** – RG 84-32
- **Sheriff's execution docket**, from **1905 to 1914** – RG 84-32
- **Special motions**, from **1860 to 1897** – RG 84-31

## LAND RECORDS

- **Petitions to Board of Supervisors**, from **1870**, from **1879**, from **1889**, and from **1916** – RG 84-32

## MILITARY RECORDS

- **Burial of indigent soldiers**, from **1889** – RG 84-32
- **Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) post records**, from **1876 to 1945** – RG 63-19
  - *Muskegon County GAR posts: Post 3 (Montague), Post 7 (Muskegon), Post 149 (Holton), Post 280 (North Muskegon), Post 290 (Lakeside), Post 337 (Ravenna), Post 342 (Twin Lake)*
- **List of Korean War veterans**, from **1954** – RG 84-32
- **List of Vietnam War veterans**, from **1973** – RG 84-32
- **List of World War I veterans**, from **1951** – RG 84-32
- **List of World War II veterans**, from **1951** – RG 84-32

*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

- **Applications for repatriation**, from **1937 to 1951** – RG 94-302
- **Certificate stubs**, from **1907 to 1926** – RG 84-119
- **Declarations of Intention**, from **1859 to 1929** – RG 84-119
  - from **1929 to 1974** – RG 94-302
- **Depositions and correspondence**, from **1930 to 1959** – RG 94-302
- **Index cards**, from **1929 to 1947** – RG 94-302
- **Index to Declarations of Intentions**, from **1859 to 1941** – RG 84-119
  - from **1941 to 1974** – RG 94-302
- **Oaths of naturalization**, from **1850 to 1911** – RG 84-119
- **Petitions and records**, from **1894 to 1931** – RG 84-119
  - from **1931 to 1980** – RG 94-302

## OCCUPATIONAL RECORDS

- **Chiropractor register**, from **1928 to 1956** – RG 84-32
- **Dentist register**, from **1907 to 1976** – RG 84-32
- **Drugless healer register**, from **1923** and from **1926** – RG 84-32
- **Lists of physicians**, from **1902 to 1904** – RG 84-32
- **Lists of township officers**, from **1859 to 1947** – RG 84-32
- **Medical practitioner's sworn statements**, from **1882 to 1924** – RG 84-32
- **Memorials by County Bar Association**, from **1884 to 1941** – RG 88-31
- **Nomination petitions**, from **1896** and from **1926 to 1966** – RG 84-32
- **Nurse register**, from **1892 to 1956** – RG 84-32

- **Nurses and trained attendant register**, from **1922 to 1959** – RG 2012-23
- **Oaths and bonds (Norton Township)**, from **1902 to 1911** and from **1931 to 1943** – RG 68-135
- **Optometrist register**, from **1910 to 1952** – RG 84-32
- **Osteopathy register**, from **1897 to 1948** – RG 84-32
- **Physician register**, from **1900 to 1952** – RG 84-32
  - from **1930 to 1958** – RG 2012-23
- **Physician and surgeon register**, from **1899 to 1957** – RG 84-32
- **Professional registers (various)**, from **1953 to 1985** – RG 2012-23
- **Specifications, contracts, and agreements**, from **1868 to 1943** – RG 84-32
- **Surgery and midwifery register**, from **1899 to 1929** – RG 84-32
- **Veterinarian register**, from **1900 to 1965** – RG 84-32

## **POOR HOME / RELIEF RECORDS**

- **Report of volunteer relief fund**, from **1862 to 1865** – RG 71-47\*
- **Superintendent of Poor letterpress book**, from **1899 to 1907** – RG 79-101

## **PRISON RECORDS**

- **Detroit House of Corrections, inmates held at**, from **1877 to 1930** – RG 84-32
- **Jail records**, from **1873 to 1917** – RG 84-32
- **List of prisoners**, from **1884** – RG 84-32
- **Sheriff's record**, from **1907 to 1916** – RG 84-32

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

## **PROBATE RECORDS**

- **Estate case files**, from **1869 to 1895** – RG 2022-96
- **Probate calendars**, from **1839 to 1944** – RG 2022-96

## **SCHOOL RECORDS**

- **Census records (Muskegon)**, from **1920 to 1965** – RG 2020-59#
- **Census field sheets**, from **1935 to 1951** – RG 88-35
- **Eighth grade graduation records**, from **1942** – RG 88-35
- **School inspector's annual reports**, from **1862 to 1926** – RG 84-32

## **TAX RECORDS**

- **Assessment rolls**, from **1859 to 1944** – RG 79-32\*

- **Assessment rolls (Norton Township)**, from **1863 to 1890** and from **1900 to 1940** – RG 62-28
- **Tax records**, from **1877 to 1879**, from **1884**, from **1887 to 1888**, and from **1892** – RG 84-32

## VITAL RECORDS

- **Record of divorce proceedings**, from **1894 to 1947** – RG 84-31

*See Guide No. 19: Vital Records*

## VOTER RECORDS

- **Register of electors (Norton Township)**, from **1882 to 1908** – RG 68-135
- **Statement of votes**, from **1859 to 1940** – RG 84-32
- **Statement of votes in dispute**, from **1916 to 1944** – RG 84-32

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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