

WAYNE COUNTY GUIDE

ARCHIVES OF MICHIGAN



Wayne County was organized in 1796. The county coordinates are Range 8 East through 13 East (8E-13E) and Township 1 South through 4 South (1S-4S). Adjacent counties include Macomb (northeast), Monroe (south), Washtenaw (west), and Oakland (northwest). Lake Huron is on the east border of Wayne County.

Original records from Wayne 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.

BUSINESS RECORDS

- **Articles of association**, from **1916** – RG 2012-32
- **Indexes to annual reports**, from **1923 to 1930** – RG 2012-32

CEMETERY RECORDS

- **Burial transit permits (Canton Township)**, from **1930 to 1956** – RG 88-22
- **Wayne County files**, from **1961 to 1979** – RG 83-53

COURT RECORDS

Circuit Court

- **Chancery calendars**, from **1851 to 1901** – RG 85-34
 - from **1901 to 1941** – RG 2012-32
- **Chancery case files**, from **1873 to 1874** and from **1890 to 1892** – RG 97-322*
- **Chancery case files (1st District)**, from **circa 1836 to 1850** – RG 85-34

** This collection includes a very small sampling of chancery case files.*

- **Chancery entry books**, from **1937 to 1962** – RG 2012-32
- **Chancery indexes**, from **1847 to 1903** – RG 85-34
 - from **1903 to 1939** – RG 2012-32
- **Circuit Court calendars**, from **1851 to 1901** – RG 85-34
- **Criminal calendars**, from **1837 to 1909** – RG 85-34
 - from **1909 to 1940** – RG 2012-32
 - from **1940 to 1973** – RG 2022-94
- **Criminal case files**, from **circa 1841 to 1950** – RG 2012-32
- **Criminal indexes**, from **1833 to 1879** – RG 85-34
 - from **1934 to 1961** – RG 2012-32
- **Law calendars**, from **1932 to 1966** – RG 2022-94
- **Law entry books**, from **1924 to 1925** and from **1937 to 1962** – RG 2012-32
- **Law indexes**, from **1855 to 1908** – RG 85-34
 - from **1908 to 1939** – RG 2012-32

Recorder's Court (Detroit)

- **Copies of court calls**, from **1981 to 1987** – RG 2022-78
- **Criminal calendars**, from **1858 to 1949** – RG 2011-37
- **Criminal case files**, from **circa 1858 to 1949** – RG 2011-37
 - from **1949 to 1977** – RG 2022-78
- **Criminal docket**, from **1930 to 1941** – RG 68-19
- **Criminal indexes**, from **1918 to 1944** – RG 2011-37
- **Criminal journals**, from **1909 to 1965** – RG 2011-37
- **General index to criminal calendars**, from **1945 to 1973** – RG 2022-78
- **Index to 36th District Court appeals**, from **1982 to 1994** – RG 2022-78
- **Index to docket journals felony**, from **1962 to 1968** – RG 2022-78
- **Index to misdemeanor calendars**, from **1969 to 1979** – RG 2022-78
- **Misdemeanor calendars**, from **1972 to 1981** – RG 2022-78
- **Motions for new trial**, from **1972 to 1979** – RG 2022-78

Superior Court

- **Calendars**, from **1873 to 1889** – RG 85-34
- **Chancery decrees**, from **1873 to 1887** – RG 85-34
- **Chancery journals**, from **1873 to 1884** – RG 85-34
- **Indexes**, from **1873 to 1889** – RG 85-34
- **Journals**, from **1873 to 1887** – RG 85-34

Miscellaneous

- **Justices' docket (Dearborn)**, from **1879 to 1881** – RG 83-68
- **Justices' docket (Van Buren Township)**, from **1862 to 1882** – RG 2020-35
- **Roll of attorneys**, from **1824 to 1929** – RG 85-34
- **Territorial Court judgment record**, from **1825 to 1834** – RG 85-34
- **Writs of habeas corpus**, from **1879** – RG 87-162

LAND RECORDS

- **Assessor cards (Detroit), from circa 1920 to 2000** – RG 2015-132

MILITARY RECORDS

- **Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) post records, from 1876 to 1945** – RG 63-19
 - *Wayne County GAR posts: Post 17 (Detroit), Post 95 (Flat Rock), Post 162 (Detroit), Post 184 (John Brown), Post 225 (Trenton), Post 231 (Plymouth), Post 261 (Wayne), Post 270 (Ecorse and Wyandotte), Post 376 (Belleville), Post 393 (Detroit), Post 404 (Livonia), Post 406 (Detroit), Post 413 (Wyandotte), Post 427 (Dearborn), Post 431 (Wayne), Post 433 (Detroit)*

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

- **Declarations of Intention, from 1837 to 1946** – RG 85-36
- **Petitions for Naturalization, from 1818 to 1935** – RG 85-36
- **Sample of naturalization records, from circa 1839 to 1895** – RG 97-322*

** This collection includes a very small sampling of naturalization records.*

Detroit and Wayne County records are also held at the National Archives regional facility in Chicago and the Detroit Public Library's Burton Historical Collection.

OCCUPATIONAL RECORDS

- **Chiropractor registrations, from 1934 to 1953** – RG 85-38
- **Nurse registrations, from 1915 to 1966** – RG 85-38
- **Oaths and bonds of township officers (Dearborn Township), from 1854 and from 1857 to 1889** – RG 71-157
- **Optometrist registrations, from 1910 to 1945** – RG 85-38
- **Osteopath registrations, from 1910 to 1936** – RG 85-38
- **Physician registrations, from 1894 to 1950** – RG 85-38
- **Record of dentistry, from 1907 to 1966** – RG 2014-96
- **Record of volunteer enrollment for civil defense (Dearborn Township), from 1942** – RG 71-157
- **Veterans' licenses to vend, from 1933 to 1948** – RG 85-38

PRISON RECORDS

See also Guide No. 3: Correctional Facilities Records

PROBATE RECORDS

- **Bonds**, from **1841 to 1846** – RG 85-35
- **Calendars**, from **1797 to 1914** – RG 85-35
 - from **1961 and from 1967** – RG 2021-14
- **Case files**, from **1797 to 1901** – RG 85-35
- **Estate case files**, from **1901 to 1968** – RG 2018-67
 - from **1968** – RG 2019-153
 - from **1969** – RG 2019-154
 - from **1970** – RG 2020-48
 - from **1971** – RG 2021-99
 - from **1972** – RG 2022-86
- **Estate case files (refiles)**, from **1900 to 1969** – RG 2020-47
 - from **1940** – RG 2021-100
- **Inventories and accounts**, from **1825 to 1845** – RG 85-35
- **Journal of wills**, from **1870 to 1955** – RG 2013-72
- **Journals**, from **1821 to 1926** – RG 85-35
- **Letters of administration**, from **1837 to 1848** – RG 85-35
- **Probate birth determination**, from **1942 to 1943** – RG 2021-14
- **Probate birth registration**, from **1940 to 1943** – RG 2021-14
- **Probate register**, from **1849 to 1900** – RG 2021-14

TAX RECORDS

- **Assessment rolls (Dearborn Township)**, from **1864** and from **1871** – RG 71-157
- **Assessment rolls (Ford)**, from **1903 to 1923** – RG 68-30
- **Assessment rolls (Glenwood)**, from **1900 to 1905** – RG 68-30
- **Assessment rolls (Sumpter Township)**, from **1865 to 1932** – RG 2019-67
- **Assessment rolls (Wyandotte)**, from **1868 to 1911** – RG 68-30
- **Delinquent tax roll**, from **1869** – RG 2019-163

VITAL RECORDS

- **Marriage records (Dearborn)**, from **1881 to 1883** - RG 83-68
- **Register of deaths (Dearborn Township)**, from **1897 to 1938** – RG 71-157

See Guide No. 19: Vital Records

VOTER RECORDS

- **Register of electors (Dearborn Township)**, from **1888** and from **1892 to 1895** – RG 71-157
- **Register of electors (Sumpter Township)**, from **1884 to 1888** – RG 2019-67

CONTACT INFORMATION

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