

Archives of Michigan



Bay County County Research Guide: No. 9

Bay County was organized in 1857. The county coordinates are Range 3E-6E and Township 13N-16N. Adjacent counties include Arenac (north), Tuscola (east), Saginaw (south), Midland (west), and Gladwin (northwest).

Here is a listing of original source records available at the Archives for Bay County, including the years of coverage and the Record Group number. Finding aids available in the Archives, arranged by RG, give a more itemized listing of each collection.

Businesses

Account of sales of lumber, lath, and shingles	1869-1875	RG 71-16
Record of notes and bills payable	1860-1875	RG 71-19

Cemeteries

Bay County files	1967-1976	RG 83-53
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Census

Federal census	1860	RG 65-32
Federal census	1870	RG 65-32
State census	1884	RG 84-7
State census	1894	RG 65-32

Court records

Circuit court docket	1900-1922	RG 71-19
Justice docket	1875-1900	RG 71-16
Justice returns	1858-1859, 1874-1881	RG 71-19

Land

Deeds	1842-1886	RG 74-7
Index to deeds	1853-1907	RG 74-7
Index to mortgages	1873-1906	RG 74-7
Record of mortgages	1836-1917	RG 74-7
Rural Property Inventory	1936-1942	RG 72-76

Military

GAR post records	1876-1945	RG 63-19
Male citizens liable for military duty	1862-1869	RG 71-19
Receipts for volunteer bounty	1863-1866	RG 71-19
Record of soldiers' burial	1887-1902	RG 71-19
Registration for military service	1917	RG 71-16

* Bay County GAR posts: 67 (Bay City), 278 (West Bay City), 407 (Auburn), 419 (Bay City)

* See also Guide No. 4: War Records & Guide No. 7: Post-War Records

Naturalization

Certificate stubs	1909-1936	RG 94-417
Court orders	1929-1966	RG 94-417
Declarations of Intention	1858-1963	RG 94-417
Repatriations	1940-1958	RG 94-417
Second papers	1888-1965	RG 94-417
Transfers	1916	RG 94-417

Occupations

Chiropractor register	1934-1953	RG 86-9
Chiroprody register	1915-1948	RG 86-9
Drugless healer register	1913-1928	RG 86-9
Nurses register	1910-1926	RG 86-9
Optometrist register	1926-1937	RG 86-9
Physician register	1900-1946	RG 86-9

Political records

Oaths of office	1857-1871; 1876-1895;	RG 71-19
	1900-1903	
Record of township and city officers	1874-1893	RG 71-19

Poor home/relief

Bookkeeping records of Superintendent of Poor	1869-1914	RG 71-19
Report of inmates of infirmary	1912-1913	RG 71-19

Prison records

Bills to county from Superintendent of Detroit House of Corrections	1868-1872	RG 71-19
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** See also Guide No. 3: Correctional Facilities Records*

Recreation

Liens on watercraft

1865-1869

RG 71-19

Schools

Census of Union School District, Bay City 1878, 1888, 1891-1892 RG 71-19

Vital records

** See Guide No. 19: Vital Records*