

Mecosta County



Mecosta County was originally laid off in 1840, but was later officially organized in 1859. The county coordinates are Range 7W-10W and Township 13N-16N. Adjacent counties include Osceola (north), Clare (northeast), Isabella (east), Montcalm (south), Newaygo (west), and Lake (northwest).

Here is a listing of original source records available at the Archives for Mecosta 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.

Several Archives of Michigan collections are housed at the Ferris State University Archives in Big Rapids, which are indicated below with a #. For assistance with those resources, please check with the staff there:

<https://ferris.edu/library/SpecCollections/archives.html>.

Businesses

Register of log marks	1868-1885	RG 69-54
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Cemeteries

Burial transit permits (Big Rapids Twp.)	1945-1946	RG 2007-49#
Mecosta County files	1968-1980	RG 83-53

Held at Ferris State University Archives, Big Rapids

Census

Federal census	1870	RG 69-54
List of persons in Mecosta County	1880	RG 69-54

Church records

Records of Methodist Episcopal Church (Big Rapids)	1880-1885	RG 69-54
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Court records

Circuit Court calendars	1874; 1885; 1889; 1893	RG 69-54
Circuit Court case files	1895-1940	RG 2013-90
Circuit Court chancery orders	1859-1874	RG 69-54
Circuit Court common rule book	1875-1915	RG 69-54
Circuit Court general orders	1859-1876	RG 69-54
Circuit Court records	1931-1940	RG 2007-49#
Circuit Court special motions	1860-1912	RG 69-54
Coroner inquests	1872-1889	RG 69-59
Records of Justice Court	1859-1890	RG 69-54

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Land

Certificate of state tax lands sold & deeded	1892-1893	RG 72-45
Chattel mortgages (Big Rapids Twp.)	1905-1933	RG 2007-49#
Record of state tax land sold	1891-1893	RG 72-45
Rural Property Inventory (Austin Twp.)	1936-1942	RG 72-76

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Military

GAR post records	1876-1945	RG 63-19
<i>* Mecosta County GAR posts: 164 (Morley), 271 (Mecosta), 294 (Big Rapids), 389 (Chippewa Lake), 415 (Remus), 446 (Remus)</i>		
Record of soldiers and sailors in service of the Great War	1920	RG 69-59
Report of burial of indigent soldiers, sailors, and marines from Union Army	1888-1915	RG 69-54
Return of ex-soldiers from war, 1861-65	1888	RG 69-59

* See also *Guide No. 4: War Records*, *Guide No. 7: Post-War Records*, *Guide No. 4c: Spanish American War*, and *Guide No. 4d: World War I*

Naturalization

Declarations of Intention	1859-1983	RG 90-274
Oaths	1852-1891	RG 90-274
Petitions	1907-1956	RG 90-274
Second papers	1893-1906	RG 90-274

Occupations

Labor liens on logs	1883-1886; 1895-1912	RG 69-59
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Political records

Record of township and city officers	1879-1897	RG 69-54
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Poor home/relief

Soldiers' relief commission records	1899-1909	RG 69-59
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Prison records

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

Probate

Appraiser's warrants & inventories	1868-1946	RG 70-33
	1901-1912	RG 72-45
Bonds and letters relating to appraisal	1862-1888	RG 72-45
Index to estates in probate	n.d.	RG 72-45
Journal	1860-1917	RG 72-45
Order of hearing & proof of publication	1894-1915	RG 72-45
Record of administration of claims	1894-1903	RG 72-45
Record of administrator	1902-1915	RG 72-45
Record of appointment of administrator	1896-1907	RG 72-45
Record of probate of will	1887-1910	RG 72-45
Record of sale of real estate	1895-1906	RG 72-45
Selected case files	1870-1938	RG 72-45

Recreation

Dog assessment list (Big Rapids Twp.)	1916	RG 2007-49#
Record of hunter's license	1895-1896	RG 69-54

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Tax records

Assessment rolls	1869-1880	RG 72-45
Assessment rolls (Grant Twp.)	1890-1970	RG 2013-70#
Record of redemption receipts	1885-1899	RG 72-45
Statement of unpaid taxes lands	1863-1875	RG 72-45
Tax rolls	1859-1910	RG 72-45

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Vital records

Birth records (Big Rapids Twp.)	1911-1914	RG 2007-49#
Death certificates (Big Rapids Twp.)	1951	RG 2007-49#

* See also *Guide No. 19: Vital Records*
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Voter records

Statement of county board of canvassers	1860-1890	RG 69-54
Voter registration (Big Rapids Twp.)	1910	RG 2007-49#

Held at Ferris State University Archives, Big Rapids

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