

Wayne County



Wayne County was organized in 1796. The county coordinates are Range 8E-13E and Township 1S-4S. Adjacent counties include Macomb (northeast), Monroe (south), Washtenaw (west), and Oakland (northwest).

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

Business records

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Articles of association | 1916 | RG 2012-32 |
| Indexes to annual reports | 1923–1930 | RG 2012-32 |

Cemeteries

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Burial transit permits (Canton Twp.) | 1930-1956 | RG 88-22 |
| Wayne County files | 1961-1979 | RG 83-53 |

Court records

| | | |
|--|----------------------|------------|
| Chancery calendars | 1851–1901 | RG 85-34 |
| | 1901–1941 | RG 2012-32 |
| Chancery case files | 1873-1874; 1890-1892 | RG 97-322# |
| Chancery case files (1 st District) | ca. 1836–1850 | RG 85-34 |
| Chancery decrees (Superior Court) | 1873–1887 | RG 85-34 |
| Chancery entry books | 1937–1962 | RG 2012-32 |
| Chancery indexes | 1847–1903 | RG 85-34 |
| | 1903–1939 | RG 2012-32 |
| Chancery journals (Superior Court) | 1873–1884 | RG 85-34 |
| Circuit Court calendars | 1851–1901 | RG 85-34 |

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|--|----------------------|------------|
| Criminal calendars | 1837–1909 | RG 85-34 |
| | 1909-1940 | RG 2012-32 |
| Criminal case files | c.1841-1950 | RG 2012-32 |
| Criminal indexes | 1833–1879 | RG 85-34 |
| | 1934–1961 | RG 2012-32 |
| Justices' docket (Dearborn) | 1879-1881 | RG 83-68 |
| Law entry books | 1924–1925; 1937-1962 | RG 2012-32 |
| Law indexes | 1855–1908 | RG 85-34 |
| | 1908–1939 | RG 2012-32 |
| Recorder's Court criminal calendars (Detroit) | 1858–1949 | RG 2011-37 |
| Recorder's Court criminal case files (Detroit) | c.1858-1949 | RG 2011-37 |
| Recorder's Court criminal docket (Detroit) | 1930-1941 | RG 68-19 |
| Recorder's Court criminal indexes (Detroit) | 1918–1944 | RG 2011-37 |
| Recorder's Court criminal journals (Detroit) | 1909–1965 | RG 2011-37 |
| Roll of attorneys | 1824–1929 | RG 85-34 |
| Superior Court calendars | 1873–1889 | RG 85-34 |
| Superior Court indexes | 1873–1889 | RG 85-34 |
| Superior Court journals | 1873–1887 | RG 85-34 |
| Territorial Court judgment record | 1825–1834 | RG 85-34 |
| Writs of habeas corpus | 1879 | RG 87-162 |

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

Land

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Assessor cards (Detroit) | c.1920-2000 | RG 2015-132 |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|

Military Records

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|----------|
| GAR post records | 1876–1945 | RG 63-19 |
|------------------|-----------|----------|

* *Wayne County GAR posts: 17 (Detroit), 95 (Flat Rock), 162 (Detroit), 184 (John Brown), 225 (Trenton), 231 (Plymouth), 261 (Wayne), 270 (Ecorse and Wyandotte), 376 (Belleville), 393 (Detroit), 404 (Livonia), 406 (Detroit), 413 (Wyandotte), 427 (Dearborn), 431 (Wayne), 433 (Detroit)*

* 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 | 1837–1946 | RG 85-36 |
| Petitions for Naturalization | 1818–1935 | RG 85-36 |
| Sample of naturalization records | c.1839-1895 | 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.*

Occupations

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

Prison records

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

Probate

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Bonds | 1841–1846 | RG 85-35 |
| Calendars | 1797–1914 | RG 85-35 |
| Estate case files | 1797–1901 | RG 85-35 |
| Inventories and accounts | 1825–1845 | RG 85-35 |
| Journal of wills | 1870-1955 | RG 2013-72 |
| Journals | 1821–1926 | RG 85-35 |
| Letters of administration | 1837–1848 | RG 85-35 |

Tax records

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Assessment rolls (Dearborn Twp.) | 1864; 1871 | RG 71-157 |
| Assessment rolls (Ford) | 1903-1923 | RG 68-30 |
| Assessment rolls (Glenwood) | 1900-1905 | RG 68-30 |
| Assessment rolls (Wyandotte) | 1868-1911 | RG 68-30 |

Vital records

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Marriage records (Dearborn) | 1881-1883 | RG 83-68 |
| Register of deaths (Dearborn Twp.) | 1897-1938 | RG 71-157 |

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

Voter records

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Register of electors (Dearborn Twp.) | 1888; 1892-1895 | RG 71-157 |
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