

Isabella County



Isabella County was originally laid off in 1831 but later officially organized in 1859. The county coordinates are Range 3W-6W and Township 13N-16N. Adjacent counties include Clare (north), Gladwin (northeast), Midland (east), Gratiot (southeast), Montcalm (southwest), Mecosta (west), and Osceola (northwest).

Here is a listing of original source records available at the Archives for Isabella 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 Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant, which are indicated below with a #. For assistance with those resources, please check with the staff there: cmich.edu/library/clarke.

Businesses

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| John Maxwell's day book | 1855-1887 | RG 72-64 |
| Partnerships | 1879-1935 | RG 2002-68# |
| Record of estrays | 1881-1943 | RG 72-89 |
| Sheep claims | 1892 | RG 2002-68# |
| Stockholders of the Borden Company | 1920 | RG 72-89 |

Held at Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant

Cemeteries

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| Isabella County files | 1965-1976 | RG 83-53 |
|-----------------------|-----------|----------|

Census

| | | |
|--|------|----------|
| Appointment certificates for enumerators | 1894 | RG 63-17 |
|--|------|----------|

| | | |
|--|-----------------------|-------------|
| Federal census | 1870 | RG 63-17 |
| Special census (Mt. Pleasant) | 1976 | RG 81-86 |
| State census | 1884; 1894 | RG 63-17 |
| Court records | | |
| Alimony payments | 1915-1964 | RG 2003-10 |
| Annulments | 1911; 1933; 1939 | RG 2002-68# |
| Assignment docket | 1891-1900 | RG 2003-10 |
| Bills of sale | 1877-1890 | RG 2002-68# |
| Bonds | 1882; 1889 | RG 2002-68# |
| Chancery case file exhibits (No. 4305) | 1949 | RG 72-89 |
| Chancery case files | 1871-1952 | RG 78-91 |
| | 1912; 1932 | RG 2002-68# |
| | 1952-1962 | RG 2003-10 |
| Chancery index | n.d. | RG 78-91 |
| Chancery journal | 1860-1918 | RG 2003-10 |
| Chancery orders | 1874-1962 | RG 2003-10 |
| Chancery rule books | 1870-1919 | RG 2003-10 |
| Circuit Court calendars | 1861-1956 | RG 2003-10 |
| Circuit Court calendars, proceedings | 1895-1966 | RG 2002-68# |
| Circuit Court journal orders | 1916-1918 | RG 2003-10 |
| Circuit Court journals | 1860-1982 | RG 2003-10 |
| Circuit Court minute book | 1880-1933 | RG 2003-10 |
| Civil case files | 1963-1977 | RG 2003-10 |
| Clerk's minute book | 1894-1899 | RG 72-74 |
| Court calendars | 1894-1954 | RG 78-91 |
| Criminal calendars | 1885-1913; 1928-1947 | RG 2003-10 |
| Criminal case files | 1914-1957 | RG 78-91 |
| | 1957-1977 | RG 2003-10 |
| Criminal docket (Coldwater Twp.) | 1888-1926 | RG 76-94 # |
| Criminal index | n.d. | RG 78-91 |
| Divorce decrees & failure to appear | 1914-1937 | RG 2003-10 |
| Estate settlements | 1881-1935 | RG 2002-68# |
| General orders | 1927-1957 | RG 2003-10 |
| Indentures | 1872-1935 | RG 2002-68# |
| Injunctions | 1876-1935 | RG 2002-68# |
| Justice Court docket | 1883- 1901; 1938-1967 | RG 2003-15 |
| Justice docket (Coldwater Twp.) | 1872-1922 | RG 76-94 # |
| Justice docket (Mt. Pleasant) | 1889-1910 | RG 72-74 |
| Justice docket (Union Twp.) | 1879-1890 | RG 72-74 |
| Justice docket, criminal | 1882-1903 | RG 72-74 |
| Landlord and tenant record | 1897-1965 | RG 2003-10 |
| Law case files | 1862-1957 | RG 78-91 |
| | 1957-1963 | RG 2003-10 |
| Proceedings of chancery court | 1859-1894 | RG 72-74 |

| | | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| Testimony & exhibits | 1948 | RG 72-89 |
| Transcripts from docket of judgements rendered by Justice Court | 1869-1910 | RG 72-74 |

Held at Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant

Land

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Chattel mortgages | 1868-1890 | RG 2002-68# |
| Chattel mortgages (Coldwater Twp.) | 1870-1926 | RG 76-94 # |
| Foreclosures | 1874-1935 | RG 2002-68# |
| Mortgages | 1870-1939 | RG 2002-68# |
| Mortgages of goods and chattels | 1869-1882 | RG 2003-10 |
| Rural Property Inventory | 1935-1938 | RG 72-65 |
| | 1936-1942 | RG 72-76 |

Held at Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant

Military

| | | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| GAR post records | 1876-1945 | RG 63-19 |
| * Isabella County GAR posts: 77 (Sherman City), 150 (Salt River), 161 (Blanchard), 250 (Mt. Pleasant), 253 (Dushville) | | |
| Record of County Relief Board for Spanish-American War | 1900 | RG 72-89 |

* 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 | 1861-1964 | RG 2004-71 |
| Index | 1861-1965 | RG 2004-71 |
| Naturalization certificate stubs | 1912-1925 | RG 2004-71 |
| Naturalization journal | 1895-1906 | RG 2004-71 |
| Naturalization record | 1886-1892 | RG 2004-71 |
| Petition and record | 1907-1965 | RG 2004-71 |
| Petitions and oaths | 1897-1903 | RG 2004-71 |
| Petitions granted and denied | 1930-1965 | RG 2004-71 |

Occupations

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| List of judges | 1883 | RG 2002-68# |
| Record of attorney licenses | 1872-1889 | RG 2003-14 |
| Record of dental practitioners | 1907-1936 | RG 72-89 |
| Record of deputy sheriffs | 1889-1939 | RG 72-89 |
| Statement of medical practitioners | 1883-1912 | RG 72-89 |

Held at Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant

Political records

| | | |
|---|-----------|-------------|
| Bonds & oaths (Coldwater Twp.) | 1897-1926 | RG 76-94 # |
| Election record | 1859-1890 | RG 72-64 |
| Justice of Supreme Court election returns | 1879-1892 | RG 2002-68# |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Oaths (Gilmore Twp.) | 1906-1914; 1932-1933 | RG 2002-3# |
| Record of township officers | 1885-1906; 1917-1928 | RG 72-89 |
| Township officers elected | 1892-1893 | RG 2002-68# |

Held at Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant

Poor home/relief

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Poor house & farm account | 1884-1897 | RG 72-64 |
| Record of inmates of county infirmary | 1932-1953 | RG 63-17 |
| Record of inmates of poorhouse | 1886-1948 | RG 63-17 |
| Superintendent of the Poor ledger | 1886-1926 | RG 72-64 |
| Superintendent of the Poor minutes | 1894-1928 | RG 72-64 |
| Superintendent of the Poor records | 1929-1953 | RG 79-60 % |

% Records are closed for 75 years and require a death certificate.

Prison records

| | | |
|-------------|-----------|----------|
| Jail record | 1901-1913 | RG 72-74 |
|-------------|-----------|----------|

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

Recreation

| | | |
|---------------|-----------|-------------|
| Dog ownership | 1893-1894 | RG 2002-68# |
| Dog tax list | 1885 | RG 2002-68# |

Held at Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant

Tax records

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Assessment rolls | 1859-1862; 1866-1950 | RG 72-64 |
| | 1863-1865 | RG 71-145 |
| | 1881-1939 | RG 72-89 |
| | 1909-1912 | RG 2002-68# |
| | 1945-1990 | RG 2017-70 |
| Assessment rolls (Coldwater Twp.) | 1873-1965 | RG 76-94 # |
| Assessment rolls (Mt. Pleasant) | 1949-1950 | RG 72-64 |
| Assessment rolls (Shepherd) | 1890-1956 | RG 72-64 |
| Delinquent taxes (Coldwater Twp.) | 1897-1901 | RG 76-94 # |
| Dog tax record (Coldwater Twp.) | 1900-1903 | RG 76-94 # |
| Dog tax record (Gilmore Twp.) | 1907-1912 | RG 2002-3# |

Held at Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant

Vital records

| | | |
|----------|----------------------|-------------|
| Divorces | 1866-1913; 1932-1935 | RG 2002-68# |
|----------|----------------------|-------------|

Held at Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant

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

Voter records

| | | |
|--|-----------|-------------|
| Electors | 1882 | RG 2002-68# |
| Party enrollment book (Coldwater Twp.) | 1906-1910 | RG 76-94 # |
| Poll list | 1878 | RG 2002-68# |

| | | |
|---|-----------|------------|
| Record of elections (Coldwater Twp.) | 1868-1911 | RG 76-94 # |
| Voter registration book (Coldwater Twp.) | 1868-1946 | RG 76-94 # |
| # <i>Held at Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant</i> | | |

Updated: April 2018