

Ottawa County



Ottawa County was organized in 1837. The county coordinates are Range 13W-16W and Township 5N-9N. Adjacent counties include Muskegon (north), Kent (east), and Allegan (south).

Here is a listing of original source records available at the Archives for Ottawa 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 Western Michigan University Archives in Kalamazoo, these collections are indicated below with a #. For assistance with those resources, please check with the staff there: wmich.edu/library/collections/archives.

Businesses

Account book (Plugger Sawmill, Holland)	1863-1866	RG 71-40 #
Record of estrays	1871-1874; 1907	RG 71-40 #
<i># Held at Western Michigan University Archives, Kalamazoo</i>		

Cemeteries

Ottawa County files	1962-1976	RG 83-53
---------------------	-----------	----------

Census

Federal census	1870	RG 71-40
	1880	RG 68-65
State census	1884	RG 71-40
	1894	RG 68-65

Court records

Civil docket (Grand Haven)	1876-1879	RG 71-40 #
Justice dockets	1846-1890	RG 71-40 #

Held at Western Michigan University Archives, Kalamazoo

Land

Record of land sales	1858	RG 71-40 #
Record of receipts for land sold for taxes	1865-1867	RG 71-40 #
Record of sale of land sold for taxes	1853-1856	RG 71-40 #
Rural Property Inventory	1936-1942	RG 72-76

Held at Western Michigan University Archives, Kalamazoo

Military

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

* *Ottawa County GAR posts: 51 (Berlin), 75 (Grand Haven), 136 (Nunica), 238 (Coopersville), 262 (Holland), 279 (Spring Lake), 388 (Allendale)*
 * 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

Circuit Court journal	1894-1906	RG 2000-72
Declarations of Intention	1852-1961	RG 2000-72
Petitions	1907-1962	RG 2000-72

Occupations

Record of appointment of deputy sheriffs	1904-1927	RG 71-40 #
Statements of medical practitioners	1883-1899	RG 71-40 #

Held at Western Michigan University Archives, Kalamazoo

Prison records

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

Recreation

Police automobile permits (Grand Haven)	1918-1919	RG 88-50 #
Sparrow bounty receipts (Grand Haven)	1916-1919	RG 88-50 #

Held at Western Michigan University Archives, Kalamazoo

Tax records

Assessment rolls	1838-1873	RG 71-40 #
	1860-1940	RG 71-8 #
	1960	RG 84-85
Statement of lands upon unpaid taxes	1841-1849	RG 71-40 #

Held at Western Michigan University Archives, Kalamazoo

Vital records

* See *Guide No. 19: Vital Records*

Updated: May 2018