Kent County

Kent County was organized in 1836. The county coordinates are Range 9W-12W and Township 5N-10N. Adjacent counties include Newaygo (north), Montcalm (northeast), Ionia (east), Barry (southeast), Allegan (southwest), Ottawa (west), and Muskegon (northwest).

Here is a listing of original source records available at the Archives for Kent 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 & Regional History Collections in Kalamazoo, which are indicated below with a #. For assistance with those resources, please check with the staff there: wmich.edu/library/collections/archives.

**Businesses**
- Account ledger for lighting (Lowell) 1897-1898 RG 56-5
- Register of log marks 1867-1877 RG 71-113

**Cemeteries**
- Kent County files 1962-1976 RG 83-53

**Census**
- State census 1884, 1894 RG 80-75

**Court records**
- Circuit Court in chancery cases 1859-1861 RG 71-44
- Journal of Circuit Court proceedings 1854-1873 RG 71-44
- 1875-1926 RG 71-49
Justice’s transcript | 1869-1902 | RG 71-49
Orders of Circuit Court | 1876-1882 | RG 71-44
Special motions of Circuit Court | 1860-1877 | RG 71-49

Health records
Register of communicable disease (Lowell) | 1921-1934 | RG 56-5

Land
Rural Property Inventory (Alpine Twp.) | 1939 | RG 2016-14
Statement of lands sold for unpaid taxes | 1855-1860 | RG 71-44
Statement of non-resident lands | 1861-1863 | RG 71-44

Military
GAR post records | 1876-1945 | RG 63-19
* Kent County GAR posts: 1 (Grand Rapids), 5 (Grand Rapids), 29 (Grand Rapids), 62 (Cedar Springs), 87 (Lowell), 237 (Rockford), 243 (Sparta), 247 (Harvard), 276 (Ada), 296 (Alaska), 302 (Byron Center), 306 (Casonvia), 350 (Sand Lake), 395 (Grand Rapids), 408 (Grand Rapids)
* 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
Certificate stubs | n. d. | RG 89-28
Citizenship journal | 1860-1906 | RG 89-28
Declarations of Intention | 1871-1929 | RG 89-28
Petitions | 1906-1927 | RG 89-28

Organizations
Articles of association | 1845-1900 | RG 65-29

Poor home/infirmary
Direct relief case files | 1933-1966 | RG 72-98
Journal of Superintendent of the Poor | 1930-1939 | RG 71-44
Record of persons admitted | 1930-1943 | RG 71-49

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

Recreation
Liens on watercraft | 1869; 1901; 1915 | RG 71-113

Tax records
Abstract of sale of state tax lands | 1877, 1879, 1881, 1886 | RG 71-49
Assessment rolls | 1872-1940 | RG 71-49
Assessment rolls (Oakfield Twp.) 1857 RG 87-65 #
Bond tax record 1921-1939 RG 71-49
Business tax record 1902-1908 RG 71-49
Cash book 1877-1882 RG 71-44
Index to assessment roll for Grand Rapids 1895 RG 71-49
Liquor tax record 1878-1879; 1884-1898 RG 71-49
Monies received for delinquent taxes 1861-1864 RG 71-49
1868-1874 RG 71-44
Mortgage tax report 1926-1939 RG 71-49
Special assessment of Village of Lowell 1912 RG 71-49
Statement of lands with unpaid taxes 1859, 1875, 1897, 1899 RG 71-49
Statement of lands with unpaid taxes 1878, 1886 RG 71-44
# Held at Western Michigan University Archives, Kalamazoo

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

**Voter records**
Voter registration book (Lowell) 1876; 1912; 1919-1946 RG 56-5

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