



Houghton County

Houghton County was originally laid off in 1845, but was later officially organized in 1848. The county coordinates are Range 31W-37W and Township 47N-56N. Adjacent counties include Keweenaw (northeast), Baraga (east), Iron (south), and Ontonagon (west).

Here is a listing of original source records available at the Archives for Houghton 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 Michigan Technological University Archives & Copper Country Historical Collections in Houghton, which are indicated below with a #. For assistance with those resources, please check with the staff there:

www.mtu.edu/library/archives/home.

Businesses

Annual reports	1869-1972	RG 89-464#
Appointment of resident agent	1931-1971	RG 89-464#
Articles of incorporation	1853-1938	RG 89-464#
Change of agent or office	1934-1972	RG 89-464#
Houghton County Copper, Iron and Tin Manufacturing Company minute book	1871-1897	RG 77-105#
Ledger, Max H. Mandlebaum	1873-1874	RG 77-105#
Lists of stockholders	1882-1928	RG 89-464#
Monthly accounts of male individuals with Calumet & Hecla Mining Co.	1877	RG 56-11 #
Record of log marks	1887-1913	RG 89-464#
Register of assumed names	1907-1949	RG 89-464#

Stock ledger (Dover Mining Company)	1864-1882	RG 77-105#
Stock ledger (Edwards Mining Company)	1864-1882	RG 77-105#
Stock ledger (Mesnard Mining Company)	1874-1893	RG 77-105#
Stock ledger (Pontiac Mining Company)	1859-1896	RG 77-105#
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Cemeteries

Houghton County files	1962-1979	RG 83-53
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Census

Federal census	1860; 1870	RG 56-11
Federal census (Adams Twp.)	1880	RG 56-11
State census	1864; 1874	RG 56-11

Court records

Appeal docket	1931-1938	RG 89-465#
Chancery journal	1874-1948	RG 89-465#
	1948-1957	RG 97-343#
Chancery order book	1863-1905	RG 89-465#
Chancery rule book	1875-1904	RG 89-465#
Circuit Court attachments	1866-1868	RG 89-465#
Circuit Court calendars	1865-1950	RG 89-465#
	1950-1969	RG 97-343#
Circuit Court case files	1865-1950	RG 89-465#
	1950-1962	RG 97-343#
Circuit Court civil case files	1963-1977	RG 97-343#
Circuit Court civil docket	1963-1974	RG 97-343#
Circuit Court commissioner docket	1914-1935	RG 89-465#
Circuit Court convictions	1865-1867	RG 89-465#
Circuit Court criminal case files	1963-1983	RG 97-343#
Circuit Court discharged cases	1867	RG 89-465#
Circuit Court exhibits	1871	RG 89-465#
Circuit Court indictments	1855-1856	RG 89-465#
Circuit Court inquisitions	1865-1867	RG 89-465#
Circuit Court journal	1849-1871; 1876-1953	RG 89-465#
	1953-1977	RG 97-343#
Circuit Court judge orders	1865-1869	RG 89-465#
Circuit Court notes of issue	1865-1875	RG 89-465#
Civil docket (Chassell Twp.)	1911	RG 80-60 #
Common rule book	1855-1956	RG 77-105#
Criminal docket (Chassell Twp.)	1911-1915	RG 80-60 #
District Court calendar	1849-1864	RG 89-465#
District Court case files	1849-1864	RG 89-465#
District Court journal	1858-1867	RG 89-465#
Exemptions from jury duty	1903-1906; 1916-1917	RG 56-11 #

Inquests, Record of	1890-1967	RG 89-464#
Journal orders dismissing cause	1916	RG 89-465#
Justice civil docket (Hancock)	1918-1943	RG 82-114#
Justice criminal docket (Hancock)	1925-1934; 1955-1956	RG 82-114#
Justice docket (Hancock)	1954-1957	RG 82-114#
Justice docket (Houghton)	1889-1891	RG 74-73 #
Justice docket (Portage Twp.)	1867-1886	RG 77-103#
Justice record (Hancock)	1902-1903	RG 82-114#
List of petit jurors approved	1879-1895	RG 56-11 #
Recorder's Court docket (Houghton)	1862-1903	RG 74-73 #
Transcript of judgements	1898-1928	RG 89-465#

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Health records

Ambulance run record (Hancock)	1963-1964	RG 82-114#
Copper Country Sanatorium patients' medical records	1926-1964	RG 85-74#*
Copper Country Sanatorium outpatient summaries	1932-1951	RG 89-464#*

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* Death certificate required to view records

Land

Chattel mortgages (Hancock Twp.)	1893-1909	RG 82-114#
County land patents	1865-1916	RG 89-464#
Personal property statements (Chassell Twp.)	1920-1963	RG 80-60 #
Property assessment surveys	1937-1973	RG 77-105#
Swampland purchases	1865-1872	RG 89-464#
Treasurer's receipt of county lands	1865-1891	RG 89-464#

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Military

Burial of veterans	1913-1921	RG 89-464#
GAR post records	1876-1945	RG 63-19

* Houghton County GAR posts: 174 (Hancock), 354 (Calumet)

Lists of individuals serving in Michigan National Guard exempted from jury duty	1888-1906; 1916-1917	RG 56-11 #
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* 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 naturalizations	1857, 1863, 1868	RG 89-465#
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Occupations

Applications for admission to the Bar	1878-1886	RG 89-465#
Chiropodist certifications	1952	RG 77-105#
Chiropractors	1934-1980	RG 89-464#
Dentist certifications	1903-1973	RG 77-105#
Insurance agents	1876-1918, 1943	RG 89-464#
Justices of the Peace	1896-1965	RG 89-464#
Liquor license tax records	1912-1917	RG 77-105#
Nurses	1910-1960	RG 89-464#
Oaths, deputy sheriff	1895-1957	RG 77-105#
Optometrists	1910-1982	RG 89-464#
Physician certifications	1870-1976	RG 77-105#
Physicians	n.d.	RG 89-464#
Real estate brokers	1920-1943	RG 89-464#
Township officers	1891-1919	RG 89-464#
Veterinarian certifications	1957	RG 77-105#

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Organizations

Civilian Conservation Corps records	1934-1940	RG 59-11 #
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Political records

Board of Canvassers election records	1868-1902	RG 89-464#
Board of Supervisors member directory	1937-1962	RG 89-464#
Bonds and oaths of office (Chassell Twp.)	1921-1959	RG 80-60 #
Nominations for township posts (Chassell Twp.)	1949-1951	RG 80-60 #
Notaries	1895-1968	RG 89-464#
Oaths and bonds	1904-1924	RG 89-464#
Oaths of office (Houghton)	1921-1934	RG 74-73 #
Record of nominations	1910-1938	RG 89-464#
Township officer election lists	1894-1898	RG 77-105#
Township/Village officers returns	1920-1955	RG 89-464#

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Poor home/relief

Mother's pension records	1915-1931	RG 89-464#
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Prison records

Index to jail records	1909-1940	RG 77-105
Jail records	1874-1902	RG 77-105

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

Probate

Calendars	1894-1962	RG 2019-69
Case files	1872-1968	RG 2019-69
Foreign wills	1917-1954	RG 2019-69
Index	1872-1889	RG 2019-69
Journals	1900-1945	RG 2019-69
Orders	1857-1955	RG 2019-69
Probate record	1872-1968	RG 2019-69
Record of mothers pensions	1927-1931	RG 2019-69
Record of widows' pensions	1913-1918	RG 2019-69

Recreation

Bounties on animals	1883-1919	RG 89-464#
Douglas House hotel register (Portage Twp.)	1881-1894	RG 77-103#
<i># Held at Michigan Technological University Archives, Houghton</i>		

Schools

Admission cards (Osceola Twp.)	1912-1931	RG 87-77 #
Census cards (Osceola Twp.)	1923-1967	RG 87-77#+
Census field sheets (Osceola Twp.)	1927-1967	RG 87-77#+
Census sheets (Osceola Twp.)	1907-1920	RG 87-77 #
Entry and withdrawal sheet (Osecola Twp.)	1935	RG 87-77 #
School census, District #1 (Copper Harbor Twp.)	1856-1881	RG 77-62
School census records (Adams Twp.)	1910-1968	RG 86-25 #
<i># Held at Michigan Technological University Archives, Houghton</i>		
<i>+ Student records are restricted for 75 years</i>		

Tax records

Assessment rolls (Chassell Twp.)	1926-1955	RG 80-60 #
Assessment rolls (Hancock)	1866-1880	RG 82-114#
Assessment rolls (Houghton)	1864-1920	RG 74-73 #
County assessment records	1867-1925	RG 77-105#
Meter books (Houghton)	1897-1912	RG 74-73 #
Tax and assessment rolls	1925-1945	RG 82-113#
Tax rolls	1943-1969	RG 86-86#+
	1970-1972	RG 93-124#
Township and village assessment rolls	1873-1904	RG 77-105#
Township assessment records	1858-1972	RG 77-105#
Village assessment rolls	1895-1925	RG 77-105#
<i>+ Some of these records are also held on microfilm at the Archives of Michigan, Lansing</i>		
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Vital records

Affidavits for license to marry	1936-1937; 1956	RG 2019-69
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Death records (Portage Twp.)	1901-1917	RG 77-103#
Deaths, Return of	1867	RG 89-464#
Marriage records (Portage Twp.)	1913-1959	RG 77-103#
Record of divorce	1897-1921	RG 89-465#

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

Voter records

Party enrollment (Hancock)	1912-1913	RG 82-114#
Party enrollment sheets	1906-1913	RG 56-11 #
Poll books	1888	RG 56-11 #
Register of assisted voters (Chassell Twp.)	1916-1922	RG 80-60 #
Register of electors (Hancock)	1890-1908; 1928-1932	RG 82-114#
Register of electors (Chassell Twp.)	1888-1941	RG 80-60 #
Register of women electors (Hancock)	1919	RG 82-114#
Village registration (Hancock)	1897-1902	RG 82-114#
Voter registration books (Houghton)	1888-1936	RG 74-73 #
Voter registration records (Hancock)	1908-1928	RG 82-114#

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Updated: November 2019