



## Local History Collection | 1852-2011 (bulk 1940-2011)

Prior to becoming incorporated as a city on November 8, 1921, Royal Oak was first established as a township on January 23, 1819, and then a village on March 18, 1891. The city's first mayor was George A. Dondero, who later went on to become a Michigan representative to the U.S. House. Though Royal Oak's first "library" appeared in 1852 as a reading room in the Township doctor's home, it was not until almost the mid-twentieth century before the city's librarians started collecting information about the city and documenting its history.

The local history collection contains atlases, tax assessment rolls, city budgets, city planning studies and other city records and documents, as well as an extensive array of newspaper clippings that primarily cover the past seventy years. Other print materials include books about the city and its residents and reference materials such as *Polk* city directories for Royal Oak and *Bresser's* cross-index directories for South Oakland County. The collection also contains yearbooks for Royal Oak High School, George A. Dondero High School, Clarence M. Kimball High School, Shrine Catholic High School & Academy, and St. Mary Catholic School starting in 1920. Digitized copies of *The Daily Tribune* from November 1877 to September 2015, digitized yearbooks for Clarence M. Kimball High School from 1958 to 2006, and a timeline of the Royal Oak Public Library's history are available on the library's website.

The bulk of the materials in the local history collection focus on Royal Oak. There is a separate filing cabinet that contains news clippings related only to Oakland County history.

### Important items and subjects covered in this collection are:

Annual reports  
Atlases of both southern and northern Oakland County, 1860-1963 (not all years available)  
Blueprints and development plans for I-696  
Blueprints and development plans for downtown Royal Oak in the 1990s  
Cemeteries  
Churches  
City Elections  
City Finance  
City Planning  
Coughlin, Charles Edward  
*Daily Tribune*, January 27, 1877-June 30, 2007  
Dondero, George A.  
Downtown Development  
Fredericks, Marshall  
Kevorkian, Jack  
Laws and Ordinances  
Library, Royal Oak Public  
Liquor Licensing  
Oakland County census data  
Officials  
Organizations  
Parker Family  
Parking

Schools  
*Social Justice*, March 20, 1936-April 13, 1942  
Starr Family & Homes  
Streets  
Tax assessment rolls  
Transportation  
Voter Registration (women voters), 1912-1919  
War Work, 1917-1918, 1941-1945  
Zoning

### **Part I: Clippings and Articles—Local History—RO**

Accidents & Disasters

Animal Shelter

Annexation

Anniversary (75<sup>th</sup>)

Anniversary (100<sup>th</sup>)

Annual Reports

Art and Artists

1930-1969

1970-1979

1980-1989

1990-1999

2000-2009

2010-2019

Murals (Dondero)

Audit

Authors (see also Biography)

Banks

Bicycles & Bicycling **See** Cycling

Biography

A

B

Broomfield

Ca-Ch

Campbell

Ci-Co

Codling

Cook Family

Coughlin, Charles Edward

Cr-Cz

D

Dawkins

Dondero, George A.

E

Eastham, Clark

Erb (see also Biography-Kidder)

Fa-Fl

Flurry, Helen

Fo-Fu

Fredericks, Marshall

G

Gardner  
Goodale, Martha Fall  
Green (see also Biography-Starr)  
Grow  
Ha-Hi  
Hayward  
Heber, Malcolm  
Hilzinger  
Hj-Hz  
Hurd  
I-J  
K  
Kevorkian  
1987-1990  
1991  
January-August 1992  
September-December 1992  
January-August 1993  
September-December 1993  
1994-1995  
January-April 1996  
May-December 1996  
1997  
1998-1999  
2000-2011  
Knowles  
La-Le  
Labbitt  
Lawson  
Leenhouts, Keith J.  
Levy, J.J.  
Li-Ly  
Lopez, Carlos  
Mc/Mac  
Ma-Mi  
Miller, Floyd J.  
Mo-My  
Morrison  
N  
O  
Pa-Pe  
Parker  
Ph-Po  
Poray  
Pr-Q  
Quickstad  
Ra-Ri  
Renton, F.  
Ro-Ry  
Robbins, James Marshall  
Sa-Se

Sh-Sm  
Smith, Ansley  
Sn-Sz  
Sparks  
Springsteen  
Starr (see also Biography-Green)  
T (see also Authors)  
U-V  
Wa-We  
Wh-Wz  
Williams Family  
X, Y, Z

Budget  
1922-1959  
1965-2004  
2005  
2007-2009  
2010-2019

Building  
Buildings  
1920-1969  
1970-1999  
2000-2009  
2010-2019

Business  
Undated  
1920-1939  
1940-1949  
1950-1959  
1960-1969  
1970-1974  
1975-1979  
1970s-A-H  
1970s-I-P  
1970s-Q-Z  
1980-1989  
1980s-A-M  
1980s-N-Z  
1990-1999  
1990s-A-H  
1990s-I-P  
1990s-Q-Z  
2000-2009  
2000s-A-H  
2000s-I-P  
2000s-Q-Z  
2010-2019  
2010s-A-H  
2010s-I-P  
2010s-Q-Z

Calendars

Cemeteries  
Censorship  
Charter  
Churches  
    Baptist  
        First  
    Catholic  
        St. Dennis  
        St. Mary  
        Shrine of the Little Flower  
    Congregational  
        First  
    Episcopal  
        St. John's  
    Lutheran  
    Methodist  
        First  
        St. John's  
    Presbyterian  
        Christ Memorial  
        First  
        United  
    Salvation Army  
City Hall  
City Planning  
    Undated  
    1940-1959  
    1960-1989  
    1990-1999  
    2000-2009  
    2010-2019  
    Master Plan  
Community Farm Project  
Civil Service  
Civilian Defense  
Community Farm Project  
  
Community Information Books  
Consumers Power  
Courts  
Crime & Crime Prevention  
Cycling  
Description & Travel  
Detroit Edison  
Detroit Zoological Park  
    1940-1959  
    1960-1979  
    1980-1999  
    2000-2009  
    2010-2019  
Directories

Directories-Business 2000-2009  
2010-2019

Downtown Development

1950-1979  
1980-1989  
1990-1999  
2000-2009  
2010-2019

Draft

Drains

Drama

Dream Cruise **See** Oakland County- Woodward Dream Cruise

Elections

Undated & pre-1940  
1940-1949  
1950-1959  
1960-1969  
1970-1979  
1980-1989  
1990-1999  
2000-2009  
2010-2019

Electric Car Charging Station **See** Parking

Employees

1920-1989  
1990-1999  
2000-2009  
2010-2019

Labor Contracts & Issues

Events and Expos

1920-1989  
1990-1999  
2000-2009  
2010-2019

AIDS Walk

Arts, Beats, and Eats

Clay, Glass, and Metal

Grand National

Oak Apple

Outdoor Art Fair

Polar Palooza

Time Capsule-Snapshot Royal Oak-2011

Farmers' Market

Film Industry

Finance

1920-1959  
1960-1979  
1980-1999  
2000-2009  
2010-2019

Fire Department

1920-1989

1990-1999

2000-2009

2010-2019

Fires and Fire Prevention

Golden Jubilee

Golf Courses **See** Recreation

Grand Trunk

1920-1989

1990-

Growth and Improvement

Health, Public

Historic Preservation

Historical Society Museum

History

Undated & pre1920s

1920-1929

1930-1939

1940-1949

1950-1959

1960-1969

1970-1979

1980-1989

1990-1999

2000-2009

2010-2019

Hobbies

Homeless

Hospitals

Housing

Incorporation

Indian Trail

Landmarks (see also History)

Laws and Ordinances

1917-1959

1960-1979

1980-1999

2000-2009

2010-2019

Lawsuits

Library, Public

1920s and undated

1930-1939

1940-1949

1950-1959

1960-1969

1970-1979

1980-1989

1990-1999

2000-2009

2010-2019

Annual Reports  
Butterfly Garden  
Displays  
Filters  
Friends of  
History  
Homeless  
Memorial Book Collection  
Millage  
Programs  
    Adult  
    Children and Teen  
Proposed Building  
Renovation  
Technology  
Liquor Licensing  
Lodges  
    Eagles  
    Elks  
    I.O.O.F.  
    Masons  
Maps  
    1900-1959  
    1960-  
Medical Marijuana  
Memorial and Honor Roll  
Memorial Day (see also Oakland County-Memorial Day)  
Memorial Park  
Music  
Musicians  
Newspapers  
    *Daily Tribune*  
        1902-1924  
        1925-1969  
        1970-  
        Contests  
        Special Issues (two folders)  
    *Experiment*  
    *Midget*  
    *Mirror*  
    *South Oakland Eccentric*  
Officials  
    Pre-1940 and undated  
    1940-1949  
    1950-1959  
    1960-1969  
    1970-1979  
    1980-1989  
    1990-1999  
    2000-2009  
    2010-2019

## Organizations

Pre-1940 and undated

1950-1979

1980-1999

2000-

American Legion

Arts Council

Boys/Girls Club

Boy Scouts

Business and Professional Women's Club

CampFire Girls

Cloud Busters

Chamber of Commerce

Awards

1930-1979

1980-

Newsletter

Coin Club

Common Ground/ Sanctuary

Consumers Co-Op

D.A.R.

Easter Seals

Exchange

Garden Club

Gay Sixties

Gilda's Club

Girl Scouts

Goodfellows

Haven

Historical Society (see also Historical Society Museum)

Honor Flight

Inter-Club Council

Jaycees

Judson Center

Kiwanis

League of Women Voters

Lions Club

Memorial Society

Morning Musicale

Nature Society

Needlework Guild

Oakridge Women's Club

Optimist Club

Parents of Murdered Children

PTA

Republican Women's Club

Rotary

Royal Oak Youth Assistance

Second Horizons

Soroptimist

VFW

Women's Club  
Women's Christian Temperance Union  
YMCA

Parking  
Parks and Playgrounds  
    Pre-1970 and undated  
    1970-1979  
    1980-1989  
    1990-2009  
    2010-2019

Party Buses **See** Crime & Crime Prevention

Pets  
Physicians  
Police Department  
    1920-1979  
    1980-1999  
    2000-2009  
    2010-2019

Labor Contracts & Issues **See** Employees-Labor Contracts & Issues

Politics and Government  
    Pre-1940 and undated  
    1940-1949  
    1950-1959  
    1960-1969  
    1970-1979  
    1980-1989  
    1990-1999  
    2000-2009  
    2010-2019

Population  
Post Office  
    Shootings  
Post-war Planning  
Programs  
Projected Books Fund  
Property Valuation  
Public Works  
Publicity  
Radio  
Rats **See** Health, Public  
    **See** Oakland County -Health,Public

Recreation  
Red Cross  
Retirement Plan  
Salter Community Center  
Salvation Army  
Schools  
    Pre-1950 and undated  
    1950-1959  
    1960-1969

1970-1979

1980-1989

1990-1999

2000-2001

2002-2003

2004-2005

2006-2009

2010-2019

Alternative Education

Annual Reports

1990-1991

1991-1992

1993-1994

1995-1996

1996-1997

2000-2001

Board of Education

1920-1989

1990-1999

2000-2009

2010-2019

Clara Barton

Clubs

Colleges

    Oakland Community College

Consolidation and Renovation

Curriculum

Directories

District Administrators

District Information and Reports

Elementary and Middle

    Royal Oak Middle School

Enrollment

Events

Finance

    1940-1959

    1960-1989

    1990-2009

    2010-2019

High Schools

    Dondero

        1950-1989

        1990-2007

    Dondero Murals **See** Art & Artists-Murals

    Kimball

        1958-1979

        1980-2007

    Oakridge

    Royal Oak High School

        1920-1950

        2005-

Music  
Parochial Schools  
    St. Mary  
    Shrine of the Little Flower  
Preschools  
Reunions  
Scholarships and Awards  
School Newspapers  
Sports  
Survey  
Teachers  
    Pre-1970 and undated  
    1970-  
WOAK  
Senior Center  
Service Men  
South Oakland Shelter  
Star Dream Statue **See** Biog-Fredericks, Marshall  
    **See** Landmarks  
Starr Houses  
Statistics (see also Finance)  
Streets  
    1920-1929  
    1950-1969  
    1970-1999  
    2000-present  
Strikes and Labor Troubles  
Taxes  
    1930-1969  
    1970-2009  
    2010-2019  
Taxlands, Delinquent  
Telephone (see also Business)  
    1940-1949  
    1950-  
Television  
Theatres  
    1920-1969  
    1970-1989  
    1990-1999  
    2000-2009  
    2010-2019  
Time Capsule 2011 **See** Events & Expo – Time Capsule-Snapshot-R.O.-2011  
Traffic  
Transportation  
    1920-1929  
    1930-1959  
    1970-1989  
    1990-1999  
    2000-2009  
    2010-2019

Trees  
University of Life  
United States Bicentennial Celebration  
Vandalism  
V.E. Day  
War Bonds  
War Memorials  
War Work  
    1917-1919 Scrapbook  
    1941-1945 (see also Civilian Defense)  
    1941 Victory Book Campaign

Waste Management  
    1920-  
Water Quality  
Water Supply  
    1920-1929  
    1940-1949  
    1950-1959  
    1960-1999  
    2000-2009  
    2010-2019  
Welfare  
Wireless **See** Oakland County-Wireless  
Wolverine Boys' State  
Wolverine Girls' State  
Woodward Tribune **See** Oakland County-Organizations-Woodward Avenue Action Assoc.  
Youth Forum  
Zoning (two folders)

## **Part II: Clippings and Articles—Local History—Oakland County**

Animals  
Annual Reports  
Artists  
Authors  
Automation Alley  
Bio-Collective  
Biographies  
Blind  
Board of Supervisors  
Board of Auditors  
Budget  
Building  
Business  
Cemeteries  
Census  
Christmas  
Churches  
Cities  
Citizenship  
City Government

Civilian Defense  
Coal Shortage  
Community Chest  
Consumers Power  
Courthouse  
Courts  
Cranbrook  
Crime  
    Child Murders 1976-1977  
Directories  
Draft  
Drains  
    Sewers  
    Oakland-Macomb Drain  
Dream Cruise **See** Woodward Dream Cruise  
Economic Conditions  
Economic Outlook  
Elections  
Employment  
    Salaries  
Fair **See** Parks & Recreation  
Farms  
Finance  
Fires and Fire Prevention  
Freeways  
Garbage and Rubbish Authority  
Grand Jury  
Grand Trunk Western  
Growth and Improvement  
Health, Public  
History (see also Biographies)  
Hospitals  
    Beaumont  
        1940-1949  
        1950-1959  
        1960-1969  
        1970-1979  
        1980-1989  
        1990-1999  
        2000-2009  
        2010-2019  
    Beaumont SOC  
Housing  
Jails & Prisons **See** Politics & Government  
Juvenile Delinquency  
Juvenile Homes  
Landmarks  
Libraries  
Maps  
Memorial Day  
Michigan National Guard

Newspapers

Offices

Officials

Organizations

A – L

Boy Scouts

Campfire Girls

Girl Scouts

M-Z

National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis

North Woodward Human Rights Association

Pioneer and Historical Society

Woodward Avenue Action Association

Parks & Recreation

Poliomyelitis

Politics and Government

Supervisor's Proceedings

Population (see also Census)

Post-war Planning

Property Valuation

Publicity

Racial Disturbance

Rationing

Red Cross

Redistricting and Reapportionment

Refuse, Disposal of in SOC

Riots

Roads

1950-1959

1960-1969

1970-1979

1980-1989

1990-1999

2000-2009

2010-2019

Woodward Avenue

Schools

1940-1949

1950-1959

1960-1969

1970-1979

1980-1989

1990-1999

2000-2009

2010-2019

Private

Special Education

“Town Meeting on the Air”

Vocational Education

Service Men

South Oakland County

Storms  
1940-1949  
1950-1959  
1960-1969  
1970-1979  
Strikes  
Substance Abuse  
Taxes  
Telecommunication  
Traffic  
Transportation  
Trees  
United Torch Drive  
Universities and Colleges  
    Oakland Community College  
    Oakland University  
V.A. Affairs  
War Bonds  
War Dead  
Water Supply  
Welfare  
Wireless  
Woodward Dream Cruise  
    1995-1997  
    1998-1999  
    2000-2002  
    2003-2005  
    2006-2009  
    2010-2015  
    2016-2019  
WPA Project  
Zoning and Planning

### **Part III: Images**

Digital  
    World War I & II Scrapbooks  
Print  
    Royal Oak  
    Banks  
    Buildings  
    Business  
    Churches  
    City Hall  
    Grand Trunk  
    Homes  
    Landmarks  
    Library, Public  
    Organizations  
        Business and Professional Women's Club  
    Portraits  
    Post Office

Schools  
Schools, High  
Storms  
Streets  
Traffic  
Transportation  
Trees

**Part IV: Bound Periodicals (cabinets on left wall)**

School Newspapers

*Acorn*  
1972-1979

*Social Justice*

March 20, 1936-April 13, 1942

Yearbooks

*The Oak*-Dondero (including former Royal Oak High School)  
1919-1927  
1929-1931  
1934-1997  
1999-2003  
2006

*The Lancer*-Kimball

1958-1977  
1979-2006

Royal Oak High School

2007-2010

*The Maria*-St. Mary

1929-1930

Shrine of the Little Flower

1962-1963  
1972

**Part V: Bound City and County Records (cabinets on back wall)**

Atlases

1860-1865  
1947  
1960 (South Oakland County only)  
1962 (South Oakland County only)  
1963 (South Oakland County only)  
1971  
1976  
1981  
1983  
1986  
1989

City Budget

1975-1989

Dog License Records

1918

I-696 Blueprints and Development Plan

Legal Decisions

1919-1920  
Oakland County Treasurer's Log  
1922  
Tax Assessment Rolls

1845  
1849  
1851  
1854  
1855  
1857-1859  
1862-1864  
1866  
1873  
1879  
1881  
1898-1899  
1901  
1903  
1908

Village Treasurer's Log  
1919-1920

Voter Registration Records  
1894-1928 (bulk 1927-1928)  
Women  
1912-1919

## **Part VI: City and County Directories (cabinets on right wall)**

*Bresser's Cross-Index Directories*

South Oakland County  
1952-1957  
1964-2009

*Polk's City Directories*

Birmingham  
1951  
1956-1957  
1960  
1962  
1964-1967  
1969-1970  
1976-1979  
1982-1986  
1988-1989  
1991-1993

Ferndale  
1955  
1957  
1959

Royal Oak  
1924  
1926  
1928

1930  
1933  
1936  
1938  
1940  
1942  
1945  
1948  
1953  
1955  
1956  
1958  
1960

South Oakland County  
1997-1998

Telephone Directories, Historic

Royal Oak Village  
1915-1916

Royal Oak, including Clawson and Ferndale  
1922

## Part VII: Shelved Items

Biographies

Bennett, D.H. *Demagogues in the Depression: American radicals and the Union Party, 1932-1936*. 329.8B  
*Old Timer's Tales*. 917.74 O44  
La Ferle, C.G. *Old houses, good neighbors*. BIO La Ferle  
Gabler, C.W. *Gabler and related families*. 920 G  
Warren, D. *Radio priest: Charles Coughlin, father of hate radio*. BIO Coughlin  
Marcus, S. *Father Coughlin*. 921 C8545m  
Ward, L.B. *Father Charles Edward Coughlin: An authorized biography*. 921 C8545w  
Betzold, M. *Appointment with Doctor Death*. BIO Kevorkian  
Sparks, J.B. *Jacob's well of life*. 921 S736j  
Spivak, J.L. *Shrine of the silver dollar: Documentary story of Father Coughlin*. 921 C8545s  
Hutting, A.M. *The life of the little flower*. 921 T398H  
Van Hoosen, B. *Petticoat surgeon*. 921 V2564  
*Ancestral lines of Edwin Chellis Starr and his descendants*. 929.2A

Churches and Cemeteries

Cole. *First Presbyterian Church of Royal Oak: The first fifty years*. 285 C689F  
Grimm. *Third quarter chronicles*. 285 G  
*First Baptist Church, 1839-1965*. 286 F  
*History of First United Methodist Church, 1838-1968*. 287 H673h  
Michigan Cemetery Atlas, 1991. 352.72M  
Hutting, A.M. *Shrine of the Little Flower souvenir book*. 724.6H  
*Shrine of the Little Flower Golden Jubilee, 1926-1976*. 917.7438s  
Oakland County Genealogical Society. *Oakview cemetery*. 929.5 O  
Oakland County Genealogical Society. *St. Mary's and Royal Oak Cemeteries*. 929.5 S

Coughlin, Fr. Charles E. (lectures)

*Why leave our own*. 204 C854w  
*Who is dead? God or democracy*. 231 C854w  
*Fr. Coughlin's radio discourses*. 252 C83f

*By the sweat of thy brow.* 252 C854b  
*Bishops versus the Pope.* 282C  
*Helmet and sword.* 282C  
*"Am I an Anti-Semite?"*. 301.452 C854b  
*Sixteen radio lectures, 1938.* 320.1C  
*An answer to Fr. Coughlin's critics.* 320.1 C854a  
*Series of lectures on social justice, 1934.* 320.1 C854s  
*Series of lectures on social justice, 1935.* 320.1 C854se  
*Eight lectures on labor, capital, and justice.* 330.973 C854e  
*Money! Questions and answers.* 332.4 C83m  
*New Deal in money.* 332.4 C854n

**Oakland County**

- 1980 Census Population by Census Tract for Oakland County. 310 N
- 1980 Oakland County Census Tracts. R 310 O
- 1980 Oakland County Census Income and Population Data. R 310 O
- Statistical Profile of Oakland County. 312 O
  - 1968
  - 1974
  - 1983-1984
  - 1986-1994
  - 1996-1998
- Summary of Development of Oakland County. 333.73 O
  - 1984-1987
- Oakland County Community and Home Improvement Consolidation Plan. R 336.185C
- Oakland County Economic Outlook Summary Report. R 352.0774 E
  - 2006-2008
- McIntyre, T. *Wolf in sheep's clothing: Search for a child killer.* 364.152 M
- Moore, A.E. *The new justice for children and families and the story of Camp Oakland, Inc.* 364.3 M821n
- Reader's Digest, October 1965. 364.3 R286
- Morris, J.A. *First offender.* 364.36 M876f
- Oakland County Road Commission Strategic Planning. 388.1 R
  - 2005
  - 2007
- Bingham, M.T. *Flora of Oakland County, Michigan.* 581.9774 B613f
- Oakland County Drain Project Plan. 625.734H
- Preparing for Change, Oakland County 1970-1990. 711D
- Stokes, C. *Bronze ladies, corporate giants, saints and sinners: Public art in Oakland County.* R 711S
- Biographical record of Oakland County, Michigan.* 920 B52
- Hoot, E. *Early history of Oakland County.* R977.43H
- Hagman, A.A. *Oakland County book of history, 1820-1970.* 977.438 O
- Waddell, R.L. *Out of small beginnings: Bicentennial historical sketch of Oakland County, 1815-1976.*
  - 977.438w
- History of Oakland County, 1877.* 977.438 H62
- Portrait biographical album of Oakland County, Michigan.* 977.438 P853
- Seeley, T.D. *History of Oakland County, 1912.* 977.438 S32h
- Oakland County Plat Map. 912.774 O; 912.774 R; 912.774 R682a
  - 1857
  - 1973
  - 1977
  - 1988
- Oakland County Officials Directory R 917.74 O

1926-2010

Pomeroy, T. *Oakland County: A contemporary portrait*. R 917.7438P  
*Bicentennial Historical Sketch of Oakland County, 1815-1976*. R 917.7438w  
Greater County Book Map, 1995. R 912.774 R  
Oakland County Street Atlas, 1997. 917.774 O  
*Oakland County Genealogical Society Quarterly*. 929.377M  
1977-1997

Oakland County Divorce Records, 1839-1865. 929.377 O

Pontiac Area Historical and Genealogical Society. *Patrons' reference directory for the 1908 Atlas of Oakland County, Michigan*. 929.3L

Oakland County Genealogical Society. *Michigan state census for Oakland County, 1845*. R929.3S

Oakland County Genealogical Society. *First land owners in Oakland County*. 977.438 O

#### Organizations

Fey, C. *History of freemasonry in Oakland County, Michigan*. 366.1 F43h  
Forward, D.C. *A century of service: Story of Rotary, International*. R369.52f  
Detroit Zoological Society. *Wonders among us: Celebrating 75 years of the Detroit Zoo*. 590.73w  
Austin, W.A. *First fifty years: An informal history of the Detroit Zoological Park and Detroit Zoological Society*. 590.74A  
Detroit Zoological Society. *Visiting the Detroit Zoo*. Videocassette. 590.737V  
Detroit Zoological Society. *First 50 years*. 590.74A  
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