

( ) numbers denote map locations

**BARRY COUNTY**

**BARRY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY (3)**

PO Box 311, Hastings, MI 49058  
Phone: 517-676-9090

No museum, but actively preserves local history and meets first Tuesday at Elks Lodge in Hastings. Visit authentic 1902 Michigan Central Railway Depot in Village of Middleville.

**FREEPORT: Freeport Historical Society (15)**

127 Warren Street, Freeport MI 49325  
Phone: 616-765-8571 or 616-765-5413

Freeport is on the Little Thornapple (Coldwater) River in northern Barry County. Museum exhibits early 1800-1900's ways of life on two floors. Stroll to the sawmill, cemetery or Main Street for a leisurely peek into the past. We close for winters and times open are posted on front doors. Always open by appointments. Email: [freeport127@gmail.com](mailto:freeport127@gmail.com)

**HASTINGS: Historic Charlton Park (10)**

2545 S. Charlton Park Road, Hastings MI 49058.  
Phone: 269-945-3775

Recreated turn of the century historic village on land donated to Barry County by I.D.Charlton for a museum and recreation facility to house his extensive historic collections. One room schoolhouse, general store, township hall and stagecoach stop bring history alive for you! Email: [info@charltonpark.org](mailto:info@charltonpark.org) or find us on Facebook. Website: [www.charltonpark.org](http://www.charltonpark.org)

**IONIA COUNTY**

**BELDING: Belding Museum/Belrockton Dormitory (4)**

108 Hanover Street, Belding MI 48809  
Phone: 616-794-1900 ext. 425

The historic 1906 Belrockton Dormitory housed single women employed at the silk mills when Belding was known as the "Silk Capital of the World." The museum occupies three floors and is open the first Sunday of each month from 1 to 4 pm. For tours or info contact [beldingmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:beldingmuseum@gmail.com)  
Visit on the web: [www.ci.belding.mi.us](http://www.ci.belding.mi.us) or Facebook .

**BELDING: The BEL (Belding Exploratory Lab) for kids (4)**

108 Hanover Street, Belding MI 48809  
Phone: 616-794-2407 or 616-794-0924

"THE BEL" encourages visitors of all ages to Build, Explore and Learn in a hands-on environment. All children must be accompanied by an adult. **Winter** (Sept-May: First Wed & Sun of month 1-4 pm) **Summer** (June- Aug: first Sunday and every Wed. from 1-4 pm. Tours and info: [jymiller@iserv.net](mailto:jymiller@iserv.net) or [warnerjo@yahoo.com](mailto:warnerjo@yahoo.com) Visit us on Facebook or [www.ci.belding.mi.us](http://www.ci.belding.mi.us). FREE!

**CLARKSVILLE:Clarksville/Campbell Historical Soc'y (11)**

Phone: 616-868-7255

The Historical Society has no museum but collects info on local one-room schools, businesses and Civil War Veterans and has a collection of old newspapers. Call contact number with questions or info about Clarksville/Campbell and area.

**IONIA: Ionia County Historical Society—Blanchard House & Museum (17)**

251 East Main Street, Ionia MI 48846  
Phone: 616-527-3369

The Blanchard House is a fine example of Italianate styling that has remained structurally unchanged since 1880. Period furnishings were donated by residents of Ionia County and the basement houses historical exhibits of our community. Open Sundays in June, July and August from 1 to 4 pm. It is also available for special group meetings, weddings and tours.

**IONIA: Ionia Free Fair Antique Village (17)**

During summer's Ionia Free Fair, the Antique Village in the Floral Building on the beautiful Grand River becomes a pleasant break from the hubbub of the fairgrounds with wonderful displays, friendly demonstrators showing their heritage crafts, and entertaining live music every night. Check local calendars for dates. See you at the Fair!

**LAKE ODESSA: Lake Odessa Area Historical Society & Depot Museum (18)**

1117 Emerson Street, Lake Odessa MI 48849  
Phone: 616-374-7518 or 616-374-8420

This beautiful onion-dome depot was built by the D.L. & N. Railway in 1888 and moved to its present location 100 years later. After extensive restoration, the depot opened to the public in 1995. The complex also offers the replica freight house, the historic Hosford house and the library of the Ionia County Genealogical Society. Open the last full weekend of each month: Saturday 10 am to 2 pm and Sunday 2 to 5 pm and for special events and tours.

**LYONS: Lyons-Muir Historical Museum (20)**

311 E Bridge Street, Lyons Michigan 48851  
Phone: 616-527-9064 or 989-855-2921

The Museum is located in a historic storefront that was once the home of the Lyons Herald weekly paper. Open since 1987, the Museum has exhibits depicting the history of the Lyons-Muir area including our 19<sup>th</sup> century general store! The Museum is open Saturdays in June, July, August from 11 am to 2 pm or by appointment throughout the year.

**PORTLAND: Portland Area Historical Society (24)**

The Portland Area Historical Society has no museum, but works to preserve local history. Its collection of photos, yearbooks and other memorabilia is housed at the Portland Area Library at 334 Kent Street. Meetings are the fourth Tuesdays at the library for history discussions and guest speakers. If you have any information or photos that would enhance our collection, please contact via email: [mi.pahs@gmail.com](mailto:mi.pahs@gmail.com)

More Information and photos on Facebook at Tri River or [www.addorio.com/tririver/springintopast2016.pdf](http://www.addorio.com/tririver/springintopast2016.pdf)

**SARANAC: Boston-Saranac Historical Depot Museum (5)**

On Bridge Street at the Grand River  
PO Box 565, Saranac MI 48881

Phone: 616-693-2730 or 616-642-9472

The 1907 Boston-Saranac Depot served the Grand Trunk Railroad. Moved to its present location in 1994, it is now home to the Boston-Saranac Historical Depot Museum showing history of the Depot and the Saranac area. Open from May through September on the second and fourth Sundays from 1 to 4 pm or as posted.

**EATON COUNTY**

**SUNFIELD: Welch Historical Museum (26)**

161 Main Street PO Box 251, Sunfield, MI 48890  
Phone: 517-449-4895

The Sunfield Historical Society operates the Welch Historical Museum in the donated former Welch Hardware building. Inside are full-sized 1860's Thorp family log cabin, restored 1927 Reo Sunfield Fire Truck, plus many displays of local and area artifacts. Open Mondays 10-2, Wednesdays 3-5, Saturdays 10-2 and by appointment . Website:[www.sunfieldhistoricalsociety.com](http://www.sunfieldhistoricalsociety.com)

**KENT COUNTY**

**ADA: Averill Historical Museum of Ada/Ada (2)**

**Historical Society** 7144 Headley Street, PO Box 741  
Ada, Michigan 49301 Phone: 616-676-9346

Frank Averill donated a home built in the 1870's to be used as a museum by the Historical Society. Opened in 1999, the museum showcases a wide variety of exhibits and artifacts spanning nearly two centuries of Ada history. A late 19th century barn and farm garden are also on the property. Open Friday and Saturday 1-4 pm, March through December, or by appointment.

Website: [www.AdaHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.AdaHistoricalSociety.org)  
Email: [AdaHistoricalSociety@gmail.com](mailto:AdaHistoricalSociety@gmail.com)

**ALTON: Alton Historic Church Museum (1)**

2780 Lincoln Lake Ave NE, Lowell MI 49331.  
Phone: 616.745.0976

Located five miles north of Lowell, the Alton Church has displays highlighting the village of Alton in its peak during the 1880s and 90s. Canadians settled in 1838, Swiss came in 1890s. Open by appointment.

Find us on Facebook: Alton Historic Church Museum  
Email: [altonchurchmuseum@yahoo.com](mailto:altonchurchmuseum@yahoo.com)

**ALTO: Bowne Township Historical Commission, Museum, Carriage Shed and School House (6)**

84th & Alden Nash (M-50), PO Box 35, Alto MI 49302  
Phone: 616-868-6424

Bowne Township was first settled in 1836 as an agricultural community and has remained thus over the last 150 years. Museum, carriage shed and school house are full of memorabilia from the area. Open the first Sunday of June, July, August from 2-4 or by appointment.

Website: [www.bownehistory.org](http://www.bownehistory.org)  
Email: [srjohnson4@charter.net](mailto:srjohnson4@charter.net)

**BYRON CENTER: Byron Center Historical Society and Museum (7)**

2506 Prescott St SW , Byron Center,MI 49315  
Phone: 616-878-0888

Founded in 1978 to preserve and protect community history. Museum in former town hall since 1986 shows early farming community and Veterans display. Open Tuesdays from 9 am to 3 pm May-December or by appointment. Meeting space available for small groups.

**CASCADE: Cascade Historical Society (8)**

2839 Thornapple River Dr, Grand Rapids MI 49546  
(Mailing Address: 2865 Thornhills SE. GR 49546)

Township Phone: 616-949-1500.  
Cascade Township was founded in 1848. Township Hall was built in 1898 and now houses the museum with beautiful gardens adjacent. Historical registry achieved in 1998. Building and gardens located on Thornapple River Drive just east of Cascade Road. Call for open times.

**CEDAR SPRINGS: Cedar Springs Museum (9)**

60 Cedar Street, Cedar Springs MI 49319  
Phone 616-696-3335

Located in Morley Park, the museum is dedicated to collecting, preserving and presenting local history to the community. Turn of the century kitchen & parlor, general store, railroad display and a fully restored one room schoolhouse PLUS a wonderful genealogical library for research. Open Wednesdays from 10 am to 5 pm.

Web: [cedarspringmuseum.org](http://cedarspringmuseum.org)  
Email: [cedarspringmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:cedarspringmuseum@gmail.com)

**GRATTAN: Grattan Township Historical Society (16)**

12040 Old Belding Rd., Belding, MI 48809  
Phone: 616-691-8901 or 616-826-1872

This historic structure was built in 1853 as a Methodist Episcopal Church at Steele's Corners, moved to Grattan Center on log rollers in 1906 and sold to Grattan Township in 1930 for use as the Township Hall until 1971. After remodeling, it became the Historical Museum in 1987 and moved again in 1999 to its current location adjacent to the Township Hall. See exhibits on area schools, churches, local wildlife, Native Americans, as well as a growing genealogy collection. Open 2 to 4 pm every second Sunday of May through October and by appointment.

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**"SPRING INTO THE PAST"**  
Saturday and Sunday,  
April 30 and May 1, 2016  
when ALL museums are open from  
11 am to 5 pm  
and ALL are FREE!

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**KENT COUNTY (continued)**

**LOWELL: Fallasburg Historical Society, Fallasburg Historical Village & School House Museum** (12)  
13944 Covered Bridge Road, Lowell MI 49331  
Phone 616-682-0785

This little village on the National Historic Register has been unspoiled by progress over the last 150 years. One-room school house is open most Sundays from 2 to 4 pm, May through October, and is handicap accessible. The Misner House, Fallas House, and Fallasburg School museums are open during Fallasburg Historical Society special events. Docent-led village tours and private functions arranged by appointment. Drive over the Fallasburg Covered Bridge, and step back in time.

Website: [www.fallasburg.org](http://www.fallasburg.org)

**LOWELL: Lowell Area Historical Museum** (19)  
325 West Main Street. Lowell MI 49331  
Phone: 616-897-7688

Located in the historic Graham home built in 1873, museum features permanent galleries about the founding and early history of the Lowell area, its industry and retailing, and the Lowell Showboat. There's also a Victorian Dining Room, a Parlor, and a Porch with Garden. A Special Exhibits Gallery changes annually. Genealogical material available. Museum is open throughout the year on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays 1 to 4 pm.

Website: [www.lowellmuseum.org](http://www.lowellmuseum.org)  
Email: [history@lowellmuseum.org](mailto:history@lowellmuseum.org)

**OAKFIELD TWP : Oakfield Museum** (21)  
11009 Podunk Avenue NE, Greenville, MI 48838 (no mail)  
Phone 616-754-4553

The Museum is housed in a 1901 structure built as the meeting place for the "Ancient Order of Gleaners" and then used as a township hall from 1931-1987. Upstairs has a raised stage with scenic backdrop and advertising sideboards, agricultural and home life displays, including a Stevens Dishwasher patented in 1886! Genealogical research material is also available. Open second and fourth Sundays June through September from 2-4 pm or call for appointment.

Website link: [commoncorners.com/oakfield](http://commoncorners.com/oakfield)

**PLAINFIELD TWP: Plainfield Charter Township—The Hyser Rivers Museum** (23)  
6440 West River Road, Belmont, MI 49306  
Phone: 616-363-9399

The 1852 house of Dr. William Hyser, a Civil War veteran, was used as a stagecoach stop, post office, and office of township clerk, Justice of the Peace, and school inspector and is the last remaining structure of the original village. Open 2 to 4:30 pm the first Sunday in May thru December except holiday weekends. Tours arranged through Plainfield Charter Twp. Hall. Website: [www.plainfieldchartertp.org](http://www.plainfieldchartertp.org)

**ROCKFORD: Rockford Area Museum (RAM)** (25)  
21 S. Monroe Rockford, MI 49341  
Phone 616-866-2235.

Family friendly with interactive displays for kids, plus historical videos and artifacts telling the story of Rockford history. No charge for admission, services, tours, or outside presentations. Research assistance available by appointment. Closed on Mondays. Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday from 1-4 pm; Thursday 10 am – 4 pm; Saturday: Noon – 4 pm.

Website: [www.rockfordmuseum.org](http://www.rockfordmuseum.org)  
Email: [rockfordmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:rockfordmuseum@gmail.com)

**MONTCALM COUNTY**

**EDMORE: Pine Forest Historical Museum** (22)  
402 E Home Street, Edmore MI 48829

Phone: 989-427-3843, 989-427-5801, or 989-561-2869  
Opened in 1983, the museum is in the former Our Savior's Lutheran Church, located a block north of M-46. Unique exhibits include Victorian jewelry made from hair and a glass bookcase owned by a former State Treasurer of Illinois – a close personal friend of Abraham Lincoln. Open Thursdays from 2-4 pm May to October or by appointment. Email: [wshirley2@frontier.com](mailto:wshirley2@frontier.com)  
Facebook: Edmore Pine Forest Historical Museum

**GREENVILLE: Fighting Falcon Military Museum** (13)  
516 W Cass Street, Greenville MI 48838  
Phone: 616-225-1940

See military exhibits honoring local veterans and a restored CG 4-A glider, "The Fighting Falcon", the first plane to land in France on D-day and seen in the movie "Saving Private Ryan". World War II Army training films shown in our theater, military history library, and rare Lincoln portrait. Memorabilia from local veterans of America's wars from 1860s to present, including capture of Jefferson Davis; a local resident honored as first U.S. Naval enlisted man to have a ship named after him and that ship's unusual history; a survivor of USS Indianapolis; pilot of Bock's Car, the plane that photographed first A-Bomb dropped and then dropped the second on Nagasaki! Open Sundays from April thru Veteran's Day from 2-4 pm or by appointment. Available for special groups and outings.

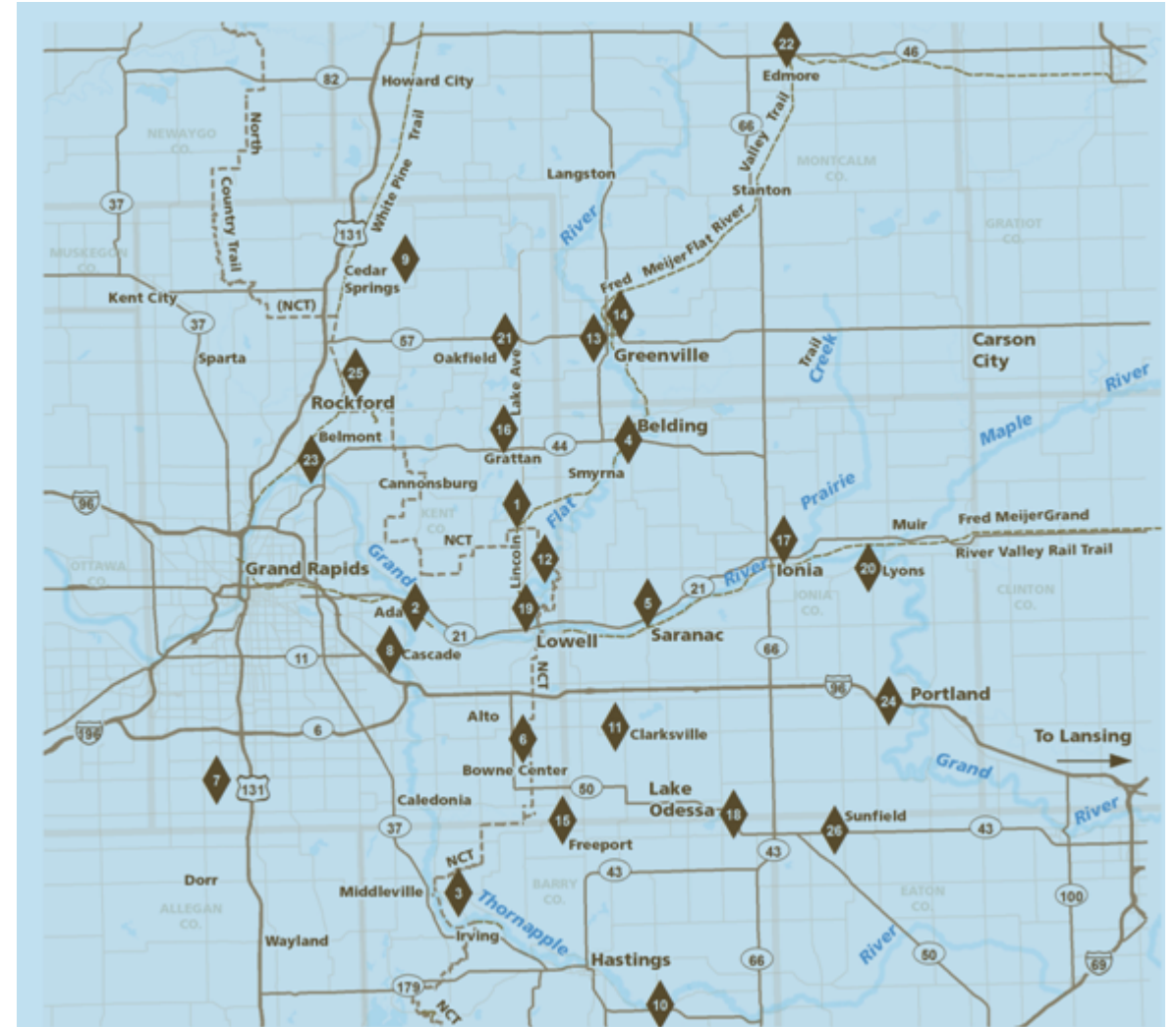
**GREENVILLE: Flat River Historical Museum** (14)  
213 N Franklin Street, PO Box 188, Greenville MI 48838  
Phone: 616-754-5296

The Flat River Historical Museum stands where John Green built his cabin in 1844. Enjoy the area's history and heritage as you tour the unique storefronts of 1900s "Main Street Greenville" upstairs and stroll our lovely Victorian garden next door. The museum is adjacent to the Fred Meijer Flat River Trail. Open on Saturdays and Sundays April thru December 2:00- 4:30 p.m. Tours are available upon request.



<http://www.addorio.com/tririver/springintopast2016.pdf>

**Your Guide to Small Town Historical Museums of West-Central Michigan in Barry, Eaton, Kent, Ionia and Montcalm Counties**



MDOT Welcome Center  
Commodity Code #80140816

