



Kittitas County was organized in 1883 from portions of

Yakima County. Kittitas is Indian for "plenty food". The county is located east of the Cascade Mountains in the geographical center of the state.

Europeans first visited the county in 1812 when members of the Pacific Fur Company passed through the region. Prior to the Civil War, Captain George

McClellan supervised military road construction through the county. In 1905 the U.S.

Reclamation Service's project in the county opened up 72,000 acres for agricultural development and was of major importance to the country's economic development. Today, Kittitas County is an important food processing, mixed agriculture and stock-raising center. Mining and timber also add diversity to its economy. Central Washington University at Ellensburg is the area's higher education and research center.

Bounded by: Chelan County (N), Grant County (E), Yakima County (S), and King County (W).

County Seat: Ellensburg (known as Robber's Roost in 1867 and Ellen's Burgh in 1880).

Chambers of Commerce:

Cle Elum Chamber of Commerce, 401 W 1st, PO Box 43, Cle Elum, WA 98922. Phone 509-674-5958.

Ellensburg Chamber of Commerce, 801 S Ruby #2, Ellensburg, WA 98926. Phone 509-925-2002, 509-925-3137. Fax 509-962-6148.

Courthouse: 205 W Fifth, Ellensburg, WA 98926. Courthouse hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00am to 5:00pm.

Assessor. Room 101. Phone 509-962-7501. Fax 509-962-7666. *Contact us by mail, telephone, or in person and we will do everything we can to assist you with locating information available.*

Auditor. Room 105. Phone 509-962-7504. Fax 509-962-7687. E-mail bev@co.kittitas.wa.us

Clerk. Room 210. Phone 509-962-7531. Fax 509-962-7667.

Treasurer. Room 102. Phone 509-962-7535. Fax phone 962-7650.

Genealogical Society:

Kittitas County Genealogical Society, PO Box 1342, Ellensburg, WA 98926-1342. *Membership available. Operates Kittitas County Genealogical Society Library. Collection includes an obituary file. Has genealogical reference books for sale.*

Northern Kittitas County Genealogical Society, PO Box 535, Cle Elum, WA 98922.

Health Department:

Kittitas County Health Department, 507 Nanum, Ellensburg, WA 98926. Phone 509-962-7515.

Historical Society:

Cle Elum Historical Society, 202 Reed St, Cle Elum, WA 98922.

Roslyn Historical Museum Society, PO Box 281, Roslyn, WA 98941.

Libraries - Academic:

Central Washington University Library, 400 E 8th Ave, Ellensburg, WA 98926-7548. Phone 509-963-1901. Fax 509-963-3684.

Libraries - Public:

Carpenter Memorial Library, 302 Pennsylvania Ave, Cle Elum, WA 98922-1196. Phone 509-674-2313. Fax 509-674-2313. *Has a Northwest Collection with emphasis on northern Kittitas County materials.*

Ellensburg Public Library, 209 N Ruby St, Ellensburg, WA 98926-3338. Phone 509-962-7250. Fax 509-962-7295. *Collection includes non-cataloged oral history cassettes and transcripts, photographs, some local families' papers, local women's club's records. Has index of local newspapers, microfilmed water rights records, Sanborn maps and school annuals.*

Kittitas Public Library, 2nd and Pierce Sts, PO Box 800, Kittitas, WA 98934. Phone 509-968-0226. Fax 509-968-0226.

Roslyn Public Library, 201 S First, PO Box 451, Roslyn, WA 98941-0451. Phone 509-649-3420. *Has a Pacific Northwest Section and a collection of articles submitted by local families.*

Libraries - Special:

Family History Center Ellensburg, 1700 Brick Rd, Ellensburg, WA. Phone 509-925-5192.

Kittitas County Genealogical Society Library, 413 N Main, Suite I, Ellensburg, WA 98926.

Kittitas County Law Library, 205 W 5th St, County Courthouse, Ellensburg, WA 98926. Phone 509-962-7520. Fax 509-962-7022.

Museums and Historical Sites:

Carpenter Home Museum, 302 W 3rd St, PO Box 11, Cle Elum, WA 98922. Phone 509-674-5702, 509-674-5080. *Membership available. Housed in 1914 home of Ellensburg's first successful banker. Includes original furnishings, an Ethnic Heritage Costume display, and Carpenter family materials.*

Cle Elum Historical Telephone Museum, 221 E 1st, PO Box 43, Cle Elum, WA 98922. Phone 509-674-5702.

Clymer Museum & Gallery, 416 N Pearl, PO Box 1102, Ellensburg, WA 98926. Phone 509-962-6416. Fax 509-962-6424.

Frontier Village, Kittitas County Fairgrounds, 512 N Poplar, Ellensburg, WA 98926. Phone 509-962-7639.

Kittitas County Historical Museum, 114 E 3rd Ave, PO Box 265, Ellensburg, WA 98926. Phone 509-925-3778. *Membership available. Collections include non-cataloged photographs, Rollinger Brothers petrified wood collection, early business displays, pioneer kitchen and Indian artifacts.*

Olmstead Place State Park, 921 N Ferguson Rd, Ellensburg, WA 98926. Phone 509-925-1955. Fax 509-925-1943. *"Explore the historical homestead buildings and surrounding farm lands. Take the 'Altapes Creek Trail' walk, and view display sheds of antique farm equipment."*

Roslyn Museum, PO Box 281, 28 Pennsylvania Ave, Roslyn, WA 98941. Phone 509-649-2776.
Thorp Mill Town, Box 7, Thorp, WA 98946. Phone 509-964-9640. *"Restored flour mill with the most complete display of turn-of-the-century milling equipment in the Northwest. Interpretive slide show."*

State Archive Branch:

Central Region (Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Franklin, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan and Yakima counties.) Bledsoe-Washington Archives Building, Central Washington University
MS 7547, Ellensburg, WA 98926-7547. Phone: 509-963-2136. Fax 509-963-1753. E-mail:
archives@cwu.edu. Research Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

SELECTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

ATLASES, GAZETTEERS, MAPS - Personal, governmental, or organizational records

Central Branch Archives

Metsker Maps, ESD 105, Kittitas County, 1941-1943 (to determine school district boundaries)
Plat maps, central Washington, 1854-1950
Sanborn-Perris maps, Ellensburg, 1897-1899
Soil Conservation Service maps, Kittitas Basin, 1919-1938 (includes locations of structures)

Kittitas County Assessor's office

Assessor's plat maps
City maps
Levy Code maps
Maps of recorded and unrecorded plats

ATLASES, GAZETTEERS, MAPS - Published sources

Aerial photographic atlas of Kittitas County. n.p., 1971.

Carter, F. M. *Map showing ownership of land in the Kittitas Valley, also showing county roads and existing & proposed canals.* n.p., 1912.

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Central Branch Archives

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Hal Holmes (former Congressman). *Papers, 1883-1974.*

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Olmstead-Smith Collection, 1865-1981 (materials gathered by Leta and Clareta Olmstead Smith documenting Kittitas Valley history and Olmstead State Park)

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BIRTHS - Personal, governmental, or organizational records

Central Branch Archives

Birth certificates, 1872-1979

Birth returns, 1903-1904

Register of births, 1889-1906

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Early birth records of Kittitas County, WA: 1889-1907. Kittitas County Genealogical Society, 1993.

Upper Kittitas County, Washington birth records. Work in progress by Kittitas County Genealogical Society.

BUSINESSES & COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS - Personal, governmental, or organizational records

Eastern Washington State Historical Society

Records, 1897-1914. Cedar Valley Gold Mining Co.

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Business licenses, 1883-1892

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Jacobs, Joseph. *Benton Project [Kiona-Benton Land and Water Co. & High Line-Benton Project]*. n.p., 1910, 1912.

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Lines, Jack M. *Yakima County territorial census, 1871, 1883, 1885, 1887 : including Benton County, formed in 1905 : including 1871-1883 for Kittitas & Chelan Counties (Kittitas County formed in 1883, Chelan in 1899) : indexed*. Yakima Valley Genealogical Society, 1983.

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Bannister, Olga Kuchin. *Immaculate Conception Church, Roslyn, Washington : our first 100 years, 1886-1986 : a history of Immaculate Conception Church*. O. Bannister, 1986.

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Central Branch Archives

Criminal record books, 1926-1932

Justice Court dockets, 1920

Register of prisoners, 1916-1965

Sheriff's criminal docket, 1926

Superior Court appellant briefs, 1899-1931

Supreme Court case file briefs, central Washington, 1907-1913 [principally regarding water rights]

Superior Court civil case files, 1890-1970

Superior Court criminal case files, 1889-1919

Superior Court exhibits, 1881-1945

Superior Court insanity case files, 1887-1970

Superior Court insanity record, 1887-1951

Superior Court judgement index, 1893-1927

Superior Court miscellaneous court documents, 1911-1934

Territorial appearance docket, 1884-1889

Territorial attorney's receipt book, 1886-1894

Territorial District Court bar dockets, 1886-1889

Territorial District Court calendars, 1887-1889

Territorial District Court civil case files, 1884-1889

Territorial District Court journals, 1878-1890

Territorial District Court jury list, 1886-1889

Trial transcripts, 1886-1924

Kittitas County Clerk's office

Superior Court civil records, 1891-current

Superior Court criminal records, 1891-present

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Central Branch Archives

Burial transit permits, 1966-1977

Death certificates, 1907-1979

Death returns, 1891-1905

Register of deaths, 1893-1895

Kittitas County Auditor's office

Death index, 1891-1907

Death returns, 1891-1907

Kittitas County Clerk's office

Coroner's docket, 1892-1896

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Central Branch Archives - Ellensburg School District

Annual reports Ellensburg School District, 1940-1958 (includes employee lists and student names, ages, and days in attendance)

Boundary petition and descriptions, ESD 105, 1880-1947

Classification record, ESD 105, 1901-1907

Common schools journal, ESD 105, 1891-1899

District boundary line record, ESD 105, 1890-1895

Eighth grade examinations, ESD 105, 1900-1939
Ellensburg School District student records, 1958-1993
Kllabiam, Ellensburg School District annuals, 1911-1933? #3,4,,5

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Miscellaneous photographs, Ellensburg School District, 1910-1912

News clippings and press release file, Ellensburg School District, 1953-1984

Register of persons examined, ESD 105, 1896-1932

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Register of schoolteachers, ESD 105, 1896-1927

Register of teacher contracts, ESD 105, 1924-1950

Register of teachers, ESD 105, 1899-1922

School census report, ESD 105, 1894-1932

School district boundary record, ESD 105, 1899-1928

School registers, Lincoln School, Ellensburg School District, 1951-1967

State teachers' retirement fund record, ESD 105, 1924-1933

Teacher certificates, ESD 105, 1895-1955

Teacher institute record, ESD 105, 1925-1938

Washington school registers, 1907-1978 (includes following school districts: 4 Fairview) 1938-1939, 5 (Rural) 1938-1941, 6 (Broadview) 1938-1941, 7 (Damman) 1936-1978, 8 (Reecer Creek) 1934-1966, 9 (Swauk Prairie) 1936-1937, 11 1936-1937, 12 (Denmark) 1936-1946, 13 (Woldale) 1933-1967, 14 (Lyons) 1936-1944, 16 1907-1909, 19 (Tarpiscan) 1938-1939, 20 (Lower Nanum) 1938-1939, 22 (Ridgeway) 1938-1946, 39 (Cove) 1910-1939, 40 (Peoh Point) 1938-1941, 44 (Liberty) 1938-1939, 102 (Thorp) 1933-1934)

Woldale School records, 1934-1965

EDUCATION - Published sources

School census records of Kittitas County, Washington. Kittitas County Genealogical Society, 1996.

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Central Branch Archives

Official election returns, 1946-1980

Poll books, 1963-1981

Tally books, 1976-1981

Voter registrations, 1916-1935

Kittitas County Auditor's office

Election record, general, 1892-1992

Election record, taxing districts, 1959-1987

Elections primary, 1908-1970

Elections register of nominations, 1892-1904

Elections register of officials, 1883-1898

Poll and tally books, 1946-present

Register of voters and oaths books, 1916-present

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Central Branch Archives

Assessor's plat and description books, dates unknown

Chattel mortgages, 1938-1955

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Timber land assessment maps and cruises, 1908-1958

Transcribed deed record, 1891-1893

Kittitas County Assessor's office

Aerial photographs

Real property appraisal files

Kittitas County Auditor's office

Chattel lien index, 1905-1959

Chattel mortgages, 1882-1955

Deeds, 1882-1968

Mortgage index grantor/grantee, 1882-1902

Mortgages, 1888-1968

Patents, 1885-1927

Patents receipts, 1891-1986

Plats, 1882-current

Plats index, 1882-current

Real estate index, 1882-1890

Register of titles (Torrens), 1913-current

Register of titles tract index, lands & lots, 1913-1914

Short plat & survey index, 1973-current

Short plats, 1975-current

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LICENSURE AND PROFESSIONAL RECORDS

Central Branch Archives

- Business and amusement device licenses, Ellensburg, 1917-1985
- Business license record, Ellensburg, 1958-1987
- Healers, osteopaths, and chiropractors record, 1919
- Medical record, 1909-1964 (recorded copies of licenses granted by physicians by the state board of medical examiners)
- Optometry register, 1917-1976
- Therapeutics, chiropractors, and osteopathic register, 1919-1977

Kittitas County Auditor's office

- Dental certificates, 1893-1954
- Medical register, 1884-1902

MARRIAGES - Personal, governmental, or organizational records

Central Branch Archives

- Marriage returns, 1891-1943
- Marriage license book, 1889-1929
- Register of marriages, 1891-1909
- Index to marriage certificates, 1888-1920
- Marriage certificates, 1882-1990

Kittitas County Auditor's office

- Marriage applications, 1889-current
- Marriage certificate books, 1884-1942
- Marriage certificate indexes, 1892-1947
- Marriage certificates, 1888-1995
- Marriage consents for application, 1884-1923
- Marriage indexes, 1892-current
- Marriage returns, 1891-1907

Kittitas County Clerk's office

- Divorce records and indexes, 1891-present

Spokane Public Library - Genealogical Vertical File

- Marriage records [photocopies], 1884-1887

MARRIAGES - Published sources

Early marriage records Kittitas County, Washington 1883-1910. Kittitas County Genealogical Society, 1994?.

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Kittitas County Auditor's office

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MILITARY - Published sources

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Central Branch Archives

- Certificate of naturalization stubs, 1907-1924
- Citizenship petitions granted, 1929-1980
- Declaration of intention, 1884-1977
- Depositions for naturalization, 1934-1979
- Memorandum of naturalization proceedings, 1907-1912
- Naturalization index, 1884-1979
- Naturalization record, 1890-1906
- Oaths of allegiance, 1937-1946
- Petitions and record of naturalization, 1906-1977

Kittitas County Clerk's office

- Certificates of naturalization receipts, 1907-1921
- Declarations of intention record, 1884-1942
- Naturalization record of minors, 1890-1903
- Petitions for naturalization, 1907-1958
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Central Branch Archives

- Articles of incorporation, 1877-1978
- Business register, 1907-1959
- Mother's pension record, 1913-1937

Kittitas County Auditor's office

- Brand records, 1882-1935, 1939-1945
- Brands, log, 1902-1916
- Mining claims, 1882-current
- Mining claims, Cle Elum mine district, 1883-1901
- Mining claims, Katches mine district, 1893-1897
- Mining claims, Swauk mine district, 1905-1945
- Mining indexes, 1881-1902
- Mining indexes grantor/grantee, 1955-current
- Miscellaneous records, 1882-1969
- Mother's pension record, 1913-1937
- Official records, 1969-current

Powers of attorney, 1886-1968
Register of brands, 1882-1898
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PROBATE - Personal, governmental, or organizational records

Central Branch Archives

Index to marriage certificates, 1888-1920 [also contains index to filings in probate causes, location of bonds, wills, petitions, and claims on estates)

Index to probate court, dates unknown

Probate case files, 1892-1982

Probate journals, 1883-1951

Record of wills, 1885-1950

Territorial probate case files, 1886-1889

Kittitas County Clerk's office

Probate case files, 1886-present

PROBATE - Published sources

TAXES - Personal, governmental, or organizational records

Central Branch Archives

Cascade Irrigation District assessment rolls, 1931-1964

Ellensburg Local Improvement District tax roll, 1892-1962

Ellensburg real property tax roll, 1889-1920

Ellensburg registers of unpaid taxes, 1889-1893

Execution docket, 1912-1932

Foreclosure of tax liens, 1900-1932

Index to local improvement districts, Ellensburg, 1921-1927

Irrigation collection register, 1930-1946

Judgement in foreclosure of tax lien record, 1891-1902

Kittitas Reclamation District tax rolls, 1916-1968

Middle Kittitas Irrigation District assessment rolls, 1902-1922

Personal property tax roll, 1907-1935 (records for 1907, 1908, and the 1930's only)

Real property assessment rolls, 1897-1957

Register of irrigation certificates (irrigation certificates of sale), 1922-1938

Sheriff's register of delinquent taxes, 1908-1920

Superior Court foreclosure of tax liens, 1900-1932

Kittitas County Assessor's office
Annual assessment and tax reports
Fire patrol assessment roll
Personal property assessment roll
Real property assessment roll

TAXES - Published sources