

## Town of Grant Historical Documents at Wisconsin Historical Society

Item	Description
<b>FIRST TOWN BOOK</b>	
<b>Recordings of the Town Board starting with 1864</b>	<p>Light brown colored, "suede leather", hard covered 8.5 x 12.6 inch book with the word "RECORD" on the binding. The book contains the "Journal of the Proceedings of the Town Board of Grant". The first entry records a meeting on April 11, 1864, but summarizes earlier events. Persons present at the earlier meeting included E.B. Clussman (chairman), J.R. Kingsbury, and D.B. Feast. The following passed unanimously "Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Portage that all that portion of Territory comprising a part of the Town of Linwood and lying South and East of the Wisconsin River shall be known as the Town of Grant and all that portion of Territory lying north and west of the Wisconsin River shall be known as the Town of Linwood the same to take effect on the first day of April 1864. On the 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 1864, the North half of Town 21 Range No 7 East was annexed to the Town of Grant to take effect on the first day of April 1864. (<i>The January 12, 1864 meeting of the Portage County Supervisors noted in D Raasch's book is not mentioned</i>). The first annual meeting was held on Tuesday, April 5, 1864. The elected Town officers were announced/recorded. On April 30, 1864, the Town of Grant Board of Supervisors met to layout the Highway and School Districts. Page 36 is empty and the next page in the book is 109. All pages in between are missing. The time gap is from March 29, 1870 to May 16, 1898</p> <p>The book records meetings through July 3, 1899. There are numerous pages ripped out of the back of the book, perhaps as many as 30 pages. No markings are visible on the paper and it is impossible to determine if anything had been recorded on the removed pages following page 164. <b>The entire book was scanned, plus seven pages scanned of the minutes from 1864 were saved as a separate document.</b></p>
<b>SCHOOLS</b>	
<b>School Ledger for District #2 starting with 1894</b>	<p>Beige colored, cloth covered, hard covered 7.75 x 12.75 x 0.5 inch book with the word "LEDGER" on the front and the number "200" on the spine. A label was added to the inside cover with a date of April 2, 1947 listing the amount of state aid for the district. Items paid begin in 1894 with \$10.00 for Fred Smith for salary. What work he was paid for is not indicated. The teaching salary paid to Augusta Noetzle was \$180 for 1894. H.W. Timm received \$180 in 1895, \$224 in 1896, \$213 in 1897, \$248 in 1898, and \$254 in 1899. Pages 27 to 39 are blank. The dates are not sequential at this point. Page 26 ends with April 17, 1899, while page 40 starts with 1894 without a specific month listed. Expenses for 1947/1948 end on page 145 with a total of \$577.90. Pages 146 to 169 are empty. Page 170 starts with Money Received from the Town Treasure with an amount of \$10.30 on November 30, 1893. Income continues through page 184 with a balance of \$550.19 at the end of the 1947/1948 school year. Pages are blank until 197. Money on hand on June 30<sup>th</sup> is listed. The first listing is for 1893. The final entry is for 1918. <b>Three pages were scanned.</b></p>
<b>School Ledger for District #4 starting with 1904</b>	<p>Black 9 x 11.5 x 0.7 inch book with dark red binding labeled "Treas. Cash Book – Wis." The book was designed for the use of school and township records. Entries include Expenditures included teacher salaries, school books, sawing wood (likely firewood), labor on school house, and \$1.00 for "advise." First entry was dated Oct 24, 1904. Mrs. Jennie Finton was paid \$25 on November 25, 1904 for "teacher wages." The last teacher salary listed was for Ben Kranski for \$85 for the ninth month of the school year on May 19, 1942. The highest monthly teach salary of \$90 was paid to Clara Wroblewski in 1930/1931 and to Merten Petersen in 1932/1933. Other interesting entries were \$54.50 paid to John Singer on July 11, 1932 for "tuition for 1 crippled child" and starting in 1933 payments to the teacher's retirement fund. Clerk and director salaries are recorded. It appears that the clerk received an annual salary of</p>

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	<p>\$10 and the three directors each received \$1 each in 1909. By 1942, the clerk received \$15, one director is listed and he received \$10, and the position of treasure is added with a salary of \$10. As early as 1906, individuals were reimbursed expenses for attending a convention. In 1905, income came from town taxes, the school district, the county, and the state. Total income was \$1781.14 and total expenditures were \$1601.24 in 1905. <b>Three pages were scanned.</b></p>
<p><b>School Ledger for District #7 – Plover, Wis starting with July 14, 1931</b></p>	<p>Black 9 x 11.5 x 0.75 inch book with dark red binding labeled “Treas. Cash Book”. Entries begin with July 14, 1931 with a balance of \$1582.47. Taxes from 1932 increased amount to \$2671.02, while expenditures decreased the balance to \$1,259.77. Elizabeth Shirek received \$90 for one month salary on September 18, 1931. Other expenditures in 1931 includes shingles and the cost of shingling, books, school supplies, cleaning, repair work, and building fires. In 1932, a payment of \$4.75 for the teacher’s retirement fund is included. Payment toward this fund appeared monthly from October through May during the 1932/1933 school year. Edith Parks made \$0.25 more than the previous teacher. In 1943, several teachers are listed including Hazel Hurd, Mrs. Della Schukar, Sylvia Worden, Mary Rosenthal, and Mary McGinley. Salaries ranged from \$83.40 to \$92.65. This nearly doubles salaries listed in 1942, but similar to salaries in 1940. The first mention of a “telephone charge” was in October 1942 for \$0.30 in February 1943 for \$1.17. On August 18, 1942 \$26 was paid for “land for school site” and \$300.00 on August 20, 1942 recorded as “part paym on moving school” and a second payment of \$250.00 (most likely in September.) In that same year Oak Park, Kellner, and Quinten schools are mentioned. In what appears to be 1943, revenue comes from Town of Plover, Town of Grand Rapids, Town of Grant and Town of Buena Vista, in addition to the state and county. State aid is received for Meadow View. <b>Three pages were scanned.</b></p>
<p><b>School Ledger for District #5 starting with 1932</b></p>	<p>Black 9 x 11.5 x 0.7 inch book with dark red binding labeled “Treas. Cash Book”. A balance of \$1772.19 was carried over on July 10, 1932 as the first entry. Florence Fletcher was paid a monthly salary of \$85 in 1932/1933. School supplies, coal, 10 cord wood, groceries from Johnson &amp; Hill Co, and tornado insurance are some of the other items listed as expenditures that year. Some pages indicate that District 5 was the Meadow View School. Less than 20% of the pages were used. The last entry is for July 1, 1942 as Tuition for Adams girl in the amount of \$22.50. It is not clear if that is an expenditure or receipt. Zita Beggs, the teacher, was paid a month salary of \$85.</p>
<p><b>School Ledger for District #9 starting with July 13, 1936</b></p>	<p>Black 8 x 12.5 x 0.5 inch book with no labeling on outside of book. Vivian Cornwell was the teacher in 1936 and received a monthly salary of \$75. Other expenditures that year were for books, magazines, \$1.00 for preparing the trans. contract, for hauling children, and for hauling coal. J. Bushway did receive more money for hauling children than Steve Petruski received for hauling coal. In 1939, “Weekly Readers” cost the district \$1.00. Of the 152 pages, 58 were used. Entries end in 1942 with a balance of \$245.92 <b>Three pages were scanned.</b></p>
<p><b>1864 - Record of Board of Health (Record of Highway and School Districts in the Town of Grant)</b></p>	<p>Marbled 7.5 x 12 x 0.25 inch book with “Record of Board of Health” hand-written on the outside cover and “Record of Highway and School Districts in the Town of Grant” written on the inside title page. Pages 51-148 and 155-168 and 173-174 have been removed from the book. The book begins with a board meeting on April 30, 1864 at which four individuals were appointed overseers of highway districts. This page also includes a table of contents for the book. At the April 4, 1865 “Anual” (Annual) Town Meeting, two of these men were re-appointed and two new appointees made. On April 17, 1893, the board of health met, the date of the meeting is recorded as Apr. 17/93. A case of diphtheria at the Mrs. Fred Steinke residence was discussed. On September 20, 1893, the carcasses of cattle burned to death in the fire were discussed. Notices were sent to the property owners. In February 1902 the Health Officer resigned and a new one was appointed later that month. Several cases of small pox were discussed in March of 1902. After several blank pages, the recordings</p>

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	<p>continue with a date of September 26, 1864. A survey and lay out of a highway is described. Discussions are recorded over the next 5 years regarding highway lay out. There are 17 blank pages followed by a single page of a "Certificate of Survey of Highway in the Town of Grant", this is followed by nearly 100 pages cut from the book. Accounts of tax rolls for each district are made including delinquent rolls. The final pages of the book describe borders for three school districts. <b>The entire contents of the book were scanned including the cover and inside title page.</b></p>
<b>TREASURER'S BOOK</b>	
<p><b>1888 – Treasurers Book</b></p>	<p>A black 8.5 x 13.75 x 1 inch book with dark red binding and titled on the spine "Town Treasures Book – Wis". The book begins on page 3 (pages 1 &amp; 2) are missing. The entries begin on March 27, 1888. The town treasurer was Wm. Timm. Pages labeled "Treasurer in Account with" go through page 240 and end with entries for March 31, 1914. This is followed with pages labeled "Town Treasurer's Report to Town Board". The town board accepted the report on March 26, 1889. Based on the spelling and penmanship, it is difficult to clearly identify what was reported. It appears to be on hand in treasury, state school fund, drainage fund, footing of roll, county poor money, and total footing. Reports continue through 1909 with a large portion of page 263 missing and pages 265 – 268 completely missing. Town Clerk Bond's begin on page 272. It is completely handwritten and is for 1903. The next and subsequent pages are fill in the blank forms for the Town Clerk's Bond and Oath of Office and begin with 1890. The years are not sequential and the last Town Clerk's Bond on page 288 is for 1888. The Register of Town Officers and Term of Office begins on page 289 with officers elected in 1888. Officers are listed through those elected in 1913. <b>Ten pages of the book were copied including the list of officers from 1888-1913.</b></p>
<p><b>1945-1963 – Treasurers Book</b></p>	<p>A black 9 X 14.25 X 2 inch book with dark red binding and titled on the spine "Treasurer's Account Book – Wisconsin". The first recordings are a list of seven individuals and an indication of "Operators License" for \$2 each made in 1963. The next several pages are blank and then itemized entries begin with March 21, 1945 and a list of "Cash Receipts". The top of the next page (#2) is titled Cash Disbursements, but includes both disbursements and receipts. The town paid for items such as snowplowing, printing of ballots, the assessor's salary, town officers, liquor ads in the Wisconsin Rapids Tribune, fire insurance, meetings, and land for highway. In 1959, a long list of receipts for snow plowing for \$1.00 per person is recorded. In 1958 (page 253), the word "cash" is crossed out and the word "gas" when listing disbursements. The purpose of the payments is meetings, bounty, freight on stove, and printing of a notice. It is not clear why the word "gas" was inserted to title the page. Entries continue through December 1963. A few pages are dedicated to Trailers Rent/Permits (pages 416-419). The Clerk's Bond and Oath are included on pages 461-466. Some of the pages are incomplete. The Official Bond and Oath of town clerks between 1945 and 1963 are listed. Rather than listing officers at the end of the book, the 1963 trailer fees are listed.</p>
<b>HIGHWAY RECORDS</b>	
<p><b>1870 – Highway Record (inside the book is a 1932 postcard from the USDA to box holders in Portage county regarding a meeting on potato disease was found)</b></p>	<p>A black 9 x 13.75 x 1.5 inch book with brown binding and labeled "Highway Record – Wisconsin" on the spine. The book begins with a "Register of Overseers of Highways and Term of Office." M.E. Wells, Chas Eberhart, Fred Panter, and H.D. Aber were elected on April 5, 1870 for a one year term. Election results are listed through 1893. In 1894, four individuals were appointed for a 3 year term. Fred Klug, Jr., Ernest Knippel, Charles Knuth, and Edward H. Blair are the last individuals listed as an overseer. The next section of the book records "Proceedings of Town Board." The first proceeding on April 19, 1870 resolved "that there shall be raised 5 mills on the dollar for road tax against the real estate of the town and personal property." Subsequent proceedings include items such as a resolution to build a bridge across Four Mill Creek (May 9, 1870), and requests from town citizens to have a highway laid</p>

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	<p>out. There are numerous of these requests. The requests are followed with the board's approval. When highways were discussed, property owners in the area were given written notice, as well as posting the plan in three sites ten days prior to the board meeting. Money was paid to owners for "damages" from the highway, although at times there was disagreement (pages 99-102: dated May 29, 1889). Proceeding of the Town Board are numbered through page 182 and then continue for 13 un-numbered pages. The next pages are titled Supervisor's Road Warrant / Highway Tax List --- Continued. The names of the persons assessed, a description of their real estate, a value of the real estate, and total amount of the tax is listed. Most amounts are less than one dollar and often \$0.20 to \$0.25 in 1870. This information is recorded through 1884. The book ends with Road District Maps for 1871. There is one loose page from 1895. It is from a different book based on the appearance of the line margin and it releases the town from damages.</p>
<p><b>1895 – Improved Highway Record</b></p>	<p>A black 9 x 14 x 2 inch book with dark red binding and labeled "Improved Highway Record – Wisconsin" on the spine. Contains applications, notices of meetings, highway orders, and award of damages for 37 roads. The first highway order is dated July 31, 1895. The last highway order is dated February 11, 1919. There are loose pages from 1937 regarding building a bridge. This is a joint project with the town of Pine Grove. There is also a loose map of section 23 and 24, the word "discontinued" is written at the top of the map.</p>
<p><b>1919 – New Town Highway Record</b></p>	<p>A black 9 x 14 x 2.5 inch book with dark red binding and labeled "New Town Highway Record – Wisconsin" on the spine. Contains applications, notices of meetings, highway orders, and award of damages. The first highway notice is dated May 23, 1919. The last one is dated February 7, 1970. Pages 489 – 750 have not been completed. There are numerous loose pages in the book including applications. A CERTIFIED SURVEY MAP. A ROAD MAP FROM APPROXIMATELY 1967, and notices. A 1930 REMONSTRANCE AGAINST A CONTEMPLATED HIGHWAY.</p>
<p><b>CLERK'S RECORD</b></p>	
<p><b>1959 – Clerk's Complete Record</b></p>	<p>A black 9 x 14 x 2.75 inch book with red binding labeled "Clerk's Complete Record – Wisconsin" on the spine. Tabs in the book are labeled Annual Meetings, Receipt Journal, Order Register, Reconciliation, Summary, School Taxes, Ordinances, Bond &amp; Coupon Rec, Proceedings, Officers, Bonds &amp; Oaths, Boundaries, and Memoranda. There are no entries for Reconciliation, Summary, School Taxes, Ordinances, and Bond &amp; Coupon Rec. The first annual meeting recorded is for April 7, 1959. The last annual meeting is April 11, 1967. The receipt journal covers a period from March 31, 1960 to March 31, 1964. The order register covers a similar period. Proceedings of the regular board meetings are from April 11, 1959 through April 1, 1967. Officers are listed with votes received, date elected, and date office expires. This includes elections from April 7, 1959 through April 2, 1963. Oaths of Officers for Road Supt &amp; Weed Com, Health Officer, Constable, Treasurer, Justice of the "Piece", and Clerk are recorded from April 11, 1959 through April 12, 1971. Some of the positions are elected while others are appointed. Boundaries for the school districts (Plainfield, Wisconsin Rapids, and Stevens Point) are shown on maps. The memoranda includes trailer permits for 1959. Stapled in the back of the book is an "Installment Note" for \$21,205.00 from Wood County National Bank to the Town of Grant dated July 7, 1962. Payments were due for 3 years each July with an interest of 3%.</p>