Grant County was organized in 1909 and was formerly part of Douglas County. It was named after President Ulysses S. Grant. It is located in the east central part of the state and is bounded on the west by the Grand Coulee and the Columbia River. In the late nineteenth century, the county was traversed by railroads: the Great Northern; the Northern Pacific; and the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul. The railroads brought settlers into the county, attracted by its rich soil and agricultural potential. The Columbia Basin Irrigation Project of the 1930s also made a significant impact on the county while the completion of the Grand Coulee Dam (the largest all concrete structure on earth) opened lands for farming and furnished electric power for industry. Today the county is a major bean and pea producer and food-processing center.

Bounded by: Douglas County (N), Lincoln and Adams counties (E), Franklin, Benton and Yakima counties (S), and Kittitas County (W)

County Seat: Ephrata

Chambers of Commerce:

Coulee City Chamber of Commerce, 405 W Main St., PO Box 896, Coulee City, WA 99115-0896. Phone 509-632-5043.

Ephrata Chamber of Commerce, 90 Alder NW, PO Box 275, Ephrata, WA 98823. Phone 509-754-4656. Fax 509-754-5788.

George Visitor Center, PO Box 5205, George, Wa 98824. Phone 509-785-3831.

Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber of Commerce, 306 Midway, PO Box 760, Grand Coulee, WA 98133-0760. Phone 509-633-3074. Fax 509-633-1370.

Mattawa Area Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 1446, Mattawa, WA 99349. Phone 509-932-5015.

Moses Lake Area Chamber of Commerce, 324 S Pioneer Way, Moses Lake, WA 98837-1737. Phone 509-765-7888. Fax 509-765-7891.

Quincy Valley Chamber of Commerce, 119 F St SE, PO Box 668, Quincy, WA 98848. Phone 509-787-2140. Fax 509-787-4500.

Royal City Chamber of Commerce, 405 Camellia Suite B, PO Box 131, Royal City, WA 99357. Phone 509-346-9264.

Soap Lake Chamber of Commerce, 300 Beach E, PO Box 433, Soap Lake, WA 98851. Phone 509-246-1821. Fax 509-246-0571.

Courthouse: C St NW, PO Box 37, Ephrata, WA 98823. Courthouse hours: Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm

Assessor: Room 206. Phone 509-754-2011 ext. 310. Fax 509-754-2011 ext. 352. *Copies of original plats, parcel cards (1970's) and atlases are readily available in our office. Other items are in storage.*

Auditor: Room 201. Phone 509-754-2011 ext. 333. Fax 509-754-6071. *Need names of both parties to the transaction and approximate dates of the transactions. If prior to 1965, need to know the type of transaction being searched.*

Clerk: Room 218, 2nd Floor, Law and Justice Center, PO Box 37, Ephrata, WA 98823. Phone 509-754-2011 ext. 318. Fax 509-754-5638. *The following fees are in effect: $2.00 for the 1st page, $1 for each additional page. Research fee, per name, per hour, is $10.00. No personal checks. Please send letter of request containing the following information: complete names of all parties, approximate date of event, and research/copying fees*.

Treasurer: Room 204. Phone 509-754-2011 ext. 353. Fax 509-2011 ext. 352**.**

Genealogical Society:

Health Department / District:
Grant County Health District, Grant County Courthouse, PO Box 37, Ephrata, WA 98823. Phone 509-754-2011, ext. 372. FAX 509-754-0941. Satellite office: 903 W 3rd, Moses Lake, WA 98837. Phone 509-766-7960. Fax 509-766-7827.
Historical Society:
Grant County Historical Society, 742 Basin Street N, P O Box 1141, Ephrata, WA 98823. *Membership available. Operates the Grant County Village and Museum.*
Libraries - Academic:
Big Bend Community College Library, 7662 Chanute, Moses Lake, WA 98837-3299. Phone 509-762-6247. Fax 509-762-2402. *Small collection of Pacific Northwest history monographs and small, mostly uncataloged, archival collection.*
Libraries - Public:
North Central Regional Library, 238 Olds Station Rd, Wenatchee, WA 98801-8103. Phone 509-663-1117. Fax 509-662-8060.
The following are part of this regional library system:
Coulee City Community Library, 502 Industrial, Box 387, Coulee City, WA 99115-0387. Phone 509-632-8751. Fax 509-632-8751.
Ephrata Community Library, 45 Alder NW, Ephrata, WA 98823-1663. Phone 509-754-3971. Fax 509-754-3971.
Grand Coulee Community Library, 225 Federal, Box 62, Grand Coulee, WA 99133-0062. Phone 509-633-0972. Fax 509-633-0972.
Moses Lake Community Library, 418 E 5th Ave, Moses Lake, WA 98837-1797. Phone 509-765-3489. Fax 509-766-0286.
Quincy Community Library, 108 B St SW, Quincy, WA 98858-1203. Phone 509-787-2359. Fax 509-787-2359.
Royal City Community Library, 365 Camellia, Box 548, Royal City, WA 99357-0548. Phone 509-346-9281. Fax 509-346-9281.
Soap Lake Community Library, 32 Main, Box 86, Soap Lake, WA 98851-0086. Phone 509-246-1313. Fax 509-246-1313.
Warden Community Library, 305 S Main, Box 813, Warden, WA 98857-0813. Phone 509-349-2226. Fax 509-349-2226.
Libraries - Special:
Ephrata Family History Center, 1301 E Division, Ephrata, WA. Phone 509-754-4762.
Grant County Genealogical Society Library, 45 Alder St, NW, Ephrata, WA 98823-1663. *Has a room in the Ephrata Public Library with a small reference collection, vertical file of local interest items, an obituary file from local newspapers, scrapbooks of articles, index to homesteaders, genealogical journals, the Big Bend Register newspaper, and census of Douglas County.*
Grant County Law Library, PO Box 37, Ephrata, WA 98223. Phone 509-754-2011, ext. 357.
Moses Lake Family History Center, 1515 S Division, Moses Lake, WA. Phone 509-765-8711.
Quincy Family History Center, 1102 Second Ave SE, Quincy, WA. Phone 509-787-2521.
Museums and Historical Sites:
Adam East Museum and Art Center, 122 W Third, PO Box 1579, Moses Lake, WA 98837. Phone 509-766-9395. Fax 509-766-9392. *Membership available. Collection of Native American artifacts, some historical items. Beginning to collect oral histories. Photographic collection primarily of Native Americans.*
Dry Falls Interpretative Center, Sun Lakes State Park, 34875 Park Lake Rd, NE, Coulee City, WA 99115. Phone 509-632-5583. Fax 509-632-5971.

Grant County Village & Museum, 742 N Basin St, NW, Box 1141, Ephrata, WA 98823. Phone 509-754-3334. *Membership available. Village has 28 buildings with artifacts displaying life in the early 1900's. The Museum has exhibits highlighting the prehistoric period, local Indians, the stockmen and homesteaders, and the Columbia Basin Project. Large collection of photographs, school pictures, newspaper clippings, and histories of Grant County schools.*
Schiffner Museum, 4840 Westshore Dr, Moses Lake, WA. Phone 509-765-6374.
Wanapum Dam Heritage Center, (Hwy 243, Beverly, WA 98823), Box 878, Ephrata, WA 98823. Phone 509-754-3541. Fax 509-766-2522. *Collection includes photographs of Wanapum Indians, agriculture of the area, and the construction of Wanapum and Priest Rapids Dams. Exhibits "portray the history of the mid-section of the Columbia River; from the Indian wars, the search for gold, ranching and agriculture to the building of the dams".*

State Archive Branch:
Central Region (Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Franklin, Grant, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan and Yakima counties.) Bledsoe-Washington Archives Building, 400 E. University Way; Mail Stop 7547 Ellensburg, Washington 98926-7547. Phone: 509-963-2136. Fax 509-963-1753. E-mail:

CEBranchArchives@sos.wa.gov

Research Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon and 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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MILITARY - Published sources

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Central Branch Archives
Probate case files, 1908-1961
Probate journals, 1891-1957 (Volume 1 is transcribed minutes from Douglas County prior to the formation of Grant County)
Record of probate claims 1920-1947
Grant County Auditor's office
Wills, dates unknown
Grant County Clerk's office
Probate case files, dates unknown

PROBATE - Published sources

TAXES - Personal, governmental, or organizational records

Central Branch Archives
Certificate register, irrigation districts, 1914-1932
Delinquent personal taxes, 1909-1914
Irrigation tax deed register, 1917-1945
Irrigation ledger cards, 1964-1980
Irrigation district assessment rolls, 1918-1973 (Quincy Valley & Columbia Basin Irrigation Districts)
Personal property assessment & tax rolls, 1909-1974
Personal property ledger cards, 1964-1980
Quincy-Columbia Irrigation District ledger cards, 1964-1973
Real property ledger cards, 1964-1980
Real property assessment & tax rolls, 1909-1973
South Columbia Basin Irrigation District assessment roll, 1951

TAXES - Published sources