Past and Present

Updated Website and New Features

The Archives’ website (http://archives.sccgov.org) has recently been updated for a new fresh look, and has some exciting new features. A photograph of the old Hall of Records that once stood next to the court house on 1st Street across from St. James Park is featured on the main page. Various links can be found below this photograph, such as links to hours, online databases, collections, etc.

The newest feature, “Images of the Month,” includes highlights from the Archives’ many photograph collections. For example, November 2010’s images featured photographs of shopping centers, December 2011’s images included photo-

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Aerial of a subdivision, 1966.

See County Highlight, page 4.

Student Volunteers Return

Student volunteers from Professor Bill Ziegenhorn’s history class at Foothill College created a database for our County Map Book Collection from fall 2008 through summer 2010. This database can be found on our website.

Now that the map book project is done, the students will be finishing up another project, indexing our Records of Coroner’s Investigations, which range from 1932 to 1946. These records will be added to our existing online County Coroner Inquest Collection Database, which currently contains the index to the Coroner’s Official Registers (1891-1946).

This project will be a great benefit to genealogical researchers, and will most likely be finished and online by the end of summer.

Scrapbook from New Collection

The Archives’ newest accession, the Captain William J. Miller Collection, contains police and sheriff memorabilia collected by Miller while he served in the Santa Clara County Sheriff’s Department. This collection contains a hidden gem, a scrapbook created by Arthur B. Langford, County Sheriff from 1907 to 1919, the son of Robert Jackson Langford, who was sheriff from 1899 to 1905.

This scrapbook contains newspaper articles and high school memorabilia from the 1890s to the 1910s. Langford graduated from San Jose High School in 1897, and saved many programs and invitations to high school graduations, class days, and dances. He also saved newspaper articles that were of interest to him.

A biography of Arthur B. Langford can be found at: http://www.mariaposaresearch.net/santaclararesearch/SCBIOS/ablangford.html

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Invitation to a fraternity dance in Stockton. April 23, 1898.
Past and Present

Updated Website and New Features (continued)

graphs of floods, and January 2011’s images shows postcards from the Cora L. Black Postcard Collection.

A page of Frequently Asked Questions was added. It is the last link below the photograph of the Hall of Records. More in-depth information about the Archives and its records can be found here.

You can contact us at Archives@rec.sccgov.org if you have any suggestions or questions about the website.

Scrapbook from New Collection (continued)

Headline from a memorial service in San Jose for assassinated President William McKinley. A statue was erected in his honor, and stands to this day in St. James Park in downtown San Jose.

The program for the 1897 San Jose High School graduation ceremony. County Sheriff Arthur B. Langford graduated in this class.
Past and Present

Three New Collections on the Online Archive of California

Three new collection descriptions have been added to the Online Archive of California (http://www.oac.cdlib.org) by intern Lindsay Moxley, a graduate student from San Jose State University.

The Cora L. Black Postcard Collection consists of postcards ranging from 1902 to 1946. These postcards were sent to Cora from all over the world, from as far away as Moscow and Brazil.

The County Flags and Seals Collection contains histories and information about the design of the Santa Clara County flag and seal.

The Tax Collector’s Records contains 25 tax receipts from Santa Clara County and the City of San Jose ranging from 1887 to 1893. Most of the receipts are for the Sunol and de Saissett families.

Contacting the Archives

Our address: 1875 Senter Road, San Jose, CA 95112

Directions: Please see our website at http://archives.sccgov.org.

Our phone: 408-792-1895

E-mail: Archives@rec.sccgov.org

Hours: We are open Mondays and Wednesdays, 9am to 1pm, and by appointment on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 9am to 1pm.

Subscribing

To subscribe (or unsubscribe) to this Newsletter, please send an e-mail to: Trista.Raezer@rec.sccgov.org.
The Santa Clara County Planning Office is a division of the Department of Planning and Development. The Planning Office plans and regulates land use and development in unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County. Their duties include: maintaining general plan and zoning ordinances, implementing planning studies, reviewing zoning applications, reviewing development applications, and monitoring major building projects. These photographs come from the Planning Office Photograph Collection, and were used for planning purposes and Planning Office publications.
Mr. William P. Townes, an air pollution engineer, checks the smoke opacity at an industrial plant, circa 1950s.

A map showing the percentage of households in Santa Clara County that had incomes less than $5,000 in 1970.

An artistic rendering of a plan to turn downtown Campbell into a mall, undated.

Assembly workers installing the rear axle into a Ford Mustang at the Ford Plant in Milpitas, 1964.