Past and Present

New Online Database: Planning Photos

A new online database has been added to the Archives’ website. Volunteer Joe Marcotte did an excellent job of cataloging 1,264 photographs from the Office of Planning Photograph, Slide, and Film Collection.

The contents of the collection visually document Santa Clara County from 1906 to 1980, with the bulk of the collection ranging from 1950 to 1970. The collection contains aerial views of the County, commercial development, housing, historical landmarks, industries, parks, public facilities, transportation, agriculture, and people. The collection concentrates on the development of the county, such as new housing developments, commercial development, and park and recreation development. The purpose of this collection may have been to collect visuals for brochures and present-

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Archives’ 5 Year Anniversary Event

October 2011 marked the five year anniversary of the Santa Clara County Archives. An anniversary celebration was held on October 21st from 5pm to 7pm at the County Archives Facility.

The evening proved to be a success. Supervisor Dave Cortese gave a preview of his County Supervisors History Project, which will be launched later this year. Archivist Trista Raezer gave a presentation about the Archives, its achievements, and its collections of materials. Assembly Member Jim Beall gave an impromptu talk about the history of the Archives. Afterwards tours were given and refreshments were served.

A crowd of 50 guests came to enjoy the evening.

Bookmarks commemorating the anniversary are still available at the Archives. Stop by to pick one up!

Question and answer session of Archivist Trista Raezer’s presentation.

Archivist Trista Raezer during her presentation.

County Controller John Francisco. See County Highlight, page 4.

Mission

The mission of the Santa Clara County Archives is to collect, preserve, and make available the historical records of Santa Clara County government. The Archives’ goals are to be a center for research and information about Santa Clara County and to foster an appreciation and understanding of the county’s history and development.

Guests viewing the Archives Committee photographs.
Past and Present

New Online Database (continued)

tations for the Office of Planning.

This database will be useful for anyone researching the growth and development of the county as it transitioned from an agricultural valley to Silicon Valley. These photographs give a great visual representation of the County 40 to 60 years ago.

This new database can be found at [http://www.sccgov.org/portal/site/ceo/agencychp?path=\%2Fv7\%2FCounty\%20Executive\%2C\%20Office\%20of\%28DEP\%29\%2FCounty\%20Archives\%2FCounty\%20Office\%20of\%20Planning\%20Photographs](http://www.sccgov.org/portal/site/ceo/agencychp?path=%2Fv7%2FCounty%20Executive%2C%20Office%20of%20the%28DEP%29%2FCounty%20Archives%2FCounty%20Office%20of%20Planning%20Photographs)

The Winchester Shopping Center with Valley Fair Mall in the background, circa 1950s. The field to the right is currently Santana Row.

Alviso, January 1, 1952. “More than 30 families were moved out of Alviso in wake of flood. Among them were family of H. L. Clancy, left. Resident of Short’s Camp, Clancy’s cabin floor was under water. Under supervision of Red Cross, Clancys were moved to Assemblies of Holiness Church (in background). Assisting in moving family are church’s pastor, the Rev. Billy Harrison, carrying Jerry and Tommy Clancy.”

Archives’ 5 Year Anniversary Event (continued)

Guests enjoying refreshments.

Guests identifying photographs from the Archives’ open house.
Past and Present

Additions to Two Databases

Two of the Archives’ online databases have been updated.

Fourteen volumes of “Record of Coroner’s Investigations” were indexed by volunteers. These volumes are similar to the “Coroner’s Official Registers,” but contain more details on the deceased. These volumes contained 6,272 records ranging from 1932 to 1946. Search for these new entries in the County Coroner Inquest Collection at http://www.sccgov.org/portal/site/ceo/agencychp?path=%2Fv7%2FCounty%20Executive%2C%20Office%20of%20the%20%28DEP%29%2FCounty%20Archives%2FCounty%20Coroner%20Inquests%20Collection

Foothill College student volunteers processed and indexed 151 sets of probate vouchers ranging from 1891 to 1927. Search for these new entries in the County Probate Cases Collection at http://www.sccgov.org/portal/site/ceo/agencychp?path=%2Fv7%2FCounty%20Executive%2C%20Office%20of%20the%20%28DEP%29%2FCounty%20Archives%2FCounty%20Probate%20Cases%20Collection

Below: Probate voucher for Jane Morton, 1903.


Contacting the Archives

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

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

New phone: 408-755-7895

NEW e-mail: Archives@ceo.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@ceo.sccgov.org. (NEW e-mail)
The Finance Agency currently consists of the Controller-Treasurer Department, Tax Collector’s Office, Department of Revenue, and the Clerk-Recorder’s Office. The County Treasurer, established in 1850, was originally an elected position and served as ex-officio tax collector from 1876-1893. The Tax Collectors position, also elected, was created in 1861. The County Recorder served as ex-officio Auditor until 1893. These three positions became appointments in 1951 under the county charter and merged into the position of Controller-Treasurer in 1967. The Clerk-Recorder’s Office was highlighted in the Winter 2009-2010 issue of Past and Present.

T. J. Ingersoll was paid $6.10 for his service as a coroner by the Treasurer in 1858. His endorsement on the back is shown above.

Aaron B. Hunt was paid $49.45 for a month of teaching by the Treasurer in 1864. His endorsement on the back is shown below.

The Treasurer of Santa Clara County paid $50 for a cow for the County Infirmary, 1864.
Auditors and tax collectors, 1962.

Cake celebrating the one million dollar mark in tax collections, August 24, 1976.

Employees with the cake, 1976.

Treasurer Ed J. Ferguson putting money into a safe, circa 1946-1951.
Santa Clara County tax rates for the fiscal year 1938-39.
Tax receipt for the property of Dolores Sunol, 1891.

Tax receipt for the property of Pedro de Saisset, 1887.