



Past and Present

Naturalization Index Available at Archives

The Archives has several groups of records useful for genealogical research. Among the most significant is the Index to Naturalized Citizens. This index, which covers the years 1850 through 1934, lists persons naturalized in Santa Clara County courts. It is organized alphabetically by last name, and then, within each letter, chronologically. Entries typically include name, nationality, date of admission, court in which natural-

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Archives Receives Las Animas Rancho Abstract

The Las Animas Rancho Abstract, a key document in the famous *Miller v. Thomas* lawsuit in Gilroy, has been donated to the Archives by the Ousley-Hoey family of Gilroy.

Litigated during the 1880s, the lawsuit of *Henry Miller et al. v. Massey Thomas et al.* involved title to land in Gilroy and in surrounding areas. The Abstract, eight bound volumes plus an index, transcribes documents and judgments affecting title to all the lands involved in the case. Prepared at the instruction of

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Wills Indexing Project Completed



Volunteers celebrate completion of wills project. Top row, left to right, Susan King, MaryAnne Casella, Marcia Holstrom, Cinde Quint, and Pat Burrow. Seated, left to right, Gail Dance, Mike Griffith, Ann Hendricks, Lisa Geserick, and Pam Fuji.

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Vasona Lake County Park. See County Highlight, page 3.

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.

Dedicated volunteers from Marcia Holstrom's Genealogy and Family History course in San Jose's MetEd program have completed the large task of indexing the Archives' collection of wills. Through their efforts, the nearly 10,000 wills held by the Archives are now entered into a searchable database, available at the Archives. According to the County Archivist, this database should be accessible on line in the next two months. "The volunteers contributed over 250 hours of their time to create this valuable finding aid," he stated, "and they have made a wonderful contribution to the work of the Archives. This index is an important step toward the goal of making our records more available and searchable online."

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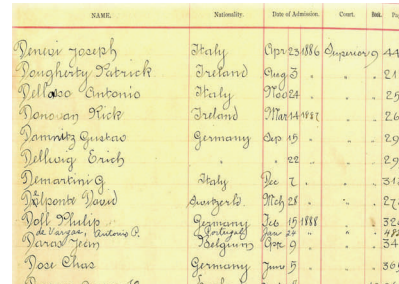
Past and Present

Naturalization Index (continued)

ized, and court book and page numbers.

“The Archives does not hold the naturalization records themselves,” stressed County Archivist Michael Griffith. “Those remain in the custody of the Santa Clara County Superior Court. However, the Index is a valuable tool for determining whether a person was naturalized in this county.”

Researchers may use the Index at the Archives. The Archives also will research reasonable requests made by phone or e-mail.



NAME	Nationality	Date of Admission	Court	Ind.	Page
Senio Joseph	Italy	Apr 23 1886	San Jose		247
Dougherty Patrick	Ireland	Aug 5			248
Pellaco Antonio	Italy	Nov 24			251
Donovan Nick	Ireland	Mar 14 1887			266
Hammig Gustav	Germany	Apr 15			298
Hillingrich		22			299
Himantini G	Italy	Dec 7			318
Hilcoist David	Switzerd.	Mar 25			273
Hoff Philip	Germany	Feb 15 1887			320
Horgan James R.	Ireland	Jan 22			322
Hosack John	Belgium	Apr 9			341
Hoss Paul	Germany	Jan 5			365

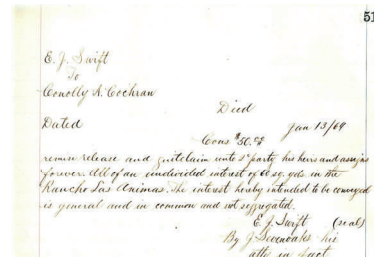
Part of a page from the Naturalization Index.

Las Animas Rancho Abstract (continued)

Miller’s attorneys, it was designed to expedite the settling of claims.

The Archives is investigating conservation measures for the books, some of which have suffered damage over the years.

According to the County Archivist, “The decision of the Ousley-Hoey family to donate the Abstract benefits everyone interested in the history of this famous lawsuit and of the south county generally. We are honored to be the recipients of this valuable gift.”



An entry from the Las Animas Rancho Abstract.

Wills Indexing Project (continued)

Many of the volunteers now are creating an index to the Archives’ collection of probate cases from 1893 to 1908. They already have spent 200 hours working on that guide, which will be placed online when completed.

Contacting the Archives

Our address: 1875 Senter Road, San Jose 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 on an appointment-only basis. Appointments are normally available Monday and Wednesday 10-5, Tuesday and Thursday, 9-3, and Friday 9-12.

Subscribing

To subscribe (or unsubscribe) to this Newsletter, please send an e-mail to: Michael.Griffith@rec.sccgov.org.

COUNTY HIGHLIGHT

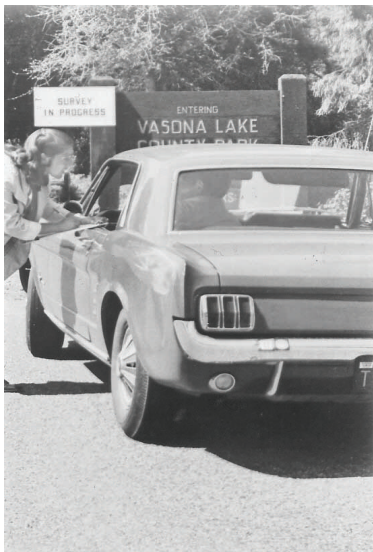
Parks and Recreation

The images below show the variety of records the Archives contains relating to the County Department of Parks and Recreation. They illustrate the history of the department since its formation in 1956 and indicate some of the wide variety of park resources.



Part of the cover of the 1962 Plan for Parks, Recreation, and Open Space prepared by the County Planning Commission.

Supervisors Charles A. Quinn and Sam P. Della Maggiori, Mr. Crandall of Parks and Recreation, and State Senator Alfred Alquist at newly purchased County park, 1968.



Conducting a survey at Vasona Lake County Park, 1960.



Casa Grande, New Almaden. This view shows the mine manager's residence when it was a hotel. A complete restoration currently is being planned.

Part of a 1961 plan for a Stevens Creek Park Chain.



Teeing off at the dedication of the Santa Teresa golf course in 1962

Portion of blueprints for development of Ed R. Levin Park, 1973.

