



CARLO M. De FERRARI ARCHIVE

Finding Aid to the Official
Historical Government
Records of Tuolumne County

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***Public Research Area
1899 Tuolumne County Courthouse Furnishings***

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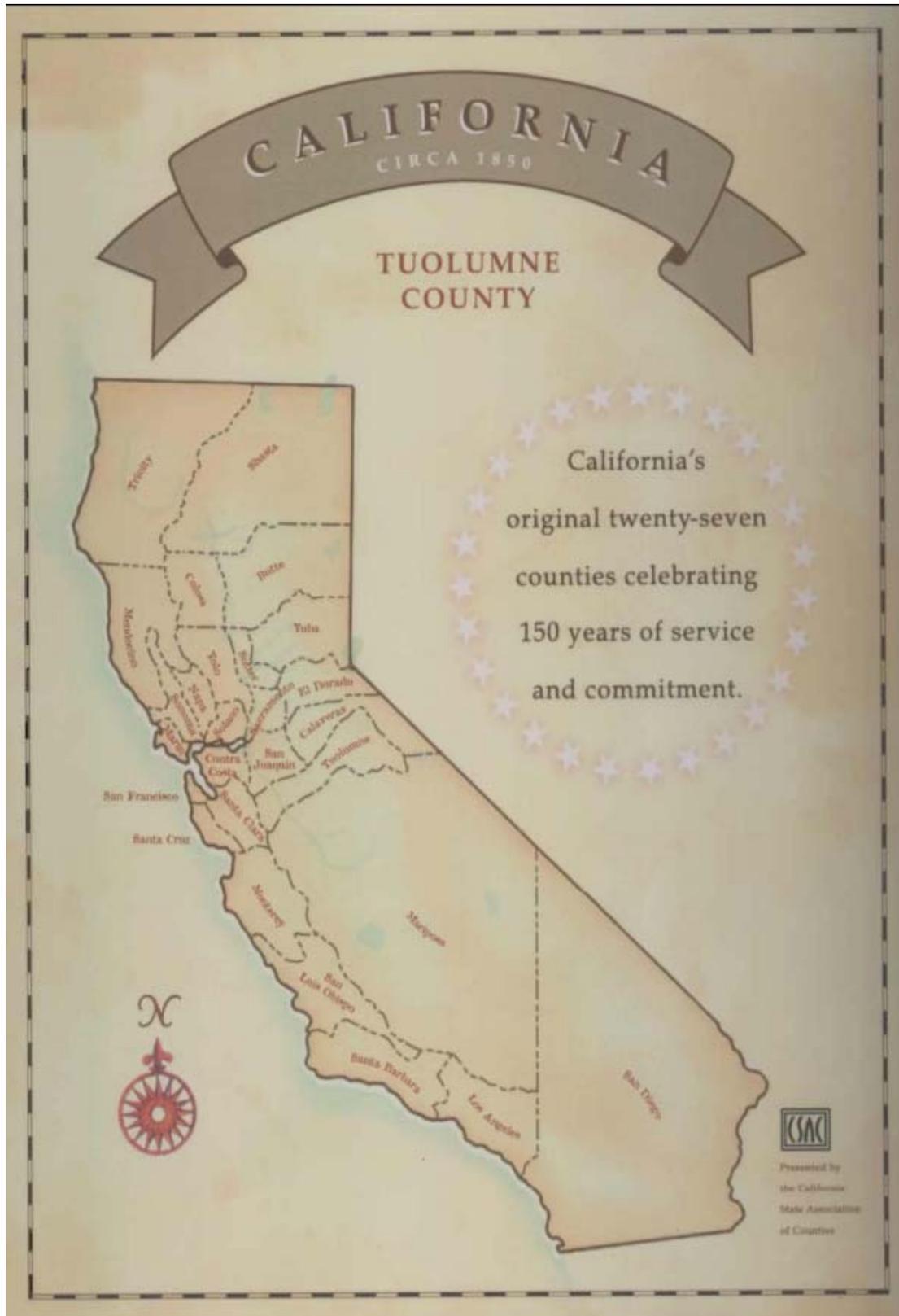
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Map of California Tuolumne County boundaries included the present county of Stanislaus which was detached in 1854

Introduction

The official records of Tuolumne County, one of California's 27 original counties, are located in the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive. The archive is named in honor of Carlo M. De Ferrari, a third generation Tuolumne County native son, County Clerk-Auditor 1966-1978, and "Official Historian of Tuolumne County," a title bestowed in 1972 by the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors in recognition of his extensive knowledge of local history and his dedication to its preservation.

The governing body of the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive is the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors. The County Assessor/Recorder/Archivist oversees general administration of the archive. The Records Manager supervises daily operations. All records accepted for preservation in the archive must have an historical connection to official county governmental business. Volunteers from the Tuolumne County Genealogical Society process and index the records. The archive is largely dependent on volunteers to perform its mission.

Certain records have a value that extends far beyond the period during which they served some legal, financial or administrative purpose. This secondary, or historical, value of records provides us with a "window through time" with which we may learn about people and events in the past, and thus gain a better perception of our present and future. Without proper care and handling of historical records, however, the "window" and the information it makes available can be lost forever. It is largely through the preservation and study of historical records that we know anything about, for example, the euphoric yet grinding existence of gold miners in the California of the 1850s.

Historical records of county government are useful for other reasons. They may contain valuable sociological data about people, where they lived, whom they married and what they thought. They help explain the court system and the administration of justice. Certain records may reveal information important to genealogists and political scientists. Others contain financial statistics necessary for studies of basic fiscal activities. A significant segment of records provides information on land values and ownership, transfer of titles and encumbrances on real property. Still others are vital to administrators as evidence in matters of litigation or as keys to the interpretation of public policy and planning.

Although eighteen Tuolumne County agencies and 4 Special Collections, representing the core of county functions, are included, other arms of county government go unmentioned. Counties often have unique historical documents that are not listed in this guide. It is our belief that, working together, we can select and preserve those vital historical records that constitute not only the story of our past, but also the foundation of our future.

User's Guide

The format of the guide is straightforward and consistent. At the beginning of each section, the user will find a short essay on the functions of the office or agency generating the records. Following that, each record series* is listed in alphabetical order by the series title. For the Clerk's and Recorder's offices, because so many entries are involved, the records have first been divided into categories and then listed alphabetically.

Court records have been divided into separate jurisdictions represented. Each series has been numbered consecutively for ease of reference.

Information has been provided for each entry using the following format & order:

SERIES TITLE (ALTERNATE TITLE) [in bold and upper case]. Inclusive dates [in bold]. If the record is still current, no ending date is given.

Identification of the series, i.e., what it is or does. Types of record materials included in the series. Specific information contained in the series and historical, administrative information, and indexing information. Accessibility, i.e., whether the series is closed or confidential.

Research Note: [in bold and italics]. Suggested research uses of the series.

Two areas require clarification: indexing and arrangement information. Indexing information usually refers to separate indexes in which case a separate entry for the index series will immediately follow the series to which it relates. The absence of a separate index is so stated. If an index is provided within the series, i.e., for each volume, the information will immediately follow the statement about arrangement. In some cases, both a separate indexing series and indexing within a series may occur for a single entry.

Arrangement information is always first about the series as a whole, then about a discrete segment (volume, file) within the series. For example, judgment dockets commonly are arranged alphabetically by names of plaintiffs and defendants and then chronologically by date of hearing. This means that for the series as a whole, the arrangement is alphabetical, A-Z. Once the appropriate docket has been located (J for Jones for example), the arrangement within the docket is chronological by date of hearing(s).

* A record series is a unit of records arranged in accordance with a particular filing system or created, maintained and disposed of together as a unit because the records relate to the same subject or function, result from the same activity or have the same form. As an example, entry #88, is produced below

88. CORONER'S REGISTERS, 1883-

A register of all inquests conducted by the Coroner. Contains name of deceased, date and cause of death, date of inquest, names of witnesses and jurors, case number, description and identification marks, disposition of personal property and verdict of jury.

In addition, since 1914, the register contains sex, race, residence, age, marital status and occupation of deceased, place of burial, name of undertaker and history of case. Original inquests are filed with the Clerk.

Arranged chronologically by date of inquest or, since 1914, numerically by case number. Indexed alphabetically by name of deceased.

Research Note: Source of genealogical and social information.

As indicated in the main body of the entry, separate indexes to Coroner's registers are common. Thus, entry #61 is **INDEXES TO CORONER'S INQUESTS**, and provides information on the content and arrangement of the indexes. However, it is also common for a Coroner's register to be indexed within each register. This information is indicated after the arrangement data.

Additionally, at the back of the guide are six appendices.

Appendix A, "History of Tuolumne County Archives," by Carlo M. De Ferrari, 1999.

Appendix B, "A History of the Organization and Functions of County Government," assisted to set the records contained in the guide in a proper historical context and provide information useful to an understanding of the entries.

Appendix C, "Mission Statement," of the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive.

Appendix D, "Tuolumne County Archive," by Owen Coy, 1916.

Appendix E, "History of the Court System."

Appendix F, "Disposition of County Records," summarizes sections of the California Codes that govern disposition at the county level. It is not intended to be a comprehensive treatment of the subject

Over 250,000 records from the collection have been entered into the Archive's database for the public to access. The public can query the database via Tuolumne County's website, then navigate to the Assessor's Office page, and then go to the Archive's home page. <http://www.co.tuolumne.ca.us/>

Additionally, the current listing of books within the De Ferrari-Hartvig Library can be accessed via the internet on the Tuolumne County Library web page <http://www.library.co.tuolumne.ca.us/#focus>.

The California State Archives granted permission to use text and formatting from the *Historical Records of County Government in California* Manual 2nd edition 2004 to develop this guide. Finding aids from other resources available in the archival community were also used. Also, deserving credit for their advice and assistance are Carlo M. De Ferrari, Tuolumne County Historian, Laren Metzger, California State Archive, Sharon Marovich, Tuolumne County Heritage Committee, Dwain McDonald (deceased) local educator and school historian, and Patsy Knox, Assistant Tuolumne County Recorder.

Charles Dyer
Records Manager
Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive
2012

Assessor

The principal function of the Assessor is to evaluate all property in the county for the purpose of taxation. Both real and certain types of personal properties are assessed. Some properties, such as schools, churches, non-profit organizations, federal, state, and county buildings, are tax exempt. It is the Assessor's duty to approve exemptions and to keep a record of them.

During the early years of statehood, the Assessor had other duties, including ex-officio Superintendent of Schools (1853-1855), assistance in voter registration, collection of the poll tax, and preparation of the militia rolls.



Assessment Roll Collection

Assessor

1. ASSESSMENT ROLLS, DELINQUENT, 1853 – 1966

Record of delinquent assessments. Contains name of assessee, description, value of real and personal property, and amount of delinquency. No separate indexes.

Arranged chronologically by year and then alphabetically by name of assessee. The collection consists of 97 delinquent assessment rolls.

Research Note: Source for study of types and value of property held in delinquency

2. ASSESSMENT ROLLS, SECURED, 1850 – 1971

Record of assessments on real property for purposes of taxation. Contains names of assessee and address, date, tax rate area, parcel number, acreage, land valuation, value of improvements, exemptions, and total assessment. The rolls are prepared by the Assessor who then delivers them to the Clerk for review by the Board of Equalization (Board of Supervisors). After adjustments by the board, the rolls are delivered to the Auditor who computes the amount of taxes due and sends the rolls to the Tax Collector. At this point, the rolls become tax rolls, are duplicated, and retained by the Tax Collector. The assessment rolls return to the Assessor's office, though originally, and for many years after, they usually remained in the custody of the Auditor. Older assessment rolls may still be found with the Auditor or even the Tax Collector. Separate indexes for the years of 1881-1965.

Arranged chronologically by year, by five county road districts. Tuolumne County phased in the Assessors Parcel Number (APN) system during the years of 1949-1951. Prior to 1949 the primary arrangement was alphabetical by name of assessee. In early days, assessments of real and personal property were sometimes combined. The assessment rolls between the years of 1870-1905 provide lists of material possessions of property owners and help reveal wealth, and offer glimpses of pioneer lifestyles. The collection consists of 484 secured assessment rolls. The table below is a sample of the data collected.

ASSESSOR					
ARCHIVE #	RECORD #	SURNAME	GIVEN_NAME	YEAR	LOCALITY
764	0027	Hetfield	A. R.	1850	Columbia
764	0007	Bartholeme	Abbe	1850	Columbia
764	0017	Firmin	Abnesan	1850	Columbia
764	0015	Davis	Abraham	1850	Sonora

Research Note: Source for tracing land values, property ownership, tax rate patterns and development.

Assessor

3. INDEXES TO ASSESSMENT ROLLS, SECURED, 1881 – 1965

Indexes to records of assessment on real property. Contains name of assessee, tax rate area, and parcel number, reference to map book and page number and year in rolls.

General indexes are arranged chronologically by year and then alphabetically by name of assessee.

The collection consists of 95 indexes to the assessment rolls from 1881-1965. These records are also available on microfilm for the years of 1881-1926

4. ASSESSMENT ROLLS, UNSECURED, 1897 – 1971

Record of assessments on certain types of personal property. Contains the name and address of assessee, valuation, date, tax rate area, description of property, value of improvements, exemptions, and net total assessment. In early days, assessments of real and personal property were sometimes combined. Separate indexes for the years of 1897-1968.

Arranged chronologically by year and then alphabetically by name of assessee.

The collection consists of 85 unsecured assessment rolls and 80 separate indexes.

Research Note: Source for study of tax rates and types of personal property included in assessment.

5. MAP BOOKS (PLAT BOOKS), 1892 – 1964

Map books compiled from reports and field notes by staff of the Assessor's office. Contains date of map, block and lot numbers, township and range numbers, name of city/town, name of owner, amount of holding, subdivision and street names, property boundaries, dimensions, and estimated value of land. Indexes uncommon.

Arranged alphabetically by township and range numbers. The collection consists of 10 map books. These records were water damaged which developed into a mold problem. These records were sent to a conservator to remove the mold, repair, and encapsulation. They are now available for research.

Assessor

The table below is an inventory of the Map Book collection.

ARCHIVE #	RECORD	YEAR	NOTES
2150	Tuolumne County Plat Book #2	1892	Townships 1 North & 1-3 South 1892-1898.
2149	Tuolumne County Plat Book #3	1892	Townships 2 thru 6 North 1892-1898.
2987	Tuolumne County Plat Book Patentee	1897	Townships 1 thru 3 South and 1 thru 6 North 1897-1901
2148	Tuolumne County Plat Book North & South	1899	Townships 1 thru 3 South and 1 thru 4 North 1899-1931.
2152	Tuolumne County Plat Book North	1906	Townships 2 thru 6 North 1906-1919.
2151	Tuolumne County Plat Book #3 South	1906	Townships 1 thru 3 South 1906-1919.
2992	Tuolumne County Plat Book	1919	Townships 2 thru 7 North. 1919-1935.
2976	Tuolumne County Plat Book	1919	Townships 1 thru 3 South and 1 North 1919-1935.
2988	Tuolumne County Plat Book	1936	Townships 1 thru 3 South and 1 thru 6 North 1936-1943.
3698	Assessment District Maps	1964	Contains 5 District maps

Research Note: Similar in content to Recorder's map books, these records are a source of study of land development, ownership, urbanization, and property values.

6. POLL TAX ROLLS, 1895 – 1914

A record of taxes levied on all males between certain ages regardless of wealth or property. Contains name and residence of assessee, amount of tax, and date paid. Poll taxes were abolished in 1914 with the passage of Proposition 10. There is no index for these records.

Arranged chronologically by year and then alphabetically by name of assessee. The collection consists of 12 poll tax rolls.

Research Note: Source of study of poll tax as county revenue. Provides useful genealogical information in absence of more frequently used records.

Assessor

7. BOARD ROLL OF STATE ASSESSED PROPERTY PREPARED BY STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION, 1935 – 1974

A copy of the annual report prepared by the State Board of Equalization. Contains lists of property owned by private utility companies (PG&E, Pacific Telephone, etc.). Contains the name and address of assessee, valuation, date, tax rate area, description of property, value of improvements, exemptions, and net total assessment. There is no index for these records.

Arranged chronologically by year. The collection consists of 40 Board Rolls.

Research Note: Source of information on real and personal holdings of large private utilities within the county boundaries.

8. REPORTS, STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION, 1892 - 1936

A copy of the annual report prepared by the Assessor to the State Board of Equalization. Contains lists of property exempt from taxation, description and location of property, name of owner, and date of report. Also, lists county statistics such as number of livestock, fruit-bearing trees, total acreage under cultivation, bushels of grain harvested, gallons of wine and liquor processed, and related agricultural information.

There is no index for these records.

Arranged chronologically by year. The table below is a sample of the data collected.

ARCHIVE #	RECORD #	RECORD	YEAR	NOTES
3171	0004	Reports of the Assessor	1892	List of items that were taxed: Beehives, Brandy, Bikes, Cattle. 1892, 1894-1899.
3171	0006	Reports of the Assessor	1900	List of items that were taxed: Fruit Trees, Wheat, Oats, Flour. 1900, 1904, 1906-1909
3171	0008A	Reports of the Assessor	1910	List of items that were taxed: Fruit Trees, Wheat, Oats, Flour. 1910-1919
3171	0009A	Reports of the Assessor	1920	List of items that were taxed: Fruit Trees, Wheat, Oats, Flour. 1920-1929
3171	0012	Reports of the Assessor	1930	In 1930 Autos were rising in numbers. 1930 - 1936

Research Note: Source of information on variety and development of county agriculture and industry. Provides summary of assessment exemptions.

Assessor

9. OFFICE FILES 1860-1995

General office correspondence, taxpayer complaints, litigation files, and Assessor consolidation with the County Recorder. Development and taxation of Hetch Hetchy and other public or private utilities in Tuolumne County.

Arranged chronologically by year. The collection consists of 98 files, 3 cubic feet. The table below is a sample of the data collected.

ARCHIVE #	RECORD #	RECORD	YEAR	NOTES
3171	0001	Agricultural and Industrial Assessment	1866	Assessor's report form.
3171	0010	Alien Poll Tax	1921	Alien Poll Tax Receipt Book
3214	0020	Allocations of Assessed Values	1974	Allocations of the Assessed Value of State Assessed Property 1974. The Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co.
3171	0019	Assessment Roll Recaps	1955	Assessed Valuations-Tuolumne County-Secured and Unsecured Roll 1955-1959
3171	0023	Assessment Roll Recaps	1966	Assessed Valuations-Tuolumne County-Secured and Unsecured Roll 1966-1969
3171	0033	Assessor-Recorder Consolidation	1980	Letters to other counties asking about Consolidated Offices and what they did 1980-1989
3171	0008	California State Board of Agriculture	1910	Annual Report of Statistician for Tuolumne County 1910 and 1915.
3213	0007	City and County of San Francisco	1916	Land Owned By City and County of San Francisco. Amount of land and amount paid, and acquired from whom. Pages 1-15. 1916-1919
3213	0022	City and County of San Francisco	1967	Correspondence between the City and County of San Francisco and the County of Tuolumne
3213	0019	City and County of San Francisco	1961	City and County of San Francisco water rights assessed 1961-1968
3213	0018	City and County of San Francisco	1960	Handwritten notes on parcels belonging to Hetch Hetchy
3213	0017	City and County of San Francisco	1960	Tuolumne River Rights Memorandum by Clinton Henning consulting, engineer.
3213	0014	City and County of San Francisco	1949	A book: San Francisco Water and Power.

Research Note: Source of information regarding the history and operation of the Tuolumne County Assessor's Office

Assessor

TUOLUMNE COUNTY ASSESSORS

COUNTYWIDE ASSESSORS

Name Year Elected

D.P. Blanchard 1850
B. Allen Mardis 1852
James Hoyt 1852
George A. Field 1853
James P. Clough 1854
R. B. Robinson 1857
David Hayes 1859

DISTRICT ASSESSORS BY TOWNSHIPS

John Alexander (1) 1861
Augustus M. Emery (2) 1861
J. K. Denison (3) 1861
G. B. Keyes (4) 1861
William Weinbeer (1) 1863
Thomas C. Birney (2) 1863
J. K. Dennison (3) 1863
James McCabe (4) 1863
John York (1) 1865
Thomas C. Birney (2) 1865
J. K. Dennison (3) 1865
James McCabe (4) 1865
J. N. McCullouch (1) 1867
John Boyle (2) 1867
Patrick C. Clark (3) 1867
E.T. Harpe (4) 1867

COUNTYWIDE ASSESSORS

Thomas C. Birney 1869
John A. S. Trout 1875
John Monahan 1879
John H. West 1904
Owen Leonard 1906
John Ryan 1910
Edwin H. McMahan 1914
Frank Baker 1938
Margaret Moyle 1947
Clarence E. Harthorn 1954
Arthur H. Ronten 1966
David W. Wynne 1978
Ken Caetano 2006



***Last trip across Parrott's Ferry in 1903 by Members of
The Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors***

Auditor

As the Chief Accounting Officer, the Auditor has a key position in the county's financial system. County funds may be received or disbursed only on the authorization of the Auditor. Through the preparation and administration of the budget, the Auditor estimates and regulates the expenditures of all county offices, agencies, schools, and special districts. In the levying of taxes, the Auditor takes the rates established by the Board of Equalization and other tax levying bodies, and lists the amount of taxes due for each taxpayer. The taxes collected are then apportioned by the Auditor among county funds. The Auditor controls the accounts of all county officers handling county monies, conducts regular audits, maintains an inventory of county property, serves as paymaster for county employees, and administers the county insurance and retirement programs. Additionally, the Auditor assists the Board of Supervisors and the County Administrative Officer with budget preparation.

No provision was made for an independent Auditor until 1860 and the office was sometimes combined with the duties of Recorder and/or Clerk. This collection consists of 117 tomes: Cash Books, County Warrants, Day Books, Journals, Payroll Records, Warrant Registers and 31 cubic feet of documents.

Auditor

Listed below is a sampling of this collection:

CLERK/AUDITOR			
ARCHIVE #	RECORD	YEAR	NOTES
851	County Expense Record/ Script Book	1850	05/03/1850 - 11/18/1864
901	Book of Orders	1850	6/6/1850 - 7/15/1891
937	County Warrants	1851	8/4/1851 - 7/16/1853
3174	Ledger	1852	07/22/1852 - 8/17/1864
885	Day Book	1853	10/29/1853 - 2/4/1858
936	County Warrants	1853	09/01/1853 - 11/01/1855
902	Record of Expenses	1853	7/1/1853 - 1/3/1856
903	Record of Expenses	1853	7/9/1853 - 3/6/1865
908	Journal	1859	11/7/1859 - 1/2/1872
935	Purchase Warrants	1859	5/7/1859 - 2/21/1870
934	Purchase Warrants	1861	11/4/1861 - 8/4/1880
938	County Warrants	1864	11/18/1864 - 7/15/1887
917	Ledger	1864	10/17/1864 - 3/2/1874
907	Journal	1864	10/6/1864 - 6/15/1872
849	Cash Book	1865	03/21/1865 - 07/11/1866
906	Journal	1865	5/31/1865 - 5/31/1866

10. BUDGETS, ANNUAL (BUDGET FILES), 1916 – 1997

Draft and final annual county budgets prepared by Auditor and County Administrator and presented to the Board of Supervisors for review and approval. Contains budget totals for each office and agency, amount of funds requested, proposed budget history information, salary ranges for county positions, summaries of budget by fund, and of estimated revenues and fiscal requirements. Copies are distributed to most offices and agencies with working files maintained by Auditor and County Administrator. No separate index.

Arranged chronologically by fiscal year.

The time span for this collection is 1916-1997

Research Note: Source of study of variety of revenue sources, growth of county government, individual agency requests over time, patterns of administrative support for certain programs, and rising budget needs.

Auditor

11. GENERAL LEDGERS, 1850 – 1925

A record of all funds and accounts, receipts and disbursements, for all county agencies. Contains fund number and name, fiscal year and date, date of transaction and codes, list of debits and credits, transfer of funds, and balances.. Many recent records duplicate information found in Treasurer's office. There is no index for these records.

Arranged chronologically by fiscal year and then numerically by fund number.

This collection consists of 11 tomes.

Research Note: Source for study of finances in general and for specific investigations of agency expenditures and revenues, purchasing patterns, and rising cost of goods and services.

Clerk

An elected official in all but three counties, the Clerk has a wide range of responsibilities. The Clerk served as ex-officio Clerk of the Court of Sessions until this court was abolished in 1863 and as Clerk of the district, county and probate courts until 1860. Since 1880, the Clerk has performed the duties of Clerk to the Board of Supervisors and through the board, as Clerk of the Board of Equalization. In many counties, the Clerk also acts as the Registrar of Voters.

The Clerk has been charged from time to time with the duties of other offices, including the Sealer of Weights and Measures (1850-1858, 1860-1891), the Recorder (several times since 1851), the Auditor, and the Treasurer (1893-1911, collection of inheritance taxes).

The Clerk's numerous duties require the creation or maintenance of diverse and important records, including court records, files of the Board of Supervisors, election records, naturalization records, marriage certificates, register of licensed professionals, and business records.

Records of the Board of Supervisors

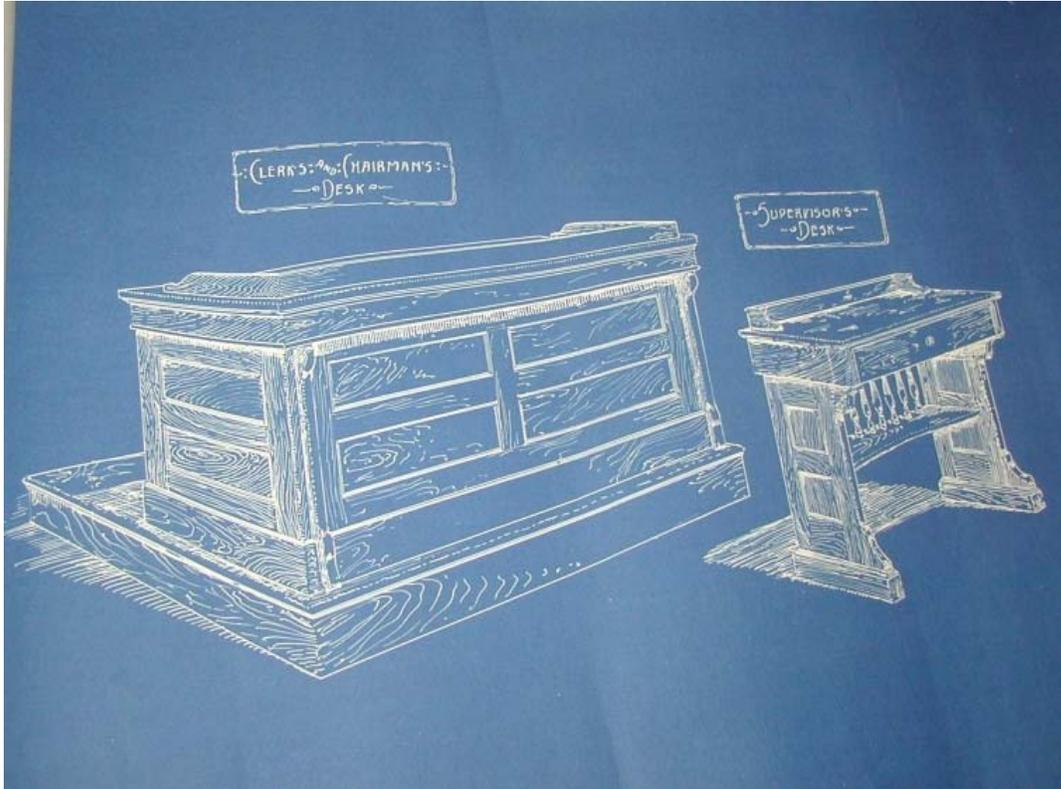
The Board of Supervisors is the legislative and executive body of the county. Board members, totaling five, are elected by voters from the district where the member lives. The supervisors, acting as the corporate authority of the county, have the power to sue, to purchase, rent, and dispose of land, to make contracts, to deal with claims made upon the county, and to perform all executive duties in county government. In addition, the board has authority over the conduct of non-elected county officials, the enforcement of law, the expenditure of funds, the administration of education, the conduct of elections, the creation and regulation of systems for public works, health, and welfare, and the disposition of records.

Wide power has been given to the board in its control over political subdivisions such as townships, and special districts. The board works in close cooperation with the County Administrator (executive manager) in counties having this form of government.

As Clerk to the board, the County Clerk maintains custody of the all the records created by the supervisors. The collection consists of 76 tomes: Allowance Books, Minutes, Ordinances and 10 cubic feet of other documents.

Clerk

Records of the Board of Supervisors



Clerk's and Chairman's Desk and Supervisor's Desks 1899

12. ALLOWANCE BOOKS (REGISTERS OF CLAIMS, CLAIMS ALLOWED), 1899 - 1936

Records of allowances made by the Board of Supervisors for claims against county funds. Contains claim number, dates received and filed, amounts allowed, name of fund, name of claimant, materials or services provided, and fund totals. Separate indexes uncommon.

Arranged numerically by claim number. This collection consists of 13 Allowance Books.

Clerk

Records of the Board of Supervisors

The table below is an inventory of the Allowance Book collection.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS			
Archive #	RECORD	YEAR	NOTES
959	Allowance Book	1899	2/6/1899 - 10/7/1903
960	Allowance Book	1903	11/21/1903 - 11/4/1907
958	Rough Allowance Book	1903	3/2/1903 - 11/15/1904
961	Allowance Book	1907	3/4/1907 - 12/4/1911
962	Allowance Book	1912	1/02/1912 - 12/06/1915
963	Allowance Book	1915	12/06/1915 - 12/31/1918
964	Allowance Book	1919	1/06/1919 - 7/12/1921
965	Allowance Book	1922	7/03/1922 - 4/06/1925
966	Allowance Book	1925	11/02/1926 - 12-31-1928
967	Allowance Book	1929	1/07/1920 - 4/24/1931
968	Allowance Book	1931	5/01/1931 - 3-06-1933
969	Allowance Book`	1933	4/01/1933 - 1/07/1935
970	Allowance Book	1935	2/04/1935 - 8/28/1936

Research Note: Source for information on early government needs and planning, on wages and prices for goods and services, and on local business.

13. BUDGETS, ANNUAL (BUDGET FILES), 1916 – 1997

Draft and final, annual county budgets, prepared by Auditor and County Administrator and presented to the Board of Supervisors for review and approval. Contains budget totals for each office and agency, amount of funds requested and proposed, budget history information, salary ranges for county positions, and summaries of budget by fund, of estimated revenues, and of estimated fiscal requirements. Copies are usually distributed to most offices and agencies with working files maintained by the Auditor and County Administrator. There is no index for these records.

Arranged chronologically by fiscal year.

Research Note: See entry #10 Auditor.

Clerk

Records of the Board of Supervisors

14. CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS, 1850 –

Original contracts and agreements approved by the Board of Supervisors for the conduct of county business. Includes franchises, bonds, plans and specifications, bids, reports and studies, correspondence, maps, memoranda, and printed materials. Basic contract or agreement contains name of contractor, contract number, date filed, cost, description of work or service to be provided, and signatures of Chair of the Board of Supervisors, County Clerk, and contractor. There is no index for these records.

Arranged numerically by contract number. The Board of Supervisors collection consists of 10 cubic feet of unprocessed records and documents.

Research Note: Source for study of public works and construction projects. Provides visual evidence of architectural designs and mechanical devices.

15. CORRESPONDENCE (ADMINISTRATIVE FILES), 1850 –

Correspondence to and from the Board of Supervisors on a wide range of subjects relating to county business. May also include maps, memoranda, newspaper clippings, plans, photos, reports, speeches, unpublished writings, printed materials and other ephemera. Contains date, text of subject, and names of correspondents. There is no index for these records.

Arranged alphabetically by subject or chronologically by date written. The Board of Supervisors' collection consists of 10 cubic feet of unprocessed records and documents.

Research Note: Correspondence can be a misleading term as it often includes all sorts of other records. Most items are worth preservation for the light they shed on administrative opinion and organization, the concerns of constituents, and patterns of agency response and reaction to issues of the day.

16. MINUTES (MINUTES BOOKS), 1852-1978

Minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Supervisors, including ordinances and resolutions, appointments and resignations of county officers and employees, certifications of election results, lists of claims made against the county, and budget information. Contains date, time, and place of meeting, names of members present and absent, nature of business, actions taken, and recorded vote of members. There is no index for these records.

Clerk

Records of the Board of Supervisors

Arranged chronologically by date of meeting. This collection consists of 33 Minute Books and 12 volumes of Rough Minutes (1883-1963) in the collection.

Research Note: Minutes, in effect, provide a summary of the history of county government, administrative structure, issues important to residents, actions taken in response to needs, and changes in society.

Arranged chronologically by date of recording.

17. MINUTES, BOARD OF EQUALIZATION, 1884-1911

Minutes of the Board of Supervisors acting ex-officio as the Board of Equalization. The sole function of the county Board of Equalization is to decide matters of adjustment of property assessments prior to the computation of property taxes. Contains date and place of meeting, names of property owners affected, location and description of property, nature of changes and adjustments in assessments, and names of members present. May include applications for reduction in tax assessments. There is no index for these records.

Arranged chronologically by date of meeting. There is one official Board of Equalization tome in this collection. Most of the minutes from the Board of Supervisors acting ex-officio as the Board of Equalization are included in the Board of Supervisors regular minutes (see item #16).

Research Note: Source for tracing tax base of county, development of land use policies, types of issues by board, and patterns of revised assessments.

18. ORDINANCES (ORDINANCE BOOKS), 1883 – 1973

Original ordinances as adopted by the Board of Supervisors. Contains title, number, and text of ordinance, dates passed and effective, and votes for and against by individual supervisors. There is no index for these records.

Arranged numerically by consecutive ordinance number. There are 11 Ordinance tomes in the collection

Research Note: Source of legal and administrative history. Ordinances reveal concerns of residents, issues of the day, and growing complexity of county government. As such, they reflect the evolution of public policy within the locality.

Clerk

Records of the Board of Supervisors

19. RECORDS OF BURIAL OF EX-UNION SOLDIERS, 1889 – 1898

Records of burial of Ex-Union Civil War veterans at county expense. Contains name, rank, company, civil occupation, and nativity of soldier, date of entry into service, date of discharge, dates and places of death and burial, affiliation with Grand Army of the Republic, and amount of burial expenses. There is a separate index. There are 19 individual burial records.

Arranged chronologically by date of filing. Indexed alphabetically by name of deceased.

BURIAL OF EX-UNION SOLDIERS					
ARCHIVE #	RECORD #	SURNAME	GIVEN NAME	DATE	NOTES
1041	0001	Truett	John	5/21/1889	
1041	0002	Flint	Robert	9/12/1890	
1041	0003	Stanley	William K.	1/15/1891	
1041	0004	Daley	Robert	4/27/1892	
1041	0005	Dutton	Philetus	4/17/1892	
1041	0006	Andrews	William	4/17/1892	
1041	0007	Calder	John	7/1/1892	
1041	0008	Phelps	George	8/28/1892	
1041	0009	Merrill	Benjamin F.	8/28/1892	
1041	0010	Hassell	William C.	12/19/1893	
1041	0011	Scott	Samuel W.	1/15/1896	
1041	0012	Johnson	Frederic M.	9/2/1895	
1041	0013	Stevens	Peter	8/16/1895	
1041	0014	Childs	Harrison	1/31/1892	Not listed in Index
1041	0015	Schreiber	John	12/22/1894	Not listed in Index
1041	0016	Graham	William	3/12/1898	Not listed in Index
1041	0017	Koch	Caspher	5/16/1898	Not listed in Index
1041	0018	Taylor	Kendell R.	11/10/1898	Not listed in Index
1041	0019	Bacon	Martin	7/16/1862	Not listed in Index

Research Note: Source of genealogical information and military service of local residents.

Clerk

Records of the Board of Supervisors

20. REGISTERS (RECORDS) OF ORPHANS AND HALF-ORPHANS, 1904 – 1933

A record of applications for county aid for needy children. Contains date and number of application, name, sex and age of child, name, address, birthplace, and relationship of person caring for child, reason for request, and amount of property owned. There is no index for these records.

Arranged numerically by application number. The table below represents the collection of 3 Orphan Record tomes.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS			
ARCHIVE #	RECORD	YEAR	NOTES
1473	Orphans on State Aid	1904	06/24/1904 - 04/03/1911
1472	Orphans on State Aid	1912	01/04/1912 - 03/01/1916
1474	Orphans on State Aid	1927	08/24/1927 - 01/01/1933

Research Note: Useful for understanding treatment of needy children in early 20th century, for study of welfare system and reasons for applications. Provides some genealogical information.

21. REPORTS, OFFICIAL, 1850 –.

Official reports received by the Board of Supervisors relating to the administration of county offices and agencies. Includes annual reports required of most county officers. Subjects include administration of justice, health and welfare, public works, planning, agriculture, and finance. Some material may be duplicated in files of the County Administrator. There is no index for these records.

Arranged alphabetically by subject. The Board of Supervisors' collection consists of 10 cubic feet of unprocessed records and documents. This collection has not been indexed.

Research Note: Reports are often condensed sources of information on the subjects covered. They provide summaries of agency activities that, taken together, offer insights into the conduct of county business.

Clerk

Records of the Board of Supervisors

22. RESOLUTIONS, 1850 –.

Original resolutions passed by the Board of Supervisors. Contains date passed, number and subject of resolution, names of interested parties, names of members voting, and nature of action. Resolutions are in the Board of Supervisors minutes (see item #16).

Research Note: Although not having as much weight as an ordinance, a resolution is evidence of the formal opinion or determination of the board and thus is an important record in understanding public opinion. Collectively, they can illustrate societal attitudes on a wide range of local, state and national issues.

23. ROAD BOOKS (ROAD RECORDS, ROAD ACCOUNTS, ROAD PROCEEDINGS, and ROAD REGISTERS), 1850 – 1930s

Records of the Board of Supervisors' actions and deliberations on the planning, construction, and maintenance of county roads, bridges and related public works. Contains date of meeting, orders and resolutions presented and approved, names of supervisors present, and actions taken. May include original maps and surveys, field notes, and other topographical documents. Road Books were maintained separately from Minute books. Early volumes may have a separate index. Later volumes are usually indexed to the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors. This collection has not been indexed in the Archive's database.

Arranged chronologically by date of meeting. The table below represents the collection of 3 Road Record tomes.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS			
ARCHIVE #	RECORD	YEAR	NOTES
1030	Road Book	1850	1850-1872
1031	Road Book	1872	1872-1904
3676	Road Register	1893	

Research note: Source for study of the development of county transportation system.

Clerk

CLERK AND AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

When Tuolumne County was organized in February of 1850, the County Clerk was established as a separate office, while that of the County Auditor was an ex-officio office combined with the County Recorder. Commencing in January 1852, the offices of County Clerk and County Auditor were combined and remained so through 1886, following the demise of longtime County Clerk Isaac J. Potter on May 19, 1885. At that time they were made separate offices by the Board of Supervisors and remained so until 1894, when they were again consolidated and continued so to date with the exception of adding the office of Controller in the early 1960s. Following is a list of the individuals who have administered the separate or combined offices from the county's birth to date:

Separate Offices of County Clerk Auditor, 1850-1851

William H. Ford, County Clerk
Lewis C. Gunn, County Auditor

Combined Office of County Clerk and Auditor, 1852-2005

William H. Ford	1852 - 1853
Geo S. Evans	1854 - 1855
R. A. Robinson	1856 - 1857
Geo S. Evans	1858 - 1859
B. Allen Mardis	1860 - 1861
Robert E. Gardiner	1862 - 1864
Paul M. Fisher	1865 - 1866
Robert E. Gardiner	1867 - 1870
Hugh Farley	1871 - 1873
Isaac J. Potter (died in office May 19, 1885)	1874 - 1885

Separation of County Clerk and County Auditor Offices

Clerk

Auditor

Joseph A. Fitzgerald May 1885, resigned July 1892.	Richard Inch 1885 - 1886
Dario M. Ortega appointed to fill term 1892 - 1894	E. S. Abbott 1887 - 1894

Recombined Offices of County Clerk and Auditor

Dario M. Ortega	1895 - 1899 died August 24, 1899
John B. Doyle	1899 - 1917
Ed. L. Gorgas	1918 - 1937
Charles A. (Doc) Dambacher	1935 - 1946
James G. White	1947 - 1966
Carlo M. De Ferrari	1966 - 1978
Robert Andre	1979 - 1984
Laurence Lee	1984 - 1990
Tim Johnson	1991 - 2005
Deborah Russell	2005 - Present

Clerk

Court Records



Court Records

***1899 Storage Cabinet Manufactured by:
Office Specialty Manufacturing Company
Rochester, New York***

Clerk

Court Records

To avoid repetition, a general summary of the historical uses of court records is provided at this point for all court jurisdictions (Justice, District, County, Court of Sessions, Probate, and Superior Courts). An individual research note is provided for those entries having particular research value.

Research Note: Court records, largely overlooked by researchers, form a body of materials unmatched by any other source for the range of subjects treated. Within the records created by the courts, a careful reader may gain valuable insight for understanding of the social, political, economic, and legal history of California.

Although the large volume of court records preserved in the counties presents a challenge to a user, especially in the absence of subject indexes, this same material, when taken as a whole and used in conjunction with other documentation, offers a rather accurate compendium of local thought and action, of social injustice and attitudes, of economic growth and malaise, of political ingenuity and discontent, and of other evidence of the human condition.

The wealth of material is indeed impressive. For the student of the economy, court records may be keys to an historical interpretation of the banking industry, local business cycles, mining activities, and the rise of ranching and farming. The political historian may find sources for a study of the growth of local government, urbanization, and legislation. Local as well as statewide social trends in the treatment of the ill, poor, elderly, and outcast may be reflected in court cases. Court records are obvious sources of legal history, the procedures and organization of the pioneer courts, and of changing functions of and societal attitudes toward the justice system. Researchers interested in ethnic studies and genealogy will also be rewarded by a patient and critical search through original court documents.

Of greatest value are the case files and the court minutes books. Case files contain a number of different records, but taken together, they provide the core of social, political, and economic information available in court records. Minutes are useful not only for the case summaries they provide, but also as sources for the study of court operations, legal procedures, and judicial organization. Other court documents are of value as supplementary material to the case files. Execution books, for example, offer corroboration to court verdicts. Judgment books are a source for the study of the relationship between crimes and punishments. Judgment dockets serve as indexes to the judgment books. Registers of actions are guides to other court records, especially if there is no index for these records to the case files exist, and provide useful summaries of case proceedings.

A concrete examination of the historical value of court records is offered by W.N. Davis, Jr. in "Research Uses of County Court Records," 1850-1879, and "Incidental Intimate Glimpses of California Life and Society," *California Historical Quarterly*, v. LII, nos. 3-4, Fall/Winter 1973.

Clerk

Court Records

The history of the county court system in California is as follows:

1850-1879

District Court: State divided into judicial districts, one judge per district. Court had appellate jurisdiction of County Court & Court of Sessions in criminal cases. 1850-1879.

County Court: One per county, under supervision of county judge. Acted in lesser civil cases, conservator of the peace, and some jurisdiction in criminal cases. 1850-1879.

Probate Court: One per county with county judge presiding. All probate cases. 1851-1879.

Court of Sessions: One per county composed of county judge and 2 justices of the peace. Acted in lesser criminal matters. Carried on administrative business of the county 1850-1852

1880 to 1999:

Superior Court: One per county, Grand Jury as part of court, Departments include: Civil, Criminal, Probate, Juvenile.

Municipal Court: Trial Courts for districts of more than 40,000 population. Judges elected. Civil cases under \$25,000. Criminal misdemeanors, infractions, preliminary hearings for felonies. Small claims court under \$5000.

1999 to Present:

Superior Court: Departments include: Civil, Criminal, Probate, Juvenile. There are currently four Superior Court Judges and one Commissioner in Tuolumne County. Grand Jury is part of the court.

Clerk

Court Records Tuolumne County Judges

District Court

Charles Creaner 1850-1864

Joseph M. Cavis 1865-1869

Samuel A. Booker 1870-1879

County Court

Anson A. H. Tuttle 1850-1854

Leander Quint 1854-1857

Thomas S. Jones 1857-1858

T. N. Machin 1859

Green T. Martin 1860-1863

George B. Keyes 1864-1867

Charles H. Randall 1868-1871

Henry B. McNeil 1872-1875

J. D. Redman 1876-1879

Superior Court

John F. Rooney 1880-1890

George W. Nicol 1891-1922

J. T. B. Warne 1922-1956

Ross A. Carkeet 1957-1974

Theodore R. Vilas 1975-1980

James R. Hardin 1981-1992

William G. Polley 1989-2006

Eric L. DuTemple 1993-(Incumbent)

Douglas C. Boyack 1999-2011

Eleanor Provost 1999-(Incumbent)

James Boscoe 2006-(Incumbent)

Donald I. Segerstrom Jr. 2012 (Incumbent)

Clerk

District Court Records

24. CASE FILES (PAPERS IN CAUSE), 1850 - 1879

State divided into judicial districts, one judge per district. District Court had appellate jurisdiction of County Court and Court of Sessions in criminal cases.

Original papers filed in civil cases of the District Court, and often mixed with criminal cases. Includes complaints, summons, affidavits, memoranda of costs, pleadings, orders, verdicts, decrees, judgments, depositions, and executions. Criminal cases include sample warrants, subpoenas, writs, and commitments. Contain date, case number, names of parties, nature of court actions, names of attorneys and judge, and disposition of case.

Separate index.

Arranged numerically by case number. These records have been processed and indexed in their original order. The records can be queried by plaintiff, defendant, and by subject. This collection consists of 4,349 District Court case files. The table below is a sampling of these cases.

DISTRICT COURT						
CASE #	PRIMARY SURNAME	PRIMARY GIVEN NAME	SECONDARY SURNAME	SECONDARY GIVEN NAME	DATE	NOTES
0016	Elordi	Luis	Loeven	Simon	5/28/1850	Civil - Promissory Note
0017	Wilson	James	Sumnal	D.	5/29/1850	Civil - Land Dispute and Trespassing
0018	Arnesa	Feliciana	Brown	William H.	6/1/1850	Civil - Illegal Possession of Sacks of Flour
0019	People	N/A	Whitmore	Samuel	6/6/1850	Criminal - Murder
0020	People	N/A	Dongie	John	6/8/1850	Criminal - Stealing Gold Dust
0025	People	N/A	Dominguez	S. J.	6/15/1850	Criminal - Grand Larceny
0026	People	NA	Ochoa et al	Dionysus	6/17/1850	Criminal - Murder

Clerk

District Court Records

25. INDEXES TO CASE FILES, 1850 – 1879

Indexes to case files of District Court. Contains case number, names of plaintiffs and defendants, date of filing, and judgment. In larger counties, separate indexes may exist for plaintiffs and defendants.

Arranged alphabetically by name of plaintiff, defendants and then chronologically by date of filing. This collection consists of 15 indexes.

26. EXECUTION BOOKS, 1850 – 1879

Records of executions of judgments handed down by District Court in all cases. Contains date of hearing, case number and title, certified text of judgment, acknowledgment of Sheriff, receipt for payment of judgment, names of plaintiff and defendant, and description of execution. Separate execution dockets uncommon.

Arranged chronologically by date of hearing. Indexed alphabetically by name of plaintiff and defendant. This collection consists of 1 tome, Record of Execution dated 10/27/1866 - 01/27/1885 includes Superior Court

27. JUDGMENT BOOKS, 1850 – 1879

Recorded judgments, decrees, and orders issued by District Court in all cases. Contains case number, names of plaintiff and defendant, date, nature of judgment, and signature of judge. For separate index, see judgment dockets.

Arranged chronologically by date of judgment. Often indexed alphabetically by name of plaintiff and defendant. This collection consists of 4 tomes. See table below for an inventory.

DISTRICT COURT		
Archive#	RECORD	Notes
2651	Judgment Book	07/16/1850 - 09/27/1853
2652	Judgment Book	10/20/1853 - 05/14/1859
2653	Judgment Book	05/18/1859 - 09/18/1867
2654	Judgment Book	09/19/1867 - 11/26/1894 Superior Court

Clerk

District Court Records

28. JUDGMENT DOCKETS, 1851-1860

Record of judgments issued by District Court in all cases and index to judgment books. Contains date of hearing, names of plaintiffs, defendant, attorneys, nature of judgment, case number, date of appeal and name of appellate court, date of satisfaction, and reference to volume and page numbers in judgment book.

Arranged alphabetically by name of plaintiff and defendant and then chronologically by date of hearing. This collection consists of 2 tomes.

29. MINUTES (MINUTE BOOKS), 1850 – 1879

Minutes of proceedings in civil and criminal cases presented in District Court. Contains dates of hearings, name of judge, plaintiffs, defendants, and attorneys, number and nature of case, and description of actions.

Arranged chronologically by date of hearing. Indexed alphabetically by name of plaintiff and defendant. This collection consists of 5 tomes. See table below for an inventory.

DISTRICT COURT		
Archive#	RECORD	Notes
2686	Minutes	07/15/1850 - 10/29/1853
2687	Minutes	02/20/1854 - 03/19/1858
2688	Minutes	07/05/1858 - 07/20/1863
2689	Minutes	11/02/1863 - 09/12/1871
2690	Minutes	11/20/1871 - 12/18/1884

Clerk

County Court Records

30. CASE FILES (PAPERS IN CAUSE), 1850 - 1879

One per county, under supervision of county judge. Acted in lesser civil cases, conservator of the peace, and some jurisdiction in criminal cases.

Original papers filed in civil cases of the County Court, and often including criminal case files. Includes complaints, summons, affidavits, pleadings, orders, verdicts, decrees, judgments, depositions, and executions. Criminal cases include warrants writs, subpoenas, and commitments. Contains date, case number, names of parties, nature of actions, names of attorneys, and disposition of case.

There is no original index.

Arranged numerically by case number in chronological order. Indexed alphabetically by name of plaintiff and defendant. This collection consists of 1,742 case files. The table below is a sampling of these cases.

COUNTY COURT						
CASE #	PRIMARY SURNAME	PRIMARY GIVEN NAME	SECONDARY SURNAME	SECONDARY GIVEN NAME	DATE	NOTES
0010	Bravo	Jose	Torres	Fades	6/11/1850	Civil - Indebtedness
0011	Lewis	Joel	McCrea, Eldridge	Ira, George	6/12/1850	Civil - Mining Claim Dispute
0012	Topate	Jose Maria	Urine	Ignacio	6/27/1850	Civil - Indebtedness
0013	People	N/A	Butter	N/A	7/1/1850	Criminal - Unknown - Date Unknown
0014	Rinedollar	N/A	Linn	N.P.	7/6/1850	Civil - Payment of Debt. Suit Withdrawn
0015	Loomis Company and	N/A	Plummer and Company	N/A	7/9/1850	Civil - Mining Claim Dispute
0016	Allarde	Lewis	Martinez	Conata	8/4/1850	Civil - Cheating at Gaming Tables
0017	Galland	Benjamin	Barry	Richard C.	8/5/1850	Civil - Selling Goods by False Weight
0018	Curtis, et al	H.M.	Pain, et al	William	8/13/1850	Civil - Trespassing

Clerk

County Court Records

31. JUDGMENT DOCKETS, 1853 – 1880

Record of judgments issued by County Court in all cases and index to judgment books. Contains date of hearing, names of plaintiff and defendant, date, nature, and amount of judgment, case number, date of appeal from justice court, date of satisfaction, and reference to volume and page numbers in judgment book.

Arranged alphabetically by name of plaintiffs and defendants and then chronologically by date of hearing. This collection consists of 2 tomes. See table below for an inventory.

COUNTY COURT		
ARCHIVE#	RECORD	Notes
2570	Clerk's Register Docket	10/27/1853 - 05/23/1865
2571	Clerk's Register Docket	01/28/1865 - 01/03/1880

32. MINUTES (MINUTES BOOKS), 1850 – 1879

Minutes of proceedings in civil and criminal cases heard in County Court. Contains date of hearing, names of judge, plaintiffs, defendants, and attorneys, number and nature of case, and description of actions.

Arranged chronologically by date of hearing. Indexed alphabetically by name of plaintiff and defendant. This collection consists of 4 tomes. See table below for an inventory.

COUNTY COURT		
ARCHIVE#	RECORD	Notes
2565	Minutes	06/28/1850 - 10/11/1853
2566	Minutes	11/18/1853 - 07/05/1865
2567	Minutes	08/09/1865 - 11/06/1876
2568	Minutes	01/03/1877 - 12/12/1879

Clerk

Court of Sessions Records

33. CASE FILES (PAPERS IN CAUSE), 1850 – 1863

One per county composed of county judge and 2 justices of the peace. Acted in lesser criminal matters. Carried on administrative business of the county.

Original papers filed in civil cases of the Court of Sessions, and often including criminal case files. Includes complaints, summonses, affidavits, pleadings, orders, verdicts, decrees, judgments, depositions, and executions. Criminal cases include warrants, writs, subpoenas, and commitments. Contains date, case number, names of parties, nature of actions, names of attorneys, and disposition of case.

There is no original index.

Arranged numerically by case number in chronological order. Indexed alphabetically by name of plaintiff and defendant. This collection consists of 1,139 case files. The table below is a sampling of these cases.

COURT OF SESSIONS						
CASE #	PRIMARY SURNAME	PRIMARY GIVEN NAME	SECONDARY SURNAME	SECONDARY GIVEN NAME	DATE	NOTES
0465	People	N/A	Gary	Peter	8/9/1856	Criminal - Gaming
0464	People	N/A	Galligher	Nathaniel	8/9/1856	Criminal - Arson
0463	People	N/A	Bonett	Ned	8/9/1856	Criminal - Assault
0462	People	N/A	Chinese Women	N/A	8/9/1856	Criminal - Prostitution House of ill-fame; file contains list of Chinese Women
0461	People	N/A	Woods	E.M.	8/9/1856	Criminal - Gaming: Dealing Monte for the New Orleans Gaming House in Columbia.
0460	People	N/A	Chinaman John	N/A	8/9/1856	Criminal - Keeping A House Of Ill Fame.
0456	People	N/A	Teheras	Miguel	8/6/1856	Criminal - Assault Deadly weapon upon Rosa Casciras
0455	People	N/A	Carrera	Julian	8/6/1856	Criminal - Murder of a Frenchman - Emmet
0468	People	N/A	Edminston	B.	8/9/1856	Criminal - Assault With A Deadly Weapon.

Clerk

Court of Sessions Records

34. MINUTES (MINUTES BOOKS), 1850 – 1863

Minutes of the proceedings in criminal cases heard in the Court of Sessions. Contains number and nature of case, names of plaintiff (State of California or People), defendant, and attorneys, date of hearings, name of judge, and description of actions. Also includes minutes of the court acting as the County Administrator prior to the genesis of the Board of Supervisors in 1852. There is no index for these records.

Arranged chronologically by date of hearing. This collection consists of 5 tomes. See table below for an inventory.

Court of Sessions		
ARCHIVE#	RECORD	Notes
2573	Criminal Minutes	06/30/1850 - 10/17/1853
2544	Grand Jury Reports	10/01/1855 - 01/05/1871
2572	Jury Book	07/01/1850 - 04/21/1869
2574	Record Minutes	11/26/1853 - 09/16/1859
2575	Record Minutes	10/03/1859 - 09/26/1863

The Court of Sessions collection includes the Grand Jury Reports (Archive # 2544). This record has been indexed. "This book contains much interesting information concerning conditions in the county during the period covered" (Coy 1919). The table below is a sampling of the subjects and county government offices that Grand Jury investigated.

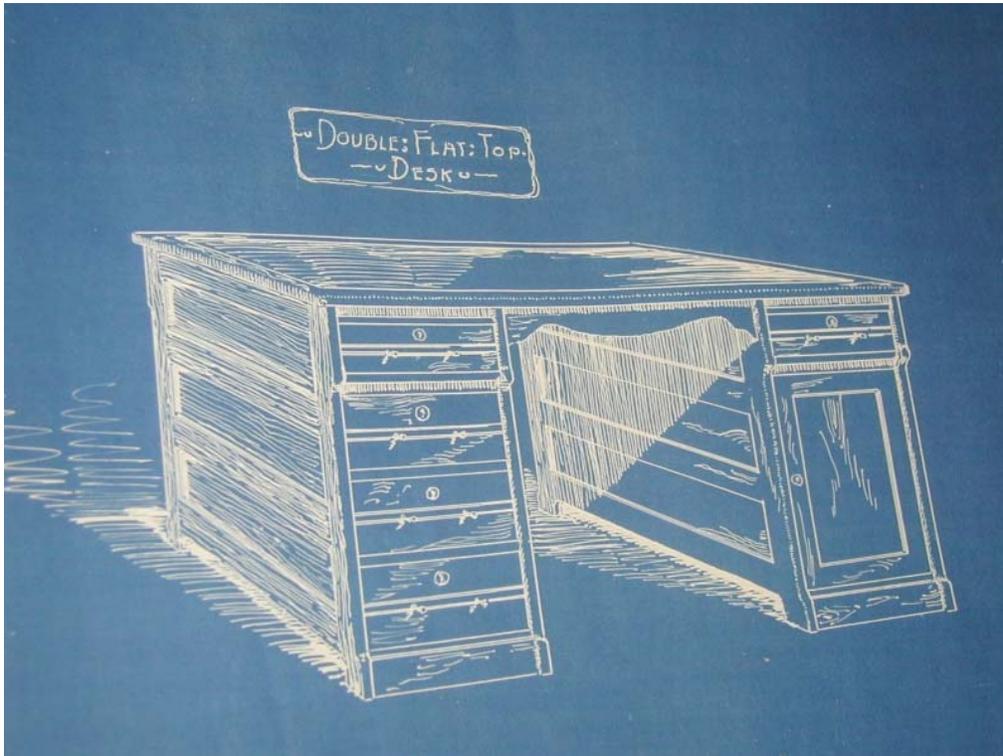
RECORD #	GRAND JURY REPORTS	DATE
0013	Roads and Bridges	10/9 /1855
0014	Board of Supervisors	10/9 /1855
0012	Poll Tax	10/9 /1855
0011	Recorder's Office	10/9 /1855
0009	Hospital	10/9 /1855
0008	Jail	10/9 /1855
0007	Public Schools	10/9 /1855
0005	Vigilance Committees	10/9 /1855
0014	Houses of Ill Fame	10/9 /1855

Research Note: Source of legal, social, and administrative history. Useful for study of early court procedures and organization, and only source of administrative records for county before the functioning of the Board of Supervisors.

Clerk

Superior Court General Records

Superior Court: One per county, Grand Jury as part of court, Departments include: Civil, Criminal, Probate, Juvenile. There are currently four Superior Court Judges and one Commissioner in Tuolumne County.



Double Flat Top Desk was used by the Presiding Superior Court Judge, in the Judges' chambers from 1899 to 2006. Today the desk is located in Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive public research room.

35. ADOPTION CASE FILES, 1944 - 1971

Original papers in adoption cases heard in Superior Court. Includes petition for adoption, consent of parents, notification of dependency, probation officer's report, agreement, judgment of adoption, notification of adoption, and court report. Contains names of child, natural parents and adoptive parents, date of adoption, date of hearing, and case number. Closed and confidential records. There is no index for these records.

Arranged numerically by case number. The collection consists of 71 case files.

Research Note: Source for study of adoption procedures and patterns. Adoption files are likely to remain closed indefinitely. **Closed and confidential records.**

Clerk

Superior Court General Records

36. EXECUTION BOOKS, 1893 – 1916 This collection has not been processed. Record of executions of judgments rendered in Superior Court. Contains date of hearing, title and case number, certified text of order, acknowledgment of Sheriff, and receipt for payment of judgment, names of parties, and description of execution. Execution dockets uncommon.

Arranged chronologically by date of hearing. Indexed alphabetically by names of plaintiff and defendant. This collection consists of 3 tomes.

37. JUDGMENT BOOKS, 1880 – 1952

Recorded judgments, decrees, and orders for all cases heard in Superior Court. Contains case and department numbers, names of plaintiff and defendant, date and nature of judgment, final disposition of case, and signature of judge.

Arranged chronologically by date of judgment. Indexed alphabetically by names of plaintiff and defendant. This collection consists of 7 tomes.

38. JUDGMENT DOCKETS, 1880 – 1947

Record of judgments issued in cases heard in Superior Court and index to judgment book. Contains date of hearing, names of parties, nature of judgment, date of appeal, name of appellate court, date of satisfaction, and reference to volume and page numbers in judgment book.

Arranged alphabetically by names of plaintiff and defendant and then chronologically by date of hearing. This collection consists of 6 tomes.

39. ORDERS OF COMMITMENT (INSANITY COMMITMENTS, COMMITMENTS OF INSANE PERSONS), 1880 – 1944

Original papers in cases brought before Superior Court dealing with insane persons. Includes affidavit of insanity, warrant, orders, judgment of insanity, orders of commitment, statement of financial ability, and certificate of medical examination. Contains date and case number, name of alleged insane person, nature of charge, date and place of hearing, personal and family statistics, place of commitment, amount of property and income of family or guardian, amount of payment ordered by court to support patient, and signatures of judge and medical examiners. There is no index for these records. **Closed and confidential records.**

Arranged numerically by case number. This collection consists of 3 tomes and 430 case files.

Research Note: Source for study of the treatment of psychopathic patients and the history of mental illness, especially for the 19th century.

Clerk

Superior Court Civil Records

40. CIVIL CASE FILES, 1880 – 1928

Original papers filed in civil cases of Superior Court. Includes complaints, summonses, affidavits, memoranda of costs, pleadings, orders, decrees, judgments, executions, and jury verdicts. Contains date, case number, names of parties, nature of court action, and names of attorneys and judge. Separate indexes appear as a plaintiff and defendant for civil and criminal case files.

Arranged numerically by case number. These records have been processed and indexed in their original order. The records can queried by plaintiff, defendant, and by subject. This collection consists of 2,870 Superior Court Civil case files. The table below is a sampling of these cases.

SUPERIOR COURT CIVIL CASE FILES						
CASE #	PRIMARY SURNAME	PRIMARY GIVEN NAME	SECONDARY SURNAME	SECONDARY GIVEN NAME	YEAR	NOTES
0007	Colby, et al	A.	Nellis, et al	William	1880	Civil - Mining dispute
3182	Trittenback	A.	Atlas Whitney Mines Company	N/A	1915	Civil - Wage dispute
0475	Schell	A.	Fallon, et al	James G.	1887	Civil - Payment for materials
0743	Graham, et al	A.	Way et al	P. H.	1891	Civil - Foreclosure of five liens
2392	Marcovich	A.	Conlin, Birney, Doe,	Thomas, Catherine, John	1908	Civil - Mining dispute
3460	Knowles	A.	Ellsworth	H. G.	1920	Civil - Failure to pay promissory note
3302	Ruwich	A.	Irwin	W. S & L.	1916	Civil - Unpaid debt
1171	Jones & Damin	A. J. E.C.	City of Sonora	N/A	1898	Civil - Indebtedness for printing of city documents

41. MINUTES, CIVIL and CRIMINAL (MINUTE BOOKS), 1880 –1965

Minutes of proceedings in all civil and criminal cases heard in Superior Court. Contains case number, names of plaintiff and defendant, date of hearing and description of proceedings.

Arranged chronologically by date of hearing. Indexed alphabetically by names of plaintiff and defendant. This collection consists of 26 tomes of Minutes and 45 tomes of Rough Minutes.

Clerk

Superior Court Criminal Records

42. CRIMINAL CASE FILES, 1880 – 1928

Original papers filed in criminal cases heard in Superior Court. Includes indictments, complaints, writs, subpoenas, warrants, judgments, executions, transcripts, depositions, instructions, jury verdicts, and commitments. Contains case number and title, name of defendant and plaintiff, dates of trial and filing, nature of instrument and charge, nature of judgment, and final disposition of case. Separate indexes appear as a plaintiff and defendant for civil and criminal case files.

Arranged numerically by case number. These records have been processed and indexed in their original order. The records can queried by plaintiff, defendant, and by subject. This collection consists of 771 Superior Court criminal case files. The table below is a sampling of these cases.

SUPERIOR COURT CRIMINAL CASE FILES					
CASE #	PRIMARY SURNAME	SECONDARY SURNAME	SECONDARY GIVEN NAME	YEAR	NOTES
0007CR	People	Lewis	Charlie	1880	Criminal - Larceny
0008CR	People	Garaventa	John	1880	Criminal - Assault
0009CR	People	Moore	William D. & Geo J.	1880	Criminal - Assault with intent to commit murder
0010CR	People	Ruiz	Jose	1880	Criminal - Stealing a mare
0011CR	People	Bolela	Indian	1881	Criminal - Assault with intent to commit murder
0012CR	People	Hanks	George R.	1881	Criminal - Horse theft
0013CR	People	Joe	Indian	1881	Criminal - Murder
0014CR	People	Marshall and Cordaro et al	T. C. and E. W.	1881	Criminal - Abduction of a minor
0015CR	People	On	Ah	1881	Criminal - Murder
0016CR	People	Ayala	Emelio	1881	Criminal - Assault

43. MINUTES, CRIMINAL (MINUTE BOOKS), 1880 – 1965

Minutes of proceedings of all criminal cases heard in Superior Court. Contains case number, date of hearing, names of defendant and judge, and description of proceedings. Indexed by name of defendant in general indexes, criminal or separately in each volume. See entry #42. Arranged chronologically by date of hearing.

Clerk

Superior Court Juvenile Records

44. JUVENILE CASE FILES, 1909 This collection has not been processed.

Original papers in juvenile cases heard in Superior Court. Includes report and recommendations of probation officer, petitions, citations, subpoenas, court awards, judgments, commitments, and related reports. Contains date and number of case, nature of proceedings, name, age, and address of juvenile, and names and address of parents or guardians. Indexed in juvenile indexes (see entry # 45). **Closed and confidential records.** These records are maintained by the Superior Court and are not housed at the archive.

Arranged numerically by case number.

Research Note: Source for study of patterns of juvenile behavior and treatment of youthful offenders.

45. MINUTES, JUVENILE (MINUTE BOOKS), 1909 – 1966

Minutes of proceedings in juvenile cases heard in Superior Court. Contains case number, date of hearing, names of juvenile, judge, reporter, and petitioner, description of proceedings, and nature of actions taken. There is no index for these records. **Closed and confidential records.**

Arranged chronologically by date of hearing. This collection consists of 2 tomes.

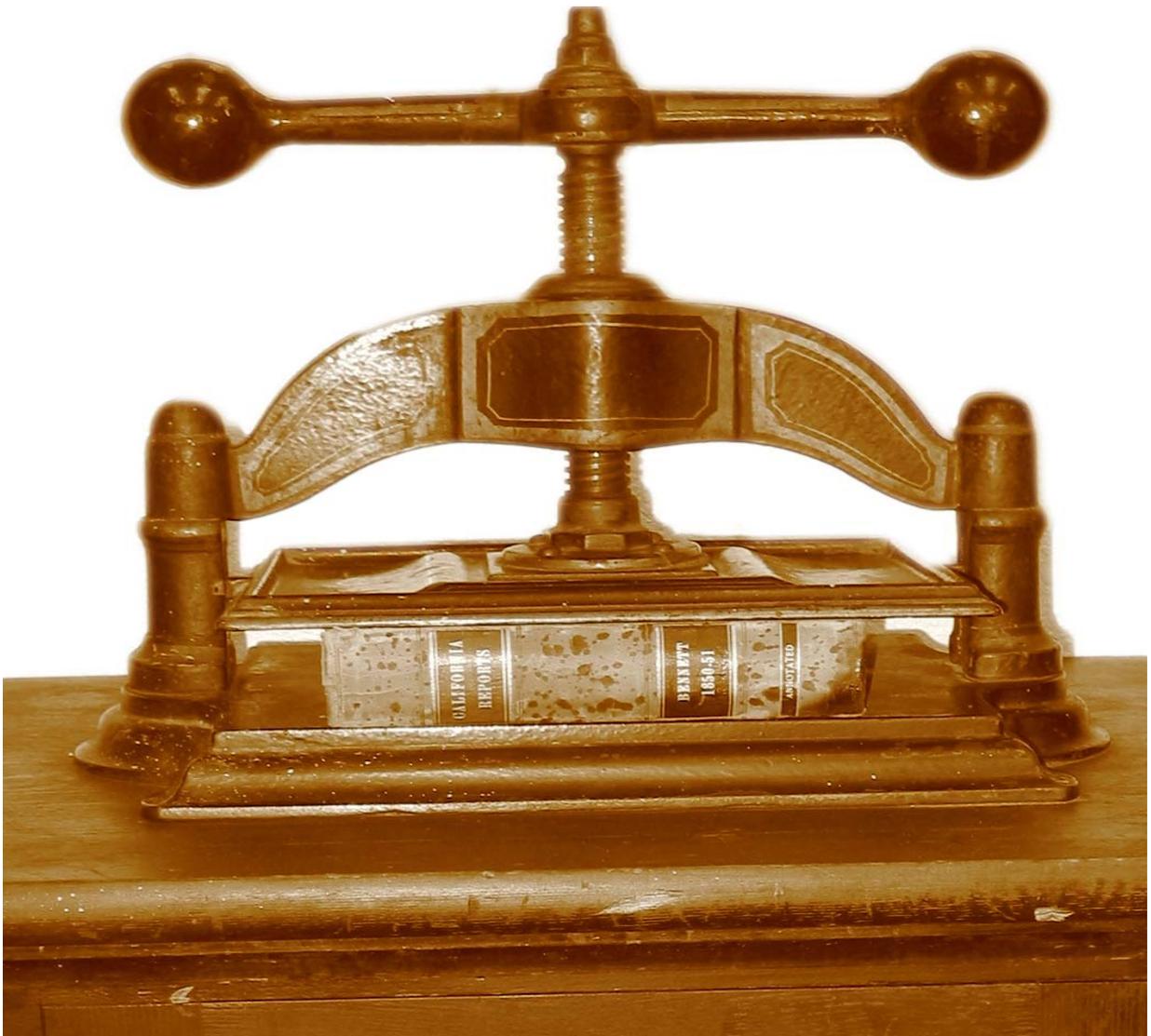
46. REGISTERS OF ACTIONS, JUVENILE COURT RECORD, 1909-1980

A register of all proceedings and papers in juvenile cases heard in Superior Court. Contains date and number of case, nature of action, date and title of each case and proceeding disposition of case, and name of juvenile. Each is indexed in the front of the tome. **Closed and confidential record.**

Arranged numerically by case number and then chronologically by date of action. This collection consists of 8 tomes.

Clerk

Superior Court



Letterpress

A common site at courthouses was a heavy cast iron letterpress, a bucket of water, pieces of linen, and a bound book of tissue paper. This was the copy machine of the 19th century. A clerk would place a letter written with iron oxide next to a page of tissue paper, sandwiched between pieces of damp and dry linen and clamped in the letterpress. The brown ink transferred to the tissue paper making an exact copy of the writing. With practice a copy could be made in 3 minutes. Within the collection there are examples of bound records containing tissue pages for copying purposes.

Clerk

Probate Records

47. CASE FILES, 1850 – 1928

Original papers in probate court cases. Includes inventories, petitions, orders, letters, affidavits, wills, settlements, bonds of administration, and decrees of distribution. Contains date and nature of hearing, case number, names of testator, attorneys, heirs, guardians, minors, incompetents, and nature of paper. This collection includes original papers in the Probate Department of Superior Court. Other probate records (registers of actions, minutes, wills, letters, and bonds) date from early 1850s, but usually were continued in the same volumes after creation of the Superior Court in 1880. They can be found with the section Superior Court, Probate Records. Separate index in general indexes, probate.

Arranged numerically by case number. These records have been processed and indexed in their original order. The records can be queried by name or date. This collection consists of 2,636 Probate Case Files. The table below is a sampling of these cases.

PROBATE				
CASE #	PRIMARY SURNAME	PRIMARY GIVEN NAME	YEAR	NOTES
0301A	Justice	Henry	1850	Died 19, November 1850 at Morgan's Bar. Will only.
0176	Castellanos	Venancio	1850	Date of death unknown; Spanish documents Administrator: Casmir Labetoure
0549	Ensano	Iburni	1850	Guardianship of Mexican boy. Guardian Joshua Holden.
0621	Marshall	John G.	1850	Date of death unknown; Intestate. Public administrator, John M. Huntington.
0600	Gonzales	Juan	1850	Date of death unknown probably in early 1850.
0259	Brochi	Joseph	1850	Died June 1850. Document from Edinburgh, Scotland
0301	Popple	Henry	1850	Date of death unknown; Will, father, Billings Popple of New York.
0267	Burk	Cornelius	1850	Died 20 Oct 1850; Very clear listing of assets.
0173	Chase	David	1850	Date of death unknown; Spouse, Betsey Chase & children.
0541	Fifer	Samuel	1851	Date of death unknown.
0546	Ford	William	1851	Died 27 July 1851; died from a "pistol ball" shot through the body.

Research Note: Excellent source for information on genealogy, biographies and socioeconomic studies.

Clerk

Probate Records

48. MINUTES, PROBATE (MINUTE BOOKS), 1851 – 1952

Minutes of all proceedings in probate cases heard in probate court, 1851-1879, and Superior Court, probate, 1880 - 1928. Contains name of estate, case number, date of hearing, names of testator, attorneys, judge, witnesses, and legatees, nature of proceedings, and date of settlement. For index to names of estates, see general indexes, probate.

Arranged chronologically by date of hearing. This collection consists of 19 tomes of Probate Minutes.

49. PROBATE JOURNAL/REGISTERS OF ACTIONS, PROBATE, 1850 – 1998

A register of papers and proceedings in all cases presented to probate court, 1851-1879, and Superior Court, probate, 1880-1998. Contains name of estate, case number, names of testator and legatees, date and title of each paper and proceeding, dates of filing and final settlement. The tomes from 1850-1979, the indexes are located in the front of each tome. The tomes from 1979 forward, the indexes are located at the Tuolumne County Superior Court.

Arranged numerically by case number and then chronologically by date of action. This collection consists of 49 tomes of Probate Journal/Registers of Actions, Probate.

50. WILLS (RECORDS OF WILLS), 1852 – 1934

Copies of wills entered in probate court, 1851-1879, and Superior Court, 1880-1934. Contains dates of will and recording, names of testator, heirs, and witnesses, description of bequests, and signature of testator. Copies are also filed with the Recorder. Indexed in a separate index.

Arranged chronologically by date of recording and indexed alphabetically by name of testator. This collection consists of 2 tomes and 1 index.

Research Note: Source for study of settlement of estates. Provides genealogical information about subject and relatives.

Clerk

Court Probate Records

51. PROBATE BONDS, 1851 – 1934

Probate bonds are generally required in relation to the estate of deceased persons, minors, and incompetent persons. They provide financial guarantee for the handling of other persons' funds and assets. 1851-1879, and Superior Court, 1880 - 1934. Contains names of the deceased, administrator of the estate, surety company, and the date and the amount of the bond.

Indexed in a separate index.

Arranged chronologically by date of recording and indexed alphabetically by name of the deceased. This collection consists of 4 tomes and 2 indexes.

52. GENERAL INDEXES, PROBATE (PROBATE INDEXES), 1850 –1936

Indexes to names of estates in case files. Contains case number, name of estate.

Arranged alphabetically by name of estate. This collection consists of 1 index.



Probate Case Files and Tomes in 1899 storage cabinet.

Clerk

Superior Court Naturalization Records 1850-1973

Research Note: The Naturalization Records represents one of the largest and most popular collections at the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive.

This collection consists of 42 tomes and Court Minute Books from the various the courts in Tuolumne County. There are over 14,000 individual records in these tomes, Court Minute Books, and other individual records. The records have been processed and indexed; most of them have been indexed in their original order when there are indexes available.

Most of the records represent a wealth of genealogical information which may include; name, age, and residence of spouse and children, name, age, nativity, oath, signature, date of filing, method of entry into U. S., country of emigration, last foreign residence, name of vessel and port of arrival, marital status, renunciation of allegiance to foreign power and a photo.

The table below is a sampling of the Naturalization Records.

NATURALIZATION								
ARCHIVE #	RECORD #	PRIMARY SURNAME	PRIMARY GIVEN NAME	DATE	CITY	ST	COUNTRY	NOTES
795	0061	Haman	Antoni	5/22/1850				
795	0075	Kelly	John	6/3/1850				
797	0635	Vitali	Alberto	12/7 /1942	Detroit	MI	Italy	
797	0676	Ravelli	Angiolina	4 /4 /1950	New York	NY	Switzerland	Port of departure Avere, France
797	0686	DelBonte	Aurelio	2 /29/1952	New York	NY	Italy	Port of departure Avere, France
797	0650	Klebe	Carl	4 /6 /1946	San Francisco	CA	Germany	Port of departure Vera Cruz, Mexico
1552	0008	Aguilera	Antonio Rubalca	3/16/1906	El Paso	TX	Mexico	C-7903410
1552	2317	Olson	Carl Johan	3/4/1911	Philadelphia	PA	Sweden	Sup.Ct.P-45 C-136273 P&R Vol.1a,p.45 S. Ct. M.Vol.L,p.189
1552	1650	Laginha	Francisco Martin, Sr.	2/12/1940	Providence	RI	Portugal	Sup. Ct. P-352 Denied: Sept 12,1940 P&R Vol.2,p.-S.Ct.M.Vol.U,p.464
1552	1623	Kroeger	Herman	2/23/1917	Galveston	TX	Germany	Sup. Ct.P-107 C0728893 P&R Vol.2a p.57 S.Ct.M.Vol.M,p.489
1552	0312	Breens	Walter Henry	7/17/1914	Philadelphia	PA	Great Britain	Sup. Ct. P & R Vol. 2a, p. 43 Sup. Ct. Min. Vol. L. p. 618

Clerk

Superior Court Naturalization Records

53. CERTIFICATES OF NATURALIZATION, 1908 - 1929

Stubs of naturalization certificates granted by District, County, or Superior Court and filed with Clerk. Contains certificate number and name of court, date of issue, declaration of intention and petition for naturalization numbers, name, age, and residence of spouse and children, name, age, and residence of holder, and date of order granting citizenship. Original certificates were given to those going through naturalization process and represented the final or "second papers" required.

Arranged numerically by certificate number. This collection consists of 13 tomes.

Research Note: Source of genealogical information, especially in absence of original certificate, declaration of intention, or petition for naturalization.

54. DECLARATIONS OF INTENTION, 1850 - 1967

Original sworn declaration of intention to become a U. S. citizen. Contains declaration number, name of court, name, nativity, oath, address, and signature of declarant, date of filing, method of entry into U. S., country of emigration, last foreign residence, name of vessel and port of arrival, marital status, renunciation of allegiance to foreign power, and statement of intention to become citizen. Additional information is recorded on more recent forms, especially about declarants' spouse, children, and personal characteristics. Declarations were completed by aliens and filed with Clerk under the jurisdiction of the appropriate court (district, county, superior). After payment of fees, the alien received "first papers," the initial process in obtaining citizenship. Separate index.

Arranged numerically by declaration number. This collection consists of 9 tomes.

Research Note: Along with petitions for naturalization, declarations are the most important naturalization records. They provide a wealth of genealogical information as well as insights into naturalization procedures and patterns of emigration.

55. INDEXES TO DECLARATIONS OF INTENTION, 1850 - 1952

Indexes to original declarations of intention to become U. S. citizens. Contains name of applicant and date of declaration.

Arranged alphabetically by name of applicant. This collection consists of 2 indexes.

Clerk

Superior Court Naturalization Records

56. PETITIONS FOR NATURALIZATION (PETITIONS AND RECORDS), 1903 - 1968

Original petitions for naturalization filed in District, County, or Superior Court and maintained by Clerk. Contains date and number of petition, name, address, age, birthplace, marital status, race of applicant, names of spouse and children, dates and places of birth and residences of children, last foreign residence, place of emigration, oath of allegiance to U. S., renunciation of allegiance to foreign power, affidavits, names and addresses of two witnesses, and signature of applicant and Clerk. May include copy of declaration of intention.

Arranged numerically by petition number. This collection consists of 13 tomes. Each tome has its own index.

Research Note: Useful source of genealogical information. Provides data for study of emigration patterns and procedures.

Clerk

Other Records

57. ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION (INCORPORATION FILES), 1850 – 1980

Original Articles of Incorporation for firms conducting business in county. Includes certificates of amendment, decrees of dissolution, affidavits of publication of notices, certificates of revival, changes in amount of capital stock, and change in board of directors. Articles contain name of corporation, nature and place of business, names of officers and stockholders, number and value of shares of stock, date of filing, and term of existence. Articles date from 1850 and since 1872 must be filed with both the Clerk and the Secretary of State. Separate index.

Arranged numerically by certificate number. These records have been processed and indexed in their original order. The records can be queried by name of the corporation or the name of its officers. This collection consists of 13 cubic feet that contain 2,349 Articles of Incorporation.

Clerk

Other Records

The table below is a sampling of the Articles of Incorporation collection.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION				
ARCHIVE #	RECORD #	NAME	DATE	NOTES
3183	0001	California Quartz Miners Gold Extracting Association	8/4/1851	R. E. Newland, Wm Stevens, N. W. Chittenden
3183	0002	Tuolumne Hydraulic Association	3/22/1852	G. Ketchum, T. Kendel, J. Whaling, J. Swain, G. Shine, C. Dodge, C. Radcliff, A. Tuttle.
3183	0003	Sonora Gold Mining Company	4/6/1852	A. Tenney, H. Tappen, T. Hastings, W. Wilson, D. Ingersoll
3183	0018	Tuolumne Hydraulic Association	6/1/1852	Geo. Ketchum, Engineer report on canal from N. Fork Tuolumne River to N. Branch Sullivan Creek to Sonora.
3183	0006	Fountain Water Company	11/22/1852	J. Mills, A. Moore, L. Arnold, M. Brown, J. Myers, T. Oxley, Estate J. L. Pearson
3183	0007	Stanislaus Central Bridge Company	11/25/1852	Construct suspension bridge across Stanislaus River at "Table Mountain Ferry"
3183	0005	Tuolumne Hydraulic Association	12/13/1852	G. Ketchum - canal from Sullivan Creek to Chinese Diggings, Poverty Hill, Campo Seco.

Research Note: Source for business history and study of corporate financial conditions.

58. INDEXES TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, 1850 - 1980

Indexes to original Articles of Incorporation. Contains name of corporation, file number, and date of filing. This collection consists of 1 index.

59. CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS OF EXPENSE (CAMPAIGN STATEMENTS), 1894 -1936

Original itemized statements of campaign contributions and expenditures of candidates for county office filed with Clerk and Secretary of State. Contains name of candidate, title of office sought, date and type of election, names of contributors, description of expenditures, names of payees, total receipts and disbursements, and date filed. This collection has not been processed. Each tome has a separate index.

Arranged chronologically by date filed and then alphabetically by name of candidate. This collection consists of 5 tomes.

Research Note: Source for study of financial contributions to candidates, growth of lobbying activity, and election procedures in California.

Clerk

Other Records

60. CORONER'S INQUESTS, 1850 – 1964

Files of Coroner's inquests, including proceedings of inquests, testimony of witnesses, verdicts of juries, warrants issued in criminal cases, summons for jurors, and subpoenas. Contains date and number of inquest, name of deceased, names of witnesses and jurors, date and place of hearing, names of officials presiding, cause of death, affidavit of reporter as to accuracy of papers, signature of Coroner, and date filed. Inquests are filed with the Clerk with the Coroner retaining a copy. Separate indexes.

Arranged numerically by inquest number. These records have been processed and indexed in their original order. The records can be queried by name of the deceased. This collection consists of 1,199 Coroners Inquests.

Research Note: Useful source for investigation of patterns in causes of death. Provides some genealogical information.

61. INDEXES TO CORONER'S INQUESTS, 1850 – 1964

Indexes to Coroner's inquests. Contains date and number of inquest, name of deceased, and date filed with Clerk. Arranged alphabetically by name of deceased. This collection consists of 3 indexes.

62. GRAND JURY REPORTS, 1855 – 1979

Final reports of the grand jury filed with the Clerk. Includes information on county business, judicial matters, indictments, fiscal activities, and related data. Contains date, nature of report, description of action or recommendation, and amount of expenses. Copies filed with Board of Supervisors. There is no index for these records. Criminal reports are closed and confidential.

Arranged chronologically by year of report. These records have been processed and indexed. The reports also lists the names of the members of the Grand Jury. The table below is a sampling of the Grand Jury Reports collection.

GRAND JURY			
ARCHIVE #	PAGE #	NAME	DATE
2544	0005	Vigilance Committees	10/9/1855
2544	0007	Public Schools	10/9/1855
2544	0008	Jail	10/9/1855
2544	0014	Board of Supervisors	10/9/1855
2544	0014	Houses of Ill Fame	10/9/1855

Research Note: Source for study of political and legal organization of county, of types of cases brought before the grand jury, and of cases of malfeasance involving county officials.

Clerk

Other Records

63. GREAT REGISTERS, 1866 -1909

Official registers of all residents qualified to vote in county. Contains registration number, name, age, address, sex, nativity, occupation, political affiliation of registrant, date of registration, naturalization information, and precinct name and/or number. Compiled every two years from precinct lists. Registers originated in 1866, replacing "poll lists," and were later supplanted by affidavits of registration. There is no index for these records.

Arranged chronologically by year of registration, then alphabetically by name of registrant, and then numerically by the registration number.

This collection consists of 37 tomes. The first 3 tomes have been processed and indexed in their original order. There are 11,610 individual records in the first 3 tomes. The records can be queried by name, occupation, locality, and state or country of nativity. The table below is a sampling of the Great Register collection.

Research Note: Useful source of basic genealogical information.

GREAT REGISTERS						
ARCHIVE #	RECORD #	SURNAME	GIVEN NAME	DATE	OCCUPATION	LOCALITY
1398	3684	Brachais	A.	9/5/1871	Baker	Sonora
1398	3416	Clayton	A.B.	6/19/1871	Carpenter	Cloudman
1398	1584	Peterson	Aaron	5/13/1867	Miner	Saw Mill Flat
1398	5550	Morgan	Aaron	9/27/1882	Miner	Columbia
1398	3331	Cohen	Aaron	2/3/1871	Merchant	Jamestown
1398	0566	Hyde	Aaron Hoyt	6/11/1866	Farmer	Sullivan's Creek
1398	2694	Green	Abednego	7/31/1867	Teamster	Springfield
1398	0789	Mc Dearnid	Abel	12/13/1866	Miner	Columbia
1398	2462	Murry	Abner	6/24/1867	Farmer	Provost Meadows
1398	0259	Reed	Abner	8/22/1866	Secretary	Sonora
1398	0184	Pitts	Abner	8/6/1866	Quartz Miner	Sonora
1398	0056	Mock	Abraham	7/20/1866	Merchant	Sonora
1398	0076	Barlow	Abraham	7/21/1866	Merchant	Sonora
1398	2988	Cohn	Abraham	9/29/1868	Tailor	Sonora

Clerk

Other Records

64. NOMINATION PAPERS, 1894 – 1938

Includes nomination petitions, sponsors' certificates, appointment of verification deputies, and declarations of candidacy filed with Clerk to document eligibility and desire of candidates to run for public office. Documents contain date of filing, name, address, and occupation of candidate, title of office sought, names of sponsors and verification deputies, names of petitioners, and certification of Clerk. There is no index for these records.

These records have been processed. The collection consists of 3 cubic feet that contain 717 Nomination Papers.

Research Note: Source for study of political development in county.

65. PRECINCT MAPS 1916-1971

Large-scale maps of precincts showing precinct number, boundaries, and street names. New maps are made for each election. Maps are held for a short period by the Clerk and then filed with the Secretary of State.

This collection consists of 6 maps of various locations within the county.

Research Note: Useful in studying voting patterns by area within county and in tracing changes in precinct and district boundaries.

66. REGISTERS OF DENTISTS, 1904 – 1940

Registers of professional certificates issued by the State Board of Dental Examiners to dentists practicing in county. Contains name, age, address of dentist, number of certificate, address of office, name of school issuing diploma, and date of registration.

Arranged alphabetically by name of dentist. This collection consists of 1 tome.

Research Note: Source for study of the development of county health resources.

67. REGISTERS OF FICTITIOUS NAMES, 1879 – 1965

Registers of persons and partnerships authorized to conduct business under a fictitious name. Contains filing number, fictitious name, name of owner, date of filing of certificate of fictitious name, and affidavit of publication of certificate.

Arranged alphabetically by fictitious name. These records have been processed and indexed in their original order. This collection consists of 2 indexes and 3 cubic feet that contain 608 Fictitious Names.

Research Note: Source for business history.

Clerk

Other Records

68. REGISTERS OF MEDICAL CERTIFICATES, 1903 – 1966

Registers of professional certificates issued by the State Board of Medical Examiners to all persons practicing a medical occupation in county except those recorded separately. Contains name of practitioner, type of profession (usually physician), name and address of school, date of diploma, names of examiners, number of certificate, and date filed. There is no index for these records.

Arranged chronologically by date of registration of certificate. This collection consists of 3 tomes.

REGISTERS OF MEDICAL CERTIFICATES			
ARCHIVE #	OFFICE OF RECORD	RECORD	YEAR
1440	Clerk	Register of Optometrists	1903-1929
3175	Clerk	Register of Pharmacists	1905-1922
3177	Clerk	Register of Physicians	1935-1966

Research Note: Source for study of the development of county health resources.

69. REGISTERS OF PARTNERSHIP, (REGISTERS OF CO-PARTNERSHIP), 1934 – 1940

Registers of businesses in county conducted by partnership. Contains name of business, names of partners, kind and place of business, and date of filing of certificate of partnership. There is no index for these records.

Arranged alphabetically by name of business. This collection consists of 2 tomes.

Research Note: Useful source for business history, especially for early years.

Community Resources Agency

Community Resources Agencies in California are administrative devices and are the result of a need to harmonize the requirements of modern society with the demands of private citizens. The Community Resources Agency, under a director and working through an appointed planning commission, has the responsibility to develop a general plan that indicates the future directions of the county in specified areas such as agriculture, land use, industry and commerce, housing, transportation, recreation, environmental protection, health, and others. In the process of preparing a master or general plan, the department produces maps, statistics, and reports as required.

The Tuolumne County Community Resources Agency is composed of twelve divisions: Building and Safety, Environmental Health, GIS (Geographic Information System), Housing, Engineering, County Surveyor, Solid Waste, Business, Clerical, Fleet Services and Roads.

The Roads, Engineering, and County Surveyor Divisions, under the management of the director, are responsible for providing services formerly carried out independently by the Road Commissioner, County Engineer, and County Surveyor in the Public Works Department which was consolidated into the Community Resources Agency. The director, in conjunction with state authorities, oversees the construction, maintenance, and improvement of all county roads, highways, bridges, and other public works, prepares accurate maps, charts, plans, specifications, and reports necessary for the work of the department, and conducts surveys to determine proper boundaries for county lands and individual claims. Many of the department's records may also be found in the offices of Assessor and Recorder, and the Board of Supervisors.

Today most of these records are maintained by the Roads, Engineering, and County Surveyor Divisions. The Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive has a limited collection of material from these Divisions. The archive's collection came from the personal collections of Surveyors R. D. Strauch, Floyd Stirewalt, and James Dunlap.

Community Resources Agency

70. CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORIES 1992 - 2003

The goal of a Cultural Resources Inventory is to identify the cultural heritage and to compile a list of historical sites and buildings. The inventory is part of the Historic Preservation Review Commission's ongoing study of the county's cultural resources, in order to provide information for planners, county decision makers, property owners, developers, cultural resource specialists, and other interested persons.

This collection consists of 4 tomes. The table below is an inventory of the collection.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES AGENCY		
ARCHIVE #	NAME of RECORD	YEAR
2158	Tuolumne Community Cultural Resources Survey	2001
2951	Soulsbyville Cultural Resources Inventory	1992
2952	Chinese Camp Cultural Resources Inventory	1994
3054	City of Sonora Cultural Resources Inventory	2003

Research Note: Useful source of cultural resource and genealogical information.

71. GENERAL PLAN MAPS, 1980

The land use maps are composed of 15 graphic diagrams based on the size and scale of the USGS topographic quadrangle maps that comprise the majority of the developed portions of the County, as well as an index and enlargements for certain communities.

Arranged by a numeric-alpha system that corresponds to a specific geographical area.

Community Resources Agency

The table below is an inventory of the General Plan Map collection.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT		
ARCHIVE #	NAME of RECORD	NOTES
3623	General Plan Index	General Plan Index: Comparison of Land Use Diagram Numbering Scheme & USGS Quad Names.
3624	Eleanor, Cherry Lakes. Ascension, Ackerson Mts.	Quad 14 Base Maps: Cherry Lake South, Lake Eleanor, Ascension Mountain, Ackerson Mountain, SW 1/4 of Quad 14 (Jawbone Ridge), Base Map N W 1/4 of Quad 14 (Duckwall Mountain) Base Map, SE 1/4 of Quad 14 (Ascension Mountain) Base Map, NE 1/4 of Quad 14.
3625	La Grange and Penon Blanco Peak	Quad 18-B La Grange: La Grange & Penon Blanco Peak, Base Map, Fire Hazard Overlay, Resource Overlay, Non-Priority Lands Overlay Land Use Designation Overlay, Land Use Designation Overlay, Zoning Overlay, Land Use Designation Overlay, General Plan Map.
3626	Jawbone Ridge and Groveland	Quad 13-C Jawbone Ridge: Base Map, General Plan Map, Zoning Map, Zoning Overlay, Non-Priority Lands Overlay, Land Use Designation Overlay, Resource Overlay, Fire Hazard Overlay. Quad 13-D Groveland: General Plan Map, Zoning Map, Non-Priority Lands Overlay.
3627	Tuolumne & Duckwall Mountain	Quad 13-A Tuolumne: General Plan Map, Zoning Map, Fire Hazard Overlay, Resource Overlay, Urban Lands Overlay, Zoning Overlay, Non-Priority Lands Overlay, Land Use Designation Overlay. Quad 13-B Duckwall Mountain: Base Map, General Plan Map, Stent Overlay,
3628	Chinese Camp	Quad 12-D Chinese Camp: Base Map, Zoning Map, Land Use Designation Map, Fire Hazard Overlay, Land Use Designation Overlay, Non-Priority Lands Overlay, Zoning Overlay, Resource Overlay, Chinese Camp Street Map.
3629	Moccasin	Quad 12-C Moccasin: Base Map, Big Oak Flat Zoning Map, Zoning Map, Resource Overlay, Non-Priority Lands Overlay, Zoning Overlay, Land Use Designation Overlay, Fire Hazard Overlay, General Plan Map.
3630	Standard	Quad 12-B Standard: Base Map, East Sonora Enlargement - Zoning, East Sonora Enlargement - General Plan, Land Use Designation Map, Zoning Map, Resource Overlay, Fire Hazard Overlay, Urban Lands Overlay, Land Use Designation Overlay, Zoning Overlay.
3631	Sonora	Quad 12-A Sonora: Base Map, Non-Priority Lands Overlay, Land Use Designation Map, Quartz Land Use Designation Map, Stent Land Use Designation Map, Zoning Map, Sonora Quad Road Map, Fire Hazard Overlay, Urban Lands Overlay, Land Use Designation Overlay.
3632	Keystone, Knights Ferry	Quad 11-B Keystone: Base Map, Zoning Map, Land Use Designation Map, Fire Hazard Overlay, Non-Priority Lands Overlay, Land Use Designation Overlay. Quad 11-C Knights Ferry: Base Map, General Plan Map (Upper Half), Zoning Map.
3633	Pinecrest, Melones Dam	Quad 8-A Pinecrest: Base Map, Zoning Map, Resource Overlay, Land Use Designation Overlay, Zoning Overlay, Non-Priority Lands Overlay, Resource Overlay, Fire Hazard Overlay, Urban Lands Overlay. Quad 11-A Melones Dam: Base Map, Zoning Map, Land Use Design.
3634	Twain Harte	Quad 7-D Twain Harte: Base Map, Twain Harte (enlargement) Land Use Designation Map, Land Use Designation Map, Zoning Map, Twain Harte (enlargement) Road Map, Timber Overlay, Urban Lands Overlay, Zoning Overlay, Fire Hazard Overlay, Non-Priority Lands Over
3635	Crandall Peak , Strawberry, Hull Creek	7-A Crandall Peak: Base Map, Land Use Designation Map, Zoning Map, Land Use Designation Overlay, Zoning Overlay, Non-Priority Lands Overlay, Fire Hazard Overlay. 7-B Strawberry: Base Map, Land Use Designation Map, Zoning Map, Urban Lands Overlay.
3636	Murphy's, Stanislaus, Columbia SE, Columbia	Quad 6-A Murphy's: Base Map. Quad 6-B Stanislaus: Base Map, Timber / Fire Hazard Overlay, Land Use Designation Overlay, Non-Priority Lands Overlay, Zoning Overlay, Land Use Designation Map, Zoning Map. Quad 6-C Columbia SE: Base Map, Resource Overlay.
3637	Columbia	Quad 6-D Columbia: Base Map, Land Use Designation Map, Zoning Map, Columbia (Enlargement) Land Use Designation Map, Columbia (Enlargement) Zoning Map, Urban Lands Overlay, Resource Overlay (1 & 2), Zoning Overlay, Non-Priority Lands Overlay, Fire Hazard.

Research Note: A useful supplement to other zoning records. Graphic illustration of zoning changes over time.

Community Resources Agency

72. HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW COMMISSION DEMOLITION PERMITS, 1999 The Demolition Review Committee of the Historic Preservation Review Commission (HPRC) is responsible for the review of Building Permits for Demolition of structures that are fifty years of age or older. Three members of the HPRC comprise the Committee. It works with the historic building's owner to document the structure before it is removed, monitor the removal of the structure, or encourage the use of historic design elements in replacement structures, in order to retain the historic character of the site.

Arranged by Demolition Permit number and then alphabetically by name of the land owner. This collection consists of 1 cubic foot, which contains 64 files. The table below is an example of the collection.

DEMOLITION PERMIT						
RECORD #	PRIMARY SURNAME	PRIMARY GIVEN NAME	DATE	LOCALITY	APN	PHOTOS
D06-N/A	Leveroos	Bertram	10/5/2006	Tuolumne City	009-174-03	Yes
D07-003	Crouse	Brenda	4/5/2007	Groveland	066-460-20	Yes
D06-014	Kaiser	Brent and Jody	9/27/2006	Sonora	067-120-01	Yes
04D-10	Mc Guire	Christopher	5/19/2004	Groveland	066-360-18	Yes
03D-14	LaFluer	Clair	11/20/2003	Twain Harte	049-211-18	Yes
05D-01	Cornwell Family Trust	Cornwell, Steve	2/9/2005	Groveland	066-171-32	Yes
D06-012	Warren	Cory	7/11/2006	Sonora	048-400-38	Yes
04D-05	Jacka	Danny and Debra	3/3/2004	Soulsbyville	038-030-11	Yes

Research Note: Useful source of cultural resource information.

Coroner

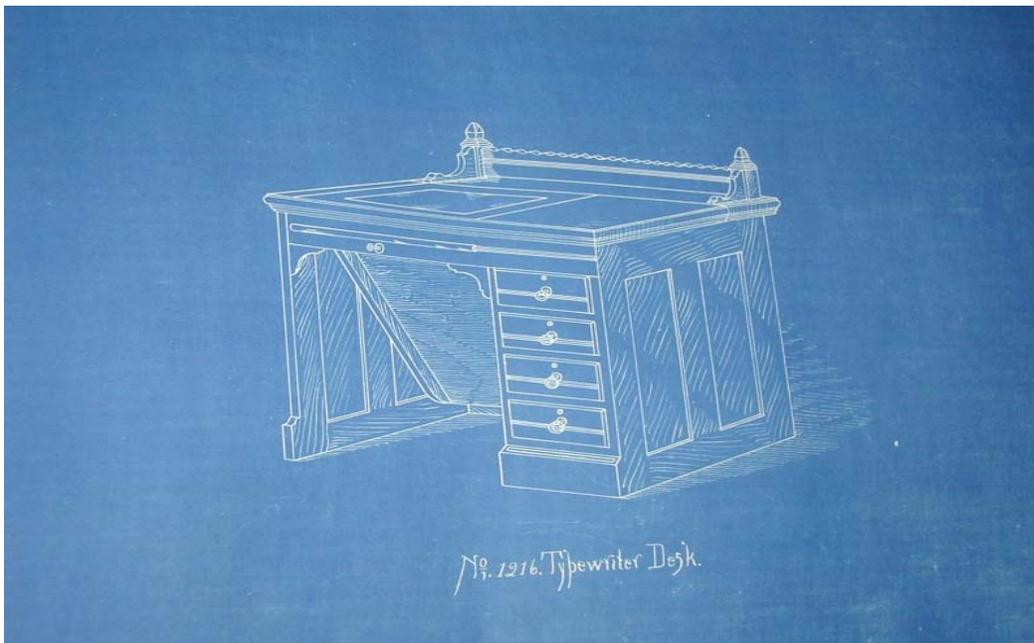
The Coroner is the officer charged with the responsibility for determining the cause of death of persons for whom a physician is unable to provide a death certificate. In addition to the investigatory nature of the office, the Coroner conducts autopsies, provides for the internment of the indigent dead without heirs, and keeps records of these activities. At the Coroner's discretion, a jury may be called to hold an inquest into deaths caused by a criminal act or suicide. The Coroner has the authority to subpoena witnesses, disqualify jurors, hold witnesses, and issue warrants. Because of the technical aspects of the office, the Coroner usually has medical experience, especially in pathology. In Tuolumne County, the office was combined with the Sheriff's Department.

73. CORONER'S REGISTERS 1939 – 1996

A register of all inquests conducted by the Coroner. Contains name of deceased, date and cause of death, description and identification marks, and disposition of personal property. Original inquests are filed with the Clerk. (See entry #60 and #61 **Coroner's Inquests, 1850 – 1964 and Indexes to Coroner's Inquests.**)

Arranged alphabetically by name of deceased. These records have been processed and indexed in their original order. This collection consists of 4 tomes that contain 5,008 records.

Research Note: Source of genealogical and social information.



Typewriter Desk 1899

County Administrator

Appointed by the Board of Supervisors in all counties where the office exists, the County Administrator is the chief executive officer of county government. An office of recent origin, the Administrator is usually a professional trained in public management. As a fulltime official, the Administrator works closely with the Board of Supervisors in the direct supervision and coordination of county offices and commissions, in the appointment of officials, in the enforcement of ordinances, and in the preparation of the county budget. The growth of the office has been of great assistance to the Board of Supervisors in the planning and day-to-day administration of government.

74. ADMINISTRATIVE FILES, 1968 – 1989

Basic files of the County Administrator touching all aspects of county government. Materials include agreements, charts, maps, contracts, correspondence, directives, drawings, printed materials, legal documents, memoranda, minutes, newspaper clippings, photos, plans, plats, reports and studies, speeches and writings. Subjects include agriculture, air pollution, airports, budgets, CETA programs, criminal justice, sanitation, environmental quality, finance, safety, fire and police protection, flood control, health services, personnel, roads and highways. Arranged alphabetically by subject.

These records have been processed and indexed in their original order. The table below is a sampling of some of the files.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR			
ARCHIVE #	RECORD #	FILE NAME	DATE
3119	0009	CETA/Manpower	3/17/1981
3015	0003	Clavey Project III	1/6/1989
3119	0013	Convalescent Hospital	4/14/1982
3119	0015	Courthouse Remodel	8/11/1980
3119	0019	Greenley Road Extension	12/2/1975
3119	0020	Groveland Community Hall	7/30/1981
3119	0022	Jail Overcrowding	3/5/1985
3119	0025	LAFCO Hearings	5/23/1979
3015	0022	TCPA/Lighting	2/3/1984
3119	0043	Tuolumne City Pool	9/10/1975
3119	0046	Vehicle Usage Study	9/22/1981
3015	0025	WAPA Litigation II	11/6/1984

Research Note: The files of the County Administrator are useful sources for studies of many aspects of county government. They provide an inside perspective on the development, organization, and maintenance of county programs and services.

District Attorney

The District Attorney is the public prosecutor. Specific duties include the prosecution of all misdemeanors and felonies in the county. An elected official, the district attorney is required to be qualified to practice law in the state. In smaller counties, the functions of the public administrator may be handled by the district attorney.

75. Register of Actions, 1887 – 1952

A general index to case files, civil and criminal, in district attorney's office. Contains names of defendant, case number, nature of action, and filing date.

Arranged alphabetically by names of defendant.

Recorder

The Recorder is the officer charged with keeping and preserving full and accurate records relating to real and personal property, vital statistics, and other legal and administrative documents as required. The law requires that the Recorder's records be open to the public and that certified copies be provided upon request. The Recorder not only files records and prepares indexes to them, but also endorses the documents when received and makes notation of any apparent erasures or changes.

The duties of the Recorder have changed little since 1850. By the Torrens Land Registration Act of 1897, the Recorder became County Registrar of land titles, but this law was repealed in 1913. In 1905, with the creation of the State Bureau of Vital Statistics, the Recorder became County Registrar of vital statistics. Today, the office is commonly combined with the office of County Clerk or the County Assessor.

The Recorder is by far the most important custodian of historical records.

The Tuolumne County Recorder's Office maintains most of the records for this office. The Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive has 109 tomes, 61 maps/public building plans, 3 cubic feet of public building specifications, 1 cubic foot of vital records, and 10 cubic feet of unprocessed material in this collection. The collection includes the oldest record in the Archive's collection, Alcalde Record, Woods Diggings 6/5/1849 thru 4/1/1850.

Woods Diggings June 5, 1849.

Pablo Valencia }
Complainant
vs.
Ramon Tradiciona }
Defendant

Valencia complains that his horse is found in possession of the defendant on the testimony being given it appeared that Valencia never applied to the defendant for restoration of the animal, and the defendant stating that he acted under orders of the army of the States with the Brana Gunbery Troop, made the horse, but he did not intend he would be justitia in keeping him on its being shown that he belonged to another. The decision of the Alcalde is that Valencia pay the fees of the Alcalde & the Defendant nine dollars for leading a horse not belonging to him said nine dollars being delivered to the person acting as Sheriff.

W. Gallon Acting Alcalde

Alcalde Docket June 5, 1849

Recorder

Property Records

76. ABSTRACTS OF MORTGAGES, 1850 - 1880, 1917 -

Recorded abstracts of real property covered by mortgages and trust deeds, prepared annually by the Recorder for the Assessor. Contains names of mortgagor or trustor and mortgagee or trustee, location and description of property, original and assessed value, amount of encumbrance, date of recording, lot and block numbers, and reference to volume and page numbers in records. Maintained by Assessor from 1880-1917. There is no index for these records.

Arranged alphabetically by name of mortgagor or trustor and then chronologically by date of recording. This collection at the archive consists of 2 tomes.

RECORDER		
ARCHIVE #	RECORD	YEAR
1711	Abstract Mortgage/Deed of Trust	1877
1712	Abstract Mortgage/Deed of Trust	1891

Research Note: Source for study of early property values and land ownership.

77. ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGES, 1850 - 1920

Recorded transfers of real property encumbrances from old to new holders. Contains date of assignment, names of assignor and assignee, location and description of property, and date of recording. Early years may be combined with mortgages. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes.

Arranged chronologically by date of recording. Assignments of Mortgages are located in the Recorder's Office.

Research Note: Source for study of land ownership and incidence of land transfers.

78. INDEXES TO ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGES, 1850 - 1916

Indexes to recorded transfers of real property encumbrances. Contains Recorder's number, names of assignor and assignee, date recorded, and reference to volume and page numbers in records. Early years may be combined with indexes to mortgages. Supplanted by general indexes in 1916.

Arranged alphabetically by name of assignor and assignee. The Assignments of Mortgages are located in the Recorder's Office.

Recorder

Property Records

79. DECLARATIONS OF HOMESTEAD (HOMESTEADS), 1850 - 1920

Recorded declarations, and usually abandonments, of homesteads indicating intent to use property as a place of residence. For declarations, contains name of homesteader, statements on marital status, residence on property, intent to use property as a homestead, description and estimated value of land, date recorded, and signature of homesteader. Abandonments include statement of voluntary release of homestead rights, date of homestead, and signature of homesteader. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes.

The Declarations of Homestead (Homesteads) are located in the Recorder's Office.

Research Note: Source of genealogical information and for study of land settlement patterns.

80. INDEXES TO DECLARATIONS OF HOMESTEAD, 1850 - 1916

Indexes to recorded declarations, and usually abandonments, of homestead. Contains name of homesteader, dates of declaration and recording, and reference to volume and page numbers in records. Supplanted by general indexes in 1916.

The indexes are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged alphabetically by name of homesteader.

81. DECREES OF DISTRIBUTION, 1850 - 1920

Recorded orders and decrees from Probate (until 1880) or Superior Court for final settlement of estates entered in Probate Court. Contains names of deceased and executor, date and number of estate, statement of executor as to final accounting of estate, settlement of all claims, payment of inheritance taxes, description of distribution of estate to heirs, and date recorded. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes.

The Decrees of Distribution are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date recorded.

Research Note: Court record useful in a study of probate procedures and settlement of estates. Contains some genealogical information.

82. INDEXES TO DECREES OF DISTRIBUTION, 1850 - 1916

Indexes to recorded decrees from court for final settlement of estate. Contains Recorder's number, names of deceased and legatees, date of decree, and reference to volume and page numbers in records. Supplanted by general indexes in 1916.

The Decrees of Distribution are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged alphabetically by name of deceased.

Recorder

Property Records

83. DEEDS, 1850 – 1920

Recorded deeds to real property. Contains nature and terms of document, Recorder's number, description and location of property, names of grantor and grantee, date recorded, and fee. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes.

The Deeds are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date of recording.

Research Note: Source for study of land development. legal documentation of land ownership.

84. INDEXES TO DEEDS, 1850 - 1916

Indexes to transfer of title to real property. Contains Recorder's number, names of grantor and grantee, date and nature of document, date recorded, and reference to volume and page numbers in records. Supplanted by general indexes in 1916.

The Deeds of Distribution are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged alphabetically by name of grantor and grantee.

85. LEASES, 1850 – 1920

Recorded leases of real property. Contains names of lessor and lessee, terms of lease, location and description of property, amount of rental, date of recording, and volume and page numbers in map books. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes.

This collection is located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date of recording.

Research Note: Source for study of real property leasing. legal documentation of land ownership.

86. INDEXES TO LEASES, 1850 - 1854

Indexes to recorded leases of real property. Contains date and number of document, names of lessor and lessee, date of recording, and reference to volume and page numbers in records.

The collection at the archive consists of 2 indexes.

Arranged alphabetically by name of lessor and lessee.

Recorder

Property Records

87. MAP BOOKS, 1850 –

Recorded and official maps of county property. Includes maps of subdivisions, tracts, surveys, blocks, lots, and parcels. Contains map number, name of survey, date of filing, geographic features, names of street, block and lot numbers, name of person requesting recording, affidavit of Auditor that no liens are held on property, approval of map by Board of Supervisors, title of map, and name of surveyor. Separate indexes.

The Map Books are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date recorded.

Research Note: Important source for tracing land development, property value, and ownership.

88. INDEXES TO MAP BOOKS, 1850 -

Indexes to recorded maps of county property. Contains title of map, date recorded, and reference to volume and page numbers in map books.

The Indexes to Map Books are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged alphabetically by title of map. May be arranged chronologically by date of filing, then alphabetically by title of map.

89. MARKS AND BRANDS, 1850 - 1920

Recorded notices of use of livestock brands. Contains name and address of owner, description and drawing of brand and ear marks, date recorded, and signature of owner. An actual sample of the brand on leather is often found along with brand records. After 1920, marks and brands were recorded in the official records. No separate index.

The Marks and Brands are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged alphabetically by name of owner.

Research Note: Guide to types of brand and ear marks. Source for study of livestock industry, especially in early years.

March 11th 1857 Collingwood Co.

Situated on, & bounded on North by
 Stony Gulch, being 400 feet long &
 200 feet wide, siting in part of
 Wilkey's Ranch, with stakes & notices
 at each corner, ground on the East
 West & South, ^{with} unclaimed -

located March 9th 1857 -

Wm Collingwood N. Mason
 J. W. Schaub Geo Fisher
 Jno Miller Andrew Mathews
 Nathan Surpin Edwin Andrews -

H. W. Kingston Recorder
 Dr C. P. Cook Deputy

Mining Claim Shaw's Flat March 11, 1857

Recorder

Property Records

90. MINING CLAIMS, ca. 1855 -1937

Claims to land for purposes of mining. Includes notice and date of claim, name of claimant, and location, description and size of land claimed. In counties with major mining activity, claims may be divided by type of mining (quartz, placer). Later years are often found in the Official Records beginning in 1920. Separate index.

These records are located at the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive and in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date recorded.

The collection at the archive consists of 6 tomes.

Research Note: Useful for research into mining history and migration studies.

Recorder

Property Records

91. INDEXES TO MINING CLAIMS, 1850-1920

Indexes to mining records. Includes claimant's name, name of claim and corresponding volume and page number in mining claims.

Arranged alphabetically by claimant or sometimes by name of claim.

92. MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS, 1850- 1920

Recorded miscellaneous documents not required by law to be kept in separate volumes. Includes declarations of trust, military discharges, enlistment records, bills of sale, wine certificates, tax sales, official bonds, mining locations, candidates' statements, and separate property of married women. Contains names of grantor and grantee, nature of instrument, and date recorded. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate index.

Recorded miscellaneous documents are located at the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive and in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date recorded.

Research Note: Source for study of property transactions, early business history, mining activities, agriculture, and women's history.

93. MORTGAGES, 1850 - 1920

Recorded mortgages of real property. Contains names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date, amount, and terms of mortgage, date recorded, location and description of property, and signature of mortgagor. In early years, may be combined with releases of mortgages and assignments of mortgages. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes.

Mortgages are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date of recording.

Research Note: Source for study of ethnic history and mortgage rates and their affect on land development and ownership.

94. INDEXES TO MORTGAGES, 1850 - 1916

Indexes to mortgages of real property. Contains Recorder's number, names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date recorded, and reference to volume and page number in records. In early years, may include index to releases of mortgages and assignments of mortgages. Supplanted by general indexes in 1916.

Arranged alphabetically by name of mortgagor and mortgagee.

Recorder

Property Records

95. NOTICES OF ACTIONS (LIS PENDENS), 1850 - 1920

Recorded notices of pending civil court actions involving property. Contains names of plaintiff and defendant as grantor and grantee, date of notice, purpose of action, location and description of property, date recorded, and signature of attorney for plaintiff. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes.

The collection at the Archive consists of 1 tome 1881-1899. Arranged chronologically by date recorded.

Research Note: Legal record useful for tracing property ownership and litigation.

96. INDEXES TO NOTICES OF ACTION, 1850 - 1916

Indexes to recorded notices of actions concerning civil cases affecting property. Contains names of plaintiff and defendant, date recorded, and reference to volume and page numbers in records. Supplanted by general indexes in 1916.

Arranged alphabetically by name of plaintiff and defendant.

97. NOTICES OF ATTACHMENT (ATTACHMENTS), 1850 - 1920

Recorded writs and notices of attachment of property affected by civil court cases. Contains date of notice, names of plaintiff and defendant, amount and reason of attachment, location and description of property, date recorded, and notice to Sheriff to hold property pending outcome of case. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes.

Notices of Attachments are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date recorded.

Research Note: Source for study of land ownership litigation.

98. INDEXES TO NOTICES OF ATTACHMENT, 1850 - 1916

Indexes to recorded notices of attachment of property involved in court proceedings. Contains names of plaintiff and defendant, amount of attachment, date recorded, and reference to volume and page numbers in records. Supplanted by general indexes in 1916. Arranged alphabetically by name of defendant.

Recorder

Property Records

99. OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1920 –

Recorded instruments previously kept in separate volumes, but combined since 1920. Includes miscellaneous records, powers of attorney, sole trader and separate property of married women, deeds, patents, mortgages, leases, pre-emption claims, homesteads, mechanics liens, brands, attachments, transcripts of judgments, wills, orders, notices, decrees, indentures, satisfactions of judgment, certificates of tax sales, trust deeds, contracts, releases, easements, notices of action, and stipulations. Contains name of grantor and grantee, type and text of instrument, and date recorded. Separate indexes.

Most of these records are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date recorded.

Research Note: Valuable source of information on property transactions, probate matters, local business activities, agriculture, women, land development and ownership, settlement patterns, and urbanization. Also provides significant genealogical data.

100. GENERAL INDEXES, GRANTEES, 1850 – 1899

Indexes to official records and to separate volumes of instruments that existed prior to the consolidation of the Recorder's documents into the official records in 1920. Contains Recorder's number and title of instrument, names of grantee and grantor, reference to volume and page numbers in official records, and date recorded. Arranged alphabetically by name of grantee and then chronologically by date recorded.

These records are located at the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive and in the Recorder's Office. The collection at the archive consists of 9 tomes.

Arranged alphabetically by name of grantee and then chronologically by date recorded.

101. GENERAL INDEXES, GRANTORS, 1850 – 1899

Indexes to official records and to separate volumes of instruments that existed prior to the consolidation of the Recorder's documents into the official records in 1920. Contains Recorder's number and title of instrument, names of grantor and grantee, reference to volume and page numbers in official records, and date recorded. In smaller counties, combined general indexes, grantors-grantees, may be common.

These records are located at the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive and in the Recorder's Office. The collection at the archive consists of 9 tomes. Arranged alphabetically by name of grantor and then chronologically by date recorded.

Recorder

Property Records

102. PATENTS, 1850 – 1920

Recorded land patents authorized by federal and state land offices granting transfer of title to real property. Contains name of grantee, location and description of land, amount of fees due, date recorded, proof of claim, and map of property. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes.

Patents are located in the Recorder's Office.

Arranged chronologically by date recorded.

Research Note: Source for study of land use and development through government grants.

103. INDEXES TO PATENTS, 1850 – 1916

Indexes to land patents granted by federal and state government. Contains names of land office and grantee, date recorded, and reference to volume and page numbers in records. Supplanted by general indexes in 1916.

Arranged alphabetically by name of grantee.

104. PERSONAL PROPERTY MORTGAGES (CHATTEL MORTGAGES), 1903-1940

Recorded mortgages of personal property. Contains names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date of instrument, location and description of property, amount of mortgage, rate of interest, terms of agreement, date recorded, and signatures of parties and witnesses. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes.

These records are located at the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive and in the Recorder's Office. The collection at the archive consists of 8 tomes. Arranged chronologically by date recorded.

Research Note: Useful source for study of business history, patterns of usury, mortgage rates, and, especially in early years, possessions of residents.

105. INDEXES TO PERSONAL PROPERTY MORTGAGES, 1897 – 1934

Indexes to recorded mortgages of personal property. Contains names of mortgagor and mortgagee, dates of mortgage and recording, and reference to volume and page numbers in records. Supplanted by general indexes in 1916.

These records are located at the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive and in the Recorder's Office. The collection at the archive consists of 2 tomes. Arranged alphabetically by name of mortgagor and mortgagee.

Recorder

Property Records

106. PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS (POSSESSORY CLAIMS), 1850 – 1920

Recorded pre-emption claims of 160-acre tracts of land allowed to claimants under federal law. Contains name of claimant, location and description of land, statement of originality of claim, diagram of land, and date recorded. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes.

Recorded pre-emption claims are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date recorded.

Research Note: Source for study of land ownership and impact of federal laws on patterns of settlement, mobility, and county development.

107. INDEXES TO PRE-EMPTION CLAIMS, 1850 – 1916

Indexes to claims to real property allowed under federal law. Contains name of claimant, dates of receipt of claim and of recording, and reference to volume and page numbers in records. Supplanted by general indexes in 1916.

Arranged alphabetically by name of claimant.

108. RELEASES OF MORTGAGES, 1850 – 1920

Recorded releases of mortgages of real and personal property. Contains names of mortgagor and mortgagee, dates of mortgage, release, and recording, location and description of property, and reference to volume and page numbers in mortgages. Early years may be combined with mortgages. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes

Recorded releases of mortgages are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date of recording.

Research Note: Source for study of land ownership, in absence of mortgage itself.

109. INDEXES TO RELEASES OF MORTGAGES, 1850-1916

Indexes to releases of mortgages of real and personal property. Contains Recorder's number, names of mortgagor and mortgagee, date recorded, and reference to volume and page numbers in records. Early years may be combined with indexes to mortgages. Supplanted by general indexes in 1916.

Arranged alphabetically by name of mortgagor and mortgagee.

Recorder

Property Records

110. SEPARATE PROPERTY OF MARRIED WOMEN, DECLARATIONS OF, 1850-1920

Recorded declarations by married women of separate ownership of property. Contains dates of declaration and recording, names of husband and wife, location and description of property, means of acquisition, and signatures of woman and witnesses. May be combined with sole trader records in early years. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate index.

These records are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date.

Research Note: Source for study of women's history and land development and ownership. Illustrates an early example of women's rights.

111. INDEXES TO SEPARATE PROPERTY OF MARRIED WOMEN, 1850-1916

Indexes to declarations of married women of separate ownership of property. Contains name of woman, date of recording, and reference to volume and page numbers in records. Supplanted by general indexes in 1916.

Arranged alphabetically by name of woman.

112. SOLE TRADERS, APPLICATIONS OF, 1850-1920

Recorded applications of married women to engage in business in their own names and for and by themselves. Contains name and address of applicant, dates of application and recording, type and location of business, amount of capital invested, and name of court granting application. May be combined with declarations of separate property of married women. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes uncommon. Indexed in general indexes after 1916.

These records are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date of recording.

Research Note: Source for study of women's history and business history in general.

Recorder

Property Records

113. TRANSCRIPTS OF JUDGMENTS, 1850 – 1920

Recorded transcripts of civil judgments from district, county, or Superior Court in cases involving property. Contains date, nature, and amount of judgment, case number, name of court, names of plaintiff and defendant, location and description of property, name of judge, and date recorded. Recorded in official records after 1920. Separate indexes.

These records are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date of recording.

Research Note: Legal record useful for tracing property ownership.

114. INDEXES TO TRANSCRIPTS OF JUDGMENTS, 1850 – 1916

Indexes to transcripts of civil judgments in cases involving property. Contains names of plaintiff and defendant, date and amount of judgment, date recorded, and reference to volume and page numbers in records. Supplanted by general indexes in 1916.

These records are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged alphabetically by name of plaintiff and defendant.

Recorder

Vital Statistics

115. BIRTH CERTIFICATES (REGISTERS OF BIRTHS, RECORDS OF BIRTHS), 1850

Copies of original birth certificates filed with the Recorder. Contains name and sex of child, date and place of birth, ages, nativities, races, and occupations of parents, weight at birth, length of pregnancy, signature of physician, date recorded, and certificate number. Recording of vital statistics became a state function in 1905. Certificates continued to be filed with the county as well. Form changes over time. Separate indexes.

These records are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date recorded, and then numerically by certificate number. Indexed alphabetically by name of child.

Research Note: Source of genealogical and social information.

116. INDEXES TO BIRTHS, 1850

Indexes to birth certificates (registers of births). Contains name of child, date and place of birth, certificate number, and reference to volume and page numbers in records.

These records are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged alphabetically by name of child.

117. BURIAL PERMITS, 1889

Copied and original burial permits. Contains name of deceased, cause of death, name of medical examiner and undertaker, birthplace and occupation of deceased, date and place of burial, and date recorded. Since 1889, permits have been filed with the Recorder and, since 1905; the Recorder has had authority to issue permits. However, in counties with a health officer, permits have been issued under that jurisdiction since 1914. There is no index for these records.

These records are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date recorded.

Research Note: Useful source of genealogical, health, and social data. Alternate source of information in absence of death certificate.

Recorder

Vital Statistics

118. DEATH CERTIFICATES (REGISTERS OF DEATHS, RECORDS OF DEATHS), 1850

Copies of original death certificates filed with the Recorder. Contains name, residence, sex, race, date of birth, age, occupation, marital status, and birthplace of deceased, names and birthplaces of parents, date and cause of death, date recorded, physician's or Coroners signature, and certificate number. Recording of vital statistics became a state function in 1905. Certificates continued to be filed with the county as well. Separate indexes.

These records are located in the Recorder's Office.

Arranged chronologically by date recorded and then numerically by certificate number. Indexed alphabetically by name of deceased.

Research Note: Source of genealogical, health, and social information.

119. INDEXES TO DEATHS, 1850

Indexes to death certificates (registers of deaths). Contains certificate number, date and place of death, name of deceased, and reference to volume and page numbers in records.

These records are located in the Recorder's Office .Arranged alphabetically by name of deceased.

120. MARRIAGE LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES, (RECORDS OF MARRIAGES, REGISTERS OF MARRIAGES), 1850 – 1963

Copies of original licenses and certificates filed with the Recorder. Contains date and place of marriage, names, addresses and ages of parties, signature of officiator, date recorded, names of fathers and mothers, birthplace of mother, previous marital status and occupations of parties, and certificate or license number. Recording of vital statistics became a state function in 1905. Certificates continued to be kept by the Recorder as well. Form changes over time. Originally, a license was received from the Clerk to authorize a marriage while a certificate was filed with the Recorder to document the ceremony. Currently, the two functions are combined into a "Certificate of Registry of Marriage" which is issued by the Clerk and filed with the Recorder. Separate indexes.

Some of these records are located at the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive, but most of these records are located in the Recorder's Office. Arranged chronologically by date recorded and then numerically by certificate number. Indexed alphabetically by name of parties.

Research Note: Source of genealogical and social information.

Recorder
Vital Statistics

121. INDEXES TO MARRIAGES, 1850

Indexes to marriage licenses and certificates (registers of marriages). Contains names of parties, date and place of marriage, certificate number, and reference to volume and page numbers in records.

Arranged alphabetically by name of groom.

Sheriff

One of the original county officers created by the California Constitution of 1849, the Sheriff is the officer responsible for the administration of justice and the enforcement of law in the unincorporated areas of the county. As an officer of the court, the Sheriff has particular duties in criminal and civil matters as regulated by statute. The Sheriff provides suitable attaches to the Superior Court, serves required legal papers, , issues warrants, cooperates with other law enforcement agencies, administers special programs for crime detection and apprehension, promotes training for staff, issues licenses for concealed weapons, and, provides for prisoner custody through the operation of the county jail. From 1851 to 1868, the Sheriff served as Tax Collector. Today, the Sheriff is a law enforcement professional. In Tuolumne County, the office is combined with that of Coroner. This collection consists of 59 tomes: Cash Books, Coroner's Register, Civil Dockets, Constables Certificates, Day Books, Fee Books, Journals/License Fees/Sheriff Sales, Record of Meals for Prisoners, Warrant Registers and 7 cubic feet of files (1852-1979)

122. CORONER'S REGISTERS 1939 – 1996 See entry #60, #61 and #73 Coroner's Inquests, Indexes to Coroner's Inquests and Coroner's Registers.)

123. CORRESPONDENCE (ADMINISTRATIVE FILES), 1850 –

Correspondence to and from the County Sheriff on a wide range of subjects relating to county law enforcement. May also include memoranda, newspaper clippings, plans, photos, reports, speeches, unpublished writings, printed materials and other ephemera. Contains date, text of subject, and names of correspondents.

Arranged alphabetically by subject or chronologically by date written. The Sheriffs' collection consists of 7 cubic feet of records and documents (see table below).

SHERIFF		
Archive #	Name of Record	Notes
2991	Records/Price	1897-1901 Early Sheriff and Sheriff Price's records
3063	Records/Law and Order	1892-1913 Civil, Criminal, and general office documents.
3061	Records/Day Book	1898-1937 Sheriff's Day Book that records law enforcement activities by the Sheriff and his deputies.
3215	Records/Sheriff	1913-1923 Civil, Criminal, and general office documents.
3020	Records/Dambacher	1929-1948 Sheriff Dambacher
3016	Records/Dambacher	1932-1942 Sheriff Dambacher
3019	Records/Dambacher	1943-1946 Sheriff Dambacher 1943-1946

Research Note: Correspondence can be a misleading term as it often includes all sorts of other records. Most items are worth preservation for the light they shed on administrative opinion and organization, the concerns of constituents, and patterns of agency response and reaction to issues of the day.

Sheriff

124. CASH, EXECUTION, and, FEE BOOKS, JOURNAL LEDGERS, and SHERIFF'S DOCKET,

1852 – 1973

Record of executions of judgments rendered in the various courts within Tuolumne County. Contains date of hearing, title and case number, certified text of order, acknowledgement of sheriff, receipt for payment of judgment, names of parties, and description of execution.

Arranged chronologically by date of hearing. Indexed alphabetically by names of plaintiff and defendant.

This collection at the Archive consists of 30 tomes.

125. JAIL REGISTERS 1856 – 1964

A record of all prisoners received at and discharged from county jail. Contains date received and discharged, name, age, sex, residence, place of birth, and occupation of prisoner, offense charged, case number, sentence, name of judge, and reason for release. No separate index.

Arranged chronologically by date received and then numerically by case number. Indexed alphabetically by name of prisoner.

This collection consists of 5 tomes (see table below).

SHERIFF		
Archive	Name of Record	Years Covered
3711	Jail Register	03/13/1856 - 07/25/1866
2081	Jail Register	09/17/1897 - 01/26/1908
3712	Jail Register	08/29/1907 - 07/04/1925
3713	Jail Register	11/17/1913 - 01/01/1955
3714	Jail Register	06/27/1960 - 06/25/1964

Research Note: Source of legal and social history. Contains some genealogical data.

Sheriff

137
1859 County Jail Book.

James Sanford.
Sept 25th Committed by Justice Salford
to answer the charge of larceny.
• 26th Sentenced to three months in the
County Jail.
Bill Rendred up to 7th Nov 1859.
Dec 26th Discharged.
Bill Rendred in full.

John Bergman alias Thompson.
Sept 27th Committed by Justice Salford to answer
the charge of larceny.
Sentenced to four months in the
County Jail.
Bill Rendred up to 7th Nov 1859.
Oct 15th Discharged in the County Jail.
Bill Rendred in full.

Pinus Garwood.
Sept 28th Committed by Justice Salford to
answer the charge of intent to
commit murder.
Oct 15th Committed to answer the charge
of murder.
Bill Rendred up to 7th Nov 1859.
Oct 29th Discharged.
Bill Rendred in full.

County Jail Register September 25, 1859

Sheriff

126. PHOTOGRAPHIC FILES (MUG FILES) 1913 – 1923

Files of prisoners' photographs. Contains name, date filed, and identification number of prisoner. Sometimes filed with case files. There is no index for these records.

Arranged numerically by identification number or alphabetically by name of prisoner. This collection consists of 2 tomes (see table below).

SHERIFF		
Archive	Name of Record	Years Covered
2079	Parole Violators	02/18/1913 - 12/12/1913 Photos Included
2080	Recidivist Record	10/05/1916 - 03/17/1923 Criminal Photos of Prisoners San Quentin

Research Note: Source of genealogical information, criminal history and clothing styles.

127. RECORD OF MEALS PRISONERS 1920 – 1943

A record of all prisoners who received meals at the county jail

Arranged chronologically by month and date received and by name of prisoner. This collection consists of 2 tomes.

128. TAX SALE CERTIFICATE 1853 – 1863, 1873 – 1890

Record of executions of real property tax sales. The early tome 1853-1863 contains the names of the Grantors, the Grantees, and the date of the sale. The later tome 1873-1890 contains date of sale, location of property, name of property owner and buyer, and amount paid.

Arranged chronologically by date of sale. There is no index for these records.

This collection is at the Archive and consists of 2 tomes.

Superintendent of Schools

The Superintendent of Schools is an administrative agent of the state responsible for providing supervision and services to school districts within the county. An elected officer, the Superintendent's duties, since the creation of the office in 1855, have never been merged with another office. Prior to 1855, the Assessor acted as ex-officio Superintendent of Schools.

Over the past 160 years there have been approximately 50 schools within the boundaries of Tuolumne County. Although, this collection is not complete it contains many records from local grammar schools, high schools, and the Superintendent of Schools Office. This collection consists of 110 tomes, 26 maps, 72 building plans, and 110 cubic feet of official files. These school records date back to 1852.

164. GRADUATION RECORDS, 1887- 1976

A record of all students graduating from schools in county. Contains names of school district, school, student, and date of graduation. There is no index for these records.

Arranged alphabetically by school district and school, and then alphabetically by name of student.

Research Note: Source of genealogical and school information.

165. MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, 1880 - 1984

Minutes of the proceedings of the County Board of Education. Contains date and time of meeting, names of members present, description of actions taken, motions made, and results of votes. There is no index for these records.

Arranged chronologically by date of meeting.

Research Note: Important source for study of county education system.

166. RECORDS OF OFFICIAL ACTS, 1852 - 1993

A record of all official acts of the Superintendent of Schools in the performance of duties. Includes appointment of teachers, plans for school construction, apportionment of funds to school districts, list of expenditures for supplies and services, and related acts. Contains date, nature of action, and name of Superintendent. There is no index for these records.

Arranged chronologically by date of entry.

Research Note: Source for study of school system and functions of Superintendent.

Superintendent of Schools

167. REPORTS, ANNUAL (COMMON SCHOOL REPORTS), 1864 - 1968

Annual report by Superintendent to State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Contains date of report, name of school district, number and sex of students in each grade, number of full-time and part time teachers, amount of funds apportioned to each school district, record of expenditures, assessed value of real property within school district, and related information. There is no index for these records.

Arranged chronologically by year.

Research Note: Supplement to other school records. Useful source for a study of the development of county schools and school conditions. Provides some genealogical information.

168. TEACHER'S CONTRACTS 1937-1960

Original contracts signed by teachers. Contains name of teacher, conditions of contract, name of school, subject, grade taught, term of employment, amount of salary, and signature of teacher. There is no index for these records.

Arranged alphabetically by name of teacher.

Research Note: Source for a study of teacher's wages and a history of teachers in general.

Treasurer/Tax Collector

The Treasurer acts as the chief banker of the county. All money belonging to or in possession of the county is required to be deposited with the Treasurer. The Treasurer pays out from county funds all warrants authorized by the county Auditor. In addition, the Treasurer is responsible for receiving payments on all bonds and for making payments to bond holders, collected inheritance taxes, took inventory of safe deposit boxes of deceased persons, and administers the investment program of the county.

The Tax Collector is the county officer charged with the function of collecting taxes. Originally, this duty was given to the Treasurer and later to the Sheriff, but since 1861 it has fallen to the Tax Collector. All county taxes are collected by the Tax Collector except inheritance taxes. This includes taxes on real and personal property, schools and special districts, and business licenses.

The office of Tax Collector has, in the past, been combined with the office of county Treasurer and Sheriff. Today, it is almost always combined with the Treasurer's office.

169. Account Books, Cash Books, Inheritance Tax, Ledgers, Licenses Fees Collected, Record of Special Taxes, and Treasurer's Reports.

This collection consists of 117 tomes.

QUELVOG CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

This collection consists of the career records of Brian Quelvog, retired biologist in the Tuolumne District Fisheries, California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), Tuolumne County, 1982-2006. Record types include paper files, CDFG Quarterlies and other official publications. Tuolumne District Fisheries is a region subset of California Department of Fish and Game. Brian Quelvog worked in Tuolumne County as a biologist documenting county information. They also contain a small amount of the work of his departmental predecessors, Robert L. Stillwell, a manager of DFG fish hatchery in Moccasin and Jim Horton.

170. RECORD FILES:

This collection consists of 17cubic feet of CDFG records. These records are arranged from 1982 through 2006; Brian Quelvog served as a Tuolumne District Fisheries Biologist. Part of his activities involved conducting backcountry studies surveying fish species populations. By the end of 1989, approximately seventy per cent of waters in Tuolumne County had been surveyed at least once and the project was on target to complete the first round of surveys by 1992. A second county-wide survey was scheduled to be completed by 2001 and a third by 2010 assuming the continuation of funding at the same level and a slight increase in efficiency in data acquisition, processing, and storage.

Arranged by subject, body of water, and or species.

Research Note: Value of county data which may prove useful in shedding light on contemporary controversy in the areas of waters and land rights and uses, species protection and extinction, water rights, and regulations, and species. Otherwise, it documents the career and methodology of record keeping and use of a district biologist spanning 20 years.

QUELVOG CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

171. FISH AND GAME PUBLICATIONS:

Fish and Game Quarterlies (1915-2009) California Fish and Game is a quarterly journal devoted to the conservation and understanding of California's flora and fauna.

Arranged chronologically

Fish Bulletins (1938-1986) The California Department of Fish and Game's Fish Bulletin is a core resource for the study of fish and fisheries in California. Continuously published as a monographic series since 1913, but slowing down publication in recent years, the Fish Bulletin contains in-depth monographs on a variety of topics, primarily marine, and also including some non-fish marine species. Some Fish Bulletin titles are of specialized interest to scientists, state officials, and those with fishery management interests. Many Fish Bulletin titles however are of general public interest, constituting general works on marine species. These general interest titles cover marine fish (including specific titles on sardine, grunion, halibut, tuna, etc), sharks, sea lions, clams/mussels, abalone, squid, historical shore whaling, historical commercial fishing, etc. See <http://ceo.ucsd.edu/fishbull/>

Arranged by date of publication.

Research Note Access to the California Fish and Game Quarterlies (1915-2009) is another asset to the collection. The value of the collection may also lie in its being one of the few collections at the biologist level deposited in a local repository in the Sierra foothills of California.

DE FERRARI-HARTVIG COLLECTION

172. CARD INDEX:

This collection consists of 250,000 index cards. The cards contain detailed notes on local Tuolumne County history and about early pioneers, events, businesses, and locations. These index cards indicate where researchers can locate primary source material for the listed subject matter in newspapers, official county records, books and microfilm. They represent over fifty years of research, all of these index cards were prepared by Carlo M. De Ferrari on his manual Underwood typewriter. These cards are being entered into the Archive's database access and query. This indexing project will take a number of years to complete. As these cards are accessioned into the Archive's database access to the historical information contained on these index cards will be available to researchers via the database.

Arranged alphabetically by name or subject matter.

Research Note: Source for study of where researchers can locate primary source material for the listed subject matter in newspapers, official county records, books and microfilm.

173. DOCUMENTS AND LETTERS:

This collection consists of 50 cubic feet of personal records. These records give us insight and details into the early De Ferrari and Hartvig families, other individuals, and pioneer families in Tuolumne County. In addition, they include information about historical points of interest. As these documents and records are accessioned into the Archive's database they will be catalogued and maintained under the best practices of archival storage and public access procedures.

Arranged alphabetically by name or subject matter.

Research Note: Source for study of where researchers can locate primary source material for the listed subject matter in early newspapers, official county records, books and microfilm.

DE FERRARI-HARTVIG COLLECTION

174. LIBRARY:

The comprehensive library consists of more than 4,500 books and periodicals on regional history. Many of these books are rare out of print or one of a kind. Some of books were purchased by Carlo's mother who gave them to Carlo as birthday gifts during his childhood and adult years. This collection will be indexed and managed by the Archive's database, and placed into the Tuolumne County Library's Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) system. Each book will have its title, author, and provenance recorded in the database. In addition, every tome will be given a unique inventory control number and a Dewey decimal number. Most of these books have been entered into the Archive's database, and a substantial number have been placed into the library's DDC system. Volunteers from the archive are working with staff from the county library on this aspect of the collection. Some of the books are in the process of being repaired. The De Ferrari-Hartvig Library has been re-organized from its original organizational structure to the DDC system. The current listing of books is available via the internet on the Tuolumne County Library web page <http://www.library.co.tuolumne.ca.us/#focus>. Also, the books are available for researchers at the archive.

Arranged Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) system.

Research Note: Source of information for regional history.

175. MAPS:

The collection consists of 50 maps. These maps will be added to the current collection of historical maps at the Archive.

Arranged alphabetically by name or subject matter.

Research Note: Source of geographical information and land use patterns .

176. MICROFILM:

Approximately 500 rolls of microfilm. This collection consists of early Tuolumne County newspapers, diaries authored by early settlers, and Gold Rush era records. Many of these microfilm records are not available in any other cultural institutions in California, and they augment the current microfilm collection at the Archive. There has been some indexing of this collection into the Archive's database. Additionally, some of the microfilm will need to be duplicated to create a master copy and a public copy. Since indexing and assessment of the microfilm has not been completed access by researchers is not permitted at this time.

Arranged alphabetically by name or subject matter.

Research Note: Source for early newspaper, records, and diaries.

DE FERRARI-HARTVIG COLLECTION

177. PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS:

These albums provide a treasure trove of photo documentation of the history of Tuolumne County. Many of these photos have only been seen by De Ferrari-Hartvig family members. These photos will be digitally reproduced and become a valued addition to the Archive's historical photo collection. Currently, the indexing and assessment of the photo albums has not been completed. Access by researchers is not permitted at this time.

Arranged alphabetically by name or subject matter.

Research Note: Source of early photos of Tuolumne County and its citizens.

Dwain McDonald Collection

This collection is a photograph collection of Tuolumne County's Schools, collected by lifelong educator Dwain McDonald, former deputy Superintendent of Tuolumne County Schools, City of Sonora Planning Commissioner, teacher, and local school historian. Approximately 50 schools have existed within the boundaries of Tuolumne County.

178. PHOTOGRAPHS:

These photos provide a treasure trove of photo documentation of the history of Tuolumne County Schools. These photos will be digitally reproduced and become a valued addition to the Archive's historical photo collection. Currently, the indexing and assessment of the photos has not been completed. Access by researchers is not permitted at this time.

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Arranged alphabetically by name of school.

Research Note: Source of early photos of Tuolumne County Schools, students and teachers.

Newspapers

The extensive Tuolumne County newspaper collection is one of the treasures of the Archive, covering dates from 1862 to 2005 (hard copy) and 1854 to 1946 (microfilm). Historical newspapers capture the growth and development of Tuolumne County, the lives of its citizens along with the attitudes and feelings of the people who lived here. They also record the political, social, cultural, and economic history of the area.

179. Newspapers

This newspaper collection consists of 20 local newspapers including: *American Flag, Banner, Daily Sonora, Herald Democrat, Banner Jamestown, Enterprise, Mother Lode Banner, Mother Lode Magnet, New Era, Sierra Mountain Times, Sierra Mountain Times and Twain Harte Sierra Voice, Sonora Daily, Sonora Herald, The Mother Lode, Tuolumne Courier, Tuolumne Independent, Tuolumne Prospector, Twain Harte and Sierra Times, Twain Harte Daily News, and the Union Democrat.*

Research Note: Source of information of where researchers can locate primary source information in early newspapers.

APPENDIX A

HISTORY OF THE TUOLUMNE COUNTY ARCHIVES

Tuolumne County, formed on February 18, 1850, is one of the original 27 counties of California, and its designated county seat, Sonora, was the principal city of the southern mines of the so-called Mother Lode area of California.

The earliest county record is the Alcalde Record from the Woods Creek area in 1849. The county's official records date back to June 1850 when the various statutory offices were activated following the election of county and township officers.

Fortunately, the county's official history recorded on paper has not suffered a major disaster from fire or water, but there has been a loss of some records and documents due to improper or inadequate storage facilities, lack of proper security and the careless destruction of some records which should have been preserved.

The early books and documents were originally stored in the office of the pioneer elected officials who had jurisdiction over them. After the first courthouse, a two-story wooden building was erected in 1853, for the first time the major offices were housed under one roof and the county records stored and maintained therein.

The accumulated records were retained almost intact until 1899 when the present yellow brick courthouse was erected and occupied. The new building was provided with small vaults for the offices of the County Treasurer and Sheriff-Tax Collector, while the County Clerk, then also Clerk of the various County Courts and the Board of Supervisors, was equipped with a larger vault which had built in provisions for the storage of the various court records and those relating to the Board of Supervisors.

Supposedly a 'fireproof building,' the important records of the County Recorder were maintained in his office. The large windows on the south side of the room were bricked up to provide a solid wall against which book shelves and filing cabinets were constructed. The 1899 courthouse contained a small archives room of sufficient size to accommodate the other records accumulated up to that time and supposedly for the future. This room is now part of the Superior Court complex on the first or basement floor of the courthouse.

The archive room proved to be too small and a separate room, later divided into two sections, was constructed at the rear entrance to the courthouse near the parking spaces. Later, additional room was provided by boarding up the section beneath the inside stairs leading up to the second floor. It is an interesting fact that all of these rooms were situated in close proximity to the boiler room where a wood burning, later oil fired, furnace was used to generate steam to heat the building. This arrangement almost led to the destruction of the large collection of early, county newspapers dating back to 1862 which were stored in one of the archive's rooms. One early morning a deputy county Recorder entered the building and discovered

the janitor carrying an armful of the bound volumes of newspapers. Upon inquiry as to what he intended to do with them, he replied that he was going to use them in the furnace as there was no fuel! This action was halted and the bound volumes were all moved upstairs for safe storage in the county Recorder's office

In November 1916, Dr. Owen C. Coy, Director and Archivist of the California Historical Survey Commission, made an inventory of the records stored in the Tuolumne County archives. This was done for all 58 counties and his findings published in 1919 by the Commission. The list of the contents of the county archives at that time has never been compared with those known to exist today because of changes in storage identification made later.

In 1917 the Board of Supervisors approved the formation of a free county library and, being short of space, authorized the use of the main archives room as headquarters and storage space for the new county librarian. The Tuolumne Independent of August 3, 1917, reported the arrival of the county librarian, Edna Holroyd who was accompanied by Eudora Garoutte, head of the California section of the California State Library. The Independent reported:

The archives room in the courthouse is being cleared out to be used as headquarters for the county library, and Miss Garoutte will select and save any material that will be of historical value. She is a specialist in California history and is desirous of gathering material from other sources as well.

Whether all of the items then stored in the archives were removed to other storage places, or only part thereof, and any transferred to the state library, is unknown. Ultimately, the main archives room was restored to its intended use, probably about the time the Veterans Memorial Hall was completed in late 1932 and space was provided for the county library on its first floor.

During the Great Depression years of the 1930's, federal funds became available for certain public works and some individuals were employed to organize, index and file the pre-1880 court cases and place the tax and assessment rolls, etc. in order. It is said that a large number of revenue stamps were 'clipped' from old documents at that time as they had a good marketable value.

The volume of archival materials constantly increased and after the Rose Court property, now the site of the Francisco Building, was acquired in the 1950's, a basement under one of the apartments facing Green Street was utilized for additional storage of less important materials such as old claims, warrants and other forms. The records of the County Superintendent of Schools were also placed there temporarily and then removed to the Superintendent's building across the street.

Following the construction of a new county jail on Lower Sunset Drive in 1966, space was provided in the basement of that structure for the archives, and nearly all of the old records transferred there from the archives room which was then used for the county printing department.

It was an unfortunate move for the unexpected happened: prisoners plugged up the sewer line which was suspended from the ceiling in the archives room. Torn up

sheets and other materials were flushed into the line clogging up the main so that it separated at a joint and allowed the sewage to flood boxes of stored early documents and some volumes of maps. It was several days before this disaster was detected and by that time some of the records were in such a deplorable condition that they could not be salvaged.

Termites have also played a minor roll in destroying records stored in the main county archives. Prior to moving the records to the county jail, some came up through the floor and destroyed a box of early records; however, this was minor when compared to what occurred to a lot of justice court records from Columbia where they had been stored in the rear of the justice court. Termites had gotten into the boxes in which they were stored, they were brought to the courthouse to see if any of the records could be salvaged; however, almost everything had been destroyed.

The county started a microfilm program during the later 1950s and early '60s during which many old record volumes and newspapers were filmed and the film stored later in a special vault under the county jail designed to preserve it. Several hundred rolls were filmed before the microfilmer was reassigned to manage the printing plant. The filmer maintained an index to the contents of each roll but later, someone not understanding its value discarded or destroyed the book; however, most of the film is intact and a new index can be made.

Upon completion of the new administration building about 1979, archive space was provided in its basement, or first floor; however, the area provided was soon inadequate in spite of culling records of lesser importance. The problem of storage there was compounded by a leak in the northeast corner of the room which did little damage except to increase the humidity.

Upon completion of the construction of the Francisco building the archives were moved there, but the space problem did not improve. The Francisco building archives were utilized for several years until that space was allocated to child protective services in November 1994. As a temporary solution to the problem of storing archive material, the contents of the Francisco building archive were examined and moved to three separate locations for preservation according to an estimate of their historical importance and significance. Those thought important to preserve for further study, were transferred to leased space in the California-owned National Guard armory located adjacent to the Columbia Airport. More recent Superior Court files were also stored at the armory as well as archival material from other county departments.

At the time of this dispersal of the archive contents, on November 1, 1994, a commitment was made by the county Board of Supervisors to either construct an addition to the Tuolumne County Library on Greenley Road, or erect a separate building nearby to house the county archives.

In August 1996 the County Assessor-Recorder David Wynne was designated by the Board of Supervisors to serve as the county archivist with authority to catalog,

organize and dispose of county records therein in accordance with existing California state statutes and guidelines.

In fulfillment of its commitment to construct a county archive facility, on January 28, 1997, the Board of Supervisors awarded a contract to Cooper Kessel, Architect and Associates, to design such a building to be erected to the rear, or western side of the county library. After approving the plans and specifications a call for bids was issued. All bids received exceeded the estimated construction costs and after provision for additional financing, the contract was awarded to Barham, Inc. on its low bid of \$677,812.

On January 19, 1999, a ground breaking ceremony was held at the construction site and the project officially commenced. The archives have suffered damage or loss upon occasion due to careless handling of its contents or lack of supervision. There also have been examples of the unauthorized removal of archival materials, or the outright theft of some items as illustrated in the following two instances.

For the protection of livestock owners brands were recorded with the county commencing in 1850. Such recordings were also accompanied by a sample of the actual brand face seared into a piece of leather. A large number of such leather recordings were accumulated and ultimately stored in the archives room of the courthouse.

One day the box of leather sample brands disappeared and sometime later they showed up as part of a western display in a local restaurant. The business owner was notified that the brands were the property of the county and later retrieved by the Recorder. Those surviving are now on display behind glass in the Recorder's Office.

In another instance, a professionally bound volume containing a number of indices to the county's registered voters dating back to 1872 was kept in the County Clerk's office for reference. After the new County Administration building was completed this volume went to the archives therein. Later it was found that someone had slit the binding on the spine and extracted the individual copies and they have not been recovered.

On the plus side, Tuolumne County became involved with neighboring Alpine County in an expensive controversy and litigation which extended from 1949 to 1963. This involved jurisdiction over land lying along the historically accepted common boundary line of the two counties which Alpine County believed was incorrect and gave to Tuolumne County a large section of land which should be included within Alpine County. Fortunately, Tuolumne County had preserved the documentary evidence with which to defend itself and obtained a favorable judgment. Had Alpine County prevailed in its claim, the financial loss to Tuolumne County would be continuous and ultimately involve many million of dollars of revenue.

Carlo M. De Ferrari
Tuolumne County Historian
October 28, 1999

APPENDIX B

HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT

On December 15, 1849, the first Legislature convened in San Jose as provided by the State Constitution. The committee on county organization recommended that the state should have authority to control and regulate the structure of the county government “which should be as nearly uniform as practicable throughout the State.”¹

County government in California was modeled after the old English county system and as modified by the experiences of eastern states. All the powers and functions of county government directly carry out the general policy of the state; that is, the county is purely an agent of the state. For example, originally, the Legislature had authority to shift the boundaries of a county, to consolidate two or more into one, to divide or create new counties out of existing territory, or to dissolve a county altogether (as happened to Klamath County in 1874). In addition, the state may delegate certain responsibilities to a county and recall others. Administrative control by the state over county functions has been well established in the areas of finance, law enforcement, and education in particular.

Within county boundaries, county governments contend with municipalities and townships for the exercise of political power. The division of authority between county and municipal government has not always been clearly defined. The law, in some cases, has allowed for an overlapping of functions. Although a county Board of Supervisors has the power to execute orders declaring the establishment of a municipality and to determine municipal boundaries, cities provide for the welfare of their citizens through the creation of police and fire departments, schools and libraries, and public utilities.

The State Constitution of 1849 provided for the creation of a court system, for the offices of Clerk, district attorney, Sheriff, Coroner, and others deemed necessary, and for a Board of Supervisors empowered with duties as described by law.²

Substantial changes in the form and powers of county government were brought about by the State Constitution of 1879. The most important revision was the direct grant of police powers to counties.³ The legislature’s desire to establish a uniform system of county government throughout the state resulted in the adoption of county and township government acts (1883, 1891, 1893, and 1897), which were later amended and incorporated in the *Political Code* to form the basis of county government. In addition to the offices noted above, the 1879 Constitution required or allowed the creation of a grand jury, Superior Court, justices of the peace, Superintendent of Schools, board of education, Board of Equalization, Treasurer, Recorder, Tax Collector, license collector, Assessor, Auditor, public administrator, and constables.

In time, however, the uniform system of county government became the subject of heated debate until 1929 when a special commission was created to investigate and report on home rule for counties. The commission recommended the adoption of freeholder charters for counties that would enable them to meet specific needs and problems.⁴ A charter secures to a county some measure of independence and flexibility. It allows for the consolidation of offices, the creation of a county manager form of government, the provision of a short ballot, the appointment of certain officials, the fixing of salaries, and the creation of a civil service system. General law counties have, over time, obtained many of the same features through permissive state statutes. In general, charters have been adopted by the larger and more populous counties that have a greater need for authority tailored to fit particular circumstances.⁵

The institutions of county government have undergone considerable changes since the creation of the original twenty-seven counties in 1850. As the population of the state has increased, counties have had to provide services for more people and, as a result, government has become larger, more specialized, and complex. In 1850, counties performed twenty-two basic functions. By 1909, this number had increased to 167 in larger counties, and in 1958 it was estimated that well over 900 separate functions were administered by county government.⁶

The unprecedented growth of special districts and accelerated cooperation with cities, especially in heavily urbanized areas, has significantly altered county government. Despite its growing complexity and shrinking financial base, however, it seems fair to suggest that county governments in California will continue to have a major influence on the people they serve.

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1. *Constitution*, 1849, Article XI, Section 4.
 2. *Constitution*, 1849, Article VI, Sections 1, 7-8; Article XI, Section 5.
 3. *Constitution*, 1879, Article XI, Section 11.
 4. *Report of California Commission on County Home Rule*, Sacramento, 1930, pp. 1-3. Charters had first been authorized by a constitutional amendment in 1911.
 5. *County Government in California*, County Supervisors Association, Sacramento, 1958, pp. 29-31. Eleven counties have opted for charters since 1911.
 6. *Ibid.*, p. 2.

APPENDIX C

Mission Statement

Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive

The primary purposes of the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive are:

To preserve official County of Tuolumne records and information of permanent historical value; to provide records management services; and to serve as an educational resource encouraging administrative and scholarly research in its collections.

The governing body of the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive is the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors. The county archivist, who is appointed by the Board of Supervisors, oversees general administration of the Archive. The Records Manager supervises daily operations.

In carrying out its mission the Carlo M. De Ferrari Archive:

A) Is the Official County of Tuolumne depository of records. The purpose of the Archive, is to “appraise, collect organize, describe, preserve, and make available County of Tuolumne records and official papers produced by leading County Officials resulting from the activities of county government for permanent historical value.” In addition, the Archive “may receive and collect historical materials which are not official County of Tuolumne records but which document the history of the County of Tuolumne.” The archives are under the administration of the County Assessor/Recorder/Archivist.

B) Develops, maintains, and distributes a manual which outlines procedures for offices to meet their responsibilities for records management and preservation and to gain access to County of Tuolumne records services.

C) Consults with appropriate county departments, provides efficient and economical records management services, determines administrative, financial, legal and historical records preservation needs within the county.

D) Appraises, accessions, arranges, describes and preserves records transferred to its custody while providing access to its holdings, in accordance with accepted professional principles.

E) Cooperates with state and national archives, historical and records management professional organizations on behalf of the County to keep informed on major issues of concern to the profession and participates in networking arrangements to share resources with other research institutions.

APPENDIX D

Tuolumne County Archive 1916

Tuolumne County was one of the original counties into which the state was divided in 1850. At that time it included also the present county of Stanislaus which was detached in 1854, reducing Tuolumne to the present boundaries. Sonora has been the county seat during the entire period since the organization,

The first courthouse, built 1852, was a wooden building and was used until 1898. The present building was occupied in December, 1899. During the period of construction the county offices and records were housed in various buildings in Sonora. The present courthouse is a modern structure of steel, brick and concrete, occupying a block near the center of town. It is safe from outside fires, and probably as nearly fireproof in interior construction as the average public building. It is lighted by electricity and heated with steam heat.

All the offices included in this report are located on the second floor, except that of the County Superintendent of Schools, which is on the first floor. The offices of Clerk and Auditor are combined. The Superintendent of Schools combines his duties with those of principal of the Jamestown school. The Clerk-Auditor has a large vault in which the greater part of the court records and the Auditor's records are kept. The Treasurer also has a small vault in which his current records are kept.

On the first floor is an archive room, or storeroom, in which are stored a quantity of older records from various offices. A smaller room adjoining (formed by closing up one end of a hallway running through the building, and used also as the office of the Sealer of Weights and Measures) contains a number of volumes and a large quantity of papers tied in bundles and filed in pigeonholes and piled on top of cases. In the following report these two rooms are designated as Archive Room (AR) and Small Archive Room (SAR), and a casual examination will reveal the amount of material contained in them. The danger of interior fire would seem to be the greatest in these two rooms, as practically their entire contents are inflammable. The archives were examined in November, 1916.

Reprinted from *Guide to the County Archives of California*

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Director and Archivist

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Appendix E

HISTORY OF THE COURT SYSTEM

From the inception of statehood in 1850 and for thirty years thereafter, the judicial affairs of the county were administered by four, and later by three, separate courts: the District Court, County Court, Probate Court, and the Court of Sessions. In addition, Tuolumne had numerous local Justice Courts

The highest of the four was the District Court. By the 1849 State Constitution, the state was divided into judicial districts, one judge per district. The jurisdiction of the court was original in all cases of law and equity, civil cases involving large sums of money, criminal cases not otherwise provided for, all issues of fact in probate, all cases affecting real property, and all naturalization matters. The court had appellate jurisdiction over the County Court and Court of Sessions in criminal cases. The District Court was dissolved under the provisions of the 1879 State Constitution.

County Courts, one per county, were created by an act of the first Legislature in 1850. Under the supervision of a county judge, the court had authority over appeals from justices of the peace and in special cases pending, issued all writs and processes known to law, had jurisdiction in all lesser civil cases (except probate matters which were given to the probate court in 1851) and, as conservator of the peace, exercised all the powers of the justices of the peace. With the termination of the Court of Sessions in 1863, the County Court assumed some jurisdiction in criminal cases. The County Court was abolished in 1879.

In 1851, a Probate Court was created in every county with the county judge presiding. The court exercised control over all probate cases, i.e., the administration of matters concerning the estates of deceased persons, minors, and incompetents. All appeals were heard in District Court until 1864 when a law allowed appeals to be taken directly to the state supreme court. Although a separate probate court ceased to exist in 1879, probate records have continued to be handled apart from other judicial documents and, in more populous counties, probate matters are the responsibility of a separate division of Superior Court.

A Court of Sessions was established in every county in 1850. The court was composed of the county judge and two justices of the peace and had the authority to conduct two separate and distinct kinds of business. First, the court acted in lesser criminal matters including assault and battery, breach of the peace, riot, petty larceny, and small misdemeanors. Second, the court carried on the administrative affairs of the county, including the power to raise necessary funds by taxation, to audit accounts, to manage public works, to divide the county into townships, to create election precincts, and to erect public buildings, until supplanted by the Board of Supervisors. Since the two areas were so different in scope and purpose, the Clerk of the court was required to keep separate minutes and other records, but in reality, the minutes in most counties were combined. The Court of Sessions was discontinued in 1863.

The current judicial structure dates from 1880 when a Superior Court was created for each county to conduct the matters previously handled by the district, county, and probate courts. In many counties, the Superior Court has been divided by function into departments: civil, criminal, probate, and juvenile, with a separate set of records maintained for each department. In addition, Superior Court, since its inception, has regulated the grand jury.

As part of the judicial system, the grand jury originated early in California's history, having been created by the 1849 State Constitution. It is a judicial body acting as part of the court and serves as an inquest between the state-county and the citizens in public matters. From 1850 to 1863 it was administered by the Court of Sessions, and from 1863 to 1880 it was administered by the County Court. The grand jury has two functions: it investigates misdemeanors and felonies within the county and lays these before the court, either by presentment or indictment; and it audits the accounts and inspects the conduct of county officers to determine any misappropriation of funds or malfeasance of duty.

The history of the court system in California helps to explain a researcher's confusion in correctly identifying and using court documents. Over the years, case files, as well as other records, have been destroyed, lost, misfiled, and neglected. Fortunately, from the beginning of statehood, the County Clerk has acted as custodian for most of the county's court records and, thus, in one source may be found a wealth of information important to an understanding of the law and its relationship to society. A good summary of the development of the court system in California is found in Owen Coy's *Guide to the County Archives of California*, Sacramento, (CMD Archive # 3079) 1919, pp. 16-20.

APPENDIX F

DISPOSITION OF COUNTY RECORDS

While no information is provided in the guide about the retention and disposition of county records, this is an issue of broad concern for local officials and the general public alike. Several state statutes regulate the disposition of certain groups of records and are summarized below

The disposition of trial court records is governed by *Government Code*, sections 68152 and 68153. 68152 provides detailed information about court records and is divided into subsections relating to civil, criminal, juvenile and probate matters.

All records of the Recorder's office, at the request of the Recorder and with the approval of the Board of Supervisors, may be destroyed if the record has been reproduced on a film, optical disk or other medium meeting certain standards, if the medium accurately and legibly reproduces the original, if the medium is made accessible to the public, and if a copy of the medium of archival quality is stored in a separate and safe place. (*Government Code*, section 26205.5). Prior to the destruction of any handwritten records, the Recorder must give notice of intent to destroy to the Secretary of State, who shall have ninety days to request transfer of the records. (*Government Code*, section 26205.7).

All other county records, except as specifically provided for by state law, may be destroyed at the request of the county officer concerned and with the approval of the Board of Supervisors or by resolution of the Board of Supervisors if the record has been reproduced on a film, optical disk or other medium meeting certain standards, if the medium accurately and legibly reproduces the original, and if the medium is made accessible to the public. (*Government Code*, section 26205 and 26205.1).

Access to public records, state and local, is regulated by *Government Code*, Chapter 3.5, sections 6250 et. seq., commonly called the California Public Records Act. In general, the act provides for the inspection of all public records, except as specifically noted, at all times during the office hours of the state or local agency. The user is referred to section 6254 for exemptions. Unless exempted, the agency must demonstrate that, on the facts of the case, the public interest served by not making the record open to inspection clearly outweighs the public interest served by disclosure of the information (section 6255).

Accessibility to records differs in each county with the officer concerned often the final authority in each case. Within the guide, series known to be closed or confidential are so indicated.

It is important to note that laws regulating the retention and disposition of records change over time. The reader is advised to consult the latest edition of the appropriate section of the *California Codes* to insure that all current legal requirements have been met.