Finding aid of the Clerk-Recorder Records

Trista Raezer and Michael Griffith
Santa Clara County Archives
1875 Senter Road
San Jose, CA 95112-2527
Phone: (408) 755-7895
Fax: (408) 792-1809
URL: http://archives.sccgov.org
Email: trista.raezer@rec.sccgov.org
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Finding aid of the Clerk-Recorder Records

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Trista Raezer and Michael Griffith
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Trista Raezer
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Descriptive Summary
Title: Clerk-Recorder records
Dates: 1840-1982
Collection number: 2009-009 through 2009-164
Creator: Santa Clara County Clerk-Recorder
Collection Size: 6735 bound volumes168 archival boxes
Repository: Santa Clara County Archives.
San Jose, CA 95112-2527
Abstract: This collection consists of groups of officially recorded documents maintained by the County Clerk and the
County Recorder. These include real property records, licenses, certifications, registrations, notary public records, business
records, court records, maps, bonds, cemetery records, wills, articles of incorporation, fictitious business names, assessments, military records, and other miscellaneous records.
Physical location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult Archives staff.
Languages: Languages represented in the collection: EnglishSpanish
Access
Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights
The Archives can claim physical ownership only for some collections. Users are responsible for securing permission of the
copyright holder for publication or quotation.

Preferred Citation
Clerk-Recorder records, Santa Clara County Archives.

Acquisition Information
These records were placed in the County Archives by the County Clerk-Recorder from 2006 to 2009.

Processing Information
This collection was processed by Michael Griffith and Trista Raezer working under NHRPC grant RA-10047-07, the Santa
Clara County Archives Project. A fuller account of the grant project is available at the Archives website.

Administrative History
The office of County Recorder and County Clerk were established in 1850. The County Recorder maintained records relating
to ownership of real property, vital statistics, and other matters. From 1850 until 1893, the recorder also served as county
auditor. The recorder was elected until 1951 when the new county charter made the position appointive.
The County Clerk created or maintained diverse and important records. The clerk's duties has changed over time. In Santa
Clara County, the clerk acted as clerk of the board of supervisors from 1852 until 1951, when the county charter created a
separate clerk of the board. In addition, the clerk acted as clerk of county courts until 1999. Records for which the clerk is
responsible have included court records, files of the board of supervisors, marriage certificates, registers of licensed
professionals, and business records.
The Recorder's office and Clerk's office merged in 1973 as the office of County Clerk-Recorder.
Scope and Content of Collection
For the scope and content of this collection, see the entries for the major subdivisions.

Arrangement
For the arrangement of this collection, see the entries for the major subdivisions.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
Architects
Articles of incorporation
Bonds
Business names
Chattel mortgages
Chiropractors
Deeds
Deeds of trust--California
Dentists
Fictitious names
Maps
Midwives
Mortgages
Notaries public
Oak Hill Cemetery (San Jose, Calif.)
Optometrists
Pharmacies
Physicians
Santa Clara County (Calif.) Genealogy
Santa Clara County (Calif.) Recorder
Santa Clara County (Calif.) Maps
Land titles
Surveyors
Undertakers
Wills

Series: Property Records 1842-1967
Physical Description: 6,424 bound volumes
Series Scope and Content
This series records various property records for the county of Santa Clara, such as deeds, mortgages, etc.
Note
The Archives cannot provide official copies of recorded documents, which must be obtained through the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.

Sub-series: Abstract of Title 1864-1911
Physical Description: 1 bound volume
Sub-series Scope and Content
This volume is an abstract of title to parcels of land in Santa Clara County deed from James Richardson et ux to Daniel Hatler, on March 13, 1878. The abstract starts with the deed from the City of San Jose to L.F. Chipman in 1864.
Sub-series: 2 Assignment of Leases 1875-1922

Physical Description: 2 bound volumes.
Sub-series Scope and Content
These volumes describe assignment of land leases. The income of these leases was assigned to another party. Each entry includes the date, assignor and assignee, and a description of the land leased.

Sub-series: 3 Assignment of Mortgages 1872-1898

Physical Description: 8 bound volumes
Sub-series Scope and Content
These volumes record assignment of mortgages to third parties. Entries include name of person assigning, person to whom assigning, and identity of mortgages being assigned.

Sub-series: 4 Index to Assignments of Leases and Mortgages 1874-1922

Physical Description: 5 bound volumes
Sub-series Scope and Content
Each entry includes assignee, assignor, instrument assigned (e.g., mortgage, lease, trust deed), date of assignment, and when and where recorded. Arrangement is alphabetical then chronological with separate alphabetical listings by assignee and by assignor. Volumes A and B cover 1874-1894; volume D, 1903-1910; Volume E, 1908-1919; and volume F, 1919-1922.

Sub-series: 5 Attachments 1874-1922

Physical Description: 11 volumes
Sub-series Scope and Content
Each entry includes name of plaintiff and defendant, name of court, judgment, and property being attached to satisfy judgment.

Sub-series: 6 Index to Attachments 1875-1922

Physical Description: 3 bound volumes
Sub-series Scope and Content
Volume entries include parties against whom attachments issued, parties issuing attachments, when recorded, and where recorded. Entries are alphabetical, then chronological, by name of parties against whom attachments issued.

Sub-series: 7 Book of Solares and Register of Lands 1870 copy of 1842-1850 records

Physical Description: 3 bound volumes
Sub-series Scope and Content
These volumes record lands registered to owners by the Alcalde. An Alcalde was an official who acted as both a mayor and judge. Alcaldes were present in the Santa Clara county region when California belonged to Mexico, and while California transitioned to an American style of governance. Each entry includes name of the property owner, a description of the land, and any conditions to ownership, such as the requirement to build a house or a fence on the property. Some entries are in Spanish. The last half of volume 1 contains the cattle brand records.
Sub-series: 8 **Certificate of Sale of Real Estate in the City of San Jose for Street Assessment. 1892-1916**

- Physical Description: 1 bound volume
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  
  This volume records property sold due to delinquency in payment of street assessment. Each entry includes the name of the street, description of the property assessed for "laying out, opening, extending, widening, straightening or, closing up" a street, who purchased the property, the amount the property was purchased for, and if the property was redeemed.

Sub-series: 9 **Certificate of Sale of Real Estate 1873-1911**

- Physical Description: 18 bound volumes
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  
  These volumes record Certificates of Sale of Real Estate in various towns in Santa Clara County. The real estate was sold by the tax collector due to delinquency in payment of state and/or county taxes.

Sub-series: 10 **Certificates of Sale 1866-1911**

- Physical Description: 5 bound volumes
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  
  This sub-series consists of Certificates of Sales. These sales were ordered by the Superior and District Courts to satisfy judgments.

Sub-series: 11 **Conveyance of Real Estate Tax Deeds 1903-1911**

- Physical Description: 1 bound volume
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  
  This sub-series records property sold to the State of California due to the owners' delinquency in paying property taxes.

Sub-series: 12 **Crop and Chattel Mortgages 1865-1922**

- Physical Description: 53 bound volumes
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  
  This sub-series consists of crop and chattel mortgages recorded in the county from 1878 to 1922. Crop and chattel mortgages were used when personal assets, such as crops, farm animals and other personal property were used as security for loans. This is now known as a security agreement.

Sub-series: 13 **Deeds 1846-1922**

- Physical Description: 602 bound volumes
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  
  This sub-series contains all deeds recorded with the County through 1922, after which deeds were maintained as part of the Official Records sub-series. This sub-series contains some deeds written prior to the County's creation in 1850 but recorded with the County after that date. The sub-series does not include trust deeds, which secure a debt through real property and which are maintained as a separate sub-series. The deeds are arranged chronologically by the date recorded, and the volumes of deeds are in two sub-series, the earlier labeled "A" through "Z" and the later numbered.

Sub-series: 14 **Index to Deeds 1846-1922**

- Physical Description: 70 bound volumes
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  
  Each entry includes year, month, day, grantee, grantor, book and page. Each index volume covers a year or a sub-series of years. Within each volume, last names are arranged alphabetically, but under each letter, the entries are listed chronologically.
Sub-series: 15 **Deeds to the State of California 1880-1897**
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This volume contains Deeds to the State of California. It contains records of land deeded to the state due to the owner's failure to pay property taxes.

Sub-series: 16 **Executions 1875-1915**
   Physical Description: 2 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   These volumes record executions of judgments. Each entry lists the plaintiff and defendant, the amount of money owed to the winning party, and a description of the real property awarded to the winner of the case in lieu of money.

Sub-series: 17 **Index to Executions 1874-1922**
   Physical Description: 2 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Each entry lists the date of execution, defendant, plaintiff, and volume and page of the book it is recorded in. The entries are arranged alphabetically by defendant.

Sub-series: 18 **General Index 1897-1960**
   Physical Description: 400 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This sub-series consists of the general and grantor/grantee indices. These volumes index all property records prior to 1923. Therefore these volumes index the following sub-series: Deeds, Trust Deeds, Mortgages, Homesteads, Assignments, Attachments, Conveyances, Crop and Chattel Mortgages, etc. Volumes after 1922 are divided into volumes that index grantors and grantees.

Sub-series: 19 **Homesteads 1860-1955**
   Physical Description: 14 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This sub-series consists of homestead claims. These records document the claimant, date of claim and description of the property. These homesteads were declared under the "Act to exempt the homestead and other property from forced sale in certain cases," of 1851. This means that if the head of household obtains debt after the claiming of the homestead, creditors could not force the sale of the homestead to settle the debt.

Sub-series: 20 **Index to Homesteads 1860-1955**
   Physical Description: 4 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Each entry includes the claimant, date of claim, volume and page number.

Sub-series: 21 **Abandonment of Homesteads 1898-1922**
   Physical Description: 2 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   These volumes record people who have abandoned their homestead claims. Each entry lists the owners, a description of the property they are abandoning, and the date. These claims were most likely abandoned due to moving to a new home. A homestead claim could only be declared on one home.
Sub-series: 22 Index to Abandonment of Homesteads Undated
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Each entry includes name, book and page.

Sub-series: 23 Index to Abstracts of Judgments 1875-1963
   Physical Description: 7 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Each entry lists debtor, creditor, amount of judgment, where recovered (Superior Court, Municipal Court, Small Claims, etc.), when recovered, when transcript was filed and volume and page of where filed.

Sub-series: 24 Index to Attachments, Certificate of Sale, Lis Pendens 1850-1876
   Physical Description: 2 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   These volumes index attachments, certificates of sale, Lis Pendens, judgments, and executions. Each entry includes when filed, defendant, plaintiff, instrument, book and page.

Sub-series: 25 Index to Certificates of Tax Sales 1872-1952
   Physical Description: 8 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This sub-series consists of entries that include tax year, to whom assessed, to whom sold, and where recorded. When a property owner was delinquent on their taxes, the property was sold through a tax sale.

Sub-series: 26 Index to Decree of Distribution 1873-1922
   Physical Description: 5 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   These volumes index estates being distributed by court order. Each entry includes name of deceased, administrator, distributees, date of decree, court issuing decree, and where decree recorded. These decrees are found in the deed books.

Sub-series: 27 Index to Federal Tax Liens 1939-1967
   Physical Description: 6 volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   These volumes provide an index to federal tax liens by property owner name. Each entry includes Recorder's number, name of property owner, address, collector's number, date and time of filing, amounts of tax and penalty, date of discharge, and Recorder's number of discharge.

Sub-series: 28 Index to Mining Locations 1898-1922
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Volume provides index to holder of mining locations. Each entry includes name of person, date of location, date location recorded, description of location, and book and page where recorded.

Sub-series: 29 Index to Preemption Claims 1850-1876
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Each entry records the claimant, and when and where recorded.
Series: Property Records 1842-1967

Sub-series: 30 Index to Personal Property Mortgages 1875-1955
   Physical Description: 24 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Each entry includes name of mortgagee, mortgagor, date of mortgage, where recorded, and when discharged.

Sub-series: 31 Index to Property Records 1847-1868
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This volume appears to be similar to the General Index, but it is not a part of that sub-series. Each entry includes the date, mortgagee, mortgagor, book and page. This volume indexes deeds, mortgages, releases, chattel mortgages, etc.

Sub-series: 32 Index to Reconveyance 1951-1963
   Physical Description: 15 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This sub-series consists of Reconveyance records, which document the reconveyance of property titles from trustees to trustors.

Sub-series: 33 Leases 1852-1922
   Physical Description: 17 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   These volumes record leased property. Each entry names the lessee and lessor, a description of the property, the length of the lease, the amount of rent to be paid, and any obligations of the renter to the property.

Sub-series: 34 Index to Leases 1867-1922
   Physical Description: 6 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Each entry includes lessee, lessor, date of leases, and when and where recorded.

Sub-series: 35 Lis Pendens 1866-1922
   Physical Description: 11 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Each volume contains listings of lawsuits affecting title to real property. Each entry includes names of parties, court in which action was heard, nature of the lawsuit, and property affected. Arrangement is chronological by date Lis Pendens notice was recorded. Note that early entries provide means of partially reconstructing docket of District Court.

Sub-series: 36 Mechanics Liens 1874-1922
   Physical Description: 14 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This sub-series consists of Mechanics Liens. These liens were placed against property when property owners failed to pay their contractors. Entries include name of claimant, against whom, and a description of the claim.

Sub-series: 37 Mortgages 1850-1922
   Physical Description: 262 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This sub-series consists of mortgages recorded in the County from 1850 to 1922. The mortgages are arranged chronologically by the date recorded, and the volumes of mortgages are in two sub-series, the earlier labeled "A" through "Z" and the later numbered.
Sub-series: 38 **Index to Mortgages 1847-1922**  
Physical Description: 37 bound volumes  
Sub-series Scope and Content  
Each entry lists the date, mortgagee, mortgagor, book and page.

Sub-series: 39 **Notice of Actions 1898-1907**  
Physical Description: 1 bound volume  
Sub-series Scope and Content  
Volume contains alphabetical index to lawsuits involving title to property. Each entry includes name of plaintiff, name of defendant, when notice was recorded, and volume and page. Volume and page references are to Lis Pendens volumes.

Sub-series: 40 **Index to Notices of Action 1852-1922**  
Physical Description: 6 bound volumes  
Sub-series Scope and Content  
Volume entries include name of plaintiff, name of defendant, when notice was recorded, and where recorded.

Sub-series: 41 **Official Records 1923-1960**  
Physical Description: 4500 bound volumes  
Sub-series Scope and Content  
This sub-series contains Recorder Official Records, all documents recorded with the County affecting title to real property, from 1923 to 1960. Documents include deeds of trust, deeds of reconveyance, liens, and agreements to reimburse, among other types. The documents are arranged chronologically by the date recorded.

Sub-series: 42 **Official Records Misc. and Miscellaneous Records 1855-1922**  
Physical Description: 92 bound volumes  
Sub-series Scope and Content  
This sub-series consists mostly of miscellaneous property records. Examples include: options to purchase, mining claims, release of heirs, final destruction of estate, etc. Along with the records are other official records such as: honorable discharge records, various military records for men who entered the military during World War I, and labor laws for women and children who worked in fruit processing factories.

Sub-series: 43 **Miscellaneous Index 1842-1910**  
Physical Description: 9 volumes  
Sub-series Scope and Content  
Each entry includes date, grantor, grantee, instrument (e.g., lease, power of attorney), and book and page where recorded.

Sub-series: 44 **Index to Officials Miscellaneous Volume C Undated**  
Physical Description: 1 bound volume  
Sub-series Scope and Content  
This volume indexes Official Records Miscellaneous Volume C. Each entry includes two names under a "to" column (indexing by grantor), and two names under the "from" column (indexing grantee). After each column is a page number.
Sub-series: 45 **Patents 1857-1922**

**Physical Description:** 13 bound volumes

**Sub-series Scope and Content**

This sub-series consists of patents that record transfer of public lands from either the United States or the State of California to private parties. Volumes A and B include patents for many ranchos and include colorful and intricate maps. Each entry includes the name of the property owner, what act of congress was used to claim the land, a description of the land, the name of the president or governor who approved the transfer of land, and where the patent was recorded.

Sub-series: 46 **Index to Patents 1845-1922**

**Physical Description:** 3 bound volumes

**Sub-series Scope and Content**

Each entry includes the date, grantee, grantor, lot, block, base line, book and page.

Sub-series: 47 **Redemptions 1912**

**Physical Description:** 1 bound volume

**Sub-series Scope and Content**

This volume records the estimated amount of money needed to redeem land sold to the state due to delinquent taxes.

Sub-series: 48 **Release of Mortgages 1854-1922**

**Physical Description:** 34 bound volumes

**Sub-series Scope and Content**

Volumes contain statements of release of mortgages due to payment. Entries include name of party releasing, name of party being released, date of mortgage and where recorded.

Sub-series: 49 **Index to Release of Mortgage 1867-1922**

**Physical Description:** 15 bound volumes

**Sub-series Scope and Content**

These volumes index releases of mortgage. Each entry includes name of the party releasing, name of party being released, date of mortgage and where recorded.

Sub-series: 50 **San Jose & Mountain View Conveyance Tax 1927-1982**

**Physical Description:** 2 bound volumes

**Sub-series Scope and Content**

Each entry includes the date, the conveyance tax for San Jose, and the conveyance tax for Mountain View. More San Jose and Mountain View Conveyance Tax records can be found in the back of the first volume of Cash Register Totals. These records range from 1976 to 1982.

Sub-series: 51 **Separate Property of Married Women 1875-1910**

**Physical Description:** 1 bound volume

**Sub-series Scope and Content**

Volume contains statements of separate property (not community property) held by married women. Each statement includes name of married woman and description of property.
Sub-series: 52 Index of Separate Property of Married Women 1875-1896
Physical Description: 1 bound volume
Sub-series Scope and Content
Each entry includes name of married women, names of their husbands, nature of instruments recorded, when recorded, and where recorded.

Sub-series: 53 Tax Deeds 1901-1905
Physical Description: 1 bound volume
Sub-series Scope and Content
This volume records property that was sold to the State due to delinquent taxes, then later auctioned to the general public. Each entry records the value of the property, the amount of taxes that were due, the fact that the property was not redeemed within the five year limit that the property was sold to the state, and the name of the person who bought the property at auction.

Sub-series: 54 Tax Sales 1894-1929
Physical Description: 26 bound volumes
Sub-series Scope and Content
These volumes record Certificates of Sale of Real Estate in Palo Alto, Los Gatos, Mountain View, and Morgan Hill. The real estate was sold by the tax collector due to delinquency in payment of taxes.

Sub-series: 55 Trust Deeds 1872-1922
Physical Description: 95 bound volumes
Sub-series Scope and Content
This sub-series consists of trust deeds recorded in the County from 1872 to 1922. Trust deeds differ from mortgages. In a trust deed the trustee holds the title to the property for trustor until the loan is paid to the beneficiary (the lender). The deeds are arranged chronologically by the date recorded, and the volumes of deeds are in two sub-series, the earlier labeled "A" through "Z" and the later numbered.

Sub-series: 56 Trust Deeds Index 1891-1922
Physical Description: 18 bound volumes
Sub-series Scope and Content
Each entry includes the date, grantee, grantor, book and page.

Sub-series: 57 Unsatisfied Mortgages 1871-1887
Physical Description: 3 bound volumes
Sub-series Scope and Content
These volumes records mortgages that have not yet been paid off. Volume 1 lists the mortgagee, mortgagor, amount, when due, residence of mortgagee, where recorded and remarks. Often the remarks notes if the mortgage has been satisfied. Volumes G and F lists book and page, mortgagor or debtor, mortgagee or creditor, if transferred, date, time to run, original value, partial payments, present value, description of property, city or town lots and remarks. Remarks often list if the mortgage has been satisfied. Volumes 2 and E are blank.

Sub-series: 58 Unsatisfied Mortgages of Record 1910
Physical Description: 1 bound volume
Sub-series Scope and Content
This volume records mortgages not yet satisfied as of March 7, 1910. Entries include mortgagor, mortgagee, book of record, date of mortgage, time to run, original value, current value, description of property, lot block, range, and number of acres.
Sub-series: 59 Water and Mineral Claims 1898-1922

Physical Description: 3 bound volumes

Sub-series Scope and Content
This sub-series consists of Water and Mineral Claims. The claims and purpose and nature of the claims are described. Water claims were made in order to divert water from a creek or river for agricultural or other purposes. This was usually done by building a flume or dam. Mineral claims were made in order to legally mine various mineral lodes.

Series: II Records of License, Certification and Registration 1850-1975

Physical Description: 21 bound volumes

Series Scope
This series documents professionals who were required to register their license or certificate to practice their profession with the county of Santa Clara. These include: doctors, dentists, architects, optometrists, pharmacist, chiropractors, undertakers and midwives.

Note
The Archives cannot provide official copies of recorded documents, which must be obtained through the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.

Sub-series: 1 Architect’s Certificates 1901-1921

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content
This volume is an index to Architect Certificates issued by the State Board of Architecture. Entries include the date, name, and where recorded. All certificates appear to be recorded in the Miscellaneous records.

Sub-series: 2 Licensed Surveyors 1850-1933

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content
Volume lists surveyors alphabetically and then chronologically under each letter. Entries consist of name of surveyor and county licensing.

Sub-series: 3 Optometry Records 1903-1947

Physical Description: 2 bound volumes

Sub-series Scope and Content
One volume lists registrations of Optometrists, and the second volume is an index. Each record includes the name of the optometrist and the date of certification.

Sub-series: 4 Pharmacy Register 1905-1936

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content
Listing of registered pharmacists. Each entry includes number (probably state registration number), name of pharmacist, date registered by state, and date registration recorded with Santa Clara County.

Sub-series: 5 Record of Chiropractic Certificates 1932-1955

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content
This volume records licenses to practice for chiropractors. Each record lists the name of the chiropractor, the date of license and the date the license was recorded.
Sub-series: 6 Register of Dentists and Index 1885-1943
   Physical Description: 3 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   These volumes list registered dentists in Santa Clara County. The first volume lists the
   name of the dentist, the date they were certified by the State Board of Examiners, the
date they registered their certificate, their residence and the college they received their
diploma from. The second volume lists the name of the dentist, their age, their address,
date of license, number of license, date of registration, their birthplace and date of birth.

Sub-series: 7 Register of Doctors 1916-1943
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Volume contains certificates issued by Board of Medical Examiners that individuals
qualified to practice medicine. Volume includes two additional sub-series: "Drugless
Practitioners Certificates," and "Reciprocity Certificates."

Sub-series: 8 Register of Medical Certificates 1876-1975
   Physical Description: 8 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   These volumes list medical certificates issued under "Sec. 2341, Business and Professions
Code." Each entry lists name of person, form of certificate, scope of practice permitted,
number of certificate, date of certificate, and date of registration. The earliest volumes
also list the school that the medical personal received their degree from and the names
of the Board of Examiners.

Sub-series: 9 Index to Medical Certificates Undated
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Each entry includes name and page number.

Sub-series: 10 Register of Physicians and Undertakers and Midwives Circa 1860-1900
   Physical Description: 2 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Each entry includes name, address and occupation.

Series: III Maps 1847-1957
   Physical Description: 109 bound volumes
   Series Scope and Content
   This series consists of official recorded maps and an index to surveyor maps.
   Note
   The Archives cannot provide official copies of recorded documents, which must be obtained
through the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.
Sub-series: 1 **Recorder Map Books 1874-1957**
Physical Description: 108 map books
Sub-series Scope and Content
This sub-series consists of 108 volumes of maps or surveys recorded with the County from 1874 to 1957. The volumes are in two sub-series, the earlier labeled "A" through "Z" and the second labeled numerically. In addition, there are two volumes of maps of state highways in the county. The two earliest volumes contain copies of the original maps. Recorded documents include subdivisions, surveys of property, cemetery plans, and other maps. Information on each map includes date recorded, person recorded for, and title of survey. Additional information may include notarized statement by property owner, statement by licensed surveyor, notice of approval by board of supervisors, and additional approvals by county or city officials. The maps are in chronological order by the date recorded.

Sub-series: 2 **Index to Map Books 1850-1960s**
Physical Description: 4 bound volumes
Sub-series Scope and Content
These volumes index the Recorder Map books. They are organized alphabetically by the name of the survey or subdivision. Under each letter, entries are chronological. There is also a listing of tracts in numerical order with map book references.

Sub-series: 3 **Index to Licensed Surveyor's Maps 1910-1955**
Physical Description: 1 bound volume
Sub-series Scope and Content
This volume indexes maps by owner, surveyor, grant, and U.S. subdivision.

Series: IV **Bonds 1875-1947**
Physical Description: 17 bound volumes
Series Scope and Content
This series documents bonds registered and sold in the county of Santa Clara.
Note
The Archives cannot provide official copies of recorded documents, which must be obtained through the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.

Sub-series: 1 **Auditors Register of Bonds 1906-1947**
Physical Description: 1 bound volume
Sub-series Scope and Content
This volume records bonds sold on December 3, 1906 and issued on January 1, 1907. Each entry includes number of the bond, the par value of the bond (all are $1,000), date of sale (all are sold on December 4, 1906), to whom sold, amount sold for, when payable, number and value, and date of redemption.

Sub-series: 2 **Bonds Surrendered 1900-1905**
Physical Description: 1 bound volume
Sub-series Scope and Content
This volume contains redeemed school district bonds. Each page includes the original bond certificate and the coupons redeemed.

Sub-series: 3 **Certificates of Street Bonds 1911-1917**
Physical Description: 1 bound volume
Sub-series Scope and Content
Volume contains certificates documenting sale of real property for non-payment of street bonds. Certificates are for Palo Alto and San Jose.
Sub-series: 4 **Index to Official Bonds Undated**

Physical Description: 3 bound volumes

Sub-series Scope and Content

These three volumes index volumes A, H and I of Official Bonds. Index volume A is blank. Each entry includes name and page number. The archives does not have the Official Bonds volumes A, H and I.

Sub-series: 5 **Official Bonds 1875-1884**

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content

Records bonds posted by public officials required to do so, including notary publics.

Sub-series: 6 **Register of Bonds of Santa Clara County Issued May 1st 1883 1883**

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content

Entries include number of bond, par value, sale date, to whom sold, sale price and when payable.

Sub-series: 7 **School District Bonds; Doyle, Moreland, Morgan Hill, Gardner, and Hamilton School Districts 1892-1903**

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content

This volume contains redeemed school district bonds. Each page includes the original bond certificate and the redeemed coupons.


Physical Description: 8 bound volumes

Sub-series Scope and Content

These volumes contain redeemed school district bonds. Each page includes the original bond certificate and the redeemed coupons.

Series: V **Oak Hill Cemetery Records 1860-1937**

Physical Description: 3 bound volumes

Series Scope and Content

This series records burials and purchases of plots in the Oak Hill Cemetery in San Jose.

Note

The Archives cannot provide official copies of recorded documents, which must be obtained through the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.

Sub-series: 1 **Index to Map of Oak Hill Cemetery 1860-1937**

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content

Each entry includes the date, name of grantee, description of the grave plot, and which book the plot is recorded in.
Sub-series: 2 Receipt book of Deeds-Oak Hill Cemetery 1865-1937
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This volume records those who paid for their cemetery plots. Each entry includes date, name of grantee, fractional, lot, block section, and where recorded.

Sub-series: 3 Record of Burials 1905-1914
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This volume records burials in the Oak Hill Cemetery. Each entry includes date of burial, name of the deceased, location of burial, age at death, place of birth, sex, race, city or county of residence, date of death, cause of death and any remarks.

Series: VI Wills 1848-1903
   Physical Description: 3 bound volumes
   Series Scope and Content
   This series documents will and testator records.
   Note
   The Archives cannot provide official copies of recorded documents, which must be obtained through the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.

Sub-series: 1 Testator Records 1850-1872
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Each entry includes the name of the testator, date of will, date of probate, when recorded and where recorded. It is uncertain what records this volume indexes. It may be either an index to wills or probate cases.

Sub-series: 2 Wills 1873-1903
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This volume contains wills recorded with the County.

Sub-series: 3 Index to Wills 1848-1901
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Each entry includes name, date of will, date recorded, book and page. This volume has very few entries.

Series: VII Businesses 1857-1955
   Physical Description: 13 bound volumes
   Series Scope and Content
   This series documents businesses established in the county of Santa Clara. The series includes records of incorporations, partnerships, licensing, and the registration of fictitious names.
   Note
   The Archives cannot provide official copies of recorded documents, which must be obtained through the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.
Sub-series: 1 **Articles of Incorporation 1867-1979**
- Physical Description: 1 bound volume, 105 archival boxes
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  The volume records articles of incorporation from 1877 to 1888. Each entry includes the name of the company, the articles, and date filed. The boxes contain 38,000 articles of incorporation from 1867 to 1979.

Sub-series: 2 **Certificate of Revivor 1919-1936**
- Physical Description: 1 bound volume
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  Volume contains certificates stating that corporations whose powers were suspended have paid all taxes and penalties due to the state and now have powers reinstated.

Sub-series: 3 **Index to Certificates of Revivor 1918-1929**
- Physical Description: 1 bound volume
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  Volume provides index to certificates reviving corporations.

Sub-series: 4 **Incorporations Undated**
- Physical Description: 1 bound volume
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  This volume is an index to a record of incorporations. No dates are indicated, but the condition of the volume, handwriting, and entries suggest nineteenth century, possibly 1860s.

Sub-series: 5 **Index to Corporations 1857-1972**
- Physical Description: 2 bound volumes
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  Entries include name of corporation, date of filing of incorporation, and number.

Sub-series: 6 **Index to Record of Incorporations Undated**
- Physical Description: 1 bound volume
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  Each entry includes name of incorporation, book, and page number.

Sub-series: 7 **License Register 1908**
- Physical Description: 1 bound volume
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  Volume lists business licenses for San Jose. Entries include date when fee due, name of business, address, kind of business, months fee pays for, amount of fee, and date of payment.

Sub-series: 8 **Register of Fictitious Names 1912-1955**
- Physical Description: 4 bound volumes
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  Volumes list fictitious business names and identify persons conducting the businesses.

Sub-series: 9 **Register of Partnerships 1874-1912**
- Physical Description: 2 bound volumes
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  This sub-series consists of registered partnerships. The entries include names of firm, names of partners, kind of business, place of business and the date of certification. The volumes are exact copies up until 1903. Volume two continues until 1912.
Series: VIII Notary Public 1876-1949
  Physical Description: 17 bound volumes
  Series Scope and Content
  This series documents the appointments, commissions, bonding and registration of notary publics in the county of Santa Clara.
  Note
  The Archives cannot provide official copies of recorded documents, which must be obtained through the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.

Sub-series: 1 Bonds 1897-1922
  Physical Description: 10 bound volumes
  Sub-series Scope and Content
  These volumes list notarial bonds. Notary publics are required by California state law to obtain a bond. These bonds protect the public against mistakes that notary publics might make. These records list the name of the notary public, the company financing the bond, the date of the bond, and the amount of the bond.

Sub-series: 2 Notarial Record 1895-1900
  Physical Description: 1 bound volume
  Sub-series Scope and Content
  Volume is record of documents notarized by Gilbert B. Wigle, Notary Public in Santa Clara County.

Sub-series: 3 Official Notary Bond and Record of Notarial Appointment and Commission 1889-1916
  Physical Description: 2 bound volumes
  Sub-series Scope and Content
  These volumes record notary publics who were appointed and commissioned in Santa Clara County by the Governor of California. Each entry includes the name of the governor, name of the notary public, when term expires, and when the notary public was appointed and commissioned.

Sub-series: 4 Record of Notarial Commission 1945-1949
  Physical Description: 2 bound volumes
  Sub-series Scope and Content
  Record of notary publics commissioned for County of Santa Clara.

Sub-series: 5 Register of Notaries Public 1876-1923
  Physical Description: 2 bound volumes
  Sub-series Scope and Content
  Lists notaries public "commissioned in and for the County of Santa Clara." Each entry includes name, address, date of commission, when commission expires, successor to whom, and notary's signature.

Series: IX Assessments 1875-1904
  Physical Description: 7 bound volumes
  Series Scope and Content
  This series documents property assessment in the county of Santa Clara.
  Note
  The Archives cannot provide official copies of recorded documents, which must be obtained through the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.
Sub-series: 1 **Assessment Book of Property of the City of San Jose 1875 1888**

- Physical Description: 3 bound volumes
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  - Includes assessment of real property and personal property. For real property, entries include tax payer name, description of property, lot, block, range numbers, value of land and of improvements. This volume has significant research value for genealogists and for those studying the history of properties in San Jose.

Sub-series: 2 **Index to Assessment Book 1895-1897**

- Physical Description: 2 bound volumes
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  - Not clear what assessment books these volumes index, whether San Jose, County, or other.

Sub-series: 3 **Index to Personal Property Assessment Roll of Santa Clara County 1886**

- Physical Description: 1 bound volume
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  - Entries in this index include name, page, district, and residence (city or township only.)

Sub-series: 4 **Transcript of Assessment Roll 1903-1904**

- Physical Description: 1 bound volume
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  - Entries include date, name, number and several figures. No headings for columns. Entries are in numerical order but no indication of what numbers correspond to.

Series: X **Military Records 1873-1903**

- Physical Description: 4 bound volumes
- Series Scope and Content
  - This series documents men who enlisted or were eligible to enlist in the militia.
  
  **Note**
  - The Archives cannot provide official copies of recorded documents, which must be obtained through the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.

Sub-series: 1 **Enrollment of Militia 1873-1874**

- Physical Description: 1 bound volume
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  - Volume appears to be a list of men eligible for service in the militia. Entries include name and residence (city or township only.)

Sub-series: 2 **Military List 1901-1903**

- Physical Description: 3 bound volumes
- Sub-series Scope and Content
  - Each volume contains names of "all persons subject to military duty."
Series: XI Oaths of Office 1850-1866

Physical Description: 1 bound volume and three CDs

Series Scope and Content
These volumes contain copies of oaths of office taken by county elected and appointed officials, copies of notices of appointment and revocations of appointments, and copies of bonds posted for the period April 8, 1850 through August 16, 1866. It also includes copies of official announcements of election results for county offices. There is an index in front of volume A, and a photocopied index of volume B. The archives has volume A and a CD of PDF's of photocopies of volume B.

Note
The Archives cannot provide official copies of recorded documents, which must be obtained through the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.

Series: XII Miscellaneous 1840-1984

Physical Description: 98 bound volumes

Series Scope and Content
This series contains miscellaneous records.

Note
The Archives cannot provide official copies of recorded documents, which must be obtained through the County Clerk-Recorder's Office.

Sub-series: 1 Allowance Book 1947-1948

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content
Volume records support payments made to individuals from the Social Welfare Fund and from the Charities Fund. Payments from Social Welfare Fund are for Old Age Security. Payments from Charities Fund are for General Relief and for Maintenance and Operations among other categories.

Sub-series: 2 Booth and Ballot Deliveries 1920

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content
This volume is labeled Roll of Attorneys and Counselors Admitted to Practice; however, it instead records booth and ballot deliveries for city elections. Each entry includes the date, the date of delivery, what city delivered too, and how many ballot boxes and voting booths were delivered. Only two pages are used, the rest of the book is blank.

Sub-series: 3 Cash Register Totals 1965-1982

Physical Description: 2 bound volumes

Sub-series Scope and Content
Volume one records the date and cash register total for NCR control, recording, vital statistics, copying section, searches, documentary stamps trust, San Jose conveyance tax trust, Mountain View conveyance tax trust, accounts receivable, cash count and deposit. The second volume records the date, cash register totals for control, recordings, maps, tax liens, building plans, finance statements, recordings, fee sheets, vital statistics, copies, certifications, cash count overage, shortage and deposited.
Sub-series: 4 Cattle Brands and Ear Marks 1840-1852
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This volume records cattle brands. Each entry includes the name of the owner of the
cattle, the date, a drawing of his cattle brand, and a drawing of a cows head and ears
showing what the owner's marks will look like on the cattle's ears. (The ears were cut into
different patterns to differentiate the cattle from other owners' cattle.) These records are
in the back half of the first volume of Book of Solares (Lots).

Sub-series: 5 Classified Allowances Infirmary Fund 1896-1904
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This volume details expenses approved by the Board of Supervisors for outside relief, for
the infirmary, and for the almshouse.

Sub-series: 6 Current Expense Fund Allowances by the Board of Supervisors
   1889-1900
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This volume records County expenses that were allowed by the board of supervisors.
Expenses included are: Justice's fees, Constable's fees, interpreting, reporting, witness
fees, post mortems, election expenses, law books, meals to juries, official expenses,
inquests, water works, blank books, stationary, postage stamps, clerical work, printing,
publishing, board of education, telephone, surveying, material, road signs and posting,
abating nuisances, creek work, repair tools, examining the insane, expenses of court
house (furniture, labor, repairs, materials, telephone, fuel, gas), expense of quarry (labor,
materials, repairs, clothing, fuel, cartage, guarding, conveying, boxing), expenses of
jails (labor, photographing, repairs, materials, furniture, telegraphing, fuel, cartage, gas,
clothing, board conveying, tobacco), and expenses outside jail (construction, repairs,
materials, labor, boarding).

Sub-series: 7 District Attorney and Clerk's Calendar 1909-1915
   Physical Description: 4 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This sub-series consists of four volumes of calendars. The first calendar is for the district
attorney and notes names of cases, their nature, and judge hearings. The rest are for
matters being heard by the Superior Court. Entries include case number, name of case,
and sometimes the action involved. One calendar is labeled, "L.R. Hicks Deputy."

Sub-series: 8 Fee Books and Delivery Records 1875-1930
   Physical Description: 54 bound volumes
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   This sub-series consists of Fee and Delivery books recorded. These books document the
deliveries made of copies of recorded documents and the fees paid.

Sub-series: 9 Index to Assignment of Accounts 1943-1965
   Physical Description: 1 bound volume
   Sub-series Scope and Content
   Not clear what accounts being assigned. Assignors appear to be mostly businesses and
assignees are often banks.
Sub-series: 10 Index to Builders Contracts 1941-1967
  Physical Description: 1 bound volume
  Sub-series Scope and Content
  Volume contains listing of builders contracts.

Sub-series: 11 Ledger, Civil Service Commission Circa 1905-1920
  Physical Description: 1 bound volume
  Sub-series Scope and Content
  This volume lists those commissioned to civil service, such as police officers, firemen, investigators, patrolmen, etc. Each entry lists the name, appointment date, title, record in police and fire commission book, and remarks.

Sub-series: 12 Minute Book, College Park Sanitary District 1909-1925
  Physical Description: 1 bound volume
  Sub-series Scope and Content
  This volume contains the minutes to meetings of the College Park Sanitary District. It also contains posted notices, receipts for funds, notice of elections, and letters.

Sub-series: 13 Official Records Book 518 1917-1918
  Physical Description: 1 bound volume
  Sub-series Scope and Content
  Volume transferred under title "Official Records Book 518" but dates from before start of Official Records sub-series. Does not appear to fit in either trust deeds or mortgages sub-series. Further research required to identify.

Sub-series: 14 Power of Attorney 1854-1922
  Physical Description: 10 bound volumes
  Sub-series Scope and Content
  This sub-series consists of Power of Attorney records. Each record indicates who granted power, to whom, and for what purpose.

Sub-series: 15 Index to Power of Attorney 1854-1961
  Physical Description: 5 bound volumes
  Sub-series Scope and Content
  Each entry includes names of parties executing the powers, to whom powers are executed, date of powers, date of recording, and were powers are recorded.

Sub-series: 16 Record of Oyster Beds 1909
  Physical Description: 1 bound volume
  Sub-series Scope and Content
  Volume contains one entry claiming certain tide and bay lands in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties for the purpose of planting and cultivating oysters, in accord with an oyster law passed in 1874.

Sub-series: 17 Revenue from Documentary Stamps 1975-1984
  Physical Description: 2 bound volumes
  Sub-series Scope and Content
  These volumes document the revenue from the sale of documentary stamps. These stamps are a state tax required for the passing of real estate title from one person to another. Each entry includes the date and the revenue for Alviso, Campbell, Cupertino, Gilroy, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Palo Alto, San Jose, Santa Clara Saratoga, Sunnyvale, Other and Santa Clara County. The second volume does not list Alviso, since it was incorporated into San Jose.
Sub-series: 18 **Road Fund Record 1883-1901**

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content

This volume records road expenses authorized by the Board of Supervisors. Expense categories include work, lumber, surveying, gravel, and bridge work, among others.

Sub-series: 19 **Squirrel Nuisance 1877**

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content

Volume contains notices filed by Squirrel Inspector of intent to abate squirrels on private property.

Sub-series: 20 **Statement of Banking Assets and Statement of Banking Capital 1877-1895**

Physical Description: 2 bound volumes

Sub-series Scope and Content

Volume includes statements of assets and liability for county banks, two statements per year per bank. Statements entered chronologically. Statement of Banking Capital.

Volume includes statements of capital of county banks, two per year per bank.

Statements entered chronologically. Volume also includes some statements of assets and liabilities.

Sub-series: 21 **Street Car Line Franchises 1868-1914**

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content

This volume documents applications for and in relation to street car line franchises. The entries record the various steps taken to establish and maintain a street car line franchise. These include: petitions for franchise, contracts, complaints, articles of incorporation, ordinances, bonds, protests, resolutions, requests, franchises granted, reports, notices, bids, bonds, etc. These actions were most likely presented to and granted by a committee or a board. Each entry includes: company name or street name, the date, action taken, and folio number of where recorded. It is uncertain where these folios are presently held.

Sub-series: 22 **Street Contingent Fund 1900-1916**

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content

This volume records claims made against the Street Contingent Fund. These include things such as sweeping, repairs, supplies, etc. Each entry includes the date, a list of claims, and how much each claim cost.

Sub-series: 23 **Typing Practice 1899**

Physical Description: 1 bound volume

Sub-series Scope and Content

This volume was used by employees to practice typing with a new typewriter. The first thirty-four pages are copies of records recorded elsewhere. The next nine pages include made up records, random phrases, nonsense, and a typed copy of the typewriter's instructions.