Guide to the Henry B. Fisher and Raymond W. Fisher Surveys Collection

Michael Griffith
Santa Clara County Archives
1875 Senter Road
San Jose, CA 95112-2527
Phone: (408) 755-7895
Fax: (408) 755-7897
URL: http://archives.sccgov.org
Email: Archives@ceo.sccgov.org
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Collection number: 2007-003

Santa Clara County Archives
San Jose, California

Processed by:
Michael Griffith
Date Completed:
2010
Encoded by:
Michael Griffith

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Henry B. Fisher and Raymond W. Fisher surveys collection
Dates: 1892-1969
Collection number: 2007-003
Creator: Fisher, Henry B.
Creator: Fisher, Raymond W.
Collection Size: 1 archival box, 68 oversize boxes, and five map case drawers
Repository: Santa Clara County Archives.
San Jose, CA 95112-2527
Abstract: This collection contains surveys of property and plans for sewer and road construction, primarily for Santa Clara County, made by Henry B. Fisher and his son Raymond W. Fisher.
Physical location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult Archives staff.
Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English
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
Acquisition Information
This collection was given to Santa Clara County by the Fisher family in the 1990s. It was transferred to the Archives by the County Surveyor in 2006.
Processing Information
The Fisher Surveys Collection was processed by Michael Griffith, Kevin Fleming, and Trista Raezer, working under NHPRC grant RA-10047-07. A fuller account of the grant project is available at the Archives website. The collection was indexed by Bob Johnson, an Archives volunteer, retired as head of the California Room of the San Jose Public Library. When transferred to the Archives, the surveys were rolled tightly and often dirty. Each survey was cleaned and flattened. The surveys were numbered when processed, catalogued in a database, and stored in processing number order. Processing of this collection is continuing and is approximately two-thirds complete.
Biography
Henry B. Fisher and his son Raymond W. Fisher worked as surveyors and civil engineers in Santa Clara County and nearby areas from the 1890s until the 1960s. Born in Wisconsin in 1866, Henry Fisher moved to San Jose in 1893, having previously worked as a deputy county surveyor in Minnesota, an engineer for Woods Harvester Works, and an employee of the U.S. War Department for harbor and river work. During his career in California, he served as city engineer for the towns of Santa Clara, Gilroy, Morgan Hill, Alviso, and Carmel, as well as maintaining a private practice. He died in 1931. His son,
Raymond W. Fisher, was born in 1892. Raymond Fisher also worked as a surveyor and civil engineer, carrying on a private practice primarily in Santa Clara County. He died in 1976.

**Scope and Content of Collection**

The Fisher Surveyor Records contain slightly over 1700 surveys and plans dating from 1892 to 1969. The surveys primarily are of private property throughout Santa Clara County, both rural and urban. Most surveys include one or more maps and pages of calculation and/or written descriptions of the property boundaries. Many survey files are plans for new residential subdivisions. In addition, the records contain plans for capital improvements, such as sewer systems and roads improvements. These records are especially strong for Gilroy. The records also include surveys made of school lots and surveys made of property lines for businesses, among other matters.

**Arrangement**

The files are arranged in processing number order.

**Online Index**

Search the collection holdings for surveys of specific areas or for specific projects using our [online index](#).

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

- Fisher, Henry B.
- Fisher, Raymond W.
- Santa Clara County (Calif.)
- Real property surveys
- Surveyors
- Gilroy (Calif.)
- Carmel (Calif.)