Finding aid of the Great Registries

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Finding aid of the Great Registries

Collection number: 2006-017

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San Jose, California

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Great Registries
Dates: 1877-1928
Collection number: 2006-017
Creator: Registrar of Voters
Collection Size: 27 bound books
Repository: Santa Clara County Archives.
San Jose, CA 95112-2527

Abstract: This collection contains the Great Registries from 1877-1928 for Santa Clara County.

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
Great Registries, 2006-017, Santa Clara County Archives.

Acquisition Information
The records were transferred to the Archives by the Registrar of Voters in 2006.

Administrative History
In 1866 California established the Great Registry Act which provided "for the registration of the citizens of the State, and for the enrollment in the several election districts of all the legal voters thereof, and for the prevention and punishment of frauds affecting the elective franchise." From this the Great Registry was created. All eligible voters were required to register. Women were able to register in 1911 but do not begin to appear in the registries until 1912.

The Registrar of Voters is a government agency whose main purpose is to ensure federal, state and local elections are conducted timely, responsibly, and with the highest level of professional election standards, accountability, security and integrity, intended to earn and maintain public confidence in the electoral process.

Scope and Content of Collection
This collection consists of the Great Registries of Santa Clara County from 1877-1924. The Registries are arranged alphabetically by registered voter up until 1900. Registries from 1900 on-ward are organized alphabetically by precinct with an alphabetical listing of voters within each precinct. Registries from 1916 on-ward are organized by two separate registries: one registry for the County and one for the City of San Jose but maintain the organization of precinct with an alphabetical listing of voters within each precinct.

Each registry contains the following information: name and address and political affiliation. Several of the registries will also include the following information: date of registration, occupation, age, color of eyes, color of hair, complexion, gender,
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Arrangement
The arrangement for the Great Registries is chronological by year.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
Voter registration--California
Santa Clara County (Calif.)
Santa Clara County (Calif.)--History
Santa Clara County (Calif.)--Registers

Boxes: 1-2 and unboxed
Series: Great Registries, 1877-1928

Physical Description: 27 bound volumes

Scope and Content Note
Volumes from 1877 to 1890 include: Name, Voted, Age, Country of Nativity, Occupation, Residence, Naturalization Date and Place and Date of Registration.
Volumes from 1892 to 1894 include: Number, Name, Ballot Number, Voted, Age, Height, Complexion, Color of Eyes, Color of Hair, Visible Marks or Scars, Occupation, Country of Nativity, Place of Residence, Post Office Address, Naturalization Date, Place and Court, Date of Registration, Sworn.
Volume from 1896 includes: Number, Name, Ballot Number, Voted, Business Occupation, Age, Height, Complexion, Color of Eyes, Color of Hair, Visible Marks or Scars, Ward, Precinct, Proprietor or Head of House, Room, Floor, Occupation, Country of Nativity, Place of Residence, Post Office Address, Naturalization Date, Place and Court, Able to read the Constitution in English, Able to write name, Physically able to mark ballot, Nature of disability.
Volumes from 1900 to 1904 include: Number, Name, Age, Address.
Volume from 1906 includes: Number, Age, Name, Occupation, Address.
Volumes from 1908 to 1910 include: Number, Name, Address, Occupation, Party Affiliation, Age.
Volume from 1912 includes: Number, Name, Sex, Address, Occupation, Party Affiliation, Age.
Volumes from 1914 to 1918 include: Number, Name, Occupation, Party Affiliation, Address.
Volumes from 1920 to 1928 include: Number, Name, Occupation, Party Affiliation, Address.