



Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation
Presidio Research Center

Genealogical Resources on Early California, Mexican, and Spanish Families at the Presidio Research Center

General Books

Bancroft, Hubert Howe. *California Pioneer Register and Index, 1542-1848*. Includes Inhabitants of California, 1769-1800, and List of pioneers. F860 .B27

Mason, William Marvin. *The Census of 1790: a Demographic History of Colonial California*. F870.S75 M37 1998

Mutnick, Dorothy Gittinger. *Some Alta California Pioneers and Descendants*. F860 .M87 1989. Birth, death and baptism records from the Santa Barbara Mission.

Northrup, Marie. *Spanish-Mexican Families of Early California, 1769-1850*. F870.M5 N67

Ryskamp, George R. *Finding Your Hispanic Roots*. CS943.R97 1997.

Local Histories and Biographical Resources

Guinn, J.M. *Historical and biographical record of southern California; containing a history of southern California from its earliest settlement to the opening year of the twentieth century. Also containing biographies of well-known citizens of the past and present*. F867 .G96

Ontiveros, Erlinda P. *San Ramon Chapel Pioneers and Their California Heritage*. F868.S23 O58 1990.

Phillips, Michael J. *History of Santa Barbara County, California, from its earliest settlement to the present time*. F868.S23 P4.

Storke, Yda. *A memorial and biographical history of the counties of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Ventura, California Containing a history of this important section of the Pacific coast from the earliest period of its occupancy to the present time, together with glimpses of its prospective future; with full-page steel portraits of its most eminent men, and biographical mention of many of its pioneers and also of prominent citizens of to-day*. F868.S23 S8.

Family Histories

In addition to the books below, try searching for a surname in the online catalog or the vertical files.

Smith, Robert E. *Family History of Robert E. Smith*. CS271.S65 1999.

Stevens, Meredith. *The House of Olivas*. CS71.O54 1995.

Strain, Ethel Hollister. *The Ancestors and Descendants of Albert G. Hollister*. CS71.H7425 1970

Villa, Margarita Delbrook. *Footprints of the Past: Family Memories of Leroy W. and Margarita D. Villa*.

Wilkes, Patricia Velasco. *Our California ancestors: Alamos*. F1391.A4 W55 1997

Wilson, Barbara Juarez. *From Mission to Majesty: A Genealogy & History of Early California and Royal European Ancestors*. CS71.J896 1983.

Historic Document Collections

Temple, Thomas Workman. *The Founding Documents of Los Angeles: a Bilingual Edition*. F869.L857 F68 2004. Includes: Soldiers and settlers of the expedition of 1781.

Archivo Histórico de Baja California Sur Pablo L. Martínez: Catálogo, Ramo I, La colonia, 1744-1821. CD3675.B34 C67. Lists historic documents related to colonial California.

Hojas de Servicios de America. Catalogo XXII del Archivo de Simancas. CD 1869.A55 1958. Search by name for military records.

Periodicals and Articles

Ancestors West (Santa Barbara County Genealogy Society)

Antepasados (irregular publication of Los Californianos)

Newsletter of Los Descendientes de Santa Barbara

Noticias para Los Californianos

To search names in the Noticias, go to: <http://www.loscalifornianos.org/noticias%20index.html>

El Mensaje (Los Pobladores 200)

The Quarterly (Historical Society of Southern California), Volumes 15, 18, 41-43, 54. Includes pre-statehood lists (called padrones) of Spanish, Mexican, and Indian residents. Especially helpful are the Los Angeles censuses of 1790, 1836, and 1844.

Vertical Files

- **People files**—biographical clippings files on individual Santa Barbara County residents
- **Pedigree charts of Presidio descendants**—The Research Center houses a number of completed family pedigree charts.

- *A Facsimile of the 1816 Census of the Pueblo of Los Angeles*
- Temple, Thomas Workman. *Sources for Tracing Spanish-American Pedigrees in the Southwestern United States, Part II, California and Arizona*. 13 p. 1969. Vertical file—Genealogy

Manuscript Collections

Descendants and Genealogy Committee, Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation

Margarita Villa Papers—pedigree charts, biographical clippings, military records on many Santa Barbara families

Richard Whitehead Papers—compilations of 1880 Santa Barbara census records, padrones, presidio soldier service records, copies of original documents from Spanish and Mexican archives.

Online Resources

Family Search, Family History Library www.familysearch.org

Search genealogical and historical records of all types. Free.

Spanish Genealogical research help: https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Spain_Genealogy

Baja California Civil Records research help:

[https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Mexico_State_of_Baja_California_and_Baja_California_Sur_Civil_Registration_\(FamilySearch_Historical_Records\)](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Mexico_State_of_Baja_California_and_Baja_California_Sur_Civil_Registration_(FamilySearch_Historical_Records))

Mexican Military Records guide:

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Mexico_Military_Records

Spain Military Records guide: https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Spain_Military_Records

Ancestry.com www.ancestry.com.

Search genealogical and historical records of all types. Requires paid subscription.

Early California Population Project at the Huntington Library

www.huntington.org/Information/ECPPmain.htm

Database of the baptism, marriage, and burial records of each of the California missions, providing information on the Indians, soldiers, and settlers of Alta California from 1769 – 1850.

Los Californianos: <http://www.loscalifornianos.org/index.html>

Los Californianos was organized by the descendants of the early Hispanic settlers of California to preserve the Hispanic heritage of Alta California (history, music, culture, infrastructure, etc.) and to help other descendants compile their Hispanic genealogy.—From the website.

Documentary Relations of the Southwest

Master File <http://uair.library.arizona.edu/item/200>--guide to several collections of Spanish colonial documents, usually on microfilm. Detailed summaries and translations of the documents are included.

Biofile <http://uair.library.arizona.edu/item/68386> --alphabetical listing of 19,684 persons living in the greater Southwest during the Spanish colonial period who appear with frequency in the historical record.

Glossary of Record Types and Terms (Spanish to English)

Padrones—Census-like records

Testamentos—Wills

Cartas de dote—Marriage contracts

Matrimonios—Marriages

Informaciones matrimoniales—Marriage information files

Defunciones/Sepulturas—Death/Burials

Confirmaciones--Confirmations

Inventario de bienes de difuntos—Death inventory

Quintas—Draft records

Hojas de servicios—Military service records

Comprehensive List of Spanish Genealogical Terms:

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Spanish_Genealogical_Word_List