

Early Land Records

compiled by Russ Brabec, Hal Jones and Cath Trindle

The index includes:

Patent Registers volumes 1-3 covering the years 1856-1921. Images of these volumes are available on FamilySearch. Land Patents were granted by the US Government on land they had acquired. Most of the early patents in San Mateo County were verifying claims of those who had been given Spanish land grants. Subsequent transfers of those original land patents are made by deed. It is possible to declare that the original patent has been transferred to an individual, which can give protections not necessarily transferred by deed.

Record of Deeds volumes 1-4 covering the years 1855-1866. Images of these volumes are available on FamilySearch. FamilySearch has images of deeds well beyond these initial 4 volumes as well as images of many of the indexes that were created over the years. These are all browse only, but are not difficult to navigate and find the records you are looking for.

Mortgages Registers volumes 1-2 These records are available from the San Mateo County Recorders Office. These are just the first two of many Mortgage volumes available in the County Record Repository. They can help provide a better picture of the worth of a property as amounts are often not included in the deeds.

Notes:

- (defd) = defendant (pltf) = plaintiff
- Att - Attorney
- CP = Co Partnerships
- D = Deed Volume
- P = Patent Volume
- M = Mortgage Volume
- L = Leases
- LS = Lis Pendens Volumes
- ES = Estray Volumes

See also: Lis Pendens, Sole Traders, Tax Sales, Sheriff's Sales, Leases and Homesteads

