

ONLINE HISTORY JOURNAL OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Books on Santa Cruz County History: a List by Year of Publication

By Frank Perry



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June 24, 2022

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Books on Santa Cruz County History: a List by Year of Publication

Compiled by Frank Perry

Over 260 books on the history of people, places, and events in Santa Cruz County history were published between 1879 and 2022. Here, for the first time, is a list of these books arranged by year with a brief analysis of the reasons for the increase in rate of publication starting in the 1960s.

Introduction

The number of books about the history of Santa Cruz County, California, has grown to over 260. This is quite extraordinary, given the small size of the county. Santa Cruz is the second smallest county in the state in area, with San Francisco County being the smallest.

The county certainly has a rich past, due in part to the diversity of natural resources, including timber, mineral, agricultural, and marine resources. These contributed to the development of many different industries, which attracted a variety of immigrant groups. The region's natural beauty has made tourism another important industry.

The number of local history books published each year started climbing rapidly in the late 1900s. Just five books were published from 1880 through 1899, while 69 were published from 1980 through 1999. So far, the year with the most was 2013 with thirteen.

Of course, there is much more history to write about today than there was in the late 1800s. Also, the county has many more people. It has grown from a population of 12,802 in 1880 to 270,861 in 2020.¹ By population, Santa Cruz County is twenty-fifth out of the fifty-eight counties in the state.²

Although the population grew through the first half of the twentieth century, there was no steady increase in books on local history being published

during this time. As summarized in the table on page 2, the number of books did not start to rise dramatically until the 1960s. The county's population continued to grow during this period, too, but the increase in publications is too great to be accounted for by population growth alone.

Several factors likely contributed to the rise between the 1960s and the present. *Santa Cruz Sentinel* writer Margaret Koch liked to write about local history and authored numerous newspaper articles on this subject from the 1960s through the 1980s.³ She also gave publicity to local history events and wrote several books during this period. Betty Lewis (in Watsonville) and Carolyn Swift (in the mid-county area) wrote newspaper articles and books starting in the 1970s. Betty Lewis also did a radio program.⁴ Promotion of local history through such media, even though some of the tales were anecdotal, enhanced public interest in history and in some cases inspired budding historians (such as this author) to start doing their own investigations.

Another significant factor was the opening of UC Santa Cruz in 1965. Under the direction of founding University Librarian Donald T. Clark, the library began collecting local history resources such as photographs, maps, and books—in part to help connect with the community. One early and important acquisition was the Preston Sawyer collection of old Santa Cruz photographs. The library also began conducting oral histories. UCSC resources were advertised as being available to the public.⁵

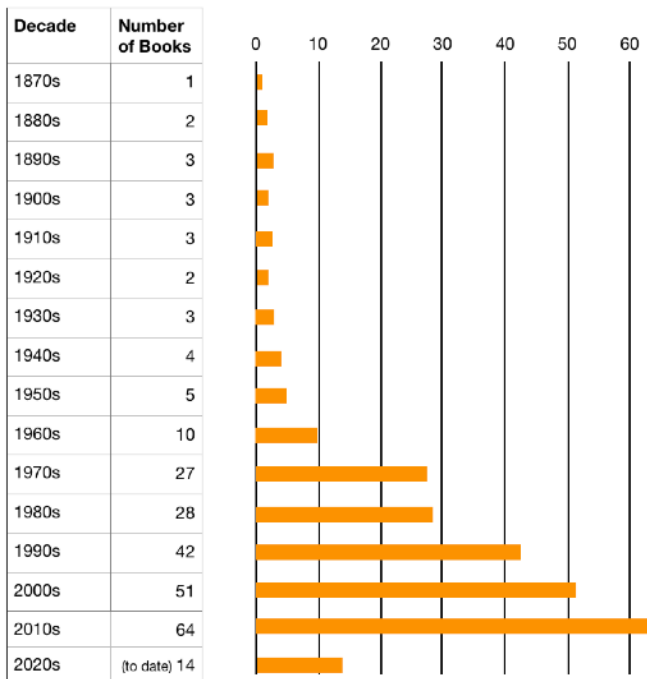


Figure 1. Table and graph showing the number of Santa Cruz County history books published by decade, from the 1870s to 2020s. The count for the 2020s covers from January 1, 2020 through April 1, 2022.

In the middle 1970s, Sandy Lydon of Cabrillo College began offering his two-semester evening course on the history of Santa Cruz County (later expanded to the Monterey Bay region). This popular class attracted many older adults and over the next few decades greatly elevated public interest in the region’s past.

The number of organizations, museums, and exhibits devoted to local history has increased from practically none in the early 1900s to over twenty today.⁶ Most of these originated in just the past fifty years. They were partly in response to increased interest in regional history. In turn, they helped to further promote the topic.

Lastly, the digital revolution—especially online research materials, personal computers, and print-on-demand technology—has had a profound impact on history publishing. In the past, histories of small towns and specialized topics (with the inevitable small audiences) were greatly hindered by the economic necessity of print runs in the thousands. Now it is practical to produce just a few copies of a high quality book, with the option of printing more as needed. Many of the recent books on local history have been produced through

Arcadia Publishing, which uses print-on-demand technology.

Not only has the number of books published each decade on Santa Cruz County history increased, so has the level of scholarship. Many are the result of extensive research and document (through footnotes) the sources used. Examples include Sandy Lydon’s *Chinese Gold* (1985 and 2008) and Martin Rizzo-Martinez’s *We Are Not Animals* (2022).

Criteria

In deciding what to include on the list, the compiler attempted to adhere to the following criteria:

Definition of a book. To be included, a book must have been printed on paper, bound, be either available or have been available for purchase by the public, and be accessible through public libraries. Length must be 25 pages or more.

Scope. The book must be about people, places, events, or other subjects in Santa Cruz County. A substantial part of the book must involve Santa Cruz County, and the emphasis must be on history. Some of the books from the late 1800s and very early 1900s include only a little “history” but are nevertheless included because the content has become historical due to the book’s age (i.e. *Santa Cruz County Illustrations*, 1879).

Geographic area. This list covers the entire county, including Santa Cruz, the mid-county area, Pajaro Valley, North Coast, San Lorenzo Valley, and the summit area. It does not include that part of southern San Mateo County that was within Santa Cruz County from 1850 to 1868.

Biographies. Biographies and memoirs of long-time county residents are included even if some of the story took place outside of the county (i.e. *California Caravan* by Margaret Hecox, 1966). If a biography is about a person who only lived in Santa Cruz a short time and the book hardly mentions the county, it is not included (i.e. *James Graham Cooper: Pioneer Western Naturalist* by Eugene Coan). Biographies and autobiographies of recent residents are included if published prior to the year 2000 or if about a time period before 2000.

Second editions. These are listed as separate publications if there have been substantial revisions (i.e. *Corralitos* by Judy Pybrum Malmin, 1982, revised 1998). Later printings without revisions are

not listed separately, but editions in other languages are.

Manuscripts. Unpublished manuscripts, theses, and privately published books with very limited distribution (such as family histories intended for family members only) are not included.

Periodicals. Magazine articles are not included. The list includes the *Santa Cruz County History Journals*, but not the individual articles. Stand alone works that are part of a series are included (i.e. *Native Americans at Mission Santa Cruz, 1791-1934* by Rebecca Allen, 1998. *Perspectives in California Archaeology*, vol. 5).

Oral histories. These are not included unless available for purchase by the general public in printed book form.

Indexes. Indexes, such as those for local newspapers or separately printed indexes for books, are not included since usually only a few copies were printed and distributed.

Historical fiction. Works of fiction are not included (i.e. *Santa Cat: Behind the Lace Curtains* by Margaret Koch, 2001).

Children's books. An attempt has been made to include coloring books and other books for children if they fit the other criteria. Children's books are followed by an asterisk.

The List

Although full bibliographical information is not provided, the title and author should be sufficient to locate a copy in a library, bookstore, or online. The Santa Cruz Public Library System, the Watsonville Public Library, and the UCSC Library have large collections of local history books as do the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History, the Pajaro Valley Historical Association, and several other historical organizations. Entries are by year of publication and then alphabetical by title.

Every attempt has been made to make this list complete. If a reader believes a book fitting the criteria for inclusion has been omitted, please contact the author. This article may be updated in the future.

1879. *Santa Cruz County, California. Illustrations . . . With Historical Sketch of the County* by various authors (Wallace W. Elliott & Co., publisher). Reprinted in 1997.

1880. *Santa Cruz and Monterey Illustrated Handbook* by Henry Meyrick.
1887. *Santa Cruz County: Resources, Advantage, Objects of Interest* by I. H. Raymond.
1890. *Santa Cruz County*, published for the Board of Supervisors by E[dward] S[anford] Harrison.
1892. *History of Santa Cruz County, California* by E[dward] S[anford] Harrison.
1896. *Santa Cruz County, A Faithful Reproduction in Print and Photography of Its Climate, Capabilities, and Beauties* by Phil Francis. (Cover title: *Beautiful Santa Cruz County*).
1903. *History of the State of California and Biographical Record of Santa Cruz, San Benito, Monterey, and San Luis Obispo Counties* by James Miller Guinn.
1905. *The City of Santa Cruz and Vicinity, California* by the Santa Cruz Board of Trade.
- c1909. *Boulder Creek, The Gateway to the California Redwood Park* by Hartman and Rodgers Real Estate Agents (reprinted in 1978).
1911. *History of Santa Cruz County, California, with Biographical Sketches . . .* by Edward Martin.
1912. *California Redwood Park, Sometimes Called Sempervirens Park, An Appreciation*, compiled by Arther Adelbert Taylor.
1915. *Reminiscences of Seabright* by E. M. C. Forbes.
1922. *A Pioneer Mother of California* by Elisha Brooks.
1925. *History of Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties, California* edited by Rolin Watkins.
1932. *History of Part of the Kyle Family*, compiled by Robert William Eaton.
1933. *Story of the Mission Santa Cruz* by Henry Albert van Coenen Torchiana.
1934. *One Hundred Years in the Pajaro Valley from 1769 to 1868* by Fred William Atkinson (also published in 1935).
1940. *The Story of Old Soquel* by Leon Rowland.
1941. *Old Santa Cruz Mission* by Leon Rowland.
1941. *Villa de Branciforte* by Leon Rowland.
1947. *Annals of Santa Cruz* by Leon Rowland.
1950. *The Burrell Letters: Including Excerpts From Birney Burrell's Diary and "Reminiscences of an Octogenarian"* by Clarissa Wright Burrell.
1952. *Watsonville: The First Hundred Years . . .* by the Watsonville Register-Pajaronian.

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- c1955. *History of the Santa Cruz Art League Galleries* by Margaret E. Rogers.
1955. *The Loganberry* by Mary E. Logan (reprinted in 2018).
1958. *60th Anniversary 1898-1958: Greatest Inheritance; Faith, Hope, Love; Issei, Nisei, Sansei/Westview Presbyterian Church, Watsonville, California* by Westview Presbyterian Church.
1963. *A Century of Christian Witness: History of First Congregational Church, Santa Cruz, California 1857-1963* by the Church Historical Committee.
1964. *Samuel Leask: Transplanted Scot, Citizen Par Excellence* by Robert Burton and Thomas L. McHugh.
1964. *Santa Cruz: Exciting Early History of an Era* by Margaret Koch.
1964. *Yesterday and the Day Before* by Margaret Koch.
1965. *History of the Dorn Family: California Pioneer Settlers of Green Valley* by Peter Thomas Conmy.
1966. *California Caravan: The 1846 Overland Trail Memoir of Margaret M. Hecox* by Margaret M. Hecox, edited by Richard Dillon.
1967. *In the Beginning: A History of the Paradise Park Site*, compiled by Thomas L. Reedy and Alice M. Reedy (reprinted and expanded in 1974).
1967. *The Japanese and Japanese-Americans in the Pajaro Valley* by Eleanor Johnson in collaboration with Opal Marshall.
1968. *South Pacific Coast: An Illustrated History of the Narrow Gauge South Pacific Coast Railroad* by Bruce MacGregor.
1969. *Oh, That Reminds Me . . .* by Phyllis B. Patten (reminiscences of the Grover's Gulch area, Soquel).
1970. *If Walls Could Talk . . .* by County Bank of Santa Cruz.
1970. *Solomon's House: A Self-conscious History of Cowell College* by various authors (the first four years).
1971. *The Grizzly Bear in the Land of the Ohlone Indians* by Ray Chapin (includes Santa Cruz County stories).
1971. "The Place on Laurel Street:" *The Diary of Judge Edgar Spalsbury*, compiled by Viola Washburn.
1972. *Rings in the Redwoods: The Story of Mount Hermon* by Kay Gudnason.
1973. *Art and Artists in Santa Cruz: A Historic Survey* by Nikki Silva.
1973. *Santa Cruz County: Parade of the Past* by Margaret Koch.
1974. *The Last Whistle [Ocean Shore Railroad]* by Jack R. Wagner.
1974. *Monterey Bay Area Natural History and Cultural Imprints* by Burton L. Gordon (revised editions in 1977 and 1995).
1974. *The Paradise Park Masonic Club* (Part I: In The Beginning: A History of The Paradise Park Site; Part II: The Paradise Park Masonic Club: Its First Fifty Years, 1924-1974) by Thomas L. Reedy and Alice M. Reedy.
1974. *Seventy Five Years: The Little Church on Depot Hill (1899-1974)* by Alvin D. Wilder, Jr. (church in Capitola).
1974. *They Called It Home* by Margaret Koch (stories of historic houses).
1974. *Victorian Houses of Watsonville* by Betty Lewis.
1975. *Highlights in the History of Watsonville California* by Betty Lewis.
1975. *Narrow Gauge Portrait: South Pacific Coast* by Bruce MacGregor.
1975. *The Sidewalk Companion to Santa Cruz Architecture* by John Chase (revised in 1979 and 2005; 4th edition in press, 2022).
1976. *Santa Cruz Historic Building Survey* by Charles Hall Page & Associates, Inc.
1976. *Watsonville: Memories That Linger, Volume I* by Betty Lewis.
1977. *Monterey Bay Yesterday: A Nostalgic Era in Postcards . . .* by Betty Lewis.
1977. *Surf, Sand, and Streetcars* by Charles McCaleb (reprinted in paperback, 1995).
1978. *Centennial 1878-1978 Santa Cruz High School Alumni Association* by the Santa Cruz High School Alumni Association.
1978. *Going to School in Santa Cruz: A History of the County's Public School System* by Margaret Koch.
1978. *Grand and Ancient Forest: The Story of Andrew P. Hill and Big Basin Redwoods State Park* by Carolyn de Vries.
1978. *A Howling Wilderness: The Summit Road of the Santa Cruz Mountains 1850-1906* by Stephen Payne.
1978. *Soquel Landing to Capitola-by-the-Sea* by Sandy Lydon and Carolyn Swift.

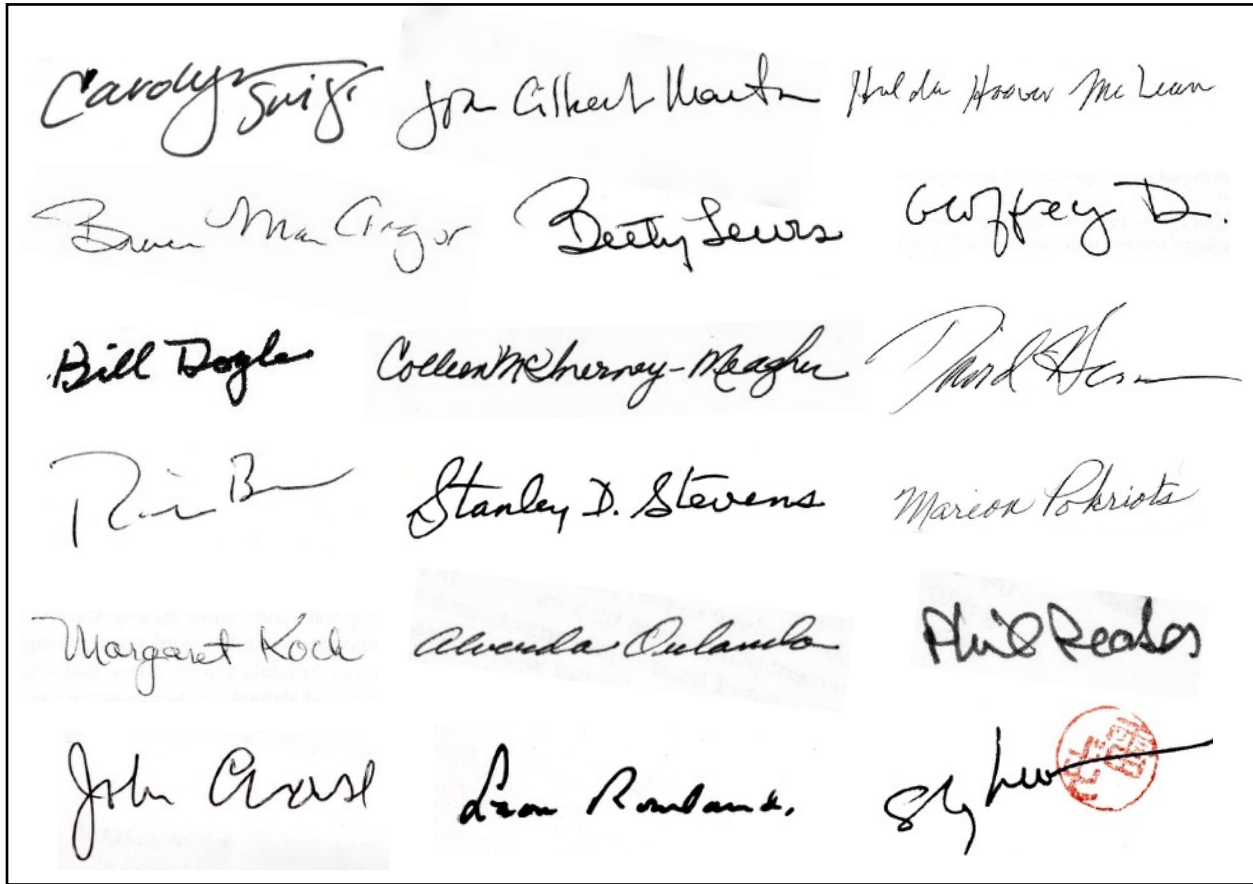


Figure 2. Autographs from signed copies of some of the books included on the list. From upper left: Carolyn Swift, Joan Gilbert Martin, Hulda Hoover McLean, Bruce MacGregor, Betty Lewis, Geoffrey Dunn, Bill Doyle, Colleen McInerney-Meagher, David Heron, Richard Beal, Stanley D. Stevens, Marion Pokriots, Margaret Koch, Alverda Orlando, Phil Reader, John Chase, Leon Rowland, Sandy Lydon.

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| 1978. <i>The Walk Around Santa Cruz Book</i> by Margaret Koch. | 1982. <i>The Natural History of the UC Santa Cruz Campus</i> edited by Sheridan E. Warrick (includes chapter on human history; revised in 2008). |
| 1978. <i>Watsonville Yesterday</i> by Betty Lewis. | 1982. <i>Santa Cruz Bird Club (1956-1981): A Brief History</i> , compiled by Viola Washburn. |
| 1979. <i>Ghost Towns of the Santa Cruz Mountains</i> by John V. Young. | 1982. <i>South Pacific Coast: A Centennial</i> by Bruce MacGregor and Richard Truesdale. |
| 1980. <i>California Central Coast Railways</i> by Rick Hamman. | 1983. <i>Late Harvest; Wine History of the Santa Cruz Mountains</i> by Michael R. Holland et al. |
| 1980. <i>Santa Cruz: The Early Years</i> by Leon Rowland (collection of his 1940s works). | 1984. <i>A Half-Century of Service: The Watsonville Japanese American Citizens League, 1934-1984</i> by Sandy Lydon. |
| 1980. <i>Watsonville: Memories That Linger, Volume II</i> by Betty Lewis. | 1984. <i>La Selva Beach</i> by Robin S. Batchelor. |
| 1981. <i>Seventy-fifth Anniversary, 1906-1981</i> by Watsonville Buddhist Temple. | 1984. <i>Yesterday and the Day Before, Part II</i> by Tanner Wilson (history of the Wilson family). |
| 1982. <i>Corralitos</i> by Judy Pybrum Malmin (revised edition in 1998). | |
| 1982. <i>Lighthouse Point: Reflections on Monterey Bay History</i> by Frank Perry. | |

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1985. *Chinese Gold: The Chinese in the Monterey Bay Region* by Sandy Lydon (revised edition in 2008).
1985. *Steinbeck Country Narrow Gauge* by Horace W. Fabing and Rick Hamman (includes Pajaro Valley).
1985. *We Are All Saints: the Story of the Episcopal Church in the Pajaro Valley* by All Saints' Episcopal Church.
1985. *W. H. Weeks, Architect* by Betty Lewis.
1986. *City of Capitola Architectural Survey* by Rowe & Associates (includes house histories).
1986. *Mid-County Santa Cruz, California, Soquel 1890 . . .* by Willa Dean Reynolds.
1986. *Santa Cruz County Place Names* by Donald Thomas Clark (revised edition 2008).
1987. *Georgiana, Feminist Reformer of the West: The Journal of Georgiana Bruce Kirby, 1852-1860* by Georgiana Bruce Kirby.
1987. *Santa Cruz County: Restless Paradise* by Jennie Dennis Verardo, Denzil Verardo, and Rick Hamman (general history of the county).
1988. *Westview Presbyterian Church 90th Anniversary: 1898-1988* by Westview Presbyterian Church (Watsonville).
1989. *Henry Cowell & His Family (1819-1955): A Brief History* by Laurie MacDougall.
1989. *The History of the Soquel Creek Water District 1961-1988* by Sandy Lydon.
1989. *An Outline History of Agriculture in the Pajaro Valley* by various authors.
1989. *Rancho Encinalito del Rodeo: The Invisible Rancho* by Phil Reader.
1989. *Santa Cruz is in the Heart* by Geoffrey Dunn (collection of essays).
1990. *Every Structure Tells A Story* by the Santa Cruz County Historical Trust Publications Committee.
1990. *The First 100 Years: A History of Live Oak School, 1872-1972* by Phil Reader (2nd and revised edition in 2009).
1990. *The Pasatiempo Story* by Margaret Koch.
1990. *Visions of Their Own: Four Monterey Bay Artists of the Depression Era* by Ann Hethcock.
1991. *Forever Facing South: The Story of the S.S. Palo Alto "The Old Cement Ship" of Seacliff Beach* by David W. Heron.
1991. *Harlots and Whorehouses* by Phil Reader.
1991. *Highway 17: The Road to Santa Cruz* by Richard Beal.
1992. *By-the-Sea: A History of the Capitola Begonia Festival* by Carolyn Swift with contributions by Margaret Koch.
1992. *Louis Edwin Hihn, From Childhood to My Last Hurrah: My Memorable Experiences, An Autobiography* by Louis Edwin Hihn, edited by Stanley D. Stevens.
1992. *Methodists in the Pajaro Valley: Keeping Hearts "Strangely Warmed" Since 1852* by First Methodist Church (Watsonville).
1992. *Nihon Bunka—Japanese Culture: One Hundred Years in the Pajaro Valley* by Kathy McKenzie Nichols and Jane W. Borg.
1992. *Quail Hollow Ranch: A History* by Susan Collins Lehmann.
1992. *Watsonville High School: A Century of Memories, 1892-1992* by Jane Borg.
1992. *The Quality of Mercy: Homelessness in Santa Cruz 1985-1992* by Paul A. Lee.
1993. *The Congregational Church of Soquel: The First 125 Years* by the Congregational Church.
1993. *The Santa Cruz Cavalry Co. & The Butler Guard: 1861-1868* by Sidney Glenn Freshour.
1993. *The Scotts Valley Site: CA-SCr-177* edited by Robert Cartier.
1993. *Voices of the Heart: Memorial Poems from the Diphtheria Epidemic of 1876-78* by Phil Reader.
1994. *A Brief History of Santa Cruz County* by Hulda Hoover McLean.
1994. *California Bound: The Hitchcock-Patterson Saga* by Marion Dale Pokriots.
1994. *Good Liberals and Great Blue Herons: Land, Labor, and Politics in the Pajaro Valley* by Frank Bardacke.
1994. *Pedal Pushers: A Century of Cycling in Santa Cruz County* by Rick Hyman, Betty Lewis, and Piet Canin.
1994. *Santa Cruz County History Journal Number 1* by various authors.
1994. *A Trip Through Time and the Santa Cruz Mountains* by Billie J. Jensen and Reece C. Jensen.
1994. *Where Grizzlies Roamed the Canyons: The Story of the San Lorenzo Valley* by Nancy McCarthy.

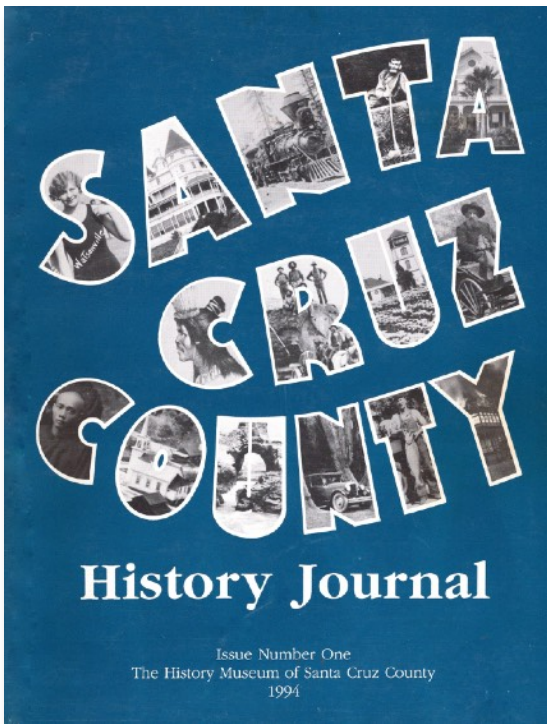


Figure 3. In 1994 the first issue of the *Santa Cruz County History Journal* was published. Subsequent issues were published in 1995, 1997, 1998, 2002, 2009, 2014, 2016, and 2018.

1995. *A Time of Little Choice: the Disintegration of Tribal Culture in the San Francisco Bay Area, 1769-1810* by Randall Milliken (includes Santa Cruz).
1995. *Growing Up on Grove Street, 1931-46 Sketches and Memories of a Chinese-American Boyhood* by Duncan Chin.
1995. *Harry Hooper: An American Baseball Life* by Paul J. Zingg (biography of the longtime Capitola resident).
1995. *Mama's Memoirs: Growing Up in the Santa Cruz Mountains* by Margaret Louise Rapp Tarquinio, edited by J. Alex Tarquinio (summit area).
1995. *Now and Then* by Harold J. van Gorder (collection of reminiscences).
1995. *Santa Cruz County History Journal Number 2*, by various authors.
1995. *To Know My Name—A Chronological History of African Americans in Santa Cruz County* by Phil Reader.
1995. *Wagons to Soquel, 1732 –1932* by Sidney Glenn Freshour.
1995. *Watsonville Images, 1888-1940* by Edgar Lewis Clark, captions and text by Betty Lewis.
1995. *The Way it Was: the Life of Haswell Thompson Leask* by Shipley Walters.
1997. *The Japanese in the Monterey Bay Area: A Brief History* by Sandy Lydon.
1997. *Santa Cruz County, California. Illustrations . . . With Historical Sketch of the County* by various authors. (Reprint of original 1879 edition with introduction, index, list of buildings, etc. by Leonard A. Greenberg, Stanley D. Stevens, and Jill Miller Perry)
1997. *Santa Cruz County History Journal Number 3 (Special Branciforte Bicentennial Edition)* edited by Phil Reader.
1998. *Corralitos* by Judy Pybrum Malmin (revised and expanded from 1982 edition).
1998. *Native Americans at Mission Santa Cruz, 1791-1834* by Rebecca Allen.
1998. *The Society of California Pioneers of Santa Cruz County (Santa Cruz County History Journal Number 4)* edited by Stanley D. Stevens.
1999. *Santa Cruz County: A Century* by Donna Jones (chronology of 20th century events).
2000. *At the End of Prescott Road: The Tale of a Historic Soquel Inn* by Murray J. Wright.
2000. *Fully Developed Context Statement for the City of Santa Cruz* by Susan Collins Lehmann.
2000. *Gaff-Rigged Remembrance . . . Writings from the Santa Cruz Harbor* by Ed Larson.
2000. *Mission Santa Cruz* by Kim Ostrow.*
2000. *Rock Solid, The Granite Rock Story: The First 100 Years* by Granite Rock.
2000. *The Sempervirens Story: A Century of Preserving California's Ancient Redwood Forest, 1900-2000 . . .* by Willie Yaryan.
2001. *Living and Loving Santa Cruz in the Fifties* by Daisy Rose Gandolfi.
2001. *Scotts Valley: As It Was and As It Would Become* by Donald E. Seapy.
2002. *Almost a Hundred Years* by Hulda Hoover McLean (memoir).
2002. *Chinatown Dreams: The Life and Photographs of George Lee* by Geoffrey Dunn (editor), Lisa Liu Grady, Tony Hill, James D. Houston, Sandy Lydon, Morton Marcus, and George Ow, Jr.

Online History Journal of Santa Cruz County – Books on Santa Cruz County History

2002. *A Gathering of Voices: The Native Peoples of the Central California Coast (Santa Cruz County History Journal Number 5)* edited by Linda Yamane.
2002. *The Joaquin Castro Adobe in the Twentieth Century: From Earthquake to Earthquake* by Suzanne Paizis.
2002. *Lighthouse Point: Illuminating Santa Cruz History* by Frank Perry (expanded from 1982 book).
2002. *Mary Holmes: Paintings and Ideas* by Addi Somekh and Gideon Rappaport (Santa Cruz artist).
2002. *Santa Cruz, California* by Sheila O'Hare and Irene Berry.
2003. *The Birth of the California Narrow Gauge* by Bruce MacGregor.
2003. *Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk: The Early Years—Never A Dull Moment* by Chandra Moira Beal and Richard A. Beal.
2004. *Draft Historic Context Statement for The City of Capitola* by Carolyn Swift.
2004. *The History of the Creeks of Rancho Tres Ojos de Agua and Vicinity* by Dean A. Silvers.
2004. *Memories of the Mountain: Family Life in Bonny Doon 1800-2000* by The Ladies of Bonny Doon Club.
2004. *Ocean Shore Railroad* by Chris Hunter.
2004. *Old Soldier: The Story of the Grand Army of the Republic in Santa Cruz County, California* by Robert L. Nelson.
2004. *A Walk Through Time: A Historical Guide to Santa Cruz Memorial Park* by Santa Cruz Memorial Park.
2005. *The Joseph Majors Story: Santa Cruz Rancho & American Alcalde* by Marion Dale Pokriots.
2005. *Olaf Palm: A Life in Art* by Irene D. Thomas (Capitola artist).
2005. *Santa Cruz Spirituality* by Paul Tutwiler (history of the various religious groups within the county; revised editions published in 2007 and 2009).
2006. *Davenport Cement Centennial: Honoring Our Past, Building the Future* by CEMEX.
2006. *150th Anniversary Celebration, Free and Accepted Masons of California, 1856-2006: The Consolidated lodges of Pajaro Lodge . . .* by Don Spence.
2006. *Ghosts of the Creamer Hotel, Felton: A Local History* by Randall C. Brown.
2006. *La Nostra Costa* by Ivano Franco Comelli.
2006. *A Legal History of Santa Cruz County: An Account of the Local Bench and Bar Through the End of the Twentieth Century* edited by Alyce E. Prudden.
2006. *Santa Cruz Coast* by Gary Griggs and Deepika Shrestha Ross.
2006. *Valley of Redwoods: A Guide to Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park* by Robert W. Piwarzyk and Michael L. Miller.
2007. *The Grand Hotel Capitola* by Gordon van Zuiden and Carolyn Swift.
2007. *Historic Homes of Boulder Creek* by Barbara Kennedy.
2007. *Lime Kiln Legacies: The History of the Lime Industry in Santa Cruz County* by Frank A. Perry, Robert W. Piwarzyk, Michael D. Luther, Alverda Orlando, Allan Molho, and Sierra L. Perry.
2007. *Pogonip: Jewel of Santa Cruz* by Joan Gilbert Martin and Colleen McInerney-Meagher.
2007. *Remembering Scotts Valley* by Marion Dale Pokriots.
2007. *The Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk: A Century by the Sea* by the Santa Cruz Seaside Company.
2008. *The California Powder Works & San Lorenzo Paper Mill Self-Guided Tour* by Barry Brown.
2008. *Cottage By The Sea: The Adrian Dominican Sister's Health Care Ministry in Santa Cruz, 1941-1988* by Roger W. Hite, Richard Crescini, and Marie Michaela Siplak.
2008. *The Natural History of the UC Santa Cruz Campus, Second Edition* edited by Tonya M. Haff, Martha T. Brown, and W. Breck Tyler (includes chapter on human history; 1st edition in 1982).
2008. *Nothing Left in My Hands: The Issei of a Rural California Town, 1900-1942* by Kazuko Nakane (Watsonville).
2008. *Santa Cruz County Place Names* by Donald Thomas Clark (revised and expanded edition).
2008. *An Unnatural History of UCSC* edited by Jeff Arnett.
2009. *Blossoms into Gold: The Croatians in the Pajaro Valley* by Donna F. Mekis and Kathryn Mekis Miller.

Online History Journal of Santa Cruz County – Books on Santa Cruz County History

2009. *The First 100 Years: A History of Live Oak School, 1872-1972* by Phil Reader, revised by Norman Poitevin.
2009. *Marks and Brands Volume K, Santa Cruz County Records, 1850 Thru 1917* by Stephen Benson.
2009. *Pathways to the Past, Santa Cruz County History Journal Number 6* edited by Joan Gilbert Martin.
2009. *Surfing in Santa Cruz* by Thomas Hickenbottom.
2009. *Twin Lakes Moon: 1924*, compiled by Norman Poitevin (articles from the 1924 Twin Lakes newspaper).
2010. *The Endearing and Enduring Capitola Wharf and Environs* by Phil Walker.
2010. *Out in the Redwoods: Documenting Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender History at the University of California, Santa Cruz* edited by Irene Reti.
2010. *Remembering Our Own: The Santa Cruz County Military Roll of Honor 1861-2010* by Robert L. Nelson.
2010. *The San Lorenzo Valley Flume* by Lisa Robinson.
2011. *History of the Watsonville Fire Department and Firefighters Museum* by Gene Friend.
2011. *Notes From Santa Cruz: The County's Music History* by Frank Perry.
2011. *The San Lorenzo Water District: A History* by Randall C. Brown.
2011. *Soquel* by the Soquel Pioneer and Historical Association Book Committee
2011. *UC Santa Cruz: 1960-1991. Campus Origin, and Early Program and Facility Development in the Sciences, with Special Emphasis on Marine Sciences* by William T. Doyle.
2012. *Aptos Was Idyllic: A Kid's Eye View of Aptos, California in the 40s and 50s* by David Glass.
2012. *The San Lorenzo Valley* by Lisa Robinson.
2013. *Aptos* by Kevin Newhouse.
2013. *The Borina Family of Watsonville* by Mike Wallace.
2013. *Capitola* by Carolyn Swift.
2013. *Felton Was So Fine* by David Glass.
2013. *A Guide to Old Holy Cross Cemetery* by Norman Poitevin, Phil Reader, and Robert Nelson.
2013. *Inside a Hippie Commune* by Holly Harman.
2013. *The Mix-Up Kid* by Stephen H. Benson (reminiscences of Santa Cruz in the 1950s).
2013. *Roaring Camp Railroads* by Beniam Kifle and Nathan Goodman.
2013. *Santa Cruz is in the Heart II* by Geoffrey Dunn.
2013. *A Short History of the Early Years of Ben Lomond Quaker Center* by John deValcourt.
2013. *Sports of Santa Cruz County* by Geoffrey Dunn.
2013. *Venetian Court, Est. 1924: Capitola's Unique Charming Seaside Resort* by Melanie Shaffer Freitas.
2013. *Vintage Bargetto: Celebrating a Century of California Wine Making* by John E. Bargetto and Geoffrey Dunn.
2014. *Celebrating the Magic of Jim's Road* by Barbara Thomas.
2014. *Discovering Mission Santa Cruz* by Sofia Nunes.*
2014. *50 Years of Safe Harbor: A Short History* by Dan Haifley.
2014. *The Founding of Ben Lomond* by Lucia MacLean.
2014. *La Selva Beach Looks Back in Time* by Jean Schaaf.
2014. *The Origin of UC Santa Cruz* by William T. Doyle.
2014. *Redwood Logging and Conservation in the Santa Cruz Mountains—A Split History (Santa Cruz County History Journal No. 7)* edited by Lisa Robinson.
2014. *The South Skyline Story* by Janet Schwind & The Skyline Historical Society.
2015. *The Complete Guide to Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park* by Eric Henze.
2015. *Growing Up in Santa Cruz* by Lois Ackerman Lawson.
2015. *La Misión de Santa Cruz* by Sofia Nunes and Christina Green.*
2015. *Santa Cruz Trains: Railroads of the Santa Cruz Mountains* by Derek R. Whaley.
2016. *An Architectural Tour of Historic Santa Cruz County*, drawings by Allan B. Allen, text by Ross Eric Gibson.
2016. *Comin' Thru: the Golden Age of Women's Polo, 1934-1941* by Colleen McNerney-Meagher.
2016. *Do You Know My Name? (Santa Cruz County History Journal Number 8)* edited by Joan Gilbert Martin (biographies of historical figures).
2016. *The Haunted Brookdale Lodge* by Aubrey Graves.
2016. *Hip Santa Cruz* by Ralph H. Abraham.

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2016. *The Haunted Brookdale Lodge* by Aubrey Graves.
2016. *Santa Cruz Memories: The Early Years* by the *Santa Cruz Sentinel*.
2016. *Santa Cruz Trains: Reflections on the Mountain Route* by Derek R. Whaley.
2016. *Santa Cruz Wharf* by Geoffrey Dunn.
2016. *Scotts Valley* by Deborah Muth.
2016. *Song of the Stubborn One Thousand: The Watsonville Canning Strike, 1985-1987* by Peter Shapiro.
2017. *Between the Redwoods and the Bay: The Jewish Community of Santa Cruz County . . .* by George Fogelson.
2017. *Harvesting Our Heritage* by Jody Biergiel Colclough, Elizabeth Birnbaum, Katie Lang Hansen, and Sierra Ryan.
2017. *Historic Live Oak* by Norman Poitevin.
2017. *Santa Cruz's Seabright* by Randall Brown, Traci Bliss, and others.
2017. *The Slav Community of Watsonville, California: As Reported in Old Newspapers (1920-1929)* edited by Thomas Ninkovich.
2018. *Between Paradise and Peril* by Gary B. Griggs (history of natural disasters).
2018. *Capitola History Coloring Book* by Frank Hill and Frank Perry.*
2018. *A Companion to Capitola* by Frank Perry.
2018. *40 Years of Saving Our Shores* by Dan Haifley.
2018. *Hip Santa Cruz 2* by Ralph Abraham.
2018. *Hip Santa Cruz 3* by Ralph Abraham.
2018. *LandScapes: Activism That Shaped Santa Cruz County, 1955 -2005 (Santa Cruz County History Journal Number 9)* edited by Elizabeth Schilling.
2018. *S. Martinelli & Company: Celebrating 150 Years* by S. John Martinelli and Lindsay A. Huysentruyt.
2018. *The Williams Brothers: Missouri to California by Horseback in 1843* by Timothy Lemucchi.
2019. *The Mission Santa Cruz Mystery: Seven Clues to Find the Site of the First Mission* by Melanie J. Mayer.
2019. *Hip Santa Cruz 4* by Ralph Abraham.
2019. *Santa Cruz Through Time* by Deborah Muth.
2020. *Davenport* by Alverda Orlando, Sally Iverson, and Ed Dickie.
2020. *Evergreen Cemetery of Santa Cruz* by Traci Bliss.
2020. *Historic Tales of Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park: Big Trees Grove* by Deborah Osterberg.
2020. *Lost Restaurants of Santa Cruz County* by Liz Pollock.
2020. *Names on the Map: History of the 1889 "Hatch Map," the "First" Official Map of Santa Cruz County, California* by Stanley D. Stevens
2020. *Secret Walks & Staircases in Santa Cruz* by Debbie Bulger and Richard Stover.
2020. *Seeds of Something Different: An Oral History of the University of California, Santa Cruz* edited by Irene Reti, Cameron Vanderscoff, and Sarah Rabkin.
2020. *Serial Killers of Santa Cruz* by Aubrey Graves.
2020. *The Tragedy of Martina Castro: Part One of the History of Rancho Soquel Augmentation* by Ronald G. Powell, edited by Derek R. Whaley.
2021. *Big Basin Redwood Forest: California's Oldest State Park* by Traci Bliss.
2021. *Murder Capital of the World* by Emerson Murray.
2021. *The Reign of the Lumber Barons* by Ronald G. Powell, edited by Derek R. Whaley.
2022. *The Founding of Alba School* by Lucia MacLean.
2022. *We Are Not Animals: Indigenous Politics of Survival, Rebellion, and Reconstitution in Nineteenth-Century California* by Martin Rizzo-Martinez.

Concluding Thoughts

Not surprisingly, Santa Cruz County's diverse and complex past has spawned an incredible variety of books on its history. Some are regional histories or histories of specific buildings or sites. Others are about people, industries, transportation, art, or culture. Quite a few are histories of schools, clubs, or religious organizations. While some are books that were done for hire or by the staff of institutions, the vast majority are by independent authors who were inspired to research and write about topics that interested them.

There has been a tremendous surge of interest in Santa Cruz County history over the past few decades. There is no reason to suspect that this will wane. In the future, however, it may well be that more authors will turn to publishing by way of blogs, websites, and e-books rather than through books printed on paper.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to my fellow members of the Museum of Art & History publications committee: Carey Casey, Jessie Durant, Emmy Mitchell-Lynn, Debbie Muth, Marla Novo, Stephen Payne, and Lisa Robinson for help with editing and for suggesting some of the titles on this list. Thanks also to Rick Hyman and Ronnie Trubek for their help.

About the Author

Frank Perry was born and raised in Santa Cruz County and has long been interested in the region's natural features and cultural history. He is the author of several books and numerous articles on these subjects. From 2013 to 2021, he served as curator of the Capitola Historical Museum.

Notes

¹ Population Statistics for Santa Cruz County and Cities, 1850-2010. (<https://history.santacruzpl.org/omeka/files/original/e5b77c64f95c4c19e0609c475869f5e6.pdf>) Accessed May 2, 2022. Quick Facts, Santa Cruz County, California (<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/santacruzcountycalifornia>). Accessed May 2, 2022.

² California Counties by Population (https://www.california-demographics.com/counties_by_population). Accessed May 2, 2022.

³ Although Margaret Koch retired as a *Sentinel* staff writer in 1981, she continued to write history articles into the early 1990s. See "Margaret Koch to Retire," *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, June 28, 1981, 21:4-5.

⁴ Transcriptions of the Betty Lewis KOMY radio programs can be found in her book, *Watsonville Yesterday* (Watsonville: Mehl's Colonial Chapel, 1978) 146 p.

⁵ "Local History Buffs May Use UCSC Sources," *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, March 19, 1972, 12:1.

⁶ Those included in the present count are: Agricultural History Project, Aptos History Museum, California Agricultural Workers' History Center at the Watsonville Public Library, Capitola Historical Museum, Cowell Lime Works Historic District at UCSC, Davenport Jail Museum, Evergreen Cemetery, Friends of Soquel Cemetery, Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park Visitor Center, History Forum, Santa Cruz Genealogical Society, Pacific Migrations Visitor Center at New Brighton State Beach, Pajaro Valley Historical Association, Researchers Anonymous, Rodgers House, San Lorenzo Valley Museum (with galleries in Boulder Creek and Felton), Santa Cruz Mission State Historic Park, Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History, Santa Cruz Surfing Museum, Scotts Valley Historical Society, Seacliff State Beach Visitor Center, Soquel Pioneer and Historical Association, Watsonville Firehouse Museum, and Wilder Ranch State Park.