



Resources for Researching Sacramento Buildings

California History Room

California Information File

Created at the California State Library, the California Information File is an index to many sources of California history, including newspaper articles, magazine articles, manuscript collections, and books, covering dates from the 1850's through present.

The original card file was closed in 1985, and the index has been continued as a database, online at www.library.ca.gov/calhist/databases.html.

Subject headings for the card file:

- Sacramento: Buildings
- Sacramento: Hospitals
- Sacramento: Hotels
- Sacramento: Landmarks & Memorials
- Sacramento: Restaurants
- Sacramento: Saloons
- Sacramento: Schools
- Theaters: Sacramento
- For churches, see Religion: Churches: Sacramento

Keyword search for database:

Sacramento buildings (or a more specific word, e.g., churches)

City Directories

Directories are arranged by occupant or business name, but there is often also a section arranged by address. They can provide the names of the occupants and their occupations.

Sacramento city directories for 1851 to 1860 are on microfiche. Request them at the Information Desk. Later years are available on microfilm (shelved on the north wall of Room 208) and/or in a paper format (shelved in Room 200).

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps

These maps show lots, building outlines, construction materials, and business names.

Sacramento Sanborn maps are available on microfilm from 1915 to 1970. They are shelved on the south wall of Room 208.

Newspapers

We have the Sacramento Union on microfilm from 1851 to 1994 and the Sacramento Bee from 1857 to present, as well as other Sacramento County newspapers.

Sacramento Bee index on microfilm 1900-1937

Sacramento Bee full text online, 1984-present

(over)

Photo Collection

Subject headings for the card index:

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Sacramento: Banks | Sacramento: Hospitals |
| Sacramento: Buildings (by name of business) | Sacramento: Hotels |
| Sacramento: Buildings: Residences (by name of resident) | Sacramento: Railroads |
| Sacramento: Buildings: Residences, unidentified (by street name) | Sacramento: Restaurants |
| Sacramento: Churches | Sacramento: Saloons |
| | Sacramento: Schools |
| | Sacramento: Streets |
| | Sacramento: Theaters |

Books

Walking tours of Sacramento's historic architecture: Capitol area, downtown district, Memorial Auditorium, Alkali Flat, historic neighborhoods. Sacramento, CA: Sacramento Convention & Visitors Bureau, [1997?].

Reading Room F869.S12 W24 1997

Vanishing Victorians: a guide to the historic homes of Sacramento. American Association of University Women. Sacramento Branch. 4th printing, rev. Sacramento: The Branch, c1981.

Reading Room NA7238.S12 A5 1981

Thomas Bros. block book of Sacramento: original city & business district.

Closed stacks [f] G1529.S12 G46 T56 1938 – Volume 1

Sidewalk history: pioneer sites of old Sacramento. Sacramento, Calif.: City of Sacramento, 1958.

Reading Room 979.454 S125

Historic landmarks of the city & county of Sacramento. Friends of the Sacramento City and County Museum. Sacramento, Calif.: the Friends and Pipper Parrish Printery, c1975.

Reading Room F869.S12 F73

Guide to old Sacramento. Miller, Robert. Sacramento, Calif.: River City Press, c1976.

Reading Room F869.S12 M538 1976

Old Sacramento; a report on its significance to the city, State, and Nation, with recommendations for the preservation and use of its principal historical structures and sites. California. Division of Beaches and Parks. Sacramento, 1958-60.

Closed stacks [q] 979.454 C153 – Volume 2

Also, check the online catalog (catalog.library.ca.gov) for books about specific architects, buildings, or families.