

Finding Aid to the George C. Collier Collection

Descriptive Summary

Title: George C. Collier Collection

Date Range: 1976-1981

Collection number: 08-42

Collectors: George C. Collier, historian, author, and surveyor.

Extent: 1 box

Repository: County History Center, Contra Costa County Historical Society, 724 Escobar Street, Martinez, CA 94553, 925-229-1042

Physical location: Special Collections

Legal status: public

Information for Researchers

Access: Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights: [Contact the Contra Costa County Historical Society for publication permission.](#)

Preferred Citation: Suggested citation of these records is: [Identification of item], George C. Collier Collection, Contra Costa County Historical Society.

Scope and Content: His collection includes printed maps, articles, and a scrapbook during the time of excavation at Somersville.

Biography: George C. Collier was a historian, author, and surveyor. He wrote *A History of Contra Costa County*, which he self-published in 1970. He also self-published in 1976 the book, *Laguna de los Palos Colorados—A history of the Moraga Rancho, Contra Costa County*. He was past president and secretary of the El Cerrito Historical Society. He worked over his career as surveyor for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Soil Conservation Service, and then for the Contra Costa County assessor's office. After retirement, he volunteered to work with archeologists from UC-Berkeley Lowie Museum of Anthropology in the excavation of Somersville in eastern Contra Costa County.

Arrangement of Materials:

- Scrapbook of clippings, brochures, maps, and blueprints; some of which George Collier created.
- Booklet on Point Pinole
- "San Francisco: a Lecture given for Vista College, March 25, 1983" (typescript)
- "Old Stone Walls of the East Bay" by Frederick J Monteagle
- Map, Richmond General Plan, 1973 (move to map collection?)
- "Summary of the Richmond Coastline Plan," 1971

- Map, Black Diamond Mine (East Bay Regional Parks), no date
- Correspondence from East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) about Sewage Sludge, along with articles about sewer sludge, and a booklet from the district about their water.
- "From the Beginning," by S.M. Marks, Secretary-Treasurer, typescript of article published in *Bubbles*, v. 5, no. 6, p. 3 (Oct 1922). A history of early water companies.
- Maps, different maps of California
- Newspaper articles
- Lecture on American Deserts
- Copy of *Laguna de los Palos Colorados—A history of the Moraga Rancho, Contra Costa County*.

Indexing Terms: Maps, Mining, Archeology, Excavation

Personal Names: S.M. Marks, Frederick J. Monteagle, George Collier