

THE ROWLAND COLLECTION
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THE JEANNETTE & LEON ROWLAND RESEARCH MATERIALS

MS 130

The Jeannette & Leon Rowland Research Materials collection was described in 1977, by the late UCSC University Librarian Emeritus, Donald Thomas Clark, as a collection of “great historical and genealogical importance.” The most important aspect of the material, from a researcher’s point-of-view, is the set of approximately 10,000 index cards pertaining to Santa Cruz County residents. The cards document from the earliest pre-Statehood settlement through 1951, arranged alphabetically by surname, *and* selected-subjects by category; e.g., civic improvement, economic activity, government minutes, organizations, places, and pre-Statehood activity.

This collection was a gift in 1977 to the University Library as a bequest of Jeannette Wheatley Rowland, with the assistance of the Rowlands’ daughter and sons.

These index cards are currently being transcribed, indexed, and prepared for inclusion on the UCSC Special Collections website:

<http://library.ucsc.edu/speccoll/rowland/>

The Leon Rowland Card Files

Transcribed & Indexed by volunteers Joan Gilbert Martin & Stanley D. Stevens
for Special Collections, University Library, University of California at Santa Cruz

The Card Files are arranged in ten file boxes and are divided according to subjects, as follows:

People = Boxes A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4, A-5, and A-6
Subjects = Boxes B-1, B-2, B-3, and C

The text of each card is reproduced in a searchable FileMaker database.

You may search by Keyword in the Text Field, or refer to the Index for People and Subjects included in the database.

Each database record is organized by the assignment of a box identification and card number; e.g.: (1) Box label: A-1, B-1, C, etc.; and, (2) a sequential Card Number.

The text on each card has been faithfully transcribed, although the exact formatting may not be reproduced due to the limitations of type font and size used on the original cards.

The Index (provided in a Word PDF file) is a prototype of the projected Index for all ten boxes.

The prototype contains A-1 (People: “A barr” to “Byrnes”) and B-1 (Subjects: “A-Z Misc.” to “County Government”).

The Rowland's other Research Materials

This extraordinary collection consists of scrapbooks of newspaper articles, boxes of research cards, and other research material collected by the Rowlands during their years in Santa Cruz. There is ample evidence that Jeannette maintained his files in good working order after Leon's death, and used them for her own writings. As a member of the Santa Cruz Historical Society, Jeannette's contributions appeared occasionally in its *News and Notes*.

For a complete list of books, documents, pamphlets, and scrapbooks *see list: Inventory of the Rowland Gift* at the end of this description.

(The Bancroft Library, see below, also received part of the collection.)

Leon Rowland's avocation was research on the history of California, and especially that of the *Villa de Branciforte* and the County of Santa Cruz. His profession was that of newspaper columnist, editor, and newspaper publisher. His topics were *people, places, and subjects* — almost all related to Santa Cruz County.

His research covered the early exploration of California by Spain from Mexico in the 16th Century, and by explorers sailing the Pacific Coast, notably by Sebastián Vizcaíno and his discovery of Monterey Bay in 1602. Rowland documented the establishment of the *Villa de Branciforte* (now part of Santa Cruz), and the California Missions, Santa Cruz in particular. Because of the interrelationship of the Missions and the civil government being located at Monterey, Rowland's research also touched on San Jose, Santa Clara, San Juan Bautista, Salinas, and Monterey.

Rowland taught himself Spanish, and copied documents from the archives of many institutions and translated them into English. Whenever appropriate, his index cards contain both Spanish and English.

His writing was published principally in the *Santa Cruz Evening News*, in the *Santa Cruz Sentinel-News* (when the *Santa Cruz Sentinel* absorbed the *Evening News* in January, 1942), and finally the *Santa Cruz Sentinel*. Rowland also was an editor for the *Soquel Weekly Journal* (1938) and the *San Lorenzo Valley Journal* (1939).

Rowland's columns appeared in the *Evening News* and the *Santa Cruz Sentinel*. A sampling of his interests may be gleaned from selected titles (Feb. 16, 1931- Nov. 30, 1952):

“Boys were Boys in 1845”
Agricultural Crops
Bear Flag Rebellion
Dairy Production
First Courthouse
First Spanish Families of Santa Cruz
Fixing Santa Cruz Land Titles
Gold in Santa Cruz
Historical sketch of Joseph Majors
Mission Hill School Site
Mission Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz in 1843
Santa Cruz Railroads
Santa Cruz Vigilantes
The Robles Boys
Trolley Lines

Villa de Branciforte
When Pacific Avenue (Santa Cruz) Was Willow Street
Wireless Operators

For additional references, see:

- Santa Cruz Evening News Local News Index Nov. 1928 - Dec. 1931* (p. 124 “Rowland, Leon”) Published by Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries, 1997.
- Santa Cruz Evening News Local News Index 1932 thru Aug. 1936* (p. 222 “Rowland, Leon”) Published by Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries, 1999.
- Santa Cruz Evening News Local News Index 1936-1941* (p. 239 “Rowland, Leon”) Published by Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries, 2000.
- Santa Cruz Sentinel Local News Index Nov. 1943 thru Dec. 1948* (pp. 371-372 “Rowland’s Column”) Published by Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries, 2003.
- Santa Cruz Sentinel Local News Index 1949-1956* (pp. 462-464 “Rowland’s Column”) Published by Genealogical Society of Santa Cruz County, 2005.

Leon’s published pamphlets include:

- 1940 *Story of old Soquel.* Soquel, Calif.: Soquel Print Shop.
- 1941 *Old Santa Cruz Mission.*
- 1941 *Villa de Branciforte : the village that vanished.*
- 1944 *Santa Cruz sentinel-news, eighty-nine years old. Brief history of newspapers of Santa Cruz County.* Santa Cruz, Calif.: Santa Cruz Sentinel-News.
- 1947 *Annals of Santa Cruz.* Santa Cruz, Calif. [Branson Pub. Co.]
- 1951 *Los Fundadores ...* Fresno, Calif. Academy of California Church History. (Publ. no. 3.)

Except for the newspaper history, the five other publications were compiled and indexed by Michael S. Gant, and published in 1980 as *Santa Cruz, The Early Years. The Collected Historical writings of Leon Rowland.* It also contains a Dedication to his father by Alan Wheatley Rowland, and the Introduction (included in full on this website) by Sandy Lydon (now Historian Emeritus) of the Department of History, Cabrillo College, Aptos, California.

The Rowlands were founders of and active in the Santa Cruz Historical Society, both serving as Secretary at various times, and Leon was on the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz City Museum. After Leon’s death, Jeannette served two terms as Secretary (1960-1968), and one term on the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Historical Society (1974+).

Jeannette, in addition to her work as proofreader at the *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, wrote twenty-two articles (1955-1970) for the Historical Society’s *News & Notes*, and attributed at least one to “... the files of Leon Rowland”:

Issue # 2	April 1955	Loudon Nelson	
# 7	June 1957	Santa Cruz Early Schools	
#10	June 1958	“Widow” Bennett	
#11	Oct. 1958	The Baldwin Family	
#12	Feb. 1959	Judge James Harvey Logan	
#13	June 1959	The Barson Family of Santa Cruz - & - Passing Landmarks	
#14	Oct. 1959	Santa Cruz County Court Houses	
#15	Feb. 1960	Locust Street	
#17	Oct. 1960	Early Santa Cruz Industry (tanning)	[continued]

#18	Feb. 1961	Paper Making in Santa Cruz County
#21	Feb. 1962	The Pope House
#22	June 1962	Elihu Anthony
#24	Feb. 1963	Eliza W. Farnham
#28	June 1964	History of Santa Cruz Sentinel
#31	June 1965	The Streets of Santa Cruz
#32	Oct. 1965	Santa Cruz Chinatown
#34	June 1966	Santa Cruz Firefighters
#40	June 1968	Early History of the Santa Cruz Library
#43	June 1969	The Streets of Santa Cruz
#44	Oct. 1969	San Lorenzo Paper Mill
#45	Feb. 1970	History of U.S. Post Offices in Santa Cruz

Inventory of the Rowland Gift to UC Santa Cruz

O = uncataloged: (Ask the Special Collections staff for assistance)

PRINTED MATERIAL: Books & Pamphlets

- Academy Scrapbook*. Fresno, Academy of California Church History & Academy Guild Press. (31 issues, July 1950-July 1953) o
- An Economic Survey of the Cities of Watsonville, Santa Cruz and Contiguous areas*. (1944)
McH Stacks HC108.S453 S2
- Anales*. Instituto Panamericano de Geographia & Historia. (7 vols., #s 1-5, 7-8. 1949.)
[may be: McH Stacks F1401.P153]
- Anthony, Charles Volney *Fifty years of Methodism; a history of the Methodist Episcopal church within the bounds of the California annual conference from 1847 to 1897*. San Francisco, Cal., Methodist book concern, 1901. SpecColl BX 8248.C2 A6
- Atkinson, Fred William. *100 years in the Pajaro Valley*. Watsonville, 1935. SpecColl F868.P34 A8
- Baker, Frank Kline *Historical sketch of First Methodist Church, Santa Cruz*. 1905.
SpecColl BX 8249.S26 B35 1905
- Berger, John Anton *Franciscan Missions of California*. New York, 1941. SpecColl F864.B585
- Blanch, Josephine Mildred *The story of a friendship : Robert Louis Stevenson, Jules Simoneau ; a California reminiscence of Stevenson* [s.l. : s.n.], 1927, c1921 2d ed
NRLF PR5493.B53 1927
- California State Historical Association. *Partial List of Organizations in California Interested in California History*. Los Angeles, 1942. 2nd ed. o
- California. Apportionment of State School Funds. (15 vols., 1937-1951) o
- California. Board of Equalization. *Trade Outlets*. Quarterly Reports (20 vols., 1940s & 1950s)
McH Stacks HJ 5715.U6 C274
- California. Documents dealing with water resources: (a) San Lorenzo River 1950-1951; (b) Santa Cruz-Monterey; (c) Lorenzo Water Works, 1951) o
- California. Miscellaneous unlisted state documents. (15 pieces) o
- Calvo, L. B. *Nociones de Historia del Estado de Sonora*. 1941. o
- Centennial Memorial, First Methodist Church, Santa Cruz, 1848-1948. o
- Commonwealth Club of California. *Population in California*. 1946. o
- Culleton, James. *Indians and Pioneers of Old Monterey*. Fresno, 1950. SpecColl F 869.M7 C8

- Fabricas*; a collection of pictures and statements on the mineral materials used in building in California prior to 1850, assembled by Elisabeth L. Egenhoff as a supplement to the California Journal of Mines and Geology for April 1952. NRLF TA 404.U5C32 c.3
- Gudde, Erwin G. *1000 California Place Names*. Berkeley, 1947. NRLF F 859.G8 c.2
- Jensen, Herbert A. *Vegetation Types & Forest Conditions of Santa Cruz Mountains*. Berkeley, 1939. SpecColl SD144.A13 J4
- Kahn, Edgar Myron. *Andrew Smith Hallidie*. San Francisco: Lawton Kennedy, 1953. NRLF Z 239.W47 1946
- Keeler, Charles Augustus. *San Francisco & Thereabout*. 1902. SpecColl Z239.S69 1902b
- Lange, Fred W. *History of Baseball in California and the Pacific Coast Leagues, 1847-1938*. Oakland, 1938. SpecColl GV863.L27
- Loma Prieta State Forest. (A Brief for the proposed Loma Prieta... etc.) 1937. o
- McHaley, Gertrude. *History of Santa Cruz County*. Santa Cruz, 1954? SpecColl F868.S3M25 1954a
- Milliken, R. N. *The City of History, San Juan Bautista*. Los Banos, 1950. o
- Miscellaneous pamphlets dealing with California historical matters (10 pieces) o
- Pasatiempo Country Club and Estates*. n.p., n.d. SpecColl HS 2725.S5 P372 1900z
- Paulson, L. L., compiler. *Handbook and Directory of Santa Clara, San Benito, Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Mateo Counties*. San Francisco, 1875. SpecColl F 868.A18 P35
- Railway & Locomotive Historical Society, Bulletin #66. o
- Santa Cruz City Maps, 1933, 1930? o
- Santa Cruz City. Budgets (6 vols., 1940 & 1950s) o
- Santa Cruz City. School Department. Reports. (2 vols., 1931-1934; 1934-1939) o
- Santa Cruz City. Water Department. Annual Report. (3 vols., 1949-1951) McH Stacks HD 1694.C2 S37a
- Santa Cruz County. Budgets, Financial Statements, Annual Reports. (33 v., various titles, 1940-1953) o
- Santa Cruz County. *Index to the Great Register*. 1873. o
- Santa Cruz County. Property Tax Assessments. (1956) o
- Santa Cruz Historical Society. *News & Notes*. 1954-1968. SpecColl F856.N48
- Southern Pacific Company. *The Road of a Thousand Wonders*. 1905. o
- Thomas Brothers Map Co. *Santa Cruz County*. (3 copies, ca. 1920) o
- Torchiana, Henry Albert Willem van Coenen. *California Gringos*. San Francisco, 1930. NRLF F 596.T67 c.3
- Torchiana, Henry Albert Willem van Coenen. *Hihn Co. vs. City of Santa Cruz, & Union Traction Company, in the Supreme Court of the State of California. Brief*. 1913. o
- Villa, Eduard. *Galeria de Sonorenses Ilustres*. Sonora, Mexico, 1948. o
- Villa, Eduard. *Historia des Estado de Sonora*. Sonora, Mexico, 1951. o
- Watsonville First Methodist Church, First 100 Years, 1852-1952*. o
- Wilson, Nichols Field. *California Business Roll of Honor*. Buena Park, Ghost Town News, 1943. NRLF HC 107.C2 W55
- Wyatt, Roscoe D. *Days of Dons*. Redwood City, 1949. SpecColl F864.W97

UNPUBLISHED MATERIAL [Ask the Special Collections staff for assistance.]

Early Historical Documents and Scrapbooks

- A. **Villa de Branciforte**: envelopes containing records, transcriptions of records, tracings of early maps, and other documents dealing with the establishment and operations of the Villa de Branciforte (one of the pueblos established in Alta California by the Spanish).

- B. **Castro Lands:** copies of deeds, mortgages, tracings of diseños, land holdings, summonses, translations of juridical possession documents dealing particularly with Rancho San Andrés.
- C. **California Powder Works:** a letterbook of Bernard Peyton, September 2, 1892 through May 25, 1894. [Peyton was Superintendent of the California Powder Works at Santa Cruz; and Santa Cruz County Supervisor, 1872-1877]
- D. **Scrapbook:** containing mounted clippings of articles by Leon Rowland from the *Courier-Item* and other newspapers, plus clippings from magazines, newspapers, etc., of Santa Cruz area dealing with Santa Cruz history. Includes a 62-page typed index.
- E. **Scrapbook:** containing some mounted but mostly unmounted clippings dealing with Santa Cruz history.
- F. **Scrapbook:** ditto, but all mounted.
- G. **Scrapbook:** Republican Party of Santa Cruz, Precinct No. 1. Contains news clippings, Flyers, Party Tickets, etc. 1872-1882. [Includes material related to several candidates, especially of the Santa Cruz merchant, G.B.V. DeLamater [Guysbert Bogert Vroom DeLamater], prominent in the Republican Party, and bill heads of his Pacific Avenue general merchandise store.]
- H. **Miscellaneous Envelopes:** containing
1. Deeds, mortgages, 1867-1873 (7 copies)
 2. Clippings of articles by Tom McHugh
 3. Copies of pre-Statehood documents
 4. Copies of documents in Spanish re: San Andrés Rancho (14)
 5. Documents relating to Soquel
 6. Typed copies of miscellaneous Santa Cruz County Court records 1860-1870s
 7. Notes taken from San Juan Bautista Mission records
 8. Notes taken from San Ysidro records
 9. Miscellaneous notes re: early California residents
 10. Notes on Branciforte baptisms, Santa Cruz Mission burials, marriages, baptisms
- I. **Typescripts:** of Leon Rowland's articles in various stages of revision
- J. **Binders:** containing notes on Santa Cruz statistics: 1. Taxes; 2. Public Welfare; 3. School expenditures; 4. Elections; 5. Tax collections.
- K. **Transcriptions:** California mission baptismal records (42 small notebooks)
- L. **Photographs** and negatives of Santa Cruz residents (50); & one glass plate.

Also available:

Rowland, Leon, 1884-1952

Santa Cruz chronology, 1791-1846 : typescript : [194-?]

Location	Call Number	
Sp Col Santa Cruz	F869.S48 R6529 1940z	LIB USE ONLY

Rowland, Leon, 1884-1952.

Santa Cruz sentinel-news, eighty-nine years old. Brief history of newspapers of Santa Cruz County. [Compiled by Leon Rowland. Santa Cruz, Calif.] *Santa Cruz sentinel-news*, 1944.

Location	Call Number	
Sp Col Santa Cruz	PN4899.S45S2	LIB USE ONLY

Rowland Research Materials also at The Bancroft Library

Part of the Rowland gift was donated to the Bancroft Library at UC Berkeley, and was described by Donald Thomas Clark as follows:

SPANISH-AMERICAN FILES: 5 Wooden Boxes containing approximately 8,160 cards (3" x 5") alphabetically arranged by names of Spanish-Mexican families – the first families of California and also other persons with Spanish-Mexican names that were in California 1769-85.

RANCHOS: One half drawer containing approximately 935 cards (3" x 5") containing information relating to Spanish and Mexican land grants and Ranchos.

The Bancroft Library has this Collection cataloged as follows:

Author	Rowland, Leon, 1884-1952.
Title	Research materials relating to early California residents.
Description	1 box, and 6 index card file drawers (in 2 cartons)
Note	Notes, articles and clippings re Spanish-Mexican families in California and land grants. Also included: a History of the Soberanes Family in California by Irene Sewell Soberanes (1950)
Subject	Soberanes family.
Subject	California -- History -- To 1846.
Added Entry	Soberanes, Irene Sewell.
Format	Archive/Manuscript
Call Number	NRLF BANC MSS 79/131 c BOX 1, CARTON 1-CARTON 2 W 30 946.

This Collection is stored off-site at the Northern Regional Library Facility. An advance request via UC Berkeley's Bancroft Library is required for its use.

The material in the Bancroft Library's collections was used as the basis for Rowland's *Los Fundadores ...* published in Fresno, California, by the Academy of California Church History, 1951. (Publication no. 3.) It's subtitle reflects the content of this forty-six page compilation: "Herein are listed

the first families of California and also all other persons with family names that were in California 1769-1785 except those who died at San Diego in 1769.”

Rowland explained his intent (in his Foreword to *Los Fundadores*):
[it] presents an attempt to list the names of the men who came from Mexico to northern California in the first fifteen years of its settlement, most of them to remain. *Soldados*, *pobladores*, *sirvientes* and *presidarios* compose the list. The mission priests are not included; a complete list of them will be found in the index volume to [Zephyrin] Engelhardt’s *Missions and Missionaries*.

Note: *Los Fundadores* was republished in *Santa Cruz, The Early Years: The collected historical writings of Leon Rowland*. (Santa Cruz, Paper Vision Press, 1980.)