

CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY

CALIFORNIA HISTORY SECTION

RESEARCH GUIDES

CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA HISTORY



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California History Section

900 N Street Room 200

9:30-4 Monday-Friday

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First established as a town in 1903, Carmel has always had a creative bent. As an early artist's colony, it has been home to a number of California greats including Mary Austin, George Sterling and Robinson Jeffers. This quiet seaside community had an estimated 3,859 people as of 2018, but it stays close to its roots with dozens of art galleries and at least one theatre group. It is also home to a California mission, several historic buildings and a thriving heritage society. If you are looking for exciting local information resources in the [California History Section's](#) rich collections, then check out what we have for this city!

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ENJOY YOUR RESEARCH!

DIGITIZED RESOURCES

Can't come to the library just yet? No worries! There are a number of online resources you can explore related to Carmel!



Digitized Publications

A few years ago we digitized some of our more fragile publications. You can now see documents related to Carmel on Internet Archive!



URL: <https://archive.org/>

Type in Search Box: (Carmel) AND collection: (californiastatelibrary)

Select Option: "Search Full Text of Books"



Digitized Images

We have scanned and digitized a portion of our extensive photograph collection, including images related to Carmel. You can see them on Calisphere!



URL: <https://calisphere.org/institution/51/items/>

Type in Search Box: ("Carmel")

GENERAL RESEARCH TIPS

While many of our materials are online, even more are only in hard-copy. You can use the following resources to learn about our Carmel resources.



Catalog

If you are looking for Carmel materials your best source is our [catalog](#). You can do a general search on the catalog but also be sure to check out our specialized resources on page 7 of this research guide!



URL: https://csl.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/search?vid=01CSL_INST:CSL&lang=en&sortby=rank

Type in Subject Box: (Carmel)



California Information File II

Sometimes the catalog doesn't provide as much detail as you might like. This is why we created the California Information File II, successor to the analog California Information File I. In this resource, you can find indexing to individual articles, as well as Carmel deeds, restaurant menus, pamphlets and more!



URL: http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryCalinfo.htm

Type in Search Box:

1. Carmel

GENERAL RESEARCH TIPS



City Directories

Looking for a person? How about the history of a location? You can trace this information and more via our city directories! See what we have by checking our specialized database.



URL: http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryCityDir.htm

Type in Search Box:

1. Carmel



Telephone Books

Are you not finding what you need in our city directory collection? No worries, you might find it in our telephone book collection. See what we have by checking our phone book database.



URL: http://dbs.library.ca.gov/dbtext_html/QueryPhonebk.htm

Type in Search Box:

1. Carmel

SPECIFIC RESOURCES IN OUR CATALOG

Carmel has a long and distinguished history! Check out our resources by type and by subject to learn more about this city's complex past!

Type		Residents
Maps	Manuscripts	Vitals
Books	Newspapers	Latin Americans
County Histories	Periodicals	Native Americans
Images		Women



Subject		
Agriculture	Folklore	Shipping
Art	Geology	Religion
Cooking	Land	Restaurants
	Medicine	Streets
Fiction	Poetry	Water
Fire	Politics	Wildlife

ON-SITE RESEARCH RESOURCES

Our collection predates computers and so do some of our access points! If you are in the library, be sure to check the following analog files for leads on more resources.



California Information File

In the library? Check the California Information File before you do anything else! This file indexes over 130 years of California articles, books, and manuscript collections from a variety of counties.



Subject Headings: Counties: Monterey: Carmel



Map File

Looking for a Carmel map? Our map file is a great place to start. We have a wide variety of maps, including Sanborn fire insurance maps. Some of our maps cover settlement patterns and even natural history.



Subject Headings: Monterey County



Photographic File

Sometimes a picture is worth a 1000 words and not all of our pictures are online. To check the rest of the collection search our picture file card catalog.



Subject Headings: Counties: Monterey: Carmel

OTHER ON-SITE RESOURCES

Despite our best efforts, some of our resources defy complete description. We suggest that you ask a librarian about Carmel information contained in the following resources.



Vertical Files

Our massive collection of vertical files covers a wide variety of topics including individual cities. You can check them for pamphlets, certificates and even posters related to organizations, individuals, and area histories.



Subject Headings: Counties: Monterey: Carmel



Postcard Files

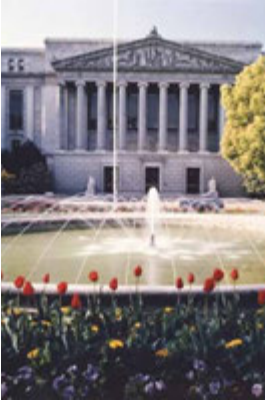
Separate from our photo collection, our postcard collection contains a number of images related to Carmel. Most are not online.



Subject Headings: Counties: Monterey: Carmel

OTHER PLACES TO LOOK

Of course, the California History Section doesn't have everything, so we suggest that in addition to looking at our collections, you contact the following organizations



Other California State Library Sections

[Government Publications Section](#)

[Witkin Law Library](#)

[Sutro Library](#)

[General Information](#)



URLs:

- <http://www.library.ca.gov/government-publications/>
 - <http://www.library.ca.gov/law/>
 - <http://www.library.ca.gov/sutro/>
 - <https://www.library.ca.gov/services>
-

Other Organizations



[Carmel Heritage Society](#)

[Carmel Public Library](#)

[Robinson Jeffers Tor House Foundation](#)

[Assessor County Clerk-Recorder](#)



URLs:

- <https://www.carmelheritage.org/about-us.htm>
 - <https://ci.carmel.ca.us/library>
 - <http://www.torhouse.org/>
 - <https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/government/departments-a-h/assessor/assessor-county-clerk-recorder>
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Hours: 9:30-4 Monday-Friday

This guide is also available online at:
<http://www.library.ca.gov/california-history/research-guides/>