

The County's Newest Reference Book

An indexed CEMETERY RECORDS OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY is the newest book concerning county history, to appear. It came out this week, published by County Bank, for the Genealogical Society of Santa Cruz County which did the work.

It took the hard-working members of the Genealogical society, under the direction of project chairman Sara Bunnett, more than two years to compile and type the material for the 264-page book.

It will be available to interested persons at the society's office at Branciforte Public Library, 230 Gault Street, Santa Cruz.

Included are Boulder Creek, Felton, Home of Peace, Evergreen, Holy Cross, Oakwood, Soquel IOOF, Santa Cruz IOOF, Mt. Carmel and the Day Family Cemeteries. Records date from the beginning to 1940, the cut-off date.

The Watsonville Cemetery was omitted, having already been recorded by another organization.

Small family burying grounds mentioned in-

clude China Grade, Martin's in Glenwood, Grateful Mountain at Rancho del Oso, Last Chance Road, Ord Ranch, Paul Sweet place, Waddell Beach parking lot, Valencia and Gianoni-McCrary Ranch.

Proceeds from sale of the book will be put into a special fund to be used for future projects not yet determined, according to Sara. Price is \$8, and \$9 if mailed.

The idea for the cemetery index actually was suggested to the local society by Sara on her return from a trip to England where she researched the Bunnett family history.

"I felt it would be a tremendous boon to family history researchers who are not able to travel as extensively as necessary to trace their family roots," she explained.

It was decided by society members, that since there is so much migration into California, the project most useful would be an index of cemeteries.

Sara was asked by the then president, Mildred

Sidner, to head the task force of member-researchers.

Tens of members visited cemeteries to copy data from tombstones, other teams visited cemetery offices to check records, still others indexed, typed and collated.

Workers included: Bernice Checola, Audrey Cummings, Helen Carden, Genevieve Davis, Hazel Elvy, Leah English, Inez and Clifton McClellan, Ada Belle Muegge, Beverly Pfaff, Antoinette and Doyle Reaser, Dorothy Salzman, Mildred Sidner,

JoAnn Schontzler, Rosemary and Dale Smith, Ann Webber, Margarita Cornwell, Dorris Purdue, Jean Wells, Marion Pokriots, Renalde Flatte, Charlene Shockley, Virginia Lewis, Linda Lyster, Lorraine Mitchell, Joy Hollander,

Edward and Robert Cook, Pamela Parker, Kay Perry, Judith Pahnke, Margaret Rominger, Claudina Sweet, Ralph Rose, Cisena Bushnell, Verna Lee Cocanour, Virginia Varni, Jane Huffman, Marjorie Deal, Bud and Catherine Lenox, Mary Weed, Marie Gieseke, Dorothy Barber, Estelle Levine, Faye Ellis, Andy Anderson and John Stevall.

The book represents a tremendous amount of research and compilation. However, as in any work of this magnitude, there are inadvertent gaps which will be rectified in future editions. So far, about 200 books have been printed.

"By way of an aside," notes Sara, "this indexing work revealed Santa Cruz to us as it really was. The index isn't just names and dates of birth and burial. It's about real people and we learned that many problems we tend to think of as recent, are problems that have always been with us. Alcoholism for example — 100 years ago it was a not uncommon cause of death."

Some of the work made necessary trips to the

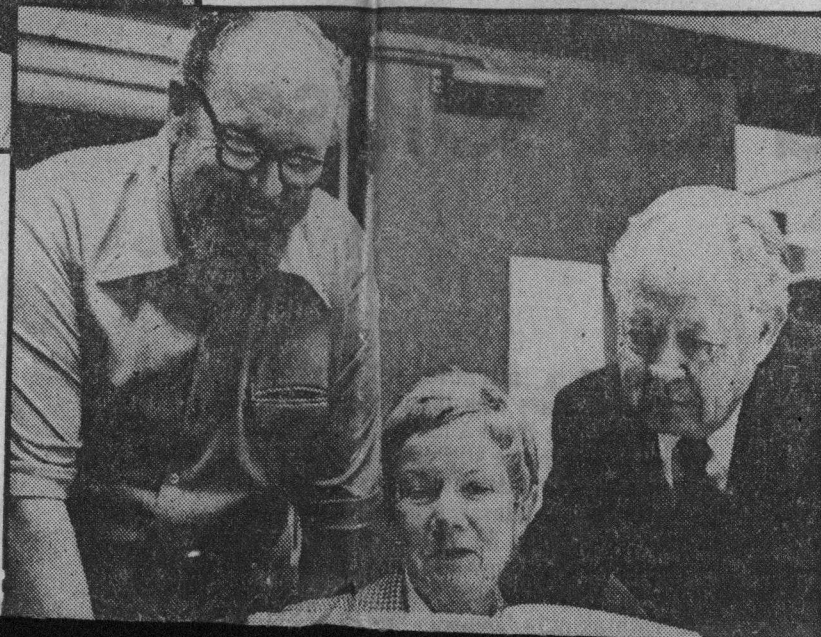
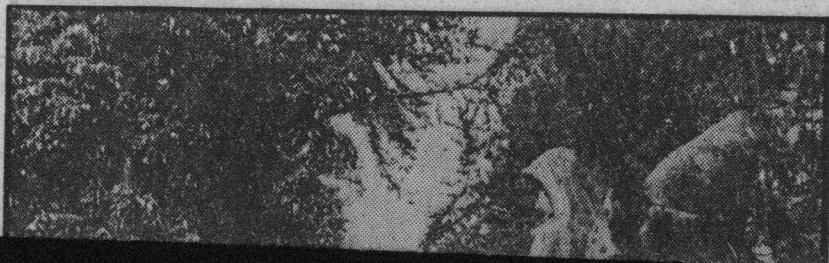
Monterey Diocese Chancery Office to translate the old Spanish language records.

Other material, not in the book, which was recorded by researchers, is available to interested persons who will send \$1 per each surname and self-addressed stamped envelope to Santa Cruz Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 72, Santa Cruz, 95063.

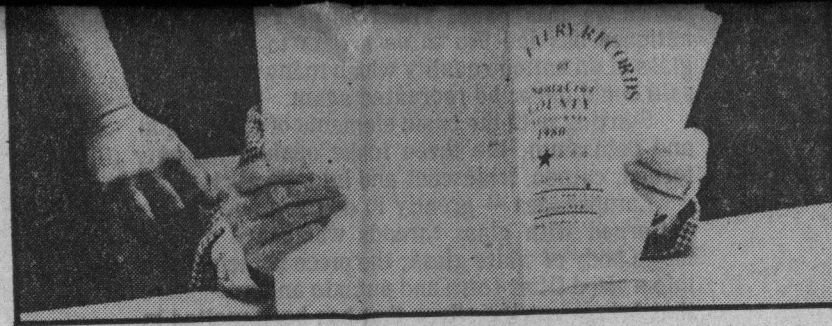
—MARGARET KOCH



Above, at House of Peace Cemetery, Estelle Levine and Bud Lenox copy headstone information. Below, stopping to admire angel headstone at Oakwood Cemetery are Ann Webber and Judith Pahnke.



Holy Cross Cemetery researchers, above, Virginia Lewis and Genevieve Davis record burial vault data. Below, at the Santa Cruz IOOF Cemetery Andy Anderson and Kay Perry work on records in office. In photo at left center, Chairman Sara Bunnett compares an interesting bit of research with John Stevall and Doyle Reaser who is president of the Genealogical Society.



Soquel IOOF Cemetery, shown below with Mr. and Mrs. Dale Smith, flourished under four flags: Spanish, Mexican, California and the United States. It is one of the oldest in the county.



Stenvall and Doyle Reaser who is president of the geological society.

