

# About the Archives

The Yolo County Archives is the official repository for Yolo County records, as well as donated materials relevant to the history of the county. The Archives was officially founded in 1985 thanks to the efforts of the Yolo County Historical Advisory Committee, former Yolo County Librarian Mary Stephens, and many community members.

The Friends of the Yolo County Archives was founded in 1986 as a non-profit organization whose purpose is to support the services and facilities of the Yolo County Archives.



*Guinda Band outside the depot. Acc. #2010-019.*

Archives staff will perform up to one hour of free research. Additional time is available, upon request, for a fee.

Staff-approved, digital or physical copies of non-fragile materials is allowed. There are fees associated with this service.

Patrons receive assistance to identify potentially useful collections or records.



226 Buckeye Street  
Woodland, CA 95695  
(530) 666-8010  
archives@yolocounty.gov

Public research by appointment only

## HOURS:

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Thursday 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The Yolo County Archives is the main source for the history of the people, places and culture of Yolo County. It houses thousands of unique reference and research resources.

*Image on cover: Capay Valley. Photo YHM01621. Acc. #2022-005.*

Friends of the  
  
Yolo County Archives



YOLO COUNTY  
LIBRARY  
We connect people and ideas

YOLO  
COUNTY  
ARCHIVES  
*Capay Valley Area  
Collections*



# Collections

**Subject & Research Collections:** Ada Merhoff Research Collection, Joann Larkey Research Collection files on the Capay Valley, Capay Valley Subject Collection.

**Government:** Esparto Library Records, Capay and Esparto Fire Protection Districts, Government Documents Collection records on Capay, Rumsey, and Esparto.

**Property and Tax Records:** Deeds, Official Records Tax Assessor Rolls and Lists, Tax Assessor Maps (ca. 1850s-1970s).

**Maps and Plans:** Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of Esparto (1926-1930), Capay Cemetery Map, Rumsey Bridge Plans (1929).

**Schools and School Records:** Esparto High School Yearbooks (1909-1996), Report of the School Census Marshall (1867-1910).



Capay Saloon. Photo YHM03988. Acc. #2022-005.



Rumsey School. 1924. YHM02121. Acc. #2022-005.

**Clubs and Organizations:** Guinda Advancement Club (1908-1925), Capay Valley Farm Center (1946-1954), Esparto Study Club (1934-1989).

**Andrew E. Smith Collection:** Business records, slides, VHS tapes, and writings by Andrew E. Smith, owner of the Capay Valley Telephone Company.

**Newspapers:** Esparto Exponent (1920-1932), Valley Tribune (1991-1996), The Valley Voice (1998-2006). Collections have gaps.

**Zentner Family Collection:** Includes photo albums, correspondence, artwork by Veon Story Zentner, and family histories of the Story and Zentner families of Esparto and Capay.

Check out more collections on our database:



# Reading Room

## Select Titles:

Merhoff, Ada. *Capay Valley: The Land & The People, 1846-1900*. Woodland: 1986.

Monroe, Elizabeth. *The History and Stories of the Capay Valley*. 2011-2015.

Materials from the Reading Room Collection do not circulate and must be viewed onsite at the Archives.

# Online Access



View Archives collections through our Axiell database, Online Archive of California, California Revealed, and the Yolo County Library Catalog. The Archives also has access to [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) and over 5,000 digital newspapers through [Newspapers.com](http://Newspapers.com).



Esparto Almond Festival float. 1916. Photo D19-010. Acc. #1997-026.