

San Francisco, California: Records from the Congregational Churches

These indexes were taken from various books and pamphlets belonging to the First Congregational Church of San Francisco as well as a much smaller number from the Third Congregational Church. Some periods of time were missing. For example, there are no marriage records before 1897 and some between 1910 and 1920 seem also to be missing. The San Francisco earthquake and fire may account for some of these omissions.

The first service in San Francisco of the Congregational Church was held in September 1849 with the Rev. T. Dwight Hunt as pastor, and the membership records begin in that year. They include the church and/or town the member came from -- certainly a valuable bit of genealogical information. It should be noted that most of the records were handwritten and difficult to read. Also, some were transcriptions which had mistakes as well. The researcher should explore various possible spellings and be aware that "n" and "u" were difficult to distinguish as were many of the capital letters. What looked like a "G" could be a "P".

Some of the original records contain more than is given here. Marriages often include the addresses of the bride and groom, the place of the marriage, the officiating minister and the names of witnesses.

The following original certificates of marriage were also found in the volume indexed:

John L. Marsan and Ella S. Banning - 10 March 1898
Edward B. Johnson and Anna T. McCloud - 11 December 1906
Charles E. Adams and Lillian E. Thompson - 9 March 1906
Frederick Christ and Susie Kalthoff - 29 June 1902.

For further information, the researcher should contact the Church, as they have the original records:

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