San Luis Obispo County, California Marriage Index

1850 - 1930 [SLO County Clerk's Office Records] 1850 - June 1913 [Family Search Records]

Updated and reformatted: November 2014

An Investigation into the San Luis Obispo County portion of the CA County Marriages on the Family Search Website uncovered hundreds of errors contained in the data. There are two problems, one is obvious: Human error with regard to the Names. The second problem and the more serious one is that in many cases, the indexers did not note the difference between the Marriage License and the Marriage Certificate. In many cases the Certificate which does not contain the names of the Bride and Groom was indexed. The Witnesses names were abstracted instead. Thus, the online Marriage record is incorrect.

Because the original records are old and faded, some of them are really hard to read, but that is no excuse. A format for that particular problem was developed by the San Luis Obispo County Genealogical Projects Chair. This format is consistent with regard to many of the old records that have been abstracted, transcribed or indexed.

For informational purposes, here is the format:

When a letter in a name cannot be read, it is replaced with a?.

The same is inserted when a number cannot be read.

It is up to the researcher to figure out the letter or the number, we do not guess at what it might be.

The FS SLO Marriage data has been combined with the SLOCGS 1850 > 1930 Marriage Index. This was not a simple task as there were 5,000 marriages on file. Some of the FS data is linked to digital copies of the original records. In order to differentiate between data that is linked and that which is not, a color system was Created:

Pale Green = Image Available Pale Yellow = No Image Available

Additionally, the size of the database increased exponentially, thus the Newspaper Column was narrowed and abbreviations were inserted:

SLO Daily Tribune = SLODT SLO Morning Tribune = SLOMT

The Notes Column was revised, the entries should be self explanatory, but if there is a question, please contact SLOCGS using this email: slocgs@gmail.com or click on this: SLOCGS

Finally, the Marriage Records are available at the SLO County Clerk-Recorder's Office. SLOCGS will abstract Marriage data for a small fee. Please see our Web Site for details: http://www.slocgs.org/countyresources.html

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