

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

<i>Name</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>Oath of Office</i>	<i>CAA President</i>	<i>Retired</i>	<i>Deceased</i>
Charles E. Allen	1850	1850			
Wesley Gallimore	1851	1851			
Thomas S. Burnett	1852	1852			
James H. Morgan	1853	1853			
Wesley Gallimore	1854	1854			
Jonathan C. Bland	1855	1855			
Warren H. Patton	1857	1857			
William R. Davis	1859	1859			
David M. Harwood	1861	1861			
William O. Barker	1864	1864			
Henry Phelps	1868	1868			
Thomas M. Lilly	1872	1872			
Henry Phelps	1876	1876			
Hiram B. Fairfield	1880	1880			
Lewis A. Spitzer	1883	1883			1912
Elizabeth H. Spitzer	1912	1912			
Cornelius Y. Pitman	1915	1915			
Hayden W. Pitman	1934	1934	1938		
George Noll	1961	1961			
Dwight L. Mathiesen	1965	1965			
Alfred E. Carlson	1979	1979		1994	
Lawrence E. Stone	1995	1995	2002		

Santa Clara County was created on February 18, 1850, and was one of the original counties of the State of California. On January 12, 1777, Mission Santa Clara was established and named for Saint Clara of Assisi, Italy, the first Franciscan nun and founder of the Order of Saint Clara. Her name "Clara" means "clear" or "bright", and according to the Roman Book of Martyrs, as Hortalana, the pious mother of this nun, was once kneeling before a crucifix praying that she might be happily delivered of her unborn babe, she heard a voice whispering, "Fear not, woman, thou wilt safely bring forth"; and a brilliant light suddenly illuminated the place and the mother, inspired by the mysterious prediction, baptized her child Clara. Clara was afterwards sanctified on account of her many eminent virtues, and accordingly, venerated by the Catholics in all Roman Catholic churches and canonized under the name Saint Clara. *

* H.M. Moreno, Moreno=s Dictionary of Spanish-Named California Cities and Towns,
(San Luis Obispo, CA, 1916)