Alameda County

The Alameda County Courthouse in Oakland. Part 1 of 5: Albany, Tilden, Berkeley, UC Berkeley, Piedmont.



Alameda County

Alameda County Data Population: 1,443,741 (Rank: 7) Land Area (square miles): 738 (Rank: 50)

The county was created in 1853. The word "alameda" comes from "alamo," the Spanish name for cottonwood or poplar tree. It means "grove of the poplar trees."

Alameda is a highly urbanized county and most of the cities ring San Francisco Bay. The best known is Oakland but there are several small communities such as Emeryville, Albany, Alameda, and Piedmont. To the south of Oakland are San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Newark, Castro Valley, Hayward, Fremont and Union City.

A ridge of hills separates the bayside of Alameda from the interior. The towns in the interior are arranged along Interstate 580. They are Dublin, Pleasanton and Livermore.

Alameda is mostly a manufacturing county . What little farming is left can be found in the Livermore Valley and in the Fremont area. Both areas are rapidly filling in with subdivisions.

Cities: Oakland, Alameda, Piedmont, Berkeley, Albany, Emeryville, Hayward, San Lorenzo, San Leandro, Union City, Newark, Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, Fremont (communities within Fremont: Niles, Irvington). Towns. Sunol.

Introduction

California is comprised of 58 counties. The state, the third largest in the U.S., has the greatest diversity of geography of any of the states. It has huge deserts, high mountain ranges, fertile valleys and a 1000 mile coastline. Beginning in 2001 my wife and I began to travel and photograph the state as a retirement hobby.

Now we are organizing our collection by county using all of our photos dating back to 2001.

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Alameda County

The northern part of the county is intellectual, weathy, and on the cut-ting edge of ideas.

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Albany was created when women in the town became upset with Berkeley dumping their garbage here. With a couple of shotguns they dissuaded Berkeley garbage drivers and incorporated the town in 1908. Today it has a population of about 18,000. (June 2003)



There is a large housing project for UC students especially families. This is a holdover from World War II when housing was built here for shipyard workers. (June 2003)















With large university population Albany schools have a top notch student body. (June 2003)



(June 2009)



When we were last there a new city hall was under construction. (June 2009)



(June 2009)









(June 2009)

Tilden Park is at the top of the hills behind Berkeley. One of its great features is the botanic garden. The ten acre park dates back to 1940. (May 2010)



The Matilija poppy. This wild flower has the largest bloom of any wild flower in California. (July 2003)





(July 2003)



















Sather Gate – University of California Berkeley

(January 2002)

UC Berkeley Campanile

John Galen Howard, the campus architect, designed this and it was completed in 1914. It is 307 feet tall. It is the third tallest bell tower in the world. It has 61 bells. (January 2002)



The view from the campanile. (January 2002)









Sather Gate

Sather Gate at a quiet moment on Winter Break. This is where the Free Speech Movement started in 1964. Actually there were rumblings before that. I remember sitting in on a meeting with Chancellor Strong in 1961 discussing a free speech zone. (February 2007)



Library

The main library. It is one of 32 libraries on campus that is the fourth largest academic library in the country. (February 2007)



UC Campus

In national and international rankings the Berkeley campus is considered one of the best universities in the country and the world. (February 2007)


Zellerbach

The campus auditorium. The school has about 25,000 undergraduates and 10,000 graduate students. (February 2007)



UC Campus

This building is one of the oldest on campus. I think it is called South Hall. In the background is Stephen's Hall which used to be the Student Union. (February 2007)



Telegraph



Forty years ago Telegraph was the "cool" place to be. Today the action has shifted down to Fourth St. in Berkeley's west end. The day we shot these pictures there was a festival. (May 2005)





(May 2*00*5)



(May 2005)



Berkeley City Hall



Berkeley farmer's market downtown





Berkeley



Berkeley City Hall Plaza



Berkeley High School



Berkeley – Shattuck Ave.



Berkeley – Telegraph Ave.





Berkeley – Telegraph Ave.



Berkeley – Telegraph Ave.

What Telegraph is now famous for – the street vendors. (August 2005)









Piedmont is an upscale residential community to the east of downtown Oakland. This is the city hall in its very small downtown. It became a city in 1907. It has a population of about 10,000. (May 2005)



In the 1920's the city was known as the "City of Millionaires" because it had more resident millionaires per square mile than any other city in the country. The housing reflects that. (May 2005)









Clint Eastwood was born here. He is undoubtedly the most famous resident. (May 2005)







(May 2005)