



FRESNO COUNTY PUBLIC
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County of Fresno

Public Library

Sally Gomez, Director and County Librarian

NEWS RELEASE

Fresno County Public Library Communication
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Genealogy & Local History Collection Reopens in Temporary Location During Central Library Renovation

FRESNO COUNTY — Fresno County residents can once again access the library's genealogy and local history collection while the downtown Central Library undergoes renovation. The Genealogy & Local History Library, previously known as the Heritage Room at Central Library, has reopened in a temporary location, providing patrons continued access to historical records, family history resources, and Fresno County's rich past.

Located near First and Bullard in Fresno, next door to the Leo Politi Library, the Genealogy & Local History Library provides continued public access to thousands of historical records, photographs, newspapers, maps, city directories, oral histories, microfilm, and genealogy resources.

To welcome the community, the library will host an open house on Saturday, July 18th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visitors are invited to tour the space, meet knowledgeable staff, explore highlights from the collection, and discover resources available to help uncover family stories and local history.

"The Fresno County Genealogy & Local History Library is where personal stories and community history come together," said Sally Gomez, County Librarian and Director of Fresno County Public Library. "Whether someone is discovering their family history or learning more about Fresno County, this collection connects people with stories that might otherwise be lost. We're excited to welcome the community into this new space."

As patrons begin using the new location, the library will also gather community feedback on the space. While the Genealogy & Local History Library is currently operating here during the Central Library renovation, patron input will help inform future discussions about the long-term home of these services once the renovation is complete.

The Genealogy & Local History Library specializes in genealogy, Fresno County history, and California history. The collection includes approximately 30,000 books and pamphlets, historical newspapers, photographs, maps, city directories, oral histories, microfilm, and other research materials documenting Fresno County's past. Many of these resources are unique within the Fresno County Public Library system. While much of the collection is available to browse, staff can also assist patrons in accessing additional materials during the transition to the new location.

Visitors researching their family history can access books, records, and historical documents from all 50 states, along with genealogy databases and other tools to help trace family connections across the United States and beyond. The collection has been developed in partnership with the Fresno County Genealogical Society and the California State Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Among the collection are historical photographs of downtown Fresno and Chinatown, an 1854 map of the San Joaquin Valley, and countless other resources that document the people, places, and events that shaped

Fresno County. Whether beginning a family tree, exploring local history, or simply curious about the region's past, visitors of all experience levels can receive personalized research assistance from knowledgeable staff and volunteers.

The Genealogy & Local History Library is open Tuesday through Saturday. Community members are encouraged to visit during regular business hours or attend the July 18th open house to explore Fresno County's history and genealogy resources.

For more information, visit fresnolibrary.org or call (559) 600-6230.

Genealogy & Local History Library
5769 N. First st
Fresno, CA 93710

About Fresno County Public Library

For over 100 years, the Fresno County Public Library has been a place to connect, grow, and be inspired. With 33 branches countywide, the Library offers free access to books, technology, educational programs, and community resources for all ages. To learn more, visit fresnolibrary.org.

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