

# Finding Your Lake County Ancestors

*A Compilation from the Lake County Library, Lakeport California*

Lake County was formed from Napa and Mendocino Counties on May 20, 1861, so records from before that date are found in those counties. Mendocino, Napa, Colusa, Yolo and Sonoma Counties adjoin Lake County.

## LAKE COUNTY LIBRARY

The Lake County Library has four locations. The main library in Lakeport and the Redbud branch in Clearlake have the most genealogy information. Each of these libraries has a digital microfilm reader/printer.

- Newspapers: Microfilmed Lake County newspapers, 1860s—current; not all complete.
- Censuses: Microfilm copies of all currently available Federal censuses that cover Lake County.
- The “Mauldin Notes”: 10,000 indexed pages of Lake County historical information.  
Lakeport and Redbud Libraries have copies.
- Books about Lake County history, some on local families; some cemetery transcriptions.  
See the library website for the online catalog.
- “The Pomo Bulletin”: The publication of the Lake County Historical Society.
- The library borrows and loans genealogy materials through interlibrary loan.

**Contact:** Lakeport Library | 1425 N. High Street | Lakeport CA 95453 | 707-263-8817  
Redbud Library | 14785 Burns Valley Road | Clearlake CA 95422 | 707-994-5115  
Web: <http://library.co.lake.ca.us> | Email: [Library@LakeCountyCA.gov](mailto:Library@LakeCountyCA.gov)

## LAKE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Lenore Clark Memorial Research Library is located in the Lake County Visitors’ Center, 6110 E. Highway 20, Lucerne CA 95458. Volunteers staff the library Thursdays 10 a.m.– 3 p.m., Fridays 10 a.m. -2 p.m., and 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; other days by appointment. Hours are subject to change. Call or email to confirm that the library is open.

The LCGS collection houses many records pertinent to Lake County genealogy, including:

- Lake County death information files
- Cemetery transcriptions
- Lake County phone books 1947-present
- School directories
- Index of births, marriages & deaths in local newspapers  
( Lake County Library has newspaper microfilms)
- Obituary file
- Lake County family histories
- Great Register indexes
- Probate records
- Some school yearbooks

**Contact:** Lake County Genealogical Society | PO Box 1323 | Lakeport CA 95453 |  
707-275-2144 or 707-279-8003 | Web: [rootsweb.ancestry.com/~calcgs](http://rootsweb.ancestry.com/~calcgs) | Email: [anitajc@pacific.net](mailto:anitajc@pacific.net)

## LAKE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Historical photographs | “The Pomo Bulletin” includes some family information | assorted history files.

**Contact:** Lake County Historical Society | PO Box 1011 | Lakeport CA 95453 | Web: [lakecountyhistory.org](http://lakecountyhistory.org)

## LAKE COUNTY RECORDER

Vital Records | Land records

**Contact:** Lake County Recorder | 255 N. Forbes Street | Lakeport CA 95453 | 707-263-2293  
Web: [co.lake.ca.us/Government/Directory/Assessor-Recorder.htm](http://co.lake.ca.us/Government/Directory/Assessor-Recorder.htm) | Email: [Recorder@co.lake.ca.us](mailto:Recorder@co.lake.ca.us)

## CEMETERIES

The Lake County Genealogical Society has transcribed many cemeteries and keeps the information in its research library in Lucerne. Some of the cemeteries are still in use and have managers who can answer questions. Others are no longer used and all information comes from transcriptions.

- Hartley Cemetery, Lakeport \*
- Kelseyville Cemetery \*
- Kelseyville Pioneer Cemetery
- Upper Lake Cemetery \*
- Lower Lake Herndon-Copsey Pioneer Cemetery \*
- St. Mary's [Catholic], Lakeport \*
- St. Peter's [Catholic], Kelseyville \*
- Middletown Cemetery \*
- Glenbrook Cemetery, Cobb Valley \*
- Lower Lake Cemetery \*

\*These cemeteries and others in Lake County are on the web at: [FindAGrave.com](http://FindAGrave.com) | [cagenweb.com/lake/lakcem.htm](http://cagenweb.com/lake/lakcem.htm) | [accessgenealogy.com/cemetery/california/lake\\_county.htm](http://accessgenealogy.com/cemetery/california/lake_county.htm).

## CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

Probate records | Court records

**Contact:** Clerk of the Superior Court | 255 N. Forbes Street | Lakeport CA 95453 | 707-263-2374 | Web: [lake.courts.ca.gov](http://lake.courts.ca.gov)

## LAKE COUNTY MUSEUMS

Historical photographs | The "Mauldin Notes" | "The Pomo Bulletin" (complete collection) | Historic court records & documents | oral histories | Other files

**Contact:** Lake County Historic Courthouse Museum | 255 N. Main Street | Lakeport CA 95453 | 707-263-4555 | Email: [Linda.Lake@LakeCountyCA.gov](mailto:Linda.Lake@LakeCountyCA.gov)

Lower Lake Historic Schoolhouse Museum | 16435 Main Street | Lower Lake CA 95457 | 707-995-3565 | Email: [llmuseum@co.lake.ca.us](mailto:llmuseum@co.lake.ca.us) | Web: [co.lake.ca.us/Government/Directory/Museums.htm](http://co.lake.ca.us/Government/Directory/Museums.htm)

## FUNERAL HOMES

- Chapel of the Lakes | 1625 N. High Street | Lakeport CA 95453 | 707-263-0357
- Jones Mortuary | 115 S. Main Street | Lakeport CA 95453 | 707-263-5389
- Jones & Lewis Clear Lake Memorial Chapel | 16140 Main Street | Lower Lake CA 95457 | 707-994-6417

## OTHER USEFUL INTERNET SITES

- Lake County genealogy on CAGenWeb | <http://cagenweb.com/lake>
- California Death Index 1940-1994 | <http://vitals.rootsweb.ancestry.com/ca/death/search.cgi> | [familysearch.org](http://familysearch.org)
- The CAGenWeb Project | <http://cagenweb.com>
- California Pioneer Project | <http://cagenweb.com/cpl>
- Linkpendium Lake County | [linkpendium.com/genealogy/USA/CA/Lake](http://linkpendium.com/genealogy/USA/CA/Lake)

## TRIBAL ANCESTRY

Tribal genealogy involves more than just standard genealogy records. Local tribes also maintain some genealogical records on their members. Anyone seeking to establish membership is advised to contact the appropriate tribal office for more information.

- Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians | 707-987-8288
- Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians | 707-263-4220
- Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians | [big-valley.net/index.htm](http://big-valley.net/index.htm) | 707-263-3924
- Habemotelol Band of Pomo Indians | [upperlakepomo.com](http://upperlakepomo.com) | 707-275-0737
- Robinson Rancheria Pomo Indians | [robinsonrancheria.org](http://robinsonrancheria.org) | 707-275-0527
- Elem Indian Colony | 707-998-3003