



**The Boyd Gate House**  
1125 B Street, San Rafael, CA 94901

## **Researching A Home In Marin County**

1. The Marin History Museum has assessments of homes in Marin done in 1928, that are indexed by the name of the property owner. The records may contain descriptive information including the year the home was built.
2. Contact the Marin Municipal Water District ([CustomerService@MarinWater.org](mailto:CustomerService@MarinWater.org) or (415) 945-1400) and ask when the water was turned on at your address to find when the home was built.
3. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps can show outlines of homes and property lines at the time of printing. The Marin History Museum has digital copies of most cities and towns in Marin from 1887 to 1950. Some maps are also freely available at the Library of Congress (<https://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/sanborn/>)
4. There was an inventory done in 1986 of historic homes and buildings of San Rafael, which can sometimes have the year built. You can see a list of homes surveyed at <https://www.cityofsanrafael.org/documents/historic-survey/>. The San Rafael Planning Dept. may have a folder on a home listed with information from the survey.
5. The Marin History Museum has digitized thousands of images from the Ed Brady Collection of aerial photographs taken around the county. In many cases, street names have been included in the records, which can be searched at <https://marinhistory.catalogaccess.com/>. You may also find historic photographs of significant homes and buildings.
6. City and county directories may be useful in finding a person's address, and for larger towns there may even be a reverse directory which lists the owner by address. They can be found in our online catalog. Contact the the Anne T. Kent California Room (415-473-7419) for available editions in that collection.
7. The Marin County Assessor-Recorder (<https://www.marincounty.org/depts/ar> or (415) 473-7215) can provide information on Marin County properties if you have the parcel number.
8. The Marin History Museum has newspaper clipping files for historic homes in most of the cities and towns of Marin. Our biography clipping files may have information on early owners of a property. We also have a collection of files for homes in San Rafael.
9. The [Anne T. Kent California Room](#) at the Civic Center Free Library has worksheets from a 1968 survey of Marin homes done by the Junior League of San Francisco (look for an index on our Library website at <https://www.marinhistory.org/Library>).