

## Finding Aid to the Oakwood Park Stock Farm Collection

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### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Oakwood Park Stock Farms Collection

**Date Range:** 1889-1891

**Collection number:** 84-4

**Extent:** 1 box

**Repository:** County History Center, Contra Costa County Historical Society, 724 Escobar Street, Martinez, CA 94553, 925-229-1042

**Legal status:** public

### Information for Researchers

**Access:** Collection is open for research.

**Publication Rights:** [Contact the Contra Costa County Historical Society for publication permission.](#)

**Preferred Citation:** Suggested citation of these records is: [Identification of item], Oakwood Park Stock Farm Collection, Contra Costa County Historical Society.

**Scope and Content:** The collection includes daily business ledgers from 1889-91 from the Oakwood Park Stock Farm, and account ledgers from the Cook Farm related to the execution of the will of Seth Cook in 1891 (both farms were owned by the same extended family). The Oakwood Park Stock Farm, east of Danville at the foot of Mount Diablo, was one of the most prominent horse breeding farms in the United States in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Earlier the land was owned by the Central Pacific Railroad and was known as the Railroad Ranch. Inherited by brothers Seth and Dan Cook, it became the Cook Farm in the 1870s. The property was then inherited by the Cooks' niece Louise and her husband John Boyd. They transformed the property into the Oakwood Park Stock Farm to breed thoroughbreds. Boyd sold the property in 1906, and it was sold again in 1912 to developer Robert Burgess, who transformed the property into the Diablo Country Club.

The Oakwood Park Stock Farm ledgers in this collection may relate to an item listed in Accession 94-48, a photocopy of a map of the Oakwood Park Stock Farm. The map photocopy is stored separately from these daily business ledgers. The Deed of Gift for Accession 94-48 does not list these daily business ledgers.

**Arrangement of Materials:** Materials are in one box. They are unbound, written on large format paper in large manila folders.

**Indexing Terms:** Agriculture, Business Records, Danville, Diablo.

**Personal Names:** Seth Cook.