



## Researching the Work of

# FRANK DELOS WOLFE

Krista Van Laan

I have a list of nearly 900 buildings that are the work of Frank Wolfe. Most of it was compiled using the tools listed here. These tools are the mainstays of any architectural history research in Santa Clara County.

### San Francisco Library

*Daily Pacific Builder* 1907-1964

*Architect & Engineer* 1909-1959 (also online at <https://archive.org>)

*Building and Industrial News* and *Building and Engineering News* 1911-1939 (also online at <https://archive.org>)

### San Jose Library California Room (<http://www.sjpl.org/caroom>)

San Jose and Santa Clara County city directories, 1870-1979

*San Jose Mercury News*

Sanborn Maps (also online with a SJ Library card)

### Santa Clara Library (<http://library.santaclaraca.gov>)

Online: *San Jose Mercury* and *Evening News* Historical Archives, 1884-1922

### Ancestry.com

Census

San Jose and other city directories

### The Process

1. Search the *San Jose Mercury* issue by issue. Through the 1910s, the paper regularly reported on all of the work that the local architectural firms had in house. This usually involved the name of the client and sometimes a street name.
2. Search *Building and Industrial News* issue by issue. The architects generally announced their projects in this weekly magazine. This usually included a city, client name (often misspelled), and sometimes a street.
3. Match the client name with the census reports or city directory to try to find an address.
4. Drive to the address to see if the building still stands and if it looks like a Wolfe design.

**For more information on Frank Delos Wolfe, go to  
[www.frankdeloswolfe.com](http://www.frankdeloswolfe.com)**