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## **Finding Aid to the Tudor Engineering Company Records, 1933-2006**

Finding Aid written by Bancroft Library staff

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## Finding Aid to the Tudor Engineering Company Records, 1933-2006

**Collection Number: BANC MSS 2007/134**

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University of California, Berkeley  
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Finding Aid Written By:

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Date Completed:

April 2008

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### Collection Summary

**Collection Title:** Tudor Engineering Company records

**Date (inclusive):** 1933-2006

**Collection Number:** BANC MSS 2007/134

**Creators :** Tudor Engineering Company

**Extent:** Number of containers: 6 Cartons Linear feet: 7.5

**Repository:** The Bancroft Library

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**Abstract:** Contains records of the major engineering projects of the Tudor Engineering Company, including work on the Golden Gate Bridge, Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) system, Tagus River Bridge and others. The Tudor Engineering Company records also include reports and statements documenting the history of the company's evolution through financial records, personnel records, and various promotional brochures.

**Languages Represented:** Collection materials are in English

**Physical Location:** Many of the Bancroft Library collections are stored offsite and advance notice may be required for use. For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

### Access

Collection is open for research.

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### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Tudor Engineering Company Records, BANC MSS 2007/134, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

### Alternate Forms Available

There are no alternate forms of this collection.

### Separated Material

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Photographs have been transferred to the Pictorial Collections of The Bancroft Library, BANC PIC 2007.029--PIC Printed materials have been transferred to the book collection of The Bancroft Library.

#### **Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Tudor Engineering Company--Archives

Bay Area Rapid Transit

Merced Irrigation District

Bridges--California--San Francisco Bay--Design and construction

Bridges--Portugal--Tagus River--Design and construction

Dams--California--Merced River--Design and construction

Engineering firms--California

Golden Gate Bridge (San Francisco, Calif.)

New Exchequer Dam (Calif.)

San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge (Oakland and San Francisco, Calif.)

Promotional materials.

Newsletters.

Pamphlets.

#### **Acquisition Information**

The Tudor Engineering Company Records were given to The Bancroft Library by Robert Janopaul on March 12, 2007.

#### **Accruals**

Additions are expected.

#### **System of Arrangement**

Arranged to the container level.

#### **Processing Information**

Processed by Bancroft Library staff in 2007.

#### **Biographical Information**

The Tudor Engineering Company was founded in San Francisco in 1950 by the late Ralph A. Tudor, a West Point graduate and retired Colonel in the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Tudor established a nationwide reputation for excellence following his involvement in the design and construction of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and other bridges in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The firm's early assignments were the design and construction management of several long span bridges across the Colombia River between Washington and Oregon and across other major waterways in the Pacific Northwest. In addition to highway and bridge work, the firm developed expertise in the water resources field, including a major hydroelectric project in the Sierra Nevada mountains of California during the mid 1950s.

In the early 1960s, Tudor Engineering played a major role in the design and construction of the Tagus River Bridge project in Lisbon, Portugal. The firm also undertook a major hydroelectric project for the Merced Irrigation District in California. It designed and supervised construction of the Exchequer Dam. Located on the Merced River, it was the highest concrete-faced rock-filled dam in the United States at the time.

The early 1960s also saw the formation of the joint venture of Parsons-Brinkerhoff-Tudor-Bechtel (PBTB), which undertook the management of design and construction and activities for the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) system. Tudor Engineering's role in the joint venture involved civil engineering design and construction activities, including aerial structures, several underground and above-ground transit stations, tunnels, bridges, and several train maintenance yards. The PBTB joint venture also undertook the design of the Caracas Metro system in Caracas, Venezuela, the first phase of which was completed in the 1970s.

By the completion of the BART and the Caracas systems, Tudor Engineering had developed special expertise in the design of modern rapid transit systems. Its next major transit assignment, conducted as a joint venture with Parsons Brinkerhoff (PBT), involved serving as the general engineering consultant for the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) in Georgia. The PBT team began work on this project in the early 1970s.

In the mid 1970s, Tudor Engineering was one of the first consulting engineering firms to respond to the national energy shortage with innovative technology for retrofitting existing water resource facilities with small hydroelectric power plants. It pioneered this technology with methodology manuals for the Corps of Engineers, the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, and

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the Electric Power Research Institute. Besides developing new innovative technology, the firm has had the lead role in the planning, design, and construction management of more than 30 of these hydroelectric installations through the western United States.

In 1989 the Los Angeles office moved to Oakland, CA and Tudor Engineering Company merged with Kaiser Engineering in Oakland.

#### **Scope and Content of Collection**

Contains records of the major engineering projects of the Tudor Engineering Company, including work on the Golden Gate Bridge, Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) system, Tagus River Bridge and others. The Tudor Engineering Company records also include reports and statements documenting the history of the company's evolution through financial records, personnel records, and various promotional brochures. The papers are arranged as received.

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Carton 1, Folder 1	<b>San Francisco - Oakland Bay Bridge - West Bay Pier construction 1933-1935</b>
Carton 1, Folder 2	<b><i>Designing and Building the Bay Bridge 1934-1937</i></b>
Carton 1, Folder 3	<b>Golden Gate Bridge Rapid Transit Investigation, report #1 1960</b>
Carton 1, Folder 4	<b>Golden Gate Bridge Supplementary Report on Engineering Feasibility of Proposed Rapid Transit Facilities 1961</b>
Carton 1, Folder 5-8	<b>Seismic analysis of the main piers for the Tagus River Bridge 1961</b>
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Carton 1, Folder 35	<b>Statements of energy operations 1984-1986</b>
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Carton 3, Folder 44	<b>Proposal - San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) 1959</b>

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Carton 6, Folder 1	<b>Staff resumes - officers and supervising Jun. 1975</b>
Carton 6, Folder 2-3	<b>Project log - Boise, Idaho office 1956-1983</b>
Carton 6, Folder 4	<b>Scholarship fund - correspondence 1979, 1996, 1997, 2006</b>
Carton 6, Folder 5	<b>Corporate administration guide 1978</b>
Carton 6, Folder 6-9	<b>Western states - inventory of low-head hydroelectric sites 1980</b>

Carton 6, Folder 10	<b>Promotional brochures undated</b>
Carton 6, Folder 11-12	<b>Manuals 1981, undated</b>
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Carton 6, Folder 15	<b>Report and development plan for Crystal Springs Irrigation Project Jan. 1958</b>
Carton 6, Folder 16	<b>Miscellaneous 1962, 1982, undated</b>