Finding Aid to the San Francisco Department of Public Works Bureau of Engineering Records, 1881-1947, SFH 458

Finding aid prepared by Tami J. Suzuki.
San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library
2018
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
sfhistory@sfpl.org
URL: http://www.sfpl.org/sfhistory
Title: San Francisco Department of Public Works Bureau of Engineering Records
Date (inclusive): 1881-1947
Date (bulk): bulk 1908-1944
Identifier/Call Number: SFH 458
Creator: San Francisco (Calif.). Public Works
Creator: San Francisco (Calif.). Dept. of Public Works
Creator: San Francisco (Calif.). Board of Public Works
Creator: San Francisco (Calif.). Bureau of Engineering
Physical Description: 39.2 Cubic Feet (41 boxes, 1 manuscripts box)
Contributing Institution: San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 557-4567
info@sfpl.org
Abstract: Includes correspondence and project and subject files documenting public infrastructure construction in San Francisco, following the 1906 earthquake and fire.
The collection is stored offsite.
Language of Material: Collection materials are in English.
Conditions Governing Access
The collection is available for use during San Francisco History Center hours. Collections that are stored offsite should be requested 48 hours in advance.
Photographs cannot be photocopied. Gloves are required when handling photographs.
Conditions Governing Use
All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the City Archivist. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the San Francisco Public Library as the owner of the physical items.
Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], San Francisco Department of Public Works Bureau of Engineering (SFH 458), San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library.
Provenance
Transferred to the San Francisco City Archives from the San Francisco Department of Public Works.
Related Material
See also San Francisco Department of Public Works Proposed San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridges Records (SFH 87); San Francisco Department of City Planning Records (SFH 465); San Francisco Department of Public Works Photograph Collection (SFP 26); and San Francisco Municipal Reports.
See also the library's online public access catalog, particularly for departmental and bureau reports; and the San Francisco History Center's subject files.
See also M.M (Michael Maurice) O'Shaughnessy Papers, BANC MSS 92/808 c, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley. See also Marsden Manson Papers, BANC MSS C-B 416, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.
Processing Information
Processed by Tami J. Suzuki with preliminary processing by Shane Ebbert.
Conservation Note
During processing, the collection was re-folded and re-housed in acid-free folders and boxes. Some staples remain.
Materials Transferred
Some monographs were transferred to the library's book collection.
1989 Fact Book Summary, Redevelopment Program San Francisco
Annual Report of the Board of Public Works, City and County of San Francisco, 1912-13
Before the Committee on Public Lands of the United States Senate, Senate No. 2610, San Francisco: James H. Barry Co., 1913
Hetch Hetchy Dam Site Hearing Before the Committee on the Public Lands... Part 2, Washington DC: GPO, 1913
Administrative History

Long known as the San Francisco Department of Public Works, the agency has been known as San Francisco Public Works since 2014. It constructs, manages, designs, maintains and repairs the city's public buildings and infrastructure.

The agency began as the San Francisco Board of Public Works on Jan. 8, 1900, authorized by Article VI of the City Charter. The board was directed by three commissioners. The original four bureaus were: Engineering, Streets, Building, and Light and Water Services. The board was initially tasked with organizing street construction and paving projects throughout the city.

According to the 1899-1900 report of the city engineer, "Of the work urgently needed to be done by the city none is probably of greater importance than the systemization of the sewerage and drainage works to fit existing and projected sewers into the lines of main drainage and sewerage disposal, as proposed and adopted during the last year. This work, as well as the work of extending street line surveys, setting monuments and establishing grades for streets in the outlying rapidly growing districts of the city (also urgently needed) is of a character not productive of revenue. All work of this class will be pushed forward as fast as the available funds will permit."

By 1902, the agency was also known as the Department of Public Works. The August 1902 annual report notes that the department "may be expected to take on larger dimensions and to comprise additional bureaus, such as for a water system and municipal railways. It also notes expected growth of the city with incidental expansion in street operations.

The 1902 report describes the Bureau of Engineering as "concerned with the most important features of municipal material interests." Furthermore, the annual report notes the "coming ownership and administration by the City of all of the interests classed under the head of Public Utilities."

The first city engineer was C.E. Grunsky. Marsden Manson held this role from 1908 to 1912, and M.M. O'Shaughnessy was the city engineer from 1912-1932.

Scope and Contents

This collection documents the building of infrastructure in San Francisco following the 1906 earthquake, particularly during the administrations of city engineers Marsden Manson and M.M. O'Shaughnessy. Records are from the body long known as the Department of Public Works and also under its previous name, San Francisco Board of Public Works, and one bureau name, San Francisco Bureau of Engineering. Includes correspondence, project reports, drawings, bids and specifications, surveys, articles, and photographs. Documentation on the Port of San Francisco, O'Shaughnessy Dam, and the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir are not included.

Arrangement

Organized into four series: Series 1. Correspondence; Series 2. Project Files; Series 3. Subject Files; and Series 4. Legal Files.

Correspondence is organized into two subseries: Subseries 1A: Outgoing Correspondence; and Subseries 1B: Incoming Correspondence.

Project Files are organized into ten subseries: Subseries 2A: Street Work/Renovation; Subseries 2B: Sewers; Subseries 2C: Bridges and Viaducts; Subseries 2D: Airport Development; Subseries 2E: South Basin-South Basin Canal Reclamation District; Subseries 2F: Water Supply and Auxiliary Water Supply System; Subseries 2G: Transit Tunnels; Subseries 2H: Naval Base Sites; Subseries 2I: Garbage Disposal; and Subseries 2J: Parks, Playgrounds and Transportation.

Correspondence is arranged chronologically. The majority of the rest of the collection is arranged alphabetically by subject.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Public Works -- California -- San Francisco
Bridges -- California -- San Francisco
Bridges -- California -- San Francisco Bay -- Design and construction
Storm sewers -- California -- San Francisco
Streets -- California -- San Francisco
Tunnels -- California -- San Francisco -- Design and construction
Photographic prints -- 1900-1940
Series 1 Correspondence 1906-1934

Physical Description: 25.73 Cubic Feet (28 boxes)

Access
These documents cannot be photocopied because of the fragile nature of the binding.

Scope and Contents
Contains the city engineer's letters to and from vendors, municipalities, and businesses and residents. Includes work specifications and invoices.

Arrangement
Correspondence is organized into two subseries: Subseries 1A: Outgoing Correspondence; and Subseries 1B: Incoming Correspondence. Work specifications are featured. Documents are arranged chronologically and bound into volumes. Each volume has an index of either addressees or senders.

Subseries 1A Outgoing Correspondence 1906-1932

Physical Description: 70 Volumes (21 boxes)

Scope and Contents
Contains "Miscellaneous Correspondence from City Engineer," with letters to vendors, other municipalities, and San Francisco businesses and residents. Each volume has an index of addressees. Volumes 1, 32 and 40, covering [?-October, 1906], June 22-Sept. 23, 1915, and Aug. 11, 1917-Jan. 12, 1918 are not included. Subjects include sidewalks widths, placement of trolley poles and underground cables, and receipt of claims for payment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box, Volume</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>April 22, 1907-Jan. 31, 1908</td>
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<td>Aug. 5-Oct. 25, 1909</td>
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<td>Oct. 25, 1909-Jan. 28, 1910</td>
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<td>Jan. 28-March 3, 1910</td>
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<td>March 4- July 28, 1910</td>
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<td>box 41, volume 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 5, volume 18</td>
<td>April 25-June 24, 1912</td>
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<td>July 3-Sept. 27, 1912</td>
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<td>box 5, volume 20</td>
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<td>Nov. 22-Dec. 23, 1912</td>
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<td>Dec. 26, 1912-April 19, 1913</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 6, volume 23</td>
<td>April 22-Aug. 18th 1913</td>
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box 6, volume 24  Aug. 20, 1913-Jan. 13, 1914
box 6, volume 25  Jan. 19-March 18, 1914
box 7, volume 26  March 20-May 22, 1914
box 7, volume 27  May 23-July 22, 1914
box 7, volume 28  July 23-Sept. 22, 1914
box 8, volume 29  Sept. 17-Dec. 14, 1914
box 8, volume 30  Dec. 14, 1914-April 7, 1915
box 8, volume 31  April 5-June 22, 1915
box 9, volume 33  Sept. 23-Dec. 8, 1915
box 9, volume 34  Dec. 7, 1915-March 7, 1916
box 9, volume 35  March 6-July 7, 1916
box 10, volume 38  Feb. 1-April 26, 1917
box 10, volume 39  April 26-Aug. 11, 1917
box 11, volume 41  Jan. 12-July 25, 1918
box 11, volume 42  July 25, 1918-February 20, 1919
box 11, volume 43  Feb. 20-July 10, 1919
box 11, volume 44  July 10-Dec. 23, 1919
box 12, volume 45  Dec. 23, 1919-May 28, 1920
box 12, volume 46  May 24-Nov. 5, 1920
box 12, volume 47  Nov. 6, 1920-April 7, 1921
box 12, volume 48  April 6-Aug. 23, 1921
box 13, volume 49  Dec. 23, 1919-May 28, 1920
box 13, volume 50  Dec. 28, 1921-April 28, 1922
box 13, volume 51  April 29-July 12, 1922
box 13, volume 52  July 13-Nov. 1, 1922
box 14, volume 53  April 30-Dec. 3, 1924
box 14, volume 54  Dec. 4, 1924-May 14, 1925
box 14, volume 55  May 25-Sept. 29, 1925
box 14, volume 56  Sept. 30, 1925-Jan. 20, 1926
box 15, volume 57  April 30-Dec. 3, 1924
box 15, volume 58  Dec. 4-May 14, 1925
box 15, volume 59  May 15-Sept. 29, 1925
box 15, volume 60  Sept. 30, 1925-Jan. 20, 1926
box 16, volume 61  Jan. 8-May 10, 1926
box 16, volume 62  May 11-Oct. 26, 1926
box 16, volume 63  Oct. 26, 1926-March 31, 1927
box 16, volume 64  March 31-Sept. 30, 1927
box 17, volume 65  Sept. 30, 1927-Feb. 20, 1928
box 17, volume 66  Feb. 17-May 28, 1928
box 17, volume 67  May 28-Oct. 15, 1928
box 17, volume 68  Oct. 15, 1928-March 9, 1929
box 18, volume 69  March 8-Aug. 17, 1929
box 18, volume 70  [Aug. 16, 1929-Feb. 17, 1930?]
box 18, volume 71  Feb. 20-Sept. 3, 1930
box 18, volume 72  Sept. 4, 1930-April 15, 1931
box 18, volume 73  April 16, 1931-Jan. 14, 1932
Subseries 1B  Incoming Correspondence 1907-1934

Physical Description: 28 Volumes (7 boxes)

Scope and Contents

Contains "Miscellaneous Communications to City Engineer," with letters from vendors, other municipalities, and San Francisco businesses and residents. Each volume has an index of senders. Volume 23, covering June 2, 1925-May 12, 1926 is not included. Subjects include sidewalk widths, convenience stations, invoices, payment of bonds, specifications for laying of tracks, possibility of a garage under Union Square, and street sign requests.

box 19, volume 1  
   April 18-May 23, 1907

box 19, volume 2  
   May 23, 1907-March 7, 1908

box 19, volume 3  
   March 8-Nov. 8, 1908

box 19, volume 4  
   Dec. 3, 1908-July 14, 1909

box 20, volume 5  
   May 13, 1909-Jan. 7, 1910

box 20, volume 6  
   Jan. 8-July 6, 1910

box 20, volume 7  
   July 18, 1910-Feb. 20, 1911

box 20, volume 8  
   [Feb. 20-Nov. 18, 1911?]

box 21, volume 9  
   Dec. 28, 1911-Jan. 24, 1912

box 21, volume 10  
   Feb. 14, 1912-Feb. 17, 1914

box 21, volume 11  
   Jan. 28-Oct. 25, 1913

box 21, volume 12  
   Nov. 21, 1913-May 21, 1915

box 22, volume 13  
   May 24, 1915-May 17, 1916

box 22, volume 14  
   May 24-Dec. 28, 1916

box 22, volume 15  
   Dec. 29, 1916-Jan. 23, 1918

box 22, volume 16  
   January 17, 1918 - April 26, 1919

box 23, volume 17  
   June 12, 1919-June 17, 1920

box 23, volume 18  
   June 14, 1920-April 14, 1921

box 23, volume 19  
   April 20, 1921-June 6, 1922

box 23, volume 20  
   May 26, 1922-June 27, 1923

box 24, volume 21  
   July 7, 1923-June 13, 1924

box 24, volume 22  
   June 27, 1924-June 2, 1925

box 24, volume 24  
   May 12, 1926- March 10, 1927

box 24, volume 25  
   March 10, 1927-March 5, 1928

box 25, volume 26  
   March 8, 1928-Feb. 19, 1929

box 25, volume 27  
   Feb. 21, 1929-March 22, 1930

box 25, volume 28  
   April 11, 1930-Oct. 2, 1931

box 25, volume 29  
   Sept. 39, 1931-Aug. 22, 1934
Series 2 Project Files 1884-1946, bulk 1908-1946

Physical Description: 10.5 Cubic Feet

Access
Photographs are included and cannot be photocopied. Gloves are required when handling photographs.

Related Collections
See also San Francisco Department of Public Works Photograph Collection (SFP 26) for images documenting the Bureau of Engineering projects from 1907 to the 1940s. See also the San Francisco Department of City Planning Records (SFH 465) for block profiles used to construct a 3-dimensional wooden model of the city, as well as negatives documenting the model's construction.

Scope and Contents
Contains correspondence, cost estimates, reports, data and specification sheets, maps, plans/drawings and photographs. Subjects include: capitalization, overpasses, undercrossings, acquisition of property, right-of-way, sidewalk widths and narrowing of sidewalks, ocean currents, landslides, storm water drains, proposed bridge crossings and airport sites, and areas of streets, parks and playgrounds. Includes some non-San Francisco locations.

Some photographs fill gaps in the San Francisco Department of Public Works Photograph collection.

Projects are numbered, with a letter followed by numbers. There is no index. Some projects were re-numbered; for example, some "As" became "TAs. "F-93" became "A-527." Numbers may correspond with numbers in the San Francisco Department of Public Works Photograph Collection.

Arrangement
Project Files are organized into ten subseries: Subseries 2A: Street Work/Renovation; Subseries 2B: Sewers; Subseries 2C: Bridges and Viaducts; Subseries 2D: Airport Development; Subseries 2E: South Basin-South Basin Canal Reclamation District; Subseries 2F: Water Supply and Auxiliary Water Supply System; Subseries 2G: Transit Tunnels; Subseries 2H: Naval Base Sites; Subseries 2I: Garbage Disposal; and Subseries 2J: Parks, Playgrounds and Transportation.

Arranged mainly alphabetically within subseries.

Subseries 2A Street Work/Renovation 1915-1946, bulk 1920s-1930s

Physical Description: 3.2 Cubic Feet

Scope and Contents
Materials related to the construction and maintenance of streets, boulevards, and avenues. Contains correspondence, cost estimates, contracts, data and specification sheets, information sheets, maps, plans/drawings, permits, ordinances, journal articles, and photographs. Subjects include overpasses, undercrossings, elevated walks, property acquisition, spur tracks, right-of-way, sidewalk widths and narrowing, public comfort stations, shrubbery and lawn sprinklers, street-cleaning platforms, concrete balustrades, excavations and fills, grading, viaducts, and borings. Includes projects outside San Francisco.

Of note: O'Shaughnessy's paper on the Ocean Beach Esplanade, a popular boulevard which skirts the ocean along the city's westerly boundary for more than 3 miles. Also, covers the Fillmore Street light arches. There is a 1938 letter from Laurel Hill Cemetery Association to lot-holders regarding the removal of the cemetery, according to an ordinance approved by San Francisco voters in 1937. There is at least one mention of fraud (Sloat Boulevard).

Arrangement
Arranged alphabetically by project (street) title.
Alemany Boulevard 1942
Alvarado St: Valencia to Guerrero 1924
Army Street Widening: Bartlett to San Jose 1939-1946
Ashburton Place Crossover (Rapheil Wiell & Co.) 1927
Avalon Ave 1923-1924
Beach Street 1923
Bernal Cut 1926-1930
Blue Mountain Rd (thru Sutro Forest) 1930-1941
Brannan and Ninth Streets Vicinity 1925-1927
Castro Street between 29th And Day Streets 1926-1930
Claremont Circle 1925
Coso Avenue, Prospect to Winfield 1928
Detroit Street 1920-1927
Douglass Street Stairway to States Street 1930-1933
Eighth Street Extension, Townsend to 16th Street 1931-1940
Elizabeth Street 1924-1927
Elk Street Extension 1925-1927
Esplanade (Ocean Beach) 1925-1938
Esplanade Photos 1920
Fillmore Street, Electric Light Arches 1925-1936
27 Fort Mason Bay Road 1933
48th Avenue, Balboa to Sutro Heights Avenue 1924
Fremont Street, Harrison to Bryant 1930
Harrison Street
Spur Track, Alameda and Harrison 1927
31 Central Warehouse, Harrison to 15th 1930
Henry Street Extension near Roosevelt Way 1930-1936
Houston Street, Jones to Columbus 1930-1931
34-36 Hyde Street between Chestnut and Bay Streets 1930-1932
Jones and Jefferson Streets: Street Cleaning Platform 1924-1925
Julius Street, Lombard to Whiting 1924
Junipero Serra Boulevard 1926-1940
Kearny Street
and Union Square Ave (northwest corner, sidewalk) 1925
and Bush (southeast corner, sidewalk) 1925
and Sutter Streets (southeast corner; Sutter Hotel sidewalk) 1925
and California Streets (southwest corner, sidewalk)
and Bush Streets (northeast corner, sidewalk) [1925?]
916 Kearny Street at Columbus Avenue (southwest corner, sidewalk)
1921-1926
106-112 Kearny St (sidewalk 1926
and Washington Streets (northwest corner, sidewalk), 1926
and Jackson Streets, (southwest corner, sidewalk) 1926
Street (west side) and Sutter Street (south side; sidewalk) 1926
and Sutter Streets (southwest corner, sidewalk) 1926
Street, De Young Building [1926?]
box 28, folder 13  Kirkwood and Mendell Slide 1940
box 28, folder 14  Larkin and Francisco Streets 1915-1924
box 28, folder 15-16  Laurel Hill (Cemetery) Boulevards 1934-1938
box 28, folder 17  Leo Street Extension 1933
box 28, folder 18  Liberty and 21st Streets, Municipal Railroad Retaining Wall 1915-1930
box 28, folder 19-20  Lincoln Park Boulevard 1925-1928
box 28, folder 21  Lincoln Way Viaduct over Sunset Boulevard 1931
box 28, folder 22  Lombard near Leavenworth, Sidewalk Alterations 1925-1928
box 28, folder 23  Basement Alternations 1941-1942
box 28, folder 24  Curb Setback 1930-1939
box 28, folder 25  Low Level 1942
box 28, folder 26  Miscellaneous 1924
box 28, folder 27  Post-type Safety Station at Stockton Street 1925-1927
box 28, folder 28  Metcalf and Eddy 1923
box 28, folder 29-30  Mission Street Widening, Daly City to Colma 1931-1932
box 28, folder 31  Montcalm Street Pictures [19--]
box 28, folder 32  Montgomery and Green Street Sidewalks 1927-1928
box 28, folder 33  19th Street Extension Photographs 1932
box 28, folder 34  Noriega Street 1930
box 28, folder 35  Olympus Way 1934
box 28, folder 36  Ord Street Steps 1930-1933
box 28, folder 37  Palmetto Street 1925
box 28, folder 38  Pine and Montgomery Streets, Northwest Corner [19--]
box 28, folder 39  Point Lobos Avenue: Cost Report and Description 1922
box 28, folder 40  Pulgas Road, Redwood City 1925-1926
box 28, folder 41  Rastall Report on Public Improvements, Castro, 16th, Mission and 24th Streets 1919
box 28, folder 42  Richmond [District] Street Cleaning Platform 1925-1926
box 28, folder 43-44  Roosevelt Way 1910-1928
box 28, folder 45  Rosenkranz Street Steps 1930-1931
box 28, folder 46-47  Santiago Street 1928-1941
box 28, folder 48  2nd Street, North of Bryant, Sidewalk 1925
box 28, folder 49  Sharp Park Road, San Mateo County 1929-1935
box 28, folder 50-51  Sloat Boulevard to Lake Merced 1931-1939
box 28, folder 52  Southern Heights Boulevard/Avenue 1926-1932
box 28, folder 53  States Street 1921-1925
box 28, folder 54-59  Sunset Boulevard/Parkway 1926-1932
box 28, folder 60  Sunset Boulevard/Parkway Photos circa 1930
box 29, folder 1  3rd and Brannan Streets 1925
box 29, folder 2  Tiffany Avenue Extension 1929
box 29, folder 3  Trumbell Street Widening 1930-1935
box 29, folder 4  25th Avenue 1931-1941
box 29, folder 5  Twin Peaks Boulevard 1924-1926
box 29, folder 6  Utah and 19th Street Improvement 1928
box 29, folder 7  Vallejo Street 1931
box 29, folder 8  Van Ness Extension, From Market to Howard 1931
box 29, folder 9-10  Vermont Street, 20th and 22nd Streets Vermont Street, 20th and 22nd Streets
box 29, folder 11  Wolfe Street Extension to Mullen Street and Peralta Avenue 1923-1924
box 29, folder 12  Worcester Avenue and Junipero Serra Boulevard 1924
Subseries 2B Sewers 1884-1947, bulk 1911-1933

Physical Description: 1 Cubic Feet

Scope and Contents
Documents the development and construction of San Francisco's sewer system. Contains Board of Public Works resolutions, contracts, maps, drawings, reports, articles, cost estimates, specifications, correspondence, notices of contract awards (newspaper clippings), and photographs. Subjects include testing for bacteria in beach water, ocean currents, storm water drains/inlets, clogged outfall, flow measurements, warning signs, and an easement on the estate of Adolph Sutro (Mile Rock Tunnel).

Arrangement
Organized by sewer or district; arranged alphabetically. Project files are followed by research files; arranged alphabetically.

box 29, folder 13
box 29, folder 14-24
box 29, folder 25
box 29, folder 26
box 29, folder 27

Alamny Boulevard District 1931-1945
Baker's Beach District 1884-1934

box 29, folder 28
box 29, folder 29
box 29, folder 30
box 29, folder 31
box 29, folder 32
box 29, folder 33
box 29, folder 34
box 29, folder 35
box 29, folder 36
box 29, folder 37
box 29, folder 38
box 29, folder 39
box 29, folder 40
box 29, folder 41-47
box 29, folder 48-49
box 29, folder 50
box 29, folder 51
box 29, folder 52-53
box 30, folder 1

18th Avenue Wall at Presidio 1940-1945
Fillmore Street
Fulton Street and 48th Avenue 1913-1923
Golden Gate Park, 30th Avenue, Proposed 1911-1913
Great Highway, Ortega to Sloat Boulevard 1924-1925
Hawkins-Trocadero, Estimate 1925
Howard-Mission Street Condition 1921
Ingleside Outlet, Section C 1911
Irrigation Districts: Merced, Bonds 1925
Islais Creek Storm, Investigation of Decking Failure 1934
Junipero Serra [19--]
Kirkham Street 1925
Lake Merced Lands, Spring Valley Water Company 1911
Marina Tract/District 1924-1947
Mile Rock Tunnel 1911-1941
Relief Home Drainage (Laguna Honda) 1929
Roosevelt Way, Side 1927
Sunset, Northerly District 1925-1933

box 30, folder 2
box 30, folder 3
box 30, folder 4
box 30, folder 5
box 30, folder 6
box 30, folder 7

Thirtieth Avenue, Sunset District 1925-1933

Research Files

Alameda County: Sewerage Disposal Systems at Livermore, Pleasanton, and U.S. Veterans Hospital; and Chlorination System of the Spring Valley Water Company 1926-1933
Clementina Street, Investigation of Disposal of Residue from Acetylene Manufactures 1924
Commercial Street Pumping Plant, Investigation of Method to Remove Sewer Odors 1921
Disposal of Sewage 1926
Sewage Screen 1932
Sewage System Maps 1899-1913
Subseries 2C Bridges and Viaducts 1916-1944

Physical Description: 2 Cubic Feet

Related Collection
See also San Francisco Department of Public Works Proposed San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridges Records (SFH 87).

Scope and Contents
Drawings, reports, information sheets and change orders, photographs, progress schedules, bids, and computation sheets, correspondence, bonds, War Department permits, and newspaper clippings. Also includes San Francisco/Oakland Bay Bridge research and proposals. There is considerable documentation of the Third Street Bridge. Projects outside San Francisco are also covered, notably, the Dumbarton Bridge—the first bridge built south of the Golden Gate, connecting San Francisco and the upper Peninsula to the east side of the bay. Subjects include proposed crossings, bridge approaches, painting, widening existing structure, tolls, capitalization, and drilling/boring.

Some projects were renumbered. For example, F-93 became A-527; A-608 became TA-608; A-841, renumbered A-816.51.

Arrangement
Arranged alphabetically, by project (bridge or viaduct) title.

Bay Cities Bridge Corporation: Proposed Rail and Highway Crossing, San Francisco to Alameda 1925

Beale and Harrison Streets 1927-1944

Carquinez Bridge 1925

Columbia River Interstate Bridge Final Report 1918

Dumbarton Bridge 1916-1927

18th Street Bridge 1916-1927

Golden Gate Bridge 1919-1938

Hudson River Bridge 1926-1928

Marwick Bridge Plan (San Francisco to Oakland) 1925

19th Street Bridge (at Tennessee Street) 1927

San Francisco (to Oakland) Bay Bridge 1921-1939

Aerial Photos 1933

Sunset-Parkway Bridge
at Sloat Boulevard, AKA Sloat Viaduct, Sunset Boulevard 1930
at Lincoln Way, AKA Lincoln Way Viaduct 1930-1943

Sunshine-Transbay Boulevard Bridge (Hunters Point to Oakland Estuary) 1925-1925

Sydney Harbour Bridge Photos (Australia) 1927

Third Street Bridge over Channel Street Waterway 1923-1934 1929-1934
### Subseries 2D Airport Development 1925-1933

**Physical Description:** .2 Cubic Feet  
**Scope and Contents**
Files on proposed sites including Mills Field (Millbrae), Bay Farm Island (Alameda), Marina Landing, and locations in South San Francisco and San Bruno. Mills Field was selected, and the airport was dedicated on May 7, 1927. Includes meeting minutes, articles, maps, estimates, correspondence, resolutions, and reports.  
**Arrangement**
Arranged numerically, by project number.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box and Folder</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>box 32, folder 4-11</td>
<td>1925-1933</td>
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<tr>
<td>box 33, folder 3</td>
<td>1925-1928</td>
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</table>

### Subseries 2E South Basin-South Basin Canal Reclamation District 1925-1934

**Physical Description:** .2 Cubic Feet  
**Scope and Contents**
Documents efforts to reclaim tideland adjacent to Hunter's Point for development. Includes bills (State Legislature), correspondence, statistics, analysis and procedures, meeting minutes, a chronology, and news clippings.  
**Arrangement**
Arranged numerically, by project number.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box and Folder</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>box 32, folder 12-19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Subseries 2F Water Supply and Auxiliary Water Supply System (AWSS) 1908-1940

**Physical Description:** 1 Cubic Feet  
**Scope and Contents**
Documents the construction of a high-pressure water pressure system for fire protection, as well as a water pipe to the Relief Home. Has specifications, contracts, plans, correspondence, resolutions, and lists of supplies. Subjects include intake tunnels, roofing, tile, rolling doors and shutters, plumbing and gas pipe work, structural steel and iron work, and steel tanks.  
**Arrangement**
Arranged alphabetically, by project, with High Pressure System files following project files.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box and Folder</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>box 32, folder 20-22</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Specifications and Reports 1919-1940

**Specifications for Projects:**
- Ashbury Heights Pump House 1911  
- Clayton Street Steel Tank 1909  
- Pumping Station #1 1909  
- Sacramento-Jones-Clay-Hyde Streets: Concrete Tank  
- Townsend Street Pumping Station 1911  
- Turbine Pumps and Steam Turbines 1908  
- Twin Peaks Reservoir 1909-1912  
- High Pressure System 1920-1937  
- Information Requested 1925-1926  
- Repairs, Market and Tenth Streets [1911]  
- Relief Home Water Supply 1924
Subseries 2G **Transit Tunnels 1912-1933**

Physical Description: 1 Cubic Feet

Scope and Contents

Primarily covers construction of the Sunset Tunnel, under the hill adjacent to Buena Vista Park. Originally built for streetcar transit, the tunnel is now used by the Municipal Railway for light rail vehicles. Consists of articles, ordinances and resolutions, assessments, data, maps and drawings, photographs, cost estimates, and two court briefs. Subjects include procedures, acquisition of land, methods of construction, cleaning and painting, restoration of pavements, payments, and protests. The Twin Peaks Tunnel, the trolley tunnel which opened in 1912, is not covered. See the Parks, Playgrounds and Transportation subseries for a document on the Twin Peaks Tunnel. Likewise, the Broadway Tunnel, the roadway tunnel which opened in 1952, is not included.

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

- box 32, folder 28
- box 32, folder 29
- box 34, folder 2
- box 32, folder 30
- box 32, folder 31-40
- box 34, folder 3-25
- box 34, folder 26
- box 34, folder 27

**Alameda-Oakland Estuary Tube 1924-1933**

**Skyline Boulevard Tunnel Extension (at Fleishhacker Pool) 1927**

**Stockton Street Tunnel 1912-1939**

**Sunset Tunnel 1913-1933**

**Duboce Route, Photographs 1926**

**Transit Bridge and Tunnels Paper by Charles Fowler 1929**

Subseries 2H **Naval Base Sites 1916-1920**

Physical Description: .67 Cubic Feet

Scope and Contents

Compares two sites considered for a U.S. Naval Base, Hunters Point and Alameda, when the Navy was dividing the national fleet equally between the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts. Has reports, photographs, and maps. Subjects include water depth, costs, weather, power supply, water supply, transportation facilities, existing dry docks, silting, and excavation.

- box 34, folder 28-31
- box 35, folder 1-12
- box 35, folder 13-14
- box 35, folder 15

**Navy Yard Commission Reports 1916-1917**

**Hunters Point and Alameda Sites 1916-1920**

**Alameda Site 1919-1920**

**Various Sites 1918-1919**

Subseries 2I **Garbage Disposal 1908-1944**

Physical Description: .92 Cubic Feet

Scope and Contents

Voters approved bonds including construction of a garbage disposal plant in the May 1906 election. Subseries contains reports, correspondence, ordinances, and bids documenting the plant’s construction and related sanitary system procedures. Subjects include incinerators, rats, dumping areas (in the ocean) and resulting beach damage, estimates of waste disposal, and utilization of waste products.

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically.
Subseries 2I Garbage Disposal 1908-1944

Box 35, folder 16-32
Box 36, folder 1-8
Box 36, folder 9
Box 36, folder 10

1908-1944

Isla Is Cree Incinerator Photographs 1912-1914
New York City 1926

Subseries 2J Parks, Playgrounds and Transportation 1922-1940

Physical Description: .13 Cubic Feet

Scope and Contents
Covers some parks and playgrounds work including sewer construction and landslides, and transportation matters including safety lane markers. Subjects include shoreline landslides at the Olympic Club and financing an athletic stadium. Has statistics on areas of streets, parks, and playgrounds. There is a public (1926) letter from William Hammond Hall, the designer of Golden Gate Park, to Herbert Fleishhacker, challenging the Park Commissioner's editorial comments regarding John McLaren's work creating Golden Gate Park.

Arrangement
Organized alphabetically, by subject.

Box 36, folder 11-13
Box 36, folder 14-15
Box 36, folder 16
Box 36, folder 17
Box 36, folder 18-19

Parks and Playgrounds 1922-1935
Olympic (Golf) Club Landslides 1924-1940
Stadiums 1924
Transportation:
Laguna Honda Station and Twin Peaks Tunnel [19--]
Safety Stations and Lane Markers 1926-1927

Series 3 Subject Files 1881-1942, bulk 1924-1926

Physical Description: 1.5 Cubic Feet

Access
Photographs are included and cannot be photocopied. Gloves are required when handling photographs.

Related Collection
See also San Francisco Department of City Planning Records (SFH 468), for block drawings, and images of construction of a wood model of the city.

Scope and Contents
Research, correspondence, and photographs on miscellaneous projects, vendors, equipment and vehicles, property damages, complaints, and a few non-San Francisco subjects including the 1925 earthquake in Santa Barbara. Includes an inspector's report book of aggregate hours for pavements work (1906-1907); one volume of progress reports (for 1923-1924); and the 1926 appraisal of the Market Street Railway Co. Subjects include dimensions of steamship vessels, the Christmas Tree site (now known as Christmas Tree Point), an evaporating hood for the chemical laboratory, specifications for galvanized trash cans, unemployed work, and dumping grounds for dredged materials.

There are some files on a city-wide mapping project, as well as files pertaining to the wood model of San Francisco, which was created by Work Projects Administration workers. These folders have information on architects Julia Morgan, Arthur Brown, Jr., and others, who were asked to provide blueprints; as well as photographs of banks. The city-wide mapping and model work were part of the same project, sponsored by the City Planning Commission. The relief map was presented by the WPA to the Planning Commission in 1940, and currently resides at the University of California, Berkeley.

Arrangement
Arranged alphabetically.
box 36, folder 20  Antiscale Device (for Boiler) 1924
box 36, folder 21  Appropriations Requested, Miscellaneous 1930-1933
box 36, folder 22  Arch at 25th and Mission Streets 1921
box 36, folder 23  Automobile Runways Ordinance 1924
box 36, folder 24  Assessor’s Sheets of Years Used on Projects [1925?]
box 36, folder 25  Berkeley Ferry Pier Photographs 1927
box 36, folder 26  Boston Traffic Relief 1924-1926
box 36, folder 27  Bus Station at Great Highway and Sloat Boulevard 1925
box 36, folder 28  Cans Galvanized for Street Cleaning Department 1919
box 36, folder 29  Carmel Mission (Monterey Carmelita Church) 1930
box 36, folder 30  Caspar Lumber Company 1923
box 36, folder 31  Chemical Laboratory Repairs 1924
box 36, folder 32  Christmas Tree Site on Twin Peaks 1928
box 37, folder 1-3  City-wide Mapping Project (of Works Progress Administration) 1937-1942
box 36, folder 33  Commercial Truck Company 1924-1925
box 36, folder 34  Concrete Mixer, Portable 1924
box 36, folder 35  County Jail Bond Issue 1930-1931
box 36, folder 36  Crystal Palace Baths 1923-1924
box 36, folder 37  Disaster Preparedness 1933-1941
box 36, folder 38  Dollar Steamship Company 1930
box 36, folder 39  Dumping Grounds for Dredged Materials 1927
box 36, folder 40  Electric Truck 1924
box 36, folder 41  Equitable Asphalt Maintenance Company 1925
box 36, folder 42  Emporium Pictorial Advertisement, Map of Future San Francisco 1926
box 36, folder 43  Fresno (California) Street Resolution 1923
box 36, folder 44  Golden Gate Atlas Materials Company 1927
box 36, folder 45  Haas Brothers 1925
box 36, folder 46  Islais Creek Dredging 1925-1932
box 36, folder 47  Mack Flusher Investigation 1925
box 36, folder 48  Map Changes Since 1924 (City) 1926
box 36, folder 49  Maps 1930-1932
box 36, folder 50  Marbelite Company 1924
box 36, folder 51  Marina Exposition Building Site 1923-1924
box 39  Market Street Railway Co. Appraisal (Byllesby Engineering and Management Corporation) 1926
box 36, folder 52  Monument (Spanish War Memorial) Moving from Van Ness and Market Streets 1924-1926
box 36, folder 53  New York Port Authority 1926
box 36, folder 54  Newspaper Stand Investigation [19-]
box 36, folder 55  Oakland Feature in Tribune 1920
box 36, folder 56  Population Density in Large Cities 1920
box 36, folder 57  Ohioan Steamship Wreck at Point Lobos 1938
box 36, folder 58-60  Official Grades of the Public Streets, M-Z and Numbered Streets and Avenues [19-]

Related Materials

See also cataloged monographs, Official Grades of the Public Streets of the City and County of San Francisco, Comprising All Grades Established to March 20, 1909; and Official Grades of the Public Streets of the City and County of San Francisco, Comprising All Grades Established to December 31, 1912.

box 37, folder 4  Progress Reports 1923-1924
box 37, folder 5  Purchases, Inspection of 1924-1931
box 37, folder 6  Radio Show, M.M. O’Shaughnessy, on Charter Amendment Establishing Public Utilities Commission 1928
box 37, folder 7  Resurfacing Equipment Photographs 1925
box 37, folder 8  Russia Development 1930
box 37, folder 9  Retaining Wall Analysis and Comparison 1924
San Francisco:

box 37, folder 10  Facts and Statistics 1925
box 37, folder 11  News Clippings 1921
box 37, folder 12-13  Program, by Dr. B.M. Rastall, [California Industries Exhibition] 1921
box 37, folder 14  Visitors' Information 1923-1926
box 37, folder 15  Sand Loader at Corporation Yard 1924
box 37, folder 16-17  Santa Barbara Earthquake and Visit 1925
box 37, folder 18  Santa Monica 1930
box 37, folder 19  Sea Wall 1881
box 37, folder 20  Security Building, 343 Sansome 1928
box 37, folder 21  Spur Track, Main Street, Harrison to Bryant 1924
box 37, folder 22  Stonework Disintegration 1922-1925
box 37, folder 23  Sunnyvale (CA): U.S. Dirigible Site, Proposed 1930
box 37, folder 24  Termites 1928-1936
box 37, folder 25  Tests of Material Rock 1930-1932
box 37, folder 26  Track Drain Frame and Gratin 1923
box 37, folder 27  Treasure Island Ramp (on Yerba Buena Island) Photographs 1940
box 37, folder 28-31  Trucks 1924-1925
box 37, folder 32  Twin Peaks Land Acquisition and Reservoir 1930
box 37, folder 33  Underground Parking [1922?]-1938
box 37, folder 34-35  Unemployed Work 1931-1933
box 37, folder 36  Ungraded School Retaining Wall 1917-1924
box 37, folder 37  Union Metal Lamp Standards 1924-1925
box 37, folder 38  Vacuum Street Cleaner 1923
box 37, folder 39  Ventura (CA) Seawall 1928
box 37, folder 40-43  Veterans Hospital Sites 1929
box 37, folder 44  Veterans War Memorial 1924-1932
box 37, folder 45-56  War Department 1923-1947
box 37, folder 47  Waterfront Embarcadero Paving 1916
box 37, folder 48  Wood, Miscellaneous 1923
box 37, folder 49-50  Wood Model of San Francisco, Works Progress Administration Project 1938
box 37, folder 51  Wrought Iron 1930-1933
box 38, folder 1-9  Series 4 Legal 1906-1922

Physical Description: .5 Cubic Feet
Scope and Contents
Affidavits and legal memoranda of miscellaneous, post-1906 earthquake property claims, with some judgments and findings of fact.