Guide to the Silicon Valley Information Center Collection, 1986-1993

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Collection Summary
Title: Silicon Valley Information Center Collection
Date (inclusive): 1986-1993
Collection number: CR-2008-05-07
Creator: San José Public Library

Collection Size: 713 boxes24 oversized boxes34 file drawers of newsclippings260 linear feet
Repository: San José Public Library, California Room
San José, CA 95112

Abstract: The Silicon Valley Information Center (SVIC) collection contains documents and resources which chronicle the birth, development and impact of the high technology industries of Silicon Valley as well as resources for historical and environmental research of these industries such as newsclippings. It also contains materials contributed by local companies such as annual reports, newsletters, product brochures, and other material. For a complete listing of all of the companies contained in the collection you can search the California Room’s index which is available online. You can follow the link below.

Index of Silicon Valley Information Center Collection

Physical location:
For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Languages:
Languages represented in the collection: English

Access
Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
Identification of item], Silicon Valley Information Center Collection, California Room, San José Public Library

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CR-2008-05-07
Acquisition Information
This collection was created and collected by the San José Main Public Library and operated as a special collection from 1986 until 1993 when budgetary constraints forced its closure.

Processing Information

Custodial History
This collection has been in the custody of the San José Public Library.

Biographical History
The Silicon Valley Information Center (SVIC) was a special collection established at the San José Main Public Library which collected materials and provided services from 1986 until 1993 when budgetary constraints forced its closure. Created in response to ever increasing demands on the public library for information concerning Silicon Valley-related issues, SVIC was the first centralized public facility to chronicle the birth, development and impact of the high technology industries of Silicon Valley. It contained historical archives and provided information resources (current at the time) on many of the valley’s high tech companies which were not indexed elsewhere.

Local companies contributed material to develop a corporate archival collection of annual reports, newsletters, product brochures, and other material. Until 1993, when budget limitations forced its closure, the SVIC collection provided resources for historical and environmental research, technological study, product marketing and employment searches. In 1988 nearly 9000 patrons (mostly job-seekers and individuals in the service industry who where researching potential clients) visited the SVIC. The collection was funded by a series of grants written by Mike Ferrero and Virginia Carpio, of the San José Public Library. The grants provided monies for the original needs assessment surveys as well as for the later services and materials provided by the center. Following the departure of Mike Ferrero and Virginia Carpio from the center, Patricia Curia and Wynne Dobyns continued to develop and manage the collection until its closure.

Bibliography and references cited

Scope and Content of Collection
This collection consists of materials compiled by the San José Public Library which document the creation and developing culture of the high tech industry in the Silicon Valley from 1986 through 1993. There are several companies represented in the collection outside of the San Francisco Bay area some of which are located in southern California and some in other states. Over 600 companies are represented in this collection and there are also separate news clippings files related to many of these companies. The collection was, at the time, a global technology reference service as well as serving the needs of job seekers, students, employees doing company projects, specialized researchers and other libraries. The collection contains press releases, prospectuses, backgrounders, annual and quarterly reports, photographs, speeches, company periodicals, product literature, and other printed matter.

Arrangement
This collection is arranged in two series: Series I: Newsclippings; Series II: Corporations.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index similar items in the Library of Congress.

Subjects
High technology industries--California--Santa Clara County.
Industries--California--Santa Clara County.
Santa Clara County(Calif.)--Commerce.
High technology industries--California--Santa Clara County--History.
Series 1 Newsclippings 1986-1993

Physical Description:
68 linear feet

Scope and Content Note
The news clippings files consist of articles relating to the high technology industry. These articles were clipped by various librarians from various newspapers; including the San José Business Journal, Computer World, Electronic Buyer's News, San José Mercury, Times Tribune, San Francisco Examiner, Computer and Software News, San Francisco Chronicle, Electronic News, Sibs Newspaper, and the Computer Reseller News. The majority of these clippings are arranged alphabetically by company name and chronologically within the file; however, there are some subject-specific files with articles on hotels and libraries, for example.

Series 2 Corporations 1986-1993

Physical Description:
713 boxes192 linear feet

Scope and Content Note
These boxes contain documents, printed matter, press releases, annual and quarterly reports, etc., from over 600 high technology companies. This series is arranged alphabetically by company name.