Bradbury Land Papers

Finding aid prepared by Eric Steiger.
The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens
Manuscripts Department
The Huntington Library
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2191
Email: reference@huntington.org
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Bradbury Land Papers
Dates: 1855-1933
Collection Number: mssBradbury land papers
Collector: Bradbury family
Extent: 54 items
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department
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Abstract: This collection consists of land records associated with the Bradbury family and company developments in the Rancho Azusa de Duarte and the city of Monrovia, California, from the 1850s to the 1930s.

Language of Material: The records are in English.

Access
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Bradbury Land Papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

Acquisition Information

Biography
L. L. Bradbury was an investor and real estate developer prominent in Los Angeles in the late 19th century. In the 1880s, he acquired the Rancho Azusa de Duarte, which now includes the city of Duarte. He died in 1892. His son Lewis Bradbury assumed control of the family business in 1902 and incorporated the Bradbury Estate Company in 1904. The company continued to acquire and develop landholdings in Southern California throughout the first three decades of the 20th century, including land and water development in and near the city of Monrovia, California.

Scope and Content
This collection consists of land records associated with the Bradbury family and company developments in the Rancho Azusa de Duarte and the city of Monrovia from the 1850s to the 1930s. These documents include certificates of title, deeds, and contractual agreements relating to land sales, mortgages, leases, and water rights. Parties to various contracts in the collection include the city of Monrovia, Los Angeles County, the Southern California Edison Company, Elias Jackson Baldwin, and several members of the Bradbury family, including L. L. Bradbury, Simona Bradbury, and Lewis Bradbury. There is also a folder of correspondence relating to the family's business interests. Correspondents include the Los Angeles Flood Control District and William Mulholland.

Arrangement
The materials have been maintained in their original batches, with the exception of the correspondence, which had no apparent original order.

Personal Names
Baldwin, Elias Jackson, 1828-1909.
Bradbury family.

Corporate Names
Southern California Edison Company.

Alternate Authors
Bradbury Estate Company.
Bradbury, L. L.
Mulholland, William, 1855-1935.

**Subjects**
Real property -- California -- Los Angeles.
Water rights -- California.

**Geographic Areas**
California -- History -- 19th century -- Sources.
California -- History -- 20th century -- Sources.
Duarte (Calif.)
Los Angeles County (Calif.)
Los Angeles County Flood Control District (Calif.)
Monrovia (Calif.)

**Genre**
Agreements California 19th century.
Agreements California 20th century.
Deeds California 19th century.
Deeds California 20th century.
Leases California 19th century.
Leases California 20th century.
Mortgages California 19th century.
Mortgages California 20th century.

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**Box 1**

**Documents and correspondence**

Agreements, Deeds, and Certificates of Title: Saw Pit Waters, J. M. Pirtle, Duarte Mutual Irrigation and Canal Co., etc. 1885-1926
   Physical Description: 13 items.

Deeds: “Isabelle M. Bliss et al to West Duarte Water and Development Co.” 1885-1933
   Physical Description: 7 items.

Deeds and Certificates of Title: W. S. Daniels, T.D. Romans and Maria A. Romans, M. R. Williams, etc. 1875-1933
   Physical Description: 9 items.

Deeds and Certificates of Title: “Documents Relating to the Wise Place, Ranch Azusa de Duarte.” 1885-1914
   Physical Description: 13 items.

**Correspondence. 1906-1926**
   Physical Description: 12 items.