

---

## **William Whitehill Rand Papers**

Processed by Jacob Hamblin; latest revision, D. Tambo.

Department of Special Collections

Davidson Library

University of California, Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara, CA 93106

Phone: (805) 893-3062

Fax: (805) 893-5749

Email: [special@library.ucsb.edu](mailto:special@library.ucsb.edu)

URL: <http://www.library.ucsb.edu/special-collections/>

© 2012

Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved.

---

## Guide to the William Whitehill Rand Papers, ca. 1921-1968 [bulk dates 1950s-1968]

### Collection number: SBHC Mss 46

Department of Special Collections, Davidson Library, University of California, Santa Barbara

#### Contact Information:

Department of Special Collections  
Davidson Library  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106  
Phone: (805) 893-3062  
Fax: (805) 893-5749  
Email: [special@library.ucsb.edu](mailto:special@library.ucsb.edu)  
URL: <http://www.library.ucsb.edu/special-collections/>  
Processed by:  
Jacob Hamblin; latest revision, D. Tambo.  
Date Completed:  
21 February 2002  
Latest Revision:  
Apr. 1, 2004  
Encoded by:  
David C. Gartrell

© 2012 Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved.

---

#### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** William Whitehill Rand Papers

**Dates:** ca. 1921-1968

**Bulk Dates:** 1950s-1968

**Collection Number:** SBHC Mss 46

**Creator:** Rand, William Whitehill, 1902-

**Extent:** 12 linear feet (8 records containers, 1 box, 3 oversize boxes, and 2 map folders)

**Repository:** University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Department of Special Collections  
Santa Barbara, California 93106-9010

**Physical Location:** Boxes 1-9 (SRLF); Boxes 10-12 (Del Sur Oversize); Map folders in Map Cabinet 20/10

**Language:** English.

#### Access Restrictions

The majority of the collection is stored off-site; advance notice required for retrieval.

#### Publication Rights

Copyright has not been assigned to the Department of Special Collections, UCSB. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Head of Special Collections. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Department of Special Collections as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which also must be obtained.

#### Preferred Citation

William Whitehill Rand Papers. SBHC Mss 46. Department of Special Collections, Davidson Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.

#### Acquisition Information

Donation, July 2000.

#### Biography

---

William Bradford Whitehill Rand was born January 17, 1902, in Salt Lake City. He received his A.B. in Geological Sciences from UC Berkeley in 1926 and his PhD in Geological Sciences from UC Berkeley in 1933, with a dissertation entitled *The Geology of Santa Cruz Island, California*.

From 1926 to 1946 he worked for Shell Oil Company, as Field Geologist, Senior Geologist, and Area Geologist, the last position being in charge of exploration east of the Mississippi River. He also was Assistant to the President in San Francisco and Assistant to the Vice President in Los Angeles.

Rand lived in Santa Barbara, California from 1946 to 1970. During 1946-1952 he was Division Geologist, Coastal Division, Union Oil Company of California. In 1947 he started offshore exploration. He outfitted two vessels for submarine coring; the second, the M/V 'Submarex' was the first powered vessel equipped for rotary drilling. It drilled the first core holes in the Pacific Ocean.

During 1953-1955 Rand was a contractor engaged in offshore drilling and oceanographic work, mainly off the Pacific coast, but also including [in 1956] the first core drilling from a powered vessel in the Atlantic Ocean, in an area about 90 miles east of New York.

In 1955 Rand formed the Submarex Corp., which specialized in offshore exploration for oil and gas, and which was based in Santa Barbara. He also established [ca. 1955-1956] Submar, Inc., Marex, Inc., Rexmar, Inc., and Mardril, Inc., to convert and operate a number of drilling vessels: La Ciencia, La Busca, Submarex, Exploit, Sand Dab V, Western Explorer, Rincon, and Humble S.M. 1. Each of these had two attendant vessels, one supply and one personnel vessel. These vessels were operated on contract for major oil companies for several years. One of the vessels, the Rincon, drilled the first producing oil well to be drilled from a vessel.

In 1959 Rand also was Vice-President and General Manager of Offshore Constructors, Inc., operating the mobile drilling platform Pacific Driller No. 1, drilling production wells off the California coast. In 1961 he operated the vessel Frances Ann for Defense Research Laboratories of General Motors Corporation in oceanographic research. During 1962-1963 he was engaged in core drilling with the Exploit off California, north of Conception, and off Oregon and Washington. In 1963, with the Ceylon [Sand Dab V], he set the submerged deep-water magnetometer station and Tsunami warning station, in cooperation with the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. In 1964 the Ceylon also was subcontracted to perform survey work, including bottom sampling, sea floor topographic mapping, and deep-water current studies.

In 1966 Rand became the first director of the Deep Sea Drilling Project at Scripps Institution of Oceanography in La Jolla, California.

Over the years, Rand patented, invented, and operated several devices for taking oriented submarine cores.

In 1973 he was elected to the National Academy of Engineers for his invention and practical application of processes and equipment for oil drilling from floating vessels. He also was a fellow of the Geological Society of America.

William Rand died March 9, 1988.

[Biographical information drawn from Rand's resume and the *Santa Barbara News-Press* obituary, 20 Mar. 1988, B3].

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

Papers of William Whitehill Rand (1902-1988), geologist, engineer, and petroleum prospector. The collection includes documents, maps and some artifacts related to Rand's career in geology, marine engineering, and the oil industry. The maps are scientific and some include offshore sounding data. Most are maps of the coast of California, particularly in Santa Barbara, Ventura and Los Angeles counties. The records of his company, Submarex, its subsidiaries, and the ships used, make up the bulk of this collection. These include financial records as well as correspondence regarding work contracts and labor relations. This company, based in Santa Barbara, was heavily involved in the transformation of Santa Barbara from a relatively unknown area (geologically) to a major oil-producing region between 1947 and 1960. The collection also contains correspondence, meeting minutes, journal articles, newspaper clippings, reports, log books, catalogs, and project files on deep sea drilling and ocean exploration.

Some materials have suffered water damage from flooding and are so marked in the container list. Please consult Special Collections staff about condition and access.

---

#### Series 1. **Biographical/Personal**

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| Box 1 | <b>Cartoon, showing Rand and floating rigs, 1959</b>   |
| Box 1 | <b>Channel Islands</b>   |
| Box 1 | <b>News Clipping, <i>Santa Barbara Daily News</i>, 18 Oct 1921, on oil development on San Miguel</b> |
| Box 1 | <b>Maps of islands in Santa Barbara channel</b>  |

- 
- Box 1 **Geologic map of Santa Cruz Island by William W. Rand, 1931**
  - Box 1 **College Course Notes, ca. 1925**
  - Box 1 **Correspondence (early, pre-Submarex, etc., as well as personal), 1940s-1950s, n.d.**
  - Box 1 **Designation of Beneficiary, 1966**
  - Box 1 **Dissertation (includes original photos, maps, research files), ca. 1933**
  - Box 1 **Estate of Annie May Hempstead Rand, ca. 1960-1961**
  - Box 1 **Field Survey Notes, 1920s**
  - Box 1 **Finances, ca. 1964**
  - Box 1 **Lab Notes (notebook), ca. 1933**
  - Box 1 **Organizations**
    - Box 1 **American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Pacific Section**
    - Box 1 **American Institute of Professional Geologists**
    - Box 1 **Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions**
    - Box 1 **National Academy of Engineering - Committee on Ocean Engineering**
    - Box 1 **Science and Engineering Council of Santa Barbara - *Technical Services Directory*, 1966**
  - Box 1 **United Nations (material re oceanography and the ocean)**
  - Box 1 **U.S. Navy (includes material on Navy's role in exploitation of the ocean and military uses of the ocean), 1967-1968**
  - Box 1 **Publications by Rand**
    - Box 1 **Drilling from Floating Vessels Now Economically Carried Out Off California Coast, *Journal of Petroleum Technology* 11, 9 (Sept. 1959): 35-36**
    - Box 1 **Ventura Basin, *Bulletin of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists*, 35, 2 (Feb. 1951), 231-240**
  - Box 1 **Resumes - William Rand and Tom Crawford**
  - Box 1 **Talk by Rand - Santa Barbara Channel, Offshore Oil Exploration, ca. 1957**
  - Box 1 **Tax Returns - William W. and Gertrude S. Rand**
  - Box 1 **Travel - South America, 1957**

Series 2. **Administrative**

- Box 2 **Arrangement/Organization of Records [lists of categories]**
  - Box 2 **Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws (Submar and Marex), 1953**
  - Box 2 **Correspondence (includes material re drilling from ship-mounted rigs), ca. 1954**
  - Box 2 **Correspondence**
    - Box 2 **General, ca. 1940s-1960**
    - Box 2 **Gaviota (includes discussion of agreements for use of Gaviota and Goleta piers), 1957-1958**
    - Box 2 **Goleta (includes discussion of agreements for use of Goleta and Gaviota piers), 1956-1957**
    - Box 2 **Port Hueneme (includes discussion of off-shore oil leases and transporting of oil drilling equipment and supplies), 1956**
    - Box 2 **Santa Barbara (includes list of oil companies engaged in marine exploration in the Santa Barbara Channel area), 1957**
  - Box 2 **Directional Engineering Co. [DECO]**
    - Box 2 **Correspondence, ca. 1957-1961**
    - Box 2 **Minutes and by-laws, ca. 1954-1955**
  - Box 2 **Macready Oriented Cores, Inc. - Correspondence, 1957-1960**
  - Box 2 **Scientia Corp (includes bylaws, minutes, correspondence, memos, articles, biographical information on Scientia members), ca. early 1960s**
  - Box 2 **State Tideland Leasing Law [mud and water damage]**
    - Box 2 **California State Lands Commission. On petroleum minerals, 3 Feb 1958.**
    - Box 2 **Statement of recommended policy.**
    - Box 2 **Correspondence, statements re leasing, pollution, etc.**
  - Box 2 **"Submarex Corporation" - historical overview**
  - Box 2 - 3 **Vessels (includes drawings, photographs, correspondence, some information on operations and operating costs, logs and inventories)**
    - Box 2 **General**
    - Box 2 **Drawings (showing oil rigs) [water damage]**
-

---

Box 2 **America**  
Box 2 **La Busca**  
Box 2 **Caldrill 1**  
Box 2 **La Ciencia**  
Box 2 **Decatur**  
Box 2 **Exploit**  
Box 2 **Frances Ann**  
Box 2 **Nautilus, ca. 1957**  
Box 2 **Ranger**  
Box 2 **Rincon**  
Box 3 **Sand Dab V (aka Ceylon)**  
Box 3 **Surprise**  
Box 3 **Western Explorer**  
Box 3 **Vessel Sales Correspondence, 1960**  
Box 3 **Western Offshore Drilling and Exploration Co.**  
Box 3 **Miscellany**

Series 3. **Financial**

Box 3 **Bank Balances, 1966**  
Box 3 **Combined Balance Sheets and Financial Statements, ca. 1957-1958**  
Box 3 **Consolidated Rand Corporations - Financial Statement, 1957**  
Box 3 **Cost Analysis Forms, ca. 1957, 1959**  
Box 3 **Directional Engineering Company (DECO) - Financial Statements and Tax Returns, 1956-1963**  
Box 3 **Insurance (policies and correspondence), ca. 1954-1964**  
Box 3 **Macready Oriented Cores, Inc. - Financial Statement, 1961**  
Box 3 **Mardril, Inc.**  
Box 3 **Financial Statements and Tax Return, 1955-1963**  
Box 3 **Sale, 1966**  
Box 3 **Statements, bills paid, ca. 1962-1963**  
Box 3 **Marex, Inc.**  
Box 3 **Financial Statements and Tax Returns, 1955-1963**  
Box 3 **Statements and Remittances, Western Gulf Oil Co., 1956-1957**  
Box 3 **Marine Equipment Rentals**  
Box 3 **Offshore Constructors (possible merger with Rand), 1957-1958**  
Box 3 **Rexmar, Inc. - Financial Statements and Tax Returns, 1957-1966**  
Box 3 **Submar, Inc.**  
Box 3 **Financial Statements and Tax Returns, 1955-1963**  
Box 3 **Statements, bills paid, ca. 1964-1965**  
Box 3 **Submarex Corp.**  
Box 3 **Corporation Expense Summaries, 1957-1960**  
Box 3 **Financial Statements and Tax Returns, 1955-1964**  
Box 3 **Sale to Pike Corp. of America, 1966**

Series 4. **Inventions/Patents**

Box 4 **Coring Devices - Patents (not Rand's), ca. 1945-1949**  
Box 4 **Directional Engineering Co. [DECO] - including DECO Model 70 and DECO Model 90**  
Box 4 **Drilling Equipment - Patents [not Rand's], 1960**  
Box 4 **Engineer's Field Transit Book [records/notes of Rand's experiments/inventions from 1950 (27 pages), ca. 1955**  
Box 4 **Macready, George A. - Patents, ca. 1920s-1950s**  
Box 4 **Offshore Oil Drilling (not Rand's)**  
Box 4 **Subaqueous Drilling Apparatus, 1964-1966**  
Box 4 **Submarine Drilling Apparatus - Patent Application (includes drawings), ca. 1955-1956**  
Box 4 **Underwater Drilling Device (Rand's), n.d.**  
Box 4 **Miscellany (some Rand's), n.d.**

Series 5. **Labor Relations**

Box 4 **Inland Boatmen's Union (IBU), 1956**  
Box 4 **Marine Firemen's Union, 1956**  
Box 4 **Memos to Employees (from Rand), ca. 1956**  
Box 4 **National Labor Relations Board**  
Box 4 **Termination case, 1956-1957**  
Box 4 **Union representation case, 1956-1958**  
Box 4 **Offshore Constructors, Inc. - Agreement, 1959**  
Box 4 **Piledrivers Local Union Bi, 2375, 1956-1957**  
Box 4 **Sailors Union of the Pacific (SUP), ca. 1956-1957**  
Box 4 **Submarex (and affiliated companies) - Health and Welfare Program, n.d.**  
Box 4 **United Mine Workers of America (UMW), 1956**

Series 6. **Projects**

Box 5 **Alaska Project, 1964**  
Box 5 **Atlantic Refining Company, 1964**  
Box 5 **Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)**  
Box 5 **General, 1963**  
Box 5 **National Marine Consultants Division of Interstate Electronics Corporation contract (incl. correspondence between Charles Tucker and Tom Crawford, on political topics), 1964-1965**  
Box 5 **Sea Space, Oct. n.y.**  
Box 5 **Trips (Tom Crawford - Santa Cruz Basin Site, Farallon Site), 1960**  
Box 5 **B.O.C. of Australia Limited, 1964-1965**  
Box 5 **Bendix Corporation, 1965**  
Box 5 **California Off-Shore Exploration Work, 1954**  
Box 5 **Deep Sea Drilling Project (Scripps)**  
Box 5 **Deep Sea Drilling Project activities Jun-Sep 1966**  
Box 5 **Abstract, selection procedures for subcontractors, and related papers, ca. 1967**  
Box 5 **Esso (France), 1958**  
Box 5 **Freeport Sulphur Company (New Orleans, LA), 1966**  
Box 5 **General Motors (correspondence re ocean drilling, including map), 1961-1962**  
Box 5 **General Petroleum Corp., 1953-1954**  
Box 5 **Global Marine Exploration Company, ca. 1959**  
Box 5 **Hawaii, 1965**  
Box 5 **Hilo Breakwater Job (Hawaii), 1965**  
Box 5 **Homyer, L. K. - "A Research Programme to Determine the Practicality of a Proposed Method of Drilling and Working Oil and Gas Wells in Ocean Beds Five Hundred Feet Below the Surface of the Sea" (report), 1958**  
Box 5 **Hughes Aircraft Company, 1965**  
Box 5 **Humble Oil & Refining Company, 1953-1958**  
Box 5 **Israeli Project, 1964**  
Box 5 **Lake Erie Project (water damage), 1957-1959**  
Box 5 **McDonald Contractors, Inc. (San Diego) - drilling core samples, 1958**  
Box 5 **Mohole, 1960-1961**  
Box 5 **National Marine Consultants, Inc., n.d.**  
Box 5 **Nissho California Corp. (Asia), 1957**  
Box 5 **Ocean Science and Engineering, Inc., 1965**  
Box 5 **Opple, Kenneth, 1957**  
Box 5 **Persian Gulf Project, 1958**  
Box 5 **Phillips-Pauley, 1956-1959**  
Box 5 **PneumoDynamics Corporation, 1960-1964**  
Box 5 **Richfield - Mobil, 1964**  
Box 5 **Richfield Oil Corporation, 1952-1964**  
Box 5 **Shell Oil Company, 1964-1965**  
Box 5 **Signal Oil & Gas Company, 1954**  
Box 5 **South America (Venezuela), 1957**  
Box 5 **Standard Oil Company (including Carpinteria and California coast), 1953-1964**

---

Box 5	<b>Standard-Humble Alaska Project (including correspondence from Eddie Deal and Lee Gardner about the project), 1965</b>
Box 6	<b>Sumitomo Shoji New York, Inc. (Japan), 1962-1963</b>
Box 6	<b>Texaco, Inc., 1958-1963</b>
Box 6	<b>The Texas Company, n.d.</b>
Box 6	<b>Tidewater Oil Company, 1956-1958</b>
Box 6	<b>Tokyo Tsusho Kaisha Ltd. (Japan) [water damage], 1958-1965</b>
Box 6	<b>Trinidad, 1957</b>
Box 6	<b>Union-Standard Project (Oregon and Washington), 1963</b>
Box 6	<b>US Coast and Geodetic Survey [water damage], 1963-1965</b>
Box 6	<b>Venezuela, 1958</b>
Box 6	<b>Wandtke, Gus, 1956-1957</b>
Box 6	<b>Western Gulf Oil Company, 1954-1955</b>
Box 6	<b>Western Offshore Drilling Co., 1966</b>

## Series 7. Research Files

Box 6	<b>California Oil Firms - <i>Foust's Sales and Service Directory</i>, 34th edition, 1963</b>
Box 6	<b>Drilling and Drilling Equipment</b>
Box 6	<b>Engines</b>
Box 6	<b>Floating Rigs</b>
Box 6	<b>Lunar and Planetary Research</b>
Box 6	<b>Marine Equipment and Supplies</b>
Box 6	<b>Mohole</b>
Box 6	<b>Mud</b>
Box 6	<b>Navigational Equipment</b>
Box 6	<b>Oceanographic Equipment</b>
Box 6	<b>Oceanography</b>
Box 6	<b>Offshore Drilling</b>
Box 6	<b>General (includes some articles on Santa Barbara Channel)</b>
Box 6	<b>Howe, Richard - "Evolution of Offshore Mobile Drilling Units," API Paper</b>
Box 6	<b><i>Offshore</i> (complete issues), 1957-1958</b>
Box 6	<b>Radar</b>
Box 6	<b>Vessels</b>

## Series 8. Technical Materials

Box 7	<b>Bollay, William - "Analysis of a Spherical Shell under External Pressure," 1963</b>
Box 7	<b>California, late 1940s, early 1950s (mainly re coring equipment)</b>
Box 7	<b>California Oil Fields</b>
Box 7	<b>Core Hole Locations</b>
Box 7	<b>Core Orientation Field Notes (George A. Macready), 1953-1954</b>
Box 7	<b>Core Orientation Reports (George A. Macready), 1933-1950</b>
Box 8	<b>Core Orientation Reports (George A. Macready), 1951-1955</b>
Box 8	<b>Core Positions (M.V. Surprise)</b>
Box 8	<b>Deepwater Jetting Device</b>
Box 8	<b>Drilling Equipment</b>
Box 8	<b>Equipment</b>
Box 8	<b>Geology</b>
Box 8	<b>Geophysical Prospecting (includes field notes and reports, mainly California, Florida, and Alabama material) [water damage], 1920s-1950s</b>
Box 8	<b>Marine Equipment</b>
Box 8	<b>Off-Shore Sampling - Committee meeting minutes, 1951-1953</b>
Box 8	<b>Offshore Sampling Operation Reports - M/V Submarex, 1952</b>
Box 8	<b>Radar (Raytheon)</b>
Box 8	<b>Santa Barbara - Marine Seismograph Survey, 1948</b>
Box 8	<b>Santa Barbara - Offshore Exploration [water damage], 1940s</b>
Box 8	<b>Santa Barbara/Ventura/Los Angeles (mainly reports and maps), ca. 1930s</b>
Box 8	<b>Submarine Coring Reports - M/V Submarex, 1952</b>
Box 8	<b>Towers</b>

---

Series 9. **Photographs**

Box 9                    **Anacapa Island - Aerial views, 1929**  
Box 9                    **B/w prints**  
Box 9                    **Slide [of Rand?]**

Series 10. **Audiovisual**

Box 9                    **Film - 16mm color (small roll) - deck of unidentified ship**  
Series 11. **Oversize**

Box 10 - 11            **Daily Drilling Reports, 1956-1958 (boxed)**  
Box 12                   **Drawings, diagrams, blueprints (vessels, drilling equipment) (boxed)**  
Cabinet 20: 10        **Drawings and Maps (2 folders, map cabinet/drawer)**  
Cabinet 20: 10        **Charts of Santa Barbara Channel**  
Cabinet 20: 10        **Drilling equipment**  
Cabinet 20: 10        **Map - Pt. Buchon**  
Cabinet 20: 10        **Maps - Source data indices of hole sites off Long Beach**