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## Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Watson Land Company Collection

**Dates:** 1927-2005

**Collection Number:** Consult repository.

**Creator:** Watson Land Company

**Extent:** 1 box.5 linear ft.

**Repository:** California State University, Dominguez Hills Archives and Special Collections

Archives & Special Collection University Library, Room G-1451000 E. Victoria Street Carson, California 90747 Phone: (310) 243-3013 URL: <http://archives.csudh.edu/>

**Abstract:** A small collection of materials from the Watson Land Company, including articles of incorporation, financial statements, correspondence, newsletters, and reports.

**Language:** Collection material is in English

## Access

There are no access restrictions on this collection.

## Publication Rights

All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Director of Archives and Special Collections. Permission for publication is given on behalf of Special Collections as the owner of the physical materials and not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained.

## Preferred Citation

[Title of item], Watson Land Company Collection, Courtesy of the Department of Archives and Special Collections. University Library. California State University, Dominguez Hills

## Project Information

This finding aid was created as part of Early Los Angeles/Rancho San Pedro Manuscript Cataloging Project, a CSU Dominguez Hills Library project funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. The project started in 2005. Project Director was Greg Williams. Project Archivists were Thomas Philo and Jennifer Allan Goldman.

## History

The Watson Estate Company was incorporated in 1912 to help protect the interests of Dolores Simona Dominguez de Watson. While the Watson Estate Company made a steady, albeit relatively small, income from leasing land, it broke with other Rancho-based companies in regularly selling off small pieces of property. The company was reincorporated as the Watson Land Company in 1927, largely as a way to have lands assessed according to richer 1920s valuations, rather than the 1913 valuation that had been used. Under reincorporation, land sales and leases gave the Watson Land Company a sounder financial foundation. As with other Rancho-based concerns, the Watson Land Company realized profits from sales and leases to oil companies; throughout its history, though, the directors of the Watson Land Company focused on the agricultural and industrial development of the land. The success of this practice grew throughout the century, and the Watson Land Company remains one of the most successful in Southern California. (From the Rancho San Pedro Collection Finding Aid)

## Scope and Content

Items include "Watson in the News" company newsletters; corporate profiles and reports; brochures and articles about the company; financial statements; land reports; correspondence; and the company articles of incorporation.

## Subjects

Office buildings

Industrial buildings

## Geographic Areas

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Carson (Calif.)  
Rancho Dominguez (Calif.)

**Corporate Names**

Watson Land Company

**Related Material**

Rancho San Pedro Collection  
Rancho San Pedro Reference Collection

- Folder 1      **"Watson In the News" publications, monthly/seasonal newsletter with pieces on tenants, Waston Land Company employees, and construction progress 1968, 1976-1978, 1982, 1985, 1986, 1990, 2005**
- Folder 2      **Corporate profile brochures (cover removed) and letter to Judson Grenier in reference to photos used in brochure 1987, 1966**
- Folder 3      **Industrial Center brochures, including for the Watson Office Plaza and the Watson/Carson Business Park, all circa late-1970s, early-1980s 1977, 1981**
- Folder 4      **Reprinted and photocopied articles about the Watson Industrial Center, reprint of report by "Industrial Development," correspondence from Brown Keefe Marine/Bowes regarding news releases 1964-1965, 1978, 1982**
- Folder 5      **Articles of Incorporation, certificate from state of California, and correspondence 1927**
- Folder 6      **Report on land sales by W.H. Daum and Staff, including correspondence to and from Hugh Arnold and a map noting the properties for possible sale 1935, 1940**
- Folder 7      **Balance sheets, financial statements, audit reports, and other financial documents 1927, 1933, 1938, 1949-1950, 1966-1967**
- Folder 8      **Correspondence with oil companies and other Dominguez companies, financial statements, clippings, freeway map, Copy of Watson Energy Systems, Inc. appeal to Air Pollution Control District 1927, 1930, 1934, 1939, 1944, 1966, 1976, 1986**
- Folder 9      **Pasadena Research Institute report, "Economic Impact of Watson Industrial Center" 1980**