

Abstracts

Microwave Technology and Industry Dynamics from WWII to 1970

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Useful applications of microwaves (all military) were first developed in the East during World War II. Some of the principal pioneers in that work came (or came back) to the Bay Area following the war to establish research programs at Stanford and at the University of California-Berkeley and to found new enterprises such as Varian Associates and Litton Industries. Hewlett-Packard, which was housed in a small wooden building on Page Mill road near the Southern Pacific tracks, began to add microwave test instruments to its product line. This presentation traces the work of the Bay Area pioneers and their offspring from the beginning to about 1970 when solid-state microwave devices and strip lines began to replace microwave tubes and waveguides at low power levels.

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