Engineering has been a core part of UC Berkeley’s identity since it was founded in 1868. The legislative act that created the University of California specified that professors of mechanic arts, mines and civil engineering be among the first faculty to be hired.

Reflecting California’s Gold Rush roots, mining and extraction were popular early majors. The College of Mining got a new home in 1907 with the completion of the Hearst Memorial Mining Building. Behind the building is the now-closed Lawson Adit, a teaching mine that stretches to the Hayward Fault.

In 1924, Hesse Hall became home to the College of Mechanics. The colleges of Mechanics and of Civil Engineering merged in 1931 to become the new College of Engineering, which contained the departments of Civil Engineering and of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering. McLaughlin Hall, built in 1924, became the administrative hub of the newly combined college. The College of Engineering expanded further when the College of Mining joined it in 1942.

The College of Engineering continues to evolve and grow, and is now home to nine engineering programs in seven departments, with activities in more than a dozen buildings on campus. This includes Cory Hall, built in 1950 to house the growing electrical engineering department where foundational research would set the stage for revolutions in the computer and microelectronics industries.

The college also has extensive large-scale engineering research facilities, including one of the world’s largest earthquake simulators, at the Richmond Field Station site located seven miles from campus.

These facilities support the college’s mission. Berkeley Engineers have helped build California, literally, from its water, transportation and energy infrastructure to the high-tech powerhouses in Silicon Valley and the greater Bay Area that remain critical drivers of economic growth.

Listen to the audio tour
engineering.berkeley.edu/tour

An accessible version of this information is available online at engineering.berkeley.edu/visit.

*Accessible portions of the tour may only be available during business hours, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.*
Begin your tour at McLaughlin Hall.

**McLaughlin Hall** houses the administrative offices of the College of Engineering and the Institute of Transportation Studies. It is also home to Engineering Student Services while the Engineering Center is under construction.

Moving north, the Engineering Center construction project will be on your right.

When the **Engineering Center** opens in 2025, it will provide one-stop access to the programs that help our students succeed — advising, career services, tutoring, academic and social events, and our signature entrepreneurship programs, including the Sutardja Center for Entrepreneurship and the Management, Entrepreneurship, & Technology (M.E.T.) program.

**Davis Hall** is the home to the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. It houses laboratories for earthquake engineering, structures and materials, and geotechnical engineering. The Center for Access to Engineering Excellence, where students can find tutoring and academic support, is currently located on the third floor.

Still facing north, **O'Brien Hall** is on your left.

**O'Brien Hall** houses mechanical engineering labs, including energy science and technology research.

Around the corner from O'Brien Hall and to the left is the loading dock of Hesse Hall.

**Hesse Hall** houses labs for mechanical engineering and the new aerospace engineering program. This includes a state-of-the-art wind tunnel installed in 2023.

North of O'Brien Hall is **Blum Hall**.

**Blum Hall** is home to the Blum Center for Developing Economies, which manages the Global Poverty and Practice minor, and the Management, Entrepreneurship, & Technology (M.E.T.) program.

Still facing north, **O'Brien Hall** is on your right.

**Sutardja Dai Hall** is home to the CITRIS headquarters, the Marvell Nanofabrication Laboratory and the third-floor technology museum, which is open to the public. The CITRIS Invention Lab, a makerspace, is located on the first floor.

Follow the steps up between Blum and Sutardja Dai halls, turning left at the top to get to Hearst Ave. *Accessible route: Go inside Sutardja Dai Hall using the doors at the base of the stairs. You’ll go east to reach the elevators. Take the elevator to the 3rd floor, exit to the right, then follow the accessible ramp on the left to Hearst Ave.*

**Soda Hall** is home to computer sciences and contains classrooms, labs and access to computer clusters for shared computing power, storage and services.

Go west (downhill) on Hearst Ave until you’ve passed Soda Hall and are at the walkway. Turn north and Etcheverry Hall will be on your left.

**Etcheverry Hall** houses the departments of Industrial Engineering and Operations Research, Mechanical Engineering and Nuclear Engineering, as well as our newest program, Aerospace Engineering.

Continue north on the walkway to Ridge Rd. Jacobs Hall is on your right.

**Jacobs Hall** is the home of the Jacobs Institute for Design Innovation, which includes an interdisciplinary makerspace used by students across campus. Here you can get hands-on practice with design automation, rapid prototyping and commercial development.

Head east (uphill) on Ridge Rd. and turn right at LeRoy Ave. Continue to the intersection at Hearst Ave. and cross back to the main campus. Our next stop is Cory Hall, located east of Sutardja Dai Hall.

**Cory Hall** is the home of electrical engineering and houses labs devoted to integrated circuits, lasers and robotics.

Travel east (uphill) on Hearst Ave., turn south on Gayley Rd. Continue to the first road (University Dr.), and turn west. At the circle, turn right. **Stanley Hall** is on your right.

**Stanley Hall** is home to the Department of Bioengineering. You’ll find research labs and offices, as well as the California Institute for Quantitative Biosciences.

Continue around the circle to Hearst Memorial Mining Building for your final stop.

**Hearst Memorial Mining Building** is home to the Department of Materials Science and Engineering. With a meticulously restored vaulted atrium, elegant sculptured windows and grand marble staircases, the building houses new laboratories for advanced experiments in computation, ceramics, metals and polymers, as well as facilities to develop nanoscale and superconducting materials.