Silicon Valley

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Silicon Valley is located in the southern portion of the San Francisco Bay Area of Northern California, include all of the Santa Clara Valley, the southern San Francisco Peninsula, and southern portions of the East Bay region.

The term Silicon Valley is attributed to Ralph Vaerst, a local entrepreneur. The term’s first publish as the title of a series of articles in the weekly trade newspaper, Electronic News. The term gained widespread use in the early 1980s. The silicon “silicon” part of the term refer to the region’s large number of silicon chip innovations and manufactures, but eventually refer to all high-tech business in the area, and now is generally used as a metonym for the American high-technology economic sector.

Stanford University’s affiliates and graduates have played a major role in the development of this area. During the 1940s and 1950s, Frederick Terman, Stanford’s dean of engineering and provost, encouraged faculty and graduates to start their own business. With his help, Silicon Valley grew up around the Stanford campus. Terman is often called “the father of Silicon Valley”.

Silicon Valley is a leading hub for high-tech innovation and development, accounting for one-third of all of the venture capital investment in U.S. Thousands of high technology companies are headquartered in Silicon Valley, many of them are in the Fortune 1000. For example: Apple Inc., eBay, Facebook, Google, HP, Intel, ext. It’s also home to the high-tech superstore retail chain Fry’s Electronics. According to a 2008 study by AeA, Silicon Valley was the third largest high-tech center cyber city in the U.S with nearly 250,000 high-tech jobs. The Bay Area as a whole however, of which Silicon Valley is a part, would rank first with over 385,000 high-tech jobs.