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An iconic San Francisco landmark, the Transamerica Pyramid is recognized, alongside the city's famous cable cars and Golden Gate Bridge, by visitors around the world. This prominent building, of exceptional design, was completed in 1972.

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# Transamerica Pyramid



600 Montgomery Street  
San Francisco, CA

## The Pyramid “Spire”

- ◇ Upper 212 feet
- ◇ Seasonal beacon inside
- ◇ Red aircraft warning light at top
- ◇ Vertically-louvered aluminum panels
- ◇ Lower portion encloses mech. equip

## Observation Deck

27th floor | Closed to public (2001)

## Floor Size Range

2,000 RSF - 22,000 RSF

## 3,678 Windows

Majority of windows pivot 360°  
facilitating cleaning from inside

## “Wings” Structural Element

- ◇ Base at 29th floor
- ◇ Terminate at 48th floor
- ◇ Supports the east side elevator shaft  
(because the elevator cannot run at the  
angle of the building) and west side  
stairwell & smoke tower

## Building Foundation

52 feet deep | 9 feet thick

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# Transamerica Pyramid

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## PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Description	Transamerica Pyramid Center is comprised of two buildings: Transamerica Pyramid Building and 505 Sansome at Pyramid Center, 1/2 acre Redwood Park, which features water fountains, towering redwood trees, benches and a community stage
Building Description	48 floor, obelisk-shaped, steel-concrete composite structure with white quartz-aggregate façade panels
Official Building Name	Transamerica Pyramid
Location	600 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, California
Construction	Start - 1969   Completion - 1972
History	Tallest building in San Francisco 8th tallest building in the world upon completion
Construction Cost	\$44 million

## LEADERSHIP | PROJECT TEAM | DESIGN | CONSTRUCTION

San Francisco Mayor	Mr. Joseph Alioto
Transamerica Corp. CEO	John (Jack) R. Beckett
Architect	William L. Pereira & Associates
Structural Engineering	Chin & Hensolt
Primary Contractor	Dinwiddie Construction
Current Use	Office

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# Transamerica Pyramid

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## BUILDING CONSTRUCTION & AMENITIES SUMMARY

Size	700,000 GSF
Height	853 Feet   260 Meters
Number of Floors	48
Design	<p>48 floor, pyramid shaped, steel-concrete composite structure with white quartz-aggregate façade panels.</p> <p>Unique earthquake resistant structural design including a 52-foot-deep steel and concrete foundation, unique truss system above the first floor, and reinforced façade designed to incur lateral movement.</p>
Foundation	16,000 cubic yards of concrete (foundation + base) and 300 miles of steel reinforcing rods
Façade	White quartz-aggregate coated façade panels and 3,678 window that pivot 360° to facilitate cleaning from the inside of the building
Elevators	18 Elevators
Amenities	<p>Redwood Park nestled between Transamerica Pyramid &amp; 505 Sansome</p> <p>Surrounded by world-class hotels, restaurants, shopping and galleries</p> <p><i>48TH FLOOR</i> Corporate Meeting &amp; Event Room</p> <p><i>Points of Interest</i> Visitor's Center and gift shop</p>

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# Transamerica Pyramid

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## NOTABLE FACTS

Tallest building in San Francisco and the 4th tallest building on the west coast of the United States.

Prominently located at the gateway to San Francisco's Financial District, within the Transamerica Pyramid Center complex, comprised of one city block. The property offers convenient access to airports, highways, Bay Area Rapid Transit, buses and ferries.

Site development is situated in the historic **Montgomery Block** area of San Francisco. The site used to be San Francisco's waterfront and remains of sunken ships were excavated during construction of Transamerica Pyramid Center.

The building's obelisk shape was required due to a special shadow ordinance in place by the City of San Francisco.

Owned by AEGON USA, Inc., following its 1999 acquisition of Transamerica Corporation. Although The Transamerica Pyramid remains associated with Transamerica, including representation on the company's logo, Transamerica Corporation moved their U.S. headquarters to Baltimore, MD.

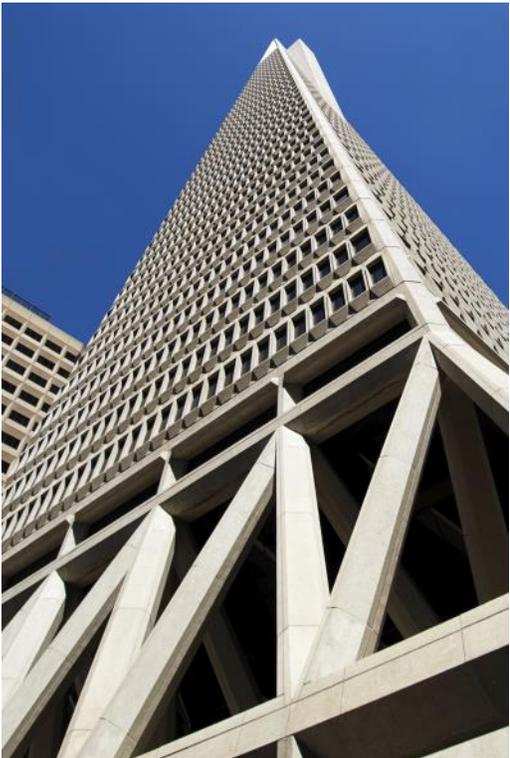
The **foundation** extends 52 feet underground and is designed to move during earthquakes. Components of the base include 16,000 cubic yards of concrete and 300 miles of steel reinforcement rods.

During the **1989 7.1 magnitude Bay Area earthquake**, the top of the building swayed nearly a foot from side to side. The building was undamaged, attributed to the careful structural engineering.

The 27th floor observation deck closed to public access in 2001.

In **2009**, the building was awarded **LEED Gold certification**, by **U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)** for practices in environmental sustainability, including energy efficiency, water efficiency, CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction, improved indoor air quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts. Core to the achievement was the installation of a co-generation plant that produces 70% of the Transamerica Pyramid Center's electricity. In 2009, also awarded **Outstanding Building of The Year Award (TOBY)** by Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA)

In 2011, the building was awarded USGBC's highest level of environmental sustainability certification, **LEED Platinum**.



↑  
View of San Francisco Bay and  
San Francisco-Oakland  
Bay Bridge

←  
Distinctive obelisk design as  
viewed from the street

→  
View of Transamerica Pyramid  
through one of Golden Gate  
Bridge's towers





San Francisco's Financial District

Transamerica Pyramid with illuminated "spire" and "crown jewel" beacon

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