



# Smithsonian

*Institution Archives*

## Silvio A. Bedini Papers, 1965-1985

Finding aid prepared by Smithsonian Institution Archives

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., <a href="mailto:osiaref@si.edu">osiaref@si.edu</a>
<b>Title:</b>	Silvio A. Bedini Papers
<b>Date:</b>	1965-1985
<b>Identifier:</b>	Accession 05-115
<b>Creator::</b>	Bedini, Silvio A.
<b>Extent:</b>	3 cu. ft. (3 record storage boxes)
<b>Language:</b>	English

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## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Accession 05-115, Silvio A. Bedini Papers

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## Historical Note

Silvio A Bedini (b. 1917), an historian and author, attended Columbia University, 1935-1942, and received an L.L.D. from the University of Bridgeport in 1970. In 1961, he began his career at the Smithsonian Institution as Curator in the Museum of History and Technology (MHT), Department of Mechanical and Civil Engineering. By 1965, Bedini became Assistant Director of MHT, and in 1972 was appointed Deputy Director of the National Museum of History and Technology. Following his tenure as Deputy Director, he served as Keeper of the Rare Books at the Dibner Library from 1978 until his retirement in 1987. Bedini is currently Historian Emeritus at the Smithsonian, a title he has held since retiring. During his long association with the Institution he has authored more than twenty books and countless articles, particularly on the history of science, and is a leading authority on the life of Thomas Jefferson.

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## Descriptive Entry

This accession primarily consists of Bendini's correspondence and memoranda with Smithsonian colleagues, scholars, professional organizations, publishers, and the general public documenting his research activities for special projects, publications, and exhibitions. Also included are Bedini's articles and book reviews; research notes; copies of primary and secondary sources; photographs of scientific instruments, individuals, buildings, and exhibitions; and proposals.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Research

Science -- History

Types of Materials:

Audiotapes  
Black-and-white photographs  
Brochures  
Clippings  
Color photographs  
Drawings  
Manuscripts

Names:

Bedini, Silvio A.

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## Container Listing

	Box 1
	Benjamin Banneker Research Summary: Benjamin Banneker Research
Box 1 of 3	Correspondence: A-Z, 1965-1984 (4 folders)
Box 1 of 3	Lectures, 1981
Box 1 of 3	Book Reviews, 1971-1973
Box 1 of 3	Stamp Project, 1972-1980
Box 1 of 3	Film Projects, 1975-1977
Box 1 of 3	Ellicott/Banneker Mural
Box 1 of 3	General Information, 1970-1983
	Elijah Porter Research Summary: Elijah Porter Research
Box 1 of 3	Correspondence and Research, 1983
	Vatican Project Summary: Vatican Project
Box 1 of 3	Correspondence, 1977-1982
Box 1 of 3	Correspondence, 1976-1977
Box 1 of 3	The Vatican and Science: Exhibition Project, 1984-1985 (2 folders)
Box 1 of 3	Letter to the Pope, 1978
	Redheffer Research Summary: Redheffer Research
Box 1 of 3	Correspondence, 1975-1980
Box 1 of 3	Photographs: Redheffer House and Patent, 1972-1975
	Anthony Lamb Research Summary: Anthony Lamb Research
Box 1 of 3	Correspondence and Research, 1972-1984

Lafayette's Watch Research (The Case of the Wandering Watch)  
Summary: Lafayette's Watch Research (The Case of the Wandering Watch)

Box 1 of 3	Correspondence and Research, 1974-1983
Box 2	
	Bernardo Facini Research Summary: Bernardo Facini Research
Box 2 of 3	Correspondence and Research, 1983-1984
	Relic of the Revolution (Thomas Jefferson's Lap Desk) Summary: Relic of the Revolution (Thomas Jefferson's Lap Desk)
Box 2 of 3	Correspondence and Research, 1970-1984 (2 folders)
	Athanasius Kircher Research Summary: Athanasius Kircher Research
Box 2 of 3	Correspondence and Research, 1985
	Waldseemuller Map Research ("The Map that Named America") Summary: Waldseemuller Map Research ("The Map that Named America")
Box 2 of 3	Correspondence and Research, 1982-1984 (2 folders)
	Other Summary: Other
Box 2 of 3	Relics of the Revolution: Proposal
Box 2 of 3	Correspondence re: The Nation's Attic, 1979-1980
Box 2 of 3	Photograph: Portrait of Andrew Ellicott
Box 2 of 3	Polygraph: Correspondence and Research, 1973-1978
Box 2 of 3	Audiotapes: America's Wooden Age, 1966 (2 folders)
Box 3	
Box 3 of 3	Photographs of Houses for "A Nation of Nations" (2 folders)
Box 3 of 3	Photographs of Commercial Buildings for "A Nation of Nations" (2 folders)
Box 3 of 3	Photographs for "A Nation of Nations" (general) (6 folders)

Box 3 of 3                      Exhibition: "Columbus and His Times," 1976

Box 3 of 3                      Exhibition: "Anatomical Drawings by Leonardo Da Vinci," 1976

Box 3 of 3                      Silver Jubilee Exhibition, 1977