



Smithsonian Institution Archives

David H. DeVorkin Papers, *circa* 1979-2002

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., <i>osiaref@si.edu</i>
Creator:	DeVorkin, David H, 1944-
Title:	David H. DeVorkin Papers
Dates:	<i>circa</i> 1979-2002
Quantity:	3 cu. ft. (3 record storage boxes)

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Accession 07-137, DeVorkin, David H, 1944-, David H. DeVorkin Papers

Access Restriction

Until the death of the Donor, SIA will notify the Donor prior to, or within 7 days after, the materials have been accessed for reseach. Contact reference staff for details.

Descriptive Entry

This accession consists of materials documenting the professional activities of David H. DeVorkin, Curator of Astronomy, National Air and Space Museum. Materials primarily document DeVorkin's editing of a book for the National Geographic Society titled "Beyond Earth: Mapping the Universe," preparation of his own books and manuscripts such as the "Race to the Stratosphere: Manned Scientific Ballooning in the Stratosphere," and his involvement in the American Astronomical Society (AAS), especially the Historical Astronomy Division (HAD). Materials include correspondence and memoranda; research materials such as photocopied news articles, chronologies, biographies, logs, and artifact information sheets; manuscripts by DeVorkin as well as manuscripts for the book he edited; images; permissions; notes; exhibition proposals; and AAS newsletters, meeting agendas, correspondence, and notes.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Aeronautical museums
Astronautical museums
Astronomy

Beyond Earth: mapping the universe (Monograph)
Book editors
Exhibitions
Professional associations
Publications
Race to the stratosphere: manned scientific ballooning in the stratosphere (Monograph)
Science -- History

Types of Materials:

Black-and-white photographs
Black-and-white transparencies
Clippings
Color photographs
Color transparencies
Manuscripts
Newsletters
Pamphlets

Names:

American Astronomical Society
American Astronomical Society. Historical Astronomy Division.
DeVorkin, David H., 1944-
National Air and Space Museum (U.S.).
National Geographic Society (U.S.)

Container Listing

Box 1

Balloon Book, Research Notes, Edited Drafts, Piccard Papers

Century of Progress - Letters and handwritten notes, many dealing with Piccard

Kepner bio - Two biographical documents

National Geographic Society (NGS) Notes - Handwritten notes and photocopied letters

Collage - Photocopied clippings about balloons

Stratosphere Balloon Clippings - All photocopied

Salt Lake Tribune - Photocopied article about Balloonist's account

New York Times - Short photocopied article about launching rockets from balloons

Photos for Collage Miscellaneous Selections - Short photocopied article from the Butler County Newspaper

Washington Post - Short photocopied article on Army Balloon

Chicago Daily News - Short article with pictures

Balloon Sources, Resources - Newsletter

Balloon Correspondence 1993 - Letters and newsletter

Winker- Ballooning - Letters

John Irwin photos - Letters

Print Requests Completed - Lists of materials to be photographed and photocopied materials

Greenstein-Concept for Spectrograph - Reproduction of information on the V-2 rocket (equations, diagrams, notes)

Regener Pfozter max TBX - Photocopied material in German and English

Regener Balloon Spectra-TBC - Articles in German and English

Meisinger-Balloons and Meteorology - Parts 1 and 2 of Meisinger Biographical Tribute with an Assessment of His Contributions to Meteorology by John M. Lewis

Rapid City Paper - Photocopied clippings

Project Helios ONR Files - Chronology of project Helios file, photocopied letters, and index cards

Balloons vs. Rockets Helios - Photocopied letters and documents about stratolab

Source for Photographing Woodcut of Croce-Spinelli making Spectroscopic observations of the Sun - Page of 1978 Frankfurt newspaper with pictures of balloons and a few articles

Piccard Article 2/13/1990 - Drafts of Piccard manuscript for Air and Space and letters to and from Air and Space

Miscellaneous Folder - Notes for conclusion Why We Went to the Moon and notes taken in LA and Explorer Notes March 1988 and beyond

Jeannette Piccard - Detroit Log - Copy of original log of Jeannette Piccard

Piccard Notes P-47

Xerox of Complete Poppenhusen File in Piccard Archives (1933-late 1934)

Chicago Museum letter - Piccard Family Papers 1920s-1937 - Many photocopied letters

Library of Congress (LC) Manuscripts Division - Piccard Family Papers 1945-on "Helios" lots of photocopied material (mainly letters)

For Translation - Letters in French to A. Piccard

Library Work Pending - News clipping about the book "New Lands, New Men," notes, and copy of "The Physical Review," Vol. 50, No. 4 about Cloud chamber observations of cosmic rays, other articles about spectrophotometry

University of Minnesota Archives - 5 letters

Minnesota Physics People (Ney, etc) - Letters

Van Allen - Letters

Bettmann News photos (UPI) - Correspondence about photographs (no photographs)

Photo Permission to be sent to Springer-Verlag - Letters, forms signed for the use of photographs

SI General Counsel - Letters including requests for advice on copyright and liability when publishing, manuscript copyright and permission to quote document from the Library of Congress

Wide World/ Keystone - Letters about purchasing photographs for publication

Requisition for Photographic Services - Requisition for photographic services along with photocopies of photographs

Box 2

Beyond Earth

CORBIS Images/National Portrait Gallery (NPG) - Printed info from National Portrait Gallery with Herschel pictures, printed info on Herschel Museum, and printed photos of observatories (Mount Wilson?)

Universe Video "Curatorial Road show" - Printed pictures and artifact information sheets

Road show Questions - Artifact information sheets and information on Dicke Differential Microwave Radiometer

Detector Section Video - Artifact info sheets

Birthday Star Data - Lists of nearest stars, list of brightest stars, and birthday star list

Noah's Ark - Photograph of Noah's Ark, article on Planispheric Astrolabes from the National Museum of American History published in Smithsonian Studies in History and Technology No. 45

Mayan or Aztec Thing - Photograph

King Lab - Photograph, negative, Xerox, and letter to Ron Brashear

Geographic book 10/01/2001 - Photograph, negative, and miscellaneous printouts

Kneamen - Images to get (printed pictures)

Hubble Heritage Image File - Printed pictures and information

World's Largest Optical Telescope - List of the largest optical telescopes

Istanbul Observatory - Letters and emails, copies of photo of Islamic observatory used in ETU

Malin, David - Memos and emails, proposal for guest curation of a temporary exhibit on astronomical photography, and proposal for mini-exhibit "origins of Space Science"

Eric Long - Photographs of telescopes, Spectrographs, etc.

Ronsaville and Wood - Letter and mounted pictures of geocentric system

Eli Dwek Stuff - Miscellaneous information for ETU including drawings, emails, and spending plan

Laurie Hatch - Lick Refractor Photo License Agreement with 2 photos

Stoke-ST SCI - Email

Women in Astronomy - Copy of STATUS June 2000

ETU Image Checklists

Images (Status) - ETU image checklists and list of ETU illustrations

Dave R. - Photo Captions for ETU

Joan Mathys Contract 2002

Letter to Authors 5/1/2002 - Letter and list of authors' addresses

Book Contract - Contract and publishing agreement

Exhibition Book (Universe) - Proposal for book, thoughts for gallery book, and letters

Geographic Book Contract

Mapping the Universe - Rough drafts for historical attributes, letters, list of chapter authors, copy of Serendipitous discoveries in radio astronomy, information on David T. Wilkinson, and copies of chapters from book

National Geographic Books Catalogue Spring 2002

NGS/SI Celestial Cartography - List of chapter authors, draft proposal on Celestial Cartography, and exhibition book write up for "New Telescopes, New Universes"

Celestial Cartography - Emails and draft proposal for Celestial Cartography

ETU Book Images - List of images of artifacts in exhibition E or Collection C as Chapter frontispieces

Dibner Photo Order (Xeroxes taken from dump files return) - Information on Tycho Brahe, Galileo, and Herschel and ETU image checklist

Dibner Holdings on Brahe, Kepler, etc. - Emails and printouts from SI research info system

Stuff to do for Sidebars

Sidebars - List of sidebars, photocopied photos, production and manufacturing schedule, and sidebars

How Big is Big? Sidebar - Astronomy picture of the day September 4, 2001 and "A Question of Scale" from www.wordwizz.com

NGS Book Chapter 5 - Warner essay 1st draft and Dibner Images

NGS Book Chapter 1

Kreamer - Emails, "Performing the Moral Universe: African Arts and Cosmologies" by Christine Mullen Kreamer

Major - "East Asian Cosmologies" by John Major

Chamberlain - Images to Set

Native American Cosmos - Photographs and negatives

Chamberlain - "Cosmologies of the America" by Von Del Chamberlain
and "Historical Archaeoastronomy: The Hopi Example" by Stephen C.
McCluskey

NGS Book Chapter 6 "Copernicus Chaser" ("The Most Brilliant PhD Thesis
Ever Written in Astronomy" by Owen Gingerich) - Copy of chapter and emails

NGS Book Chapter 7 - Hoskin 2nd Draft and "Performing the Moral Universe:
African Arts and Cosmologies" by Christine Mullen Kreamer

DeVorkin - Chemistry of Cosmos - "What is the Universe Made of?" by David
DeVorkin and "The Chemistry of the Cosmos" by David DeVorkin

NGS Book Chapter 8 "From Hubble to Hubble" - David DeVorkin
Correspondence with R. Smith

Stephenson - "Lessons from the Past: Historical Supernovae" by F. Richard
Stephenson and photograph

NGS Book Chapter 9 "Why does Astronomer She Cannot See?" by Vera
Rubin - Photograph, letter, email, and normal copy of chapter

Smith - "Hubble to Hubble" by Robert W. Smith

NGS Book Chapter 10 "Gravitational Lenses" - Tony Tyson

Tyson - Draft "3-D Tomography of the Dark Universe"

Geller - Rough draft of "Exploring Space and Time" and emails

NGS Book Chapter 12 "Detecting Cosmic Microwave Background" by Robert
Wilson

Wilkinson

NGS Book Chapter 13 "From Pigeon Traps to Boomerangs" by Dave
Wilkinson - Emails and photocopied photos (no copy of chapter)

Box 3

Historical Astronomy Division, American Astronomical Society, Russell
Grant

HAD check problems done 7/1/1996 - HAD letters

HAD - Adler - Abstract forms for AAS meeting

New IRC - Emails including IRCHAD action list

1999 note logs - Many emails (July 13, 1998-AAS1999 Note Log)

HAD - Yerkes 1999 - Newsletter and letter to AAS Centennial Committee
Members

Russians - "The Early Post-War History of Soviet Radio Astronomy" by Vladimir S. Strel'nitski JHA, xxvi (1995); "Political Repression and Personality: The History of Political Repression Against Soviet Astronomers" A. I. Eremeeva JHA, xxvi (1995); "Science Feasts Whilst the Public Starves: A Note on the Reconstruction of the Pulkovo Observatory After World War II" Alexander Gurshtein and Constantin Ivanov JHA, xxvi (1995); "V.T. Ter-Oganezov, Ideologist of Soviet Astronomy" Vitalii Bronshten and Robert McCutcheon JHA, xxvi (1995); Documents about Russian/American conference

Russian Members IRC HAD International Relations Committee - Photocopies of photos, emails, and other documents (many in Russian)

Astronomy and State - Draft of "The Early Post-War History of Soviet Radio Astronomy"

HAD newsletters - HAD and AAS newsletters

HAD 1994-95 Tucson - Letters and agenda for business meeting

NSF/ SAO Micro Prop - July 11, 1996 microhao note log and letters

HAD finding aid

HAD files deposited at AIP - Letter

Deadline Dates - AAS calendar of important dates 1988, AAS newsletter November 1987, AAS calendar of important dates 1987, and AAS executive office calendar 1986, 1985, 1992

AAS Graduate Education in Astronomy

Draft of AAS's "An Examination of Graduate Education in Astronomy May 1997"

HAD Newsletters, 1995-1996

HAD newsletters - August 1993-January 1998

AAS Washington 1/98 - Press advisory for AAS meeting January 6-10, 1998, agenda, HADDC note log October 9, 1997, and HADDC note log July 9, 1997

AAS January 1998 - Information for meeting

HAD Business Meeting - Letters and draft secretary-treasurer's report, 1997

HAD Toronto-Business - AAS 1997 membership renewal information, handwritten notes, Jan 1997 HADPAL note log, September 1996 note log, and AAS newsletter August 1996, December 1996, October 1996

HAD Palomar June 1998 - Information on trip and emails

"The Great Spherical Aberration Fiasco of 1902 and its Aftermath" by D. E. Osterbrock - Abstract

HAS - Austin 1999 - Emails

HAD 1997 Report - Report, emails, and letters

HAD Budget 1997 - Letters, emails, account transactions, income vs. spending, monthly cash flow, where the money goes, account balance history, and account balances

AAS January 2002 - Agenda LOC meeting January 2002, emails, and proposed schedule for invited talks and special sessions January 2002

Ralph Kenat - Short letters

Russell Grant 1980 NSF - Final report for Russell NSF Grant, unsigned independent contractor agreements, letters and memos, summary of work on NSF Grant July 1980-July 1981, and proposal to NSF

AIP 1981 - Robert D'Escourt Atkinson Correspondence, letters, list of chapters in Menzel bio

AIP Correspondence 1980 - Letters and notes from phone call

NSF- HNR - Summary of work on NSF grant July 1980- July 1981, posting for a free-lance research assistant, revised budget proposal for NSF grant, letters, revised budget, and request for continuation of NSF-supported research on Russell

Applicants - Applications for Russell research assistant

Donna Houck - Bills and acceptance of research assistant position

Format for reading Micro

Chapter 16 (Old) - Letters and working copy

Final Program, AAS, Atlanta, Georgia, January 1992

Russell chapter revision - Letters with comments about chapters