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Collection Overview

Repository: Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title: David H. DeVorkin Papers
Identifier: Accession 16-376
Date: 1889-2011
Extent: 20.5 cu. ft. (20 record storage boxes) (1 document box)
Creator: DeVorkin, David H., 1944-
Language: Language of Materials: English

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation
Smithsonian Institution Archives, Accession 16-376, David H. DeVorkin Papers

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Descriptive Entry

This accession consists of the papers of David H. DeVorkin, Curator in the Space History Division at the National Air and Space Museum, 1981-, with earlier records dating from when he was assistant professor of astronomy at Central Connecticut State College, as well as during the years he attended high school and college. DeVorkin specializes in the origins and development of modern astrophysics and the space sciences, and is involved in professional societies that include the American Astronomical Society, the History of Science Society, and the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. The papers primarily document DeVorkin's scientific articles, lectures, planetarium programs, research, professional society activities, and preparation of his own books such as "Science with a Vengeance: How the Military Created the US Space Sciences after World War II" and "Henry Norris Russell: Dean of American Astronomers." Materials include correspondence, memoranda, and notes; articles; book reviews; clippings; agreements; lecture papers and presentation material; press releases; meeting agendas; information about committees, conferences, symposiums, and workshops; manuscripts; audiotape recordings; photographs, slides, and negatives; course outlines; proposals; and supporting documentation. Some materials are in electronic format.
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
- Astrophysics
- Committees
- Congresses and conventions
- Lectures and lecturing
- Museum curators
- Professional associations
- Publications
- Science -- History

Types of Materials:
- Audiotapes
- Black-and-white negatives
- Black-and-white photographs
- Black-and-white transparencies
- Clippings
- Color photographs
- Compact discs
- Electronic records
- Floppy disks
- Manuscripts

Names:
- American Astronomical Society
- Astronomical Society of the Pacific
- Central Connecticut State College
- DeVorkin, David H., 1944-
- History of Science Society
- National Air and Space Museum (U.S.). Space History Division

Preferred Titles:

*Henry Norris Russell: Dean of American Astronomers* *(Monograph : 2000)*

*Science with a Vengeance: How the Military Created the US Space Sciences after World War II* *(Monograph : 1992)*
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