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Collection Overview

Repository: Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Creator: Reingold, Nathan, 1927- interviewee
Title: Nathan Reingold Interviews
Quantity: 5 audiotapes (reference copies). 9 digital .mp3 files (reference copies).

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation
Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 9503, Reingold, Nathan, 1927- interviewee, Nathan Reingold Interviews

Historical Note

Introduction

The Smithsonian Institution Archives began its Oral History Program in 1973. The purpose of the program is to supplement the written documentation of the Archives' record and manuscript collections with an Oral History Collection, focusing on the history of the Institution, research by its scholars, and contributions of its staff. Program staff conduct interviews with current and retired Smithsonian staff and others who have made significant contributions to the Institution. There are also interviews conducted by researchers or students on topics related to the history of the Smithsonian or the holdings of the Smithsonian Institution Archives.

Dr. Reingold was interviewed for the Oral History Program for his knowledge of the history of the Institution and because he made significant scholarly and administrative contributions to the Smithsonian during 27 years of service.
Descriptive Entry

Reingold was interviewed on December 19, 1973, by Miriam S. Freilicher and William A. Deiss to obtain background information on the history of the Smithsonian and to discuss potential issues and interviewees for the Smithsonian Institution Archives Oral History Program. On October 5, 1995, Pamela M. Henson recorded Reingold's autobiographical lecture, "Life Begins at Forty: On Becoming a Historian," presented at the Smithsonian Institution Archives Research in Progress Lecture Series. On May 28 and 31, 1996, Henson conducted two additional interviews with Reingold that cover his family history and career as a historian of American science and documentary editor, and because of his significant scholarly contributions to the Smithsonian during 27 years of service. The interviews provide an overview of the lives and careers of Nathan and his first wife Ida from a survey of their memorabilia, awards, medals, personal records, manuscripts and photographs, now part of Reingold's personal papers at the Smithsonian Institution Archives. Reingold discusses his work at the National Archives, the Library of Congress, and the Smithsonian, reminiscences of colleagues, particularly S. Dillon Ripley and Frederick Seitz, the early development of the Joseph Henry Papers Project and the role of research at the Smithsonian.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:
History of science and technology

Types of Materials:
Audiotapes
Interviews
Oral history

Names:
Deiss, William A. interviewer.
Freilicher, Miriam S. interviewer.
Henson, Pamela M. interviewer.
Joseph Henry Papers Project
Library of Congress
National Archives (U.S.)
National Museum of American History (U.S.)
Reingold, Nathan, 1927-
Ripley, Sidney Dillon, 1913-2001
Seitz, Frederick
Container Listing

Box 1

Transcripts of Interviews
Interview 1: 19 December 1973
Interview 2: 5 October 1995
Interview 3: 28 May 1996
Interview 4: 31 May 1996

Audio Recordings of Interviews
Interview 1: 19 December 1973
Interview 2: 5 October 1995
Interview 3: 28 May 1996
Interview 4: 31 May 1996