IAS COMPUTER PROJECT RECORDS, 1950-1957
(0.7 cu. ft.; 2 DB, 1 3"x5")

History

This material was generated by participants in the IAS Computer Project, 1950-1957. The Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, NJ has long been a center of scholarly work in many disciplines of science by noted researchers (e.g. Albert Einstein). The computer project was initiated there in 1946 by John Von Neumann, a mathematician who had been working on ballistics computations during World War II. He used the first version of the Princeton computer to calculate the results of the thermonuclear reaction of the first H-bomb in 1950. In the late 1950s, after Von Neumann's death, the project was terminated. A brief summary of the project and Von Neumann's contribution is found in Chapter 5 of Who Got Einstein's Office? by Edward Regis (Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., Inc., 1987.)

Scope and Content

The collection includes published reports of the staff of the Electronic Computer Project, monthly progress reports, and reports by individual staff members (sometimes in draft form) on particular problems or pieces of equipment. Numerous drawings of computer components are also included, together with 10 glass photo slides in color of equipment and two slides of personnel (unidentified). A special "computer issue" of Proceedings of the Institute of Radio Engineers (published October, 1953) contains 41 papers on technical aspects of computers.

Provenance

Leon D. Harmon, Professor of Biomedical Engineering at Western Reserve University (and a participant in the IAS Computer Project) donated this material to NMAH on March 18, 1982. It

For more information contact the Archives Center at archivescenter@si.edu or 202-633-3270
was transferred to the Archives Center on January 22, 1991.

Don Darroch
04/04/91
IAS COMPUTER PROJECT, 1950-1957

Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOX</th>
<th>FOLDER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Report of Tests Made on Two Groups of &quot;Round Robin&quot; Williams Storage Tubes at the Institute for Advanced Study. 6 July 1953.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Proceedings of the Institute of Radio Engineers, 41: 10 (October, 1953).

Sheets, Set of

Sheets, Set of

Sheets, Set of

Drawings, IAS Computer. [Group of 66]

Drawings and Listings, IAS Computer. [Group of 75]


Drawings of IAS Computer. [1982.0169.07.46 -- 1982.0169.07.66]

Drawings & Listings, IAS Computer -- External Cabinet and Drum Cabinet Drawings. [1982.0169.08.01 -- 1.15]

Drawings & Listings for IAS Computer -- External Cabinet and, Drum Cabinet Drawings. [1982.0169.08.16 -- 1982.0169.08.40]

Drawings & Listings for IAS Computer -- External Cabinet and Drum Cabinet Drawings. [1982.0169.08.41 -- 1982.0169.08.75]

12 Glass photo slides, 3 1/4" x 4". [1982.0169.1.1 -- 1982.0169.1.12]

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March 28, 1991