

Harry Wexler Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

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Revised by Audrey Walker



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2011

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Latest revision: 2012 August

Collection Summary

Title: Harry Wexler Papers

Span Dates: 1929-1962

ID No.: MSS45229

Creator: Wexler, Harry, 1911-1962

Extent: 13,000 items ; 44 containers ; 19 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Geophysicist and meteorologist. Correspondence and papers relating primarily to Wexler's career in the United States Weather Bureau and the Weather Service of the United States Air Force.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Baum, Werner A.--Correspondence.
Brooks, Charles Franklin, 1891-1958--Correspondence.
Dryden, Hugh L. (Hugh Latimer), 1898-1965--Correspondence.
Harris, Oren, 1903- --Correspondence.
Houghton, Henry G.--Correspondence.
Hunsaker, Jerome C. (Jerome Clarke), 1886-1984--Correspondence.
Odishaw, Hugh--Correspondence.
Reichelderfer, Francis W. (Francis Wilton), 1895-1983--Correspondence.
Von Neumann, John, 1903-1957--Correspondence.
Wexler, Harry, 1911-1962.
Whipple, Fred L. (Fred Lawrence), 1906-2004--Correspondence.

Organizations

Harvard University--Students.
Massachusetts Institute of Technology--Students.
United States Antarctic Expedition (1954-1959)
United States. Air Weather Service.
United States. Weather Bureau.

Subjects

Computers.
Geophysics.
International Geophysical Year, 1957-1958.
Meteorological satellites.
Meteorology.
TIROS satellites.
Universities and colleges--Massachusetts.
Weather forecasting.

Places

Antarctica--Discovery and exploration.

Occupations

Geophysicists.
Meteorologists.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Harry Wexler, geophysicist and meteorologist, were given to the Library of Congress by his wife in 1963. Additional material was transferred from the U.S. Weather Bureau in 1964 and from the Department of Commerce in 1971.

Processing History

The papers of Harry Wexler were arranged and described in 1963 and expanded and revised in 1981. The finding aid was revised again in 2011.

Transfers

Dictaphone records have been transferred to the Library's Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division where they are identified as part of the Harry Wexler Papers.

Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Harry Wexler in these papers and in other collections in the custody of the Library of Congress is reserved. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division for further information

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Harry Wexler are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Harry Wexler Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Harry Wexler (1911-1962) span the years 1929-1962 and relate mainly to his career as a geophysicist and meteorologist, with the focus on the years he was with the United States Weather Bureau, 1934-1942 and 1946-1962, and the Weather Service of the United States Air Force, 1942-1946. The collection consists of five series: [General Correspondence](#); [Speech, Lecture, and Article File](#); [Subject File](#); [Miscellany](#); and [Printed Matter](#).

Prominent subjects include meteorological satellites (Tiros I), the use of high-speed computers for numerical weather prediction, and weather modification. Also in the collection are files relating to the United States expedition to the Antarctic for the International Geophysical Year, 1957-1958. Wexler was chief scientist for the expedition, and the journal he kept, 1955-1959, constitutes a detailed record of the mission. The collection also includes papers from his school years at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Correspondents include Werner A. Baum, Charles Franklin Brooks, Hugh L. Dryden, Oren Harris, Henry G. Houghton, Jerome C. Hunsaker, Hugh Odishaw, Francis W. Reichelderfer, John Von Neumann, and Fred L. Whipple.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in five series:

- [General Correspondence, 1929-1962](#)
- [Speech, Lecture, and Article File, 1930-1962](#)
- [Subject File](#)
- [Miscellany](#)
- [Printed Matter](#)

Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-14	<u>General Correspondence, 1929-1962</u> Letter sent and received. Arranged chronologically by year.
BOX 15-24	<u>Speech, Lecture, and Article File, 1930-1962</u> Speeches and writings and related material. Organized by type of material and chronologically thereunder.
BOX 25-36	<u>Subject File</u> Reports, committee material, research matter, a journal kept by Wexler of the U.S. expedition to the Antarctic for the International Geophysical Year, 1957-1958, and other files. Organized by topic or type of material.
BOX 37-40	<u>Miscellany</u> Biographical material, financial matter, school papers, photographs, weather data, and other miscellany. Arranged alphabetically by topic or type of material.
BOX 41-44	<u>Printed Matter</u> Miscellaneous printed matter. No arrangement.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1-14	General Correspondence, 1929-1962 Letter sent and received. Arranged chronologically by year.
BOX 1	1929-1943
BOX 2	1943-1946
BOX 3	1946-1948
BOX 4	1948-1949
BOX 5	1950-1952
BOX 6	1952-1954
BOX 7	1954-1955
BOX 8	1956-1957
BOX 9	1957-1958
BOX 10	1958-1959
BOX 11	1960
BOX 12	1960-1961
BOX 13	1961-1962
BOX 14	1962, undated
BOX 15-24	Speech, Lecture, and Article File, 1930-1962 Speeches and writings and related material. Organized by type of material and chronologically thereunder.
BOX 15	Speeches and lectures
BOX 15	1934-1943
BOX 16	1943-1955
BOX 17	1956-1960
BOX 18	1960-1962, undated
BOX 19	Articles
BOX 19	List of publications by Wexler
BOX 19	1930-1950
BOX 20	1951-1957
BOX 21	1958-1959
BOX 22	1959-1961
BOX 23	1961-1962, undated
BOX 24	Undated, miscellaneous notes
BOX 25-36	Subject File Reports, committee material, research matter, a journal kept by Wexler of the U.S. expedition to the Antarctic for the International Geophysical Year, 1957-1958, and other files. Organized by topic or type of material.
BOX 25	Air-mass analysis

Subject File

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 25	American Meteorological Society
BOX 26	American Meteorological Society
BOX 27	American Meteorological Society and Antarctic diary
BOX 28	Antarctic
BOX 29	Antarctic
BOX 30	Antarctic
BOX 30	Antarctican Society
BOX 30	Blue Hill Observatory
BOX 31	Committee on Space Research (Cospar)
BOX 31	International Geodetic and Geophysic Union
BOX 31	International Meteorological Organization
BOX 31	Jet stream research
BOX 31	Meteorological satellites
BOX 32	Meteorological satellites
BOX 32	National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics
BOX 32	Numerical weather prediction
BOX 32	Oceanography
BOX 32	Ozone research
BOX 33	Polar Meteorological Research Project
BOX 33	Radiation data
BOX 33	Space Science Board
BOX 33	Tiros I (meteorological report)
BOX 33	Tornado study
BOX 33	United Nations Symposium on Science and Technology for Less Developed Countries
BOX 33	Upper atmosphere research
BOX 34	Upper Atmosphere Rocket Research Panel
BOX 34	Weather Bureau
BOX 34	Administration
BOX 34	Evaluation Committee
BOX 35	Weather modification
BOX 35	Weather modification
BOX 35	Winds Aloft records
BOX 35	World Meteorological Organization
BOX 36	World Meteorological Organization
BOX 37-40	Miscellany Biographical material, financial matter, school papers, photographs, weather data, and other miscellany. Arranged alphabetically by topic or type of material.
BOX 37	Bills and receipts
BOX 37	Biographical material
BOX 37	Certificates and awards
BOX 37	Letters of condolence
BOX 37	Personal miscellany
BOX 37	Photographs
BOX 37	School papers

Miscellany

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 38	School papers
BOX 39	School papers
BOX 39	Weather charts and statistics
BOX 40	Weather charts and statistics
BOX 41-44	Printed Matter Miscellaneous printed matter. No arrangement.
BOX 41-44	Miscellaneous