



Guide to the Charles A. Jortberg Collection

Creator: Charles A. Jortberg

Dates: 1946-1990, bulk 1960-1980

Extent: 18.75 linear feet, 15 record cartons

Collection number: X2381.2002

Catalog number: 102733949

Collection processed by: Bo Doub and Kim Hayden, 2015

Finding aid prepared by: Bo Doub, Kim Hayden, and Sara Chabino Lott, 2015

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Abstract

The Charles A. Jortberg collection contains materials from 1946 to 1990 which Jortberg amassed during his career in the computer industry. He worked for IBM, Viatron, and his own firm, Jortberg & Associates, which consulted on high-tech patent litigation and computer systems integration. The collection includes manuals, reports, catalogs, promotional material, books, articles, and newsletters from a variety of computer companies, such as Viatron, IBM, DEC, Remington Rand, RCA, Wang, Texas Instruments, Hewlett-Packard, and others. A small amount of the collection consists of legal documents related to patent applications and trials.

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

The Computer History Museum (CHM) can only claim physical ownership of the collection. Copyright restrictions may apply and users are responsible for satisfying any claims of the copyright holder. Requests for copying and permission to publish, quote, or reproduce any portion of the Computer History Museum's collection must be obtained jointly from both the copyright holder (if applicable) and the Computer History Museum as owner of the material.

Languages

The collection is entirely in English.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of Item], [Date], Charles A. Jortberg collection, Lot X2381.2002, Box [#], Folder [#], Catalog [#], Computer History Museum.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Charles Jortberg, 2002.

Repository

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Biographical/Historical Note

Charles A. Jortberg was born on June 13, 1929, in Portland, Maine. He received his BA from Bowdoin College in 1951. After graduating, Jortberg briefly served with the National Security Agency and then worked at International Business Machines (IBM) for 14 years – finishing at IBM as Executive Computer Concepts Instructor and Manager of Sales Training in the New England region. Jortberg left IBM in the late 1960s and moved to Viatron Computer Systems, working as Marketing Manager. In 1974 he founded Jortberg Associates, a consulting firm specializing in high-tech patent litigation and computer systems integration. Jortberg died May 12, 2008, at his home in Naples, Florida.

Scope and Content of the Collection

The Charles A. Jortberg collection is made up of items Jortberg collected throughout his career in the computer technology field. The records span 1976 through 1990 with the bulk of the collection being from 1960 through 1980.

Jortberg collected a large amount of material related to his employers Viatron and IBM. The Viatron records in the collection date from 1967 to 1971 and include materials that document

the company and its products, including memos, notebooks, design drawings, system descriptions, patents, proposals, reviews, personnel records, business overviews, and expense reports. IBM materials date from 1946 to 1984 and include manuals, program libraries, parts catalogs, reports, conference proceedings, and internal marketing documentation. Almost half of the IBM series is made up of manuals for the 7000 series of computers and its components.

Also included in the collection is a large amount of Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) material from 1963 to 1973, with a focus on the PDP-10, PDP-6, and LINC computers.

As a patent litigation consultant, Jortberg acquired a small collection of legal documents related to patents. The collection includes transcripts, legal briefs, court opinions, and correspondence related to the patent infringement appeal case *Northern Telecom Inc. v. Datapoint Corp.* (1990), and documents related to two patents, including a patent application and court of appeals briefing.

The smallest portion of the collection is made up of manuals, promotional material, specifications, books, clippings and reports, all published by companies and institutions that did not have enough material in the collection to warrant having their own series. These include Computer Terminal Corporation, National Cash Register Company, Control Data Corporation, Bunker Ramo Corporation, and Storage Technology Corporation.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into 11 series:

- Series 1, Viatron records, 1959-1974, bulk 1968-1970
- Series 2, International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) records, 1946-1984, bulk 1958-1973
- Series 3, Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) records, 1963-1973
- Series 4, Remington Rand Inc. records, 1950-1972
- Series 5, Radio Corporation of America (RCA) records, 1959-1971
- Series 6, General Electric Company records, 1964-1975
- Series 7, Wang Laboratories Inc. records, 1967-1986
- Series 8, Texas Instruments Inc. records, 1976-1981
- Series 9, Hewlett-Packard records, 1968-1977
- Series 10, Legal documents, 1982-1990
- Series 11, Publications by others, ca. 1957-1989

Indexing Terms

Computer Industry
Digital Equipment Corporation
General Electric Company
International Business Machines Corporation
Jortberg, Charles A.
Radio Corporation of America
Remington Rand, Inc.
Univac computer
Viatron Computer Systems Corporation

Related Collections at Other Repositories

Jortberg Associates, 1989, box 17, folder 46, Helen Willa Samuels Papers, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Libraries, Archives Department.

Collection Contents

Series 1, Viatron records, 1959-1974, bulk 1968-1970

This series contains records from Viatron Computer Systems Corporation, active from 1967 to 1971, where Jortberg worked as Marketing Manager. Included in the series are a wide variety of documents including memoranda, employee notebooks, design drawings, system descriptions, patents, proposals, reviews, personnel records, business overviews, and expense reports. Viatron employees whose writings are well-represented are Roger M. Robillard, Manager of Viatron's Digital Logic Design Engineering; Michael J. Flanagan, Manager of Display Engineering; William T. Grinnell, Manager of Peripheral Engineering; David E. Williams, Manager of Communications Engineering; David H. Rawlins; and Jortberg himself. Viatron was one of the first companies to use the term "microprocessor" and one highlight of this series is a 1970 patent application for a product titled "microprocessor." The majority of this series is made up of reproductions of original Viatron documents bound in numbered volumes. Most of these volumes are organized in a set titled "Viatron documents numerical set." This portion of the series is arranged by original volume number, which is not based chronologically, but by an in-house numerical system created by Viatron and/or Jortberg. Material dated prior to Viatron's founding are reprints of instructional bulletins published by the National Cash Register Company. Beyond the numerical set, this series is arranged chronologically.

Series 2, International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) records, 1946-1984, bulk 1958-1973

This series contains manuals, reports, catalogs, program libraries, and conference proceedings related to IBM and its systems from 1946 to 1984, with the bulk of material from 1958 to 1973. The largest part of this series is made up of operation and programming manuals for a variety of IBM machines and systems, including accounting machines, punched card equipment, dictation equipment, electric typewriters, and solid-state computers. The majority of these manuals focus on the 7000 series of computers and components. A smaller portion of this series is made up of program libraries and parts catalogs for various systems, lists of IBM marketing materials, reports about data security and company surveys of IBM systems, and the proceedings of IBM's medical and data security symposia. This series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Series 3, Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) records, 1963-1973

This series contains manuals, technical papers, memoranda, and promotional material created at DEC during a ten-year period. The largest part of this series concerns DEC's PDP-10, including manuals on the computer series, a paper by Robert Bishop on PDP-10 timesharing in a laboratory environment, and an anthology of papers titled "PDP-10 Applications in Science," vol. 2 (1971). Other DEC products with significant documentation are the PDP-6 and LINC (Laboratory INstrument Computer) – with manuals for both and promotional material on the PDP-6. Computing machines that are present in the series, but less represented, are the PDP-14, Type 646 Line Printer, PDP-7, PDP-4, 630 Data Communication System, and Discfile Control Type 270. This series is arranged chronologically.

Series 4, Remington Rand Inc. records, 1950-1972

This series contains manuals, training guides, promotional materials, news clippings, specifications, and technical papers related to Remington Rand Inc. and its products from 1950 to 1972. The bulk of this series focuses on UNIVAC, with operations and programming manuals, reports, brochures, product overviews and specifications, articles, and training materials

specifically related to UNIVAC systems and components. A smaller group of materials focuses on other Remington Rand products, including articles; manuals for the BIOR compiling system, Type 315-1 collating reproducer, and the high-speed printer model 46; and brochures for several punched card machines. This series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Series 5, Radio Corporation of America (RCA) records, 1959-1971

This series contains manuals, specifications, promotional material, and technical papers published by RCA, primarily from its Electronic Data Processing Division from 1959 to 1971. Manuals and promotional material regarding RCA's Spectra 70 series comprise the bulk of these records, including instructional documents on programming, maintenance, and different operating systems. Other RCA products featured in this series are the RCA 501, 301, and 601. Also of interest is a report by RCA to the Travelers Insurance Company recommending computing solutions relevant to business needs. This series is arranged chronologically.

Series 6, General Electric Company records, 1964-1975

This series contains manuals, abstracts of library programs, and promotional material related to General Electric Company and its products from 1964 to 1975. The majority of material in this series consists of manuals and specifications for a number of GE systems, including those created for system users, and those created as service guides for technicians and GE employees. A smaller portion of this series includes product brochures and a catalog of abstracts describing available timesharing programs for the GE-400 series. This series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Series 7, Wang Laboratories Inc. records, 1967-1986

This series contains manuals, educational materials, catalogs and program libraries, and newsletters related to Wang Laboratories Inc. from 1967 to 1986. Manuals make up the bulk of this series, and include product service guides geared toward Wang employees, and operation and reference manuals for users. Another large part of this series is made up of educational materials in the form of math and programming workbooks. The smallest portion of this series consists of *Wang Printout* newsletters, a marketing publication that combines computer industry news with Wang product and company information. This series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Series 8, Texas Instruments Inc. records, 1976-1981

This series is made up of manuals related to the Texas Instruments TI-990 series of computers from 1976 to 1981. The largest portion of this series consists of manuals for operating systems, diagnostics, programs, hardware, and programming languages. Also included are system and hardware manuals specific to the TI-990/4, TI-990/5, and TI-990/10. This series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Series 9, Hewlett-Packard records, 1968-1977

This series consist of manuals and promotional material related to Hewlett-Packard products from 1968 to 1977. Manuals make up the majority of material and include operation and service manuals for HP systems and components. The rest of the series is made up of promotional material, such as brochures and booklets that provide an overview of various products. This series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Series 10, Legal documents, 1982-1990

This series is composed of trial documents and patents from 1982 to 1990. Half of the series is made up of materials related to *Northern Telecom Inc. v. Datapoint Corp.* (1990), an appeal to a patent infringement case. Materials include trial transcripts, legal briefs, court opinions, and a

small amount of correspondence related to the trial. The other half of the series consists of documents related to patents number 4,326,265 (variable function programmed calculator) and 4,942,516 (single chip integrated circuit computer architecture). Materials include the patent for 4,326,265 and the patent application, court of appeals briefing, and other documents related to 4,942,516. This series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Series 11, Publications by others, circa 1957-1989

This series contains manuals, promotional material, books, and reports published by companies and institutions other than the ones included in the previous series from circa 1957 to 1989. The majority of the series consists of manuals and brochures for products by Computer Terminal Corporation, National Cash Register Company, Control Data Corporation, Bunker Ramo Corporation, and Storage Technology Corporation. There are two books included in this series, one on the history of Bell Laboratories and one on VLSI systems, and two reports on microprogramming. This series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

| <u>Catalog Number</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|--|--------------|---|
| Folder List | | |
| Viatron records | | |
| Box 1; 2 | 102734385 | Viatron documents numerical set 1959-1974 |
| Box 3 | 102734410 | Notes, technical papers, and Drawings 1968-1969 |
| Box 3 | 102734396 | Viatron documents selected for review by Robillard and Flanagan 1968-1969 |
| Box 3 | 102734406 | Jortberg material ca. 1968 |
| Box 4 | 102734399 | Terminal 21 drawings ca. 1968 |
| Box 3 | 102734411 | Manuals and system descriptions 1969-1970 |
| Box 4 | 102734400 | Microprocessor patent application 1970 |
| International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) records | | |
| Box 5 | 102734376 | Accounting machine manuals 1957-1967 |
| Box 5 | 102734375 | Card punch machine manuals 1946-1971 |
| Box 5 | 102734391 | Catalogs and program libraries 1962-1982 |
| Box 5 | 102734374 | Dictation equipment manuals 1964; 1970-1974 |
| Box 5 | 102734373 | Electric typewriter manuals 1961-1967 |
| Box 6 | 102734389 | IBM 1401 Symbolic Programming System (SPS2) modification memos 1963 |
| Box 6 | 102734380 | IBM 7000 series manuals and data processing systems bulletins 1961-1965 |
| Box 6 | 102734381 | IBM 7030 manuals 1960-1963 |
| Box 5 | 102734392 | IBM 704 FORTRAN manual 1960 |
| Box 6 | 102734382 | IBM 7040/7044 manuals and data processing systems bulletins 1961-1965 |
| Box 6 | 102734383 | IBM 7070 series manuals and data processing systems bulletins 1958-1962 |

| | <u>Catalog Number</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Date</u> |
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| Box 6 | 102734384 | IBM 7080 manuals and data processing systems bulletins | 1960-1962 |
| Box 5; 6 | 102734387 | IBM 709/7090/7094 manuals and data processing systems bulletins | 1960-1968 |
| Box 6 | 102734386 | IBM 7750 manuals | 1962-1963 |
| Box 6 | 102734379 | IBM 8100 brochure and manual | 1984 |
| Box 7 | 102734388 | IBM symposia proceedings | 1965-1973 |
| Box 7 | 102734377 | IBM System/360 components manuals | ca. 1965 |
| Box 7 | 102734390 | Reports | 1959-1964 |
| Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) records | | | |
| Box 7 | 102734372 | Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) manuals | 1963-1973 |
| Box 7 | 102734402 | LINC wiring tables | 1964 |
| Box 7; 8 | 102734371 | PDP-6 | 1964-1967 |
| Box 8 | 102734378 | Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) technical papers, promotional material, and catalogs | 1964-1973 |
| Box 8 | 102734401 | LINC assembly and adjustment | 1966-04 |
| Box 8; 9 | 102734364 | PDP-10 | 1967-1973 |
| Box 9 | 102734367 | PDP-10/6 field service tech manual | 1971-04 |
| Remington Rand records | | | |
| Box 9 | 102646303 | An Introduction to the UNIVAC File-Computer System | 1951 |
| Box 9 | 102734352 | Articles and clippings | ca. 1955-1956 |
| Box 9 | 102734353 | BIOR manuals and specifications | 1955 |
| Box 9 | 102646140 | Introducing a New Language for Automatic Programming Univac Flow-Matic | 1957 |

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| Box 9 | 102734356 | Manuals | ca. 1955-1961 |
| Box 9 | 102734361 | Promotional material | ca. 1950-1958 |
| Box 9 | 102734359 | UNIVAC educational materials | 1957-1961 |
| Box 9 | 102646302 | UNIVAC II | 1957 |
| Box 9 | 102734363 | UNIVAC manuals | 1956-1972; bulk 1955-1956 |
| Box 10 | 102734354 | UNIVAC reports | 1954-1957 |
| Box 10 | 102646141 | UNIVAC Scientific Computing System Model 1103A | 1957 |
| Box 10 | 102734357 | UNIVAC unit and system descriptions | 1965-1972 |
| Radio Corporation of America (RCA) records | | | |
| Box 10 | 102734362 | RCA 501 | 1959-1966 |
| Box 10 | 102734355 | RCA 301 and 601 | 1960-1964 |
| Box 10 | 102734358 | RCA manuals | 1963-1971 |
| Box 10; 11 | 102734351 | Spectra 70 series | 1966-1969 |
| Box 11 | 102734360 | Travelers Insurance Company correspondence and reports | 1967-1969 |
| General Electric Company (GE) records | | | |
| Box 11 | 102734393 | GE-400 series time-sharing library programs : program abstracts | 1967 |
| Box 11; 12 | 102734395 | Manuals and specifications | 1965-1973 |
| Box 12 | 102734394 | Promotional material | 1964-1975 |
| Wang Laboratories Inc. records | | | |
| Box 12 | 102734368 | Catalogs and program libraries | 1968-1969 |
| Box 12 | 102734370 | Educational materials | 1967-1969 |
| Box 12 | 102734366 | Product service manuals | 1971 |

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| Box 13 | 102734369 | Reference and operations manuals | 1967-1986 |
| Box 13 | 102734365 | Wang Printout newsletters | 1975-1979 |
| Texas Instruments Inc. records | | | |
| Box 13 | 102734350 | TI-990 diagnostics manuals | 1978-1981 |
| Box 13 | 102734349 | TI-990 operating systems manuals | 1978-1980 |
| Box 13; 14 | 102734348 | TI-990 programs, hardware, and languages manuals | 1978-1980 |
| Box 14 | 102734345 | TI-990/4 manuals | 1976-1977 |
| Box 14 | 102734346 | TI-990/5 manual | 1979 |
| Box 14 | 102734347 | TI-990/10 manuals | 1978-1979 |
| Hewlett-Packard (HP) records | | | |
| Box 14 | 102734398 | Manuals | 1968-1975 |
| Box 14 | 102734397 | Promotional material | 1968-1977 |
| Legal documents | | | |
| Box 14 | 102734403 | Northern Telecom Inc. v. Datapoint Corp. (1990) | 1988-1990 |
| Box 4 | 102734404 | Patent records for single chip integrated circuit computer architecture | 1988-1990 |
| Box 14 | 102734405 | Patent records for variable function programmed calculator | 1982 |
| Publications by others | | | |
| Box 14 | 102709720 | Analog VLSI and neural systems | 1989 |
| Box 15 | 102734409 | Manuals | 1966-1968; 1979 |
| Box 15 | 102709665 | Mission communications : the story of Bell Laboratories | 1975 |
| Box 15 | 102703261 | Personal computers 1976-1981 - Vol. I : the home computer | 1977 |

| | <u>Catalog Number</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Date</u> |
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| Box 15 | 102703262 | Personal computers 1977-1983 - Vol. II : desktop computer marketer | 1978 |
| Box 15 | 102734407 | Promotional material | ca. 1957-1972 |
| Box 15 | 102734408 | Reports | 1979-1983 |