

The Carl Johnson Collection

Introduction:

This IT Legacy article is a copy of a Charles Babbage Institute (CBI) web page that documents the contents of two banker’s boxes donated to CBI by Carl Johnson. It is presented by the VIP Club’s Legacy Committee as an example of the disciplined archiving of technology history documents by CBI at the University of Minnesota.

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Document prepared with Microsoft Word by LABenson, BEE 1966 -U of MN

Charles Babbage Institute Web Page

<http://archives.lib.umn.edu/repositories/3/resources/310>

Collection consists of correspondence, reports, notes, documents and artifacts from Engineering Research Associates (ERA) and Sperry UNIVAC. Among the materials are: *The Integrated Circuit Technology in Future Data Processing Computers*, by J. Presper Eckert and John B. Schwartz, 1966; *Annals of the History of Computing: The Birth of an ERA: Engineering Research Associates, Inc.*, by Erwin Tomash and Arnold A. Cohen, 1979; Sperry-Link Office System product literature, 1982; documents relating to Sperry’s acquisition of Varian Data Machines, 1977-1979; documents relating to the development and marketing of the Micro 1100 chip sets, 1980s; and a Micro 1100 Arithmetic Logic Unite (ALU) Tested Wafer.

Dates

1947-1990

Language of Materials

English

Access to materials:

Access to the collection is unrestricted.

Established in 1980

Copyright:

The Charles Babbage Institute holds the copyright to all materials in the collection, except for items covered by a prior copyright (such as published materials). Researchers may quote from the collection under the fair use provisions of the copyright law (Title 17, U.S. Code).

Extent

2 boxes (2 cubic feet)

Collection Organization:

Please note that some of these documents may be duplicates of papers in collections donated by others. This is a listing of the item titles, dates, etc., although the table is formatted with the html link – the links DO NOT provide a scanned copy of the item. To read any specific item, contact CBI to look at the item in their reading library.

- [ERA to Univac - Storage of Numbers on Magnetic Tape, ERA, 1947.](#)
- [ERA to Univac - IBM Technical Publication - Engineering Design of a Magnetic-Disc, Random-Access Memory.](#)
- [ERA to Univac - Engineering Priority Assignment for Exploratory Work, J. Presper Eckert, 1959.](#)
- [ERA to Univac - The Integrated Circuit Technology in Future Data Processing Computers, J. Presper Eckert and John B. Schwartz, 1966.](#)
- [ERA to Univac - Univac memos, press releases and correspondence, G.G. Probst, R.E. McDonald, John R. Opel \(IBM\), 1971-1976.](#)
- [ERA to Univac - Sperry Univac Research and Technical Planning Research Report H0012 - Feasibility Study of a VLSI 1100 Processor, 1979.](#)
- [ERA to Univac - Annals of the History of Computing: The Birth of an ERA: Engineering Research Associates: the wellspring of Minnesota's computer industry, 1986.](#)
- [ERA to Univac - Development Plan - Product Division, FY81-FY85, 1980.](#)
- [Univac DDP - Sperry Univac DDP \(Distributed Data Processing\), 1978-1981.](#)
- [Univac DDP - UTS 4000 Product Description, Terminal Systems Delivery Plans, 1981.](#)
- [Univac DDP – Sperry-Link Office System, 1982.](#)
- [Industry DDP - Distributed Processing: Current Practice and Future Developments, vol. 2: Technical Report. Q.E.D. Information Sciences, Inc., 1978.](#)
- [Industry DDP - Comparing DDP Archs. \(architectures\), 1981.](#)
- [Industry DDP - IBM Distributed Process, 1978-1981.](#)
- [Minicomputers - Minicomputer industry.](#)
- [Minicomputers - Sperry Univac in the minicomputer market, 1976.](#)
- [Minicomputers - Varian Data Machines acquisition, 1977.](#)
- [Minicomputers - Varian Data Machine and minicomputer operations post](#)

Established in 1980

acquisition, 1977-1979.

- Minicomputers - Minicomputer product direction and strategy, 1979-1980.
- Minicomputers - Sperry Univac Defense Systems Division Minicomputers.
- Sperry Micro 1100 - Micro 1100 Instruction Processor Chip Set Data Book, 1984-1986.
- Sperry Micro 1100 - CMOS-III/Micro 1100 reviews, 1985.
- Sperry Micro 1100 - CMOS-III/Micro 1100 reviews, 1986.
- Sperry Micro 1100 - A 36/72 Bit CMOS Micromainframe Chip Set presentation, (35 mm slides for this presentation included in carousel, in Box 2), 1985.
- Sperry Micro 1100 - Miscellaneous Micro 1100, 1985-1986.
- Sperry Micro 1100 - Micro 1100 vs. Micro VAX 32, 1984-1985.
- Sperry Micro 1100 - Micro 1100 and U of M PP (Parallel Processing), 1986.
- Sperry Micro 1100 - Micro 1100 CAD/Ulysses, 1984.
- Sperry Micro 1100 - Micro 1100/1986 ISSCC Conference.
- Sperry Micro 1100 - Sperry 2200/200 Papers, 1986, 1990.
- Sperry Micro 1100 - Sperry Univac Semiconductor Division, 1981-1984.
- 224 Pin Grid Array (chip set).
- Sperry Univac Micro 1100 Arithmetic Logic Unit (ALU) Tested Wafer.
- Sperry 2200/200 Computer System, featuring Sperry Univac Micro 1100 Instruction Processor Technology, Announced in June 1986, DVD.
- A 36/72 Bit CMOS Micromainframe Chip Set presentation, slides in carousel, 1985.

Biographical Note

Carl A. Johnson graduated with honors from the University of Minnesota's Institute of Technology with a Bachelor's of Science degree in electrical engineering in 1955, following an 18-month program in electronics at Dunwoody Industrial Institute. Johnson also completed numerous post-graduate courses with Sperry and the University of Minnesota in management, strategic planning, communications, team development, and quality. He started his career with Engineering Research Associates in 1954 and retired from UNISYS in 1986 after 32 years of technical and managerial experience in computer systems, circuits and packaging, semiconductor devices, memory storage equipment, business and product strategy, program management, acquisition and competitive analysis and communications product development.

Acquisition:

Papers were donated by Carl A. Johnson in April 2009.

Editor Notes:

Researchers should also look at the ERA papers available from CBI at <http://archives.lib.umn.edu/repositories/3/resources/292>

LABenson, VIP Club IT Legacy Committee Co-chair since 2005.