

Preliminary Guide to the Frederic Brenton Fitch Papers

MS 1477



compiled by Susan Brady and Nancy Lyon

January 1988

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 1477

CREATOR: Fitch, Frederic B. (Frederic Brenton), 1908-1987

TITLE: Frederic Brenton Fitch papers

DATES: 1933-1986

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 30 linear feet

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers consist of correspondence, writings, and teaching materials documenting the professional career of Frederic B. Fitch as an authority on symbolic logic and professor emeritus of philosophy at Yale University.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1477>

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Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Marguerite R. Fitch, 1987.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Frederic Brenton Fitch Papers. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Frederic Brenton Fitch, the son of Ashbel Parmelee and Josephine Hoyt (Smith) Fitch, was born in Greenwich, Connecticut, on September 9, 1908, but spent most of his childhood growing up in New York City where his father was a lawyer. He was prepared for college at the Hotchkiss School and graduated from Yale College with the class of 1931. Three years later, he received a Ph.D. in philosophy from Yale and was already teaching at Yale by the next year. In 1951, Fitch became full professor of philosophy. He concluded his career at Yale as Sterling Professor of Philosophy, a position he held between 1974 and 1977. His specialty was in symbolic logic and he not only taught courses, but was also a consultant to IBM and Bell Telephone Company in this subject. He worked extensively with computers and at one time, devised a proof of the existence of God. Fitch died on September 18, 1987.

Scope and Contents

The papers consist of correspondence, writings, and teaching materials documenting the professional career of Frederic B. Fitch as an authority on symbolic logic and professor emeritus of philosophy at Yale University.

Arrangement

Arranged by record type.

Collection Contents

b. 1	Correspondence (unsorted)
b. 2	Correspondence (unsorted)
b. 3	Correspondence (unsorted)
b. 3	Unsorted committee papers, reports, etc. (professional organizations, Yale teaching materials)
b. 4	Correspondence (unsorted)
b. 5	Articles by Fitch
b. 5	Teaching materials
b. 5	Correspondence
b. 5	Financial papers
b. 6	Unsorted papers, committee files, teaching materials, etc. (continued from Box 3)
b. 6	Proof of <i>Dictionary of Symbols of Mathematical Logic</i> and other Fitch publications
b. 7	Articles by Fitch
b. 7	Teaching materials
b. 8	Articles by Fitch
b. 8	Typescripts
b. 9	Reprints
b. 9	Typescripts
b. 9	Professional journals
b. 10	Teaching materials
b. 11	Teaching materials
b. 11	Subject files
b. 12	Typescripts
b. 13	Class notes
b. 13	Typescripts
b. 13	Research notes
b. 15, 14	Lecture and research notes
b. 16	Research notes
b. 17	Bibliography
b. 17	Typescripts

b. 17	Lecture notes
b. 17	Articles by Fitch
b. 18	Lecture notes
b. 19	Lecture notes
b. 19	Graduate admissions files
b. 19	Office correspondence
b. 20	Correspondence
b. 20	Graduate school files
b. 22, 21	Articles by Fitch
b. 23	Typescripts
b. 23	Printed material
b. 24	<i>A System of Symbolic Logic</i> English
b. 25	Book drafts
b. 26	Book drafts
b. 26	Galleys of <i>Symbolic Logic: An Introduction</i>
b. 27	Reprints
b. 28	Reprints
b. 28	Correspondence
b. 28	Research notes
b. 28	Articles by Fitch
b. 28	Certificates
b. 30, 29	Computer printouts

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.

Subjects

Logic, Symbolic and mathematical

Names

Fitch, Frederic B. (Frederic Brenton), 1908-1987

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