



Finding Aid for

**NEVINS AND HILL INTERVIEWS SERIES, 1952-1960  
SE 003**

**Accessions 834 and 975**

Finding Aid Published: March 2012



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<http://www.dalnet.lib.mi.us>



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## OVERVIEW

**REPOSITORY:** Benson Ford Research Center  
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20900 Oakwood Blvd  
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**ACCESSION NUMBER:** 834 and 975

**CREATOR:** Ford Motor Company. Archives.

**TITLE:** Nevins and Hill interviews series

**INCLUSIVE DATES:** 1952-1960

**QUANTITY:** 0.4 cubic ft. and 1 folder

**LANGUAGE:** The materials are in English.

**ABSTRACT:** Allan Nevins and Frank Hill interviewed many people involved with Ford Motor Company for their three volume history of Henry Ford and the company. This series includes transcripts from many of these oral histories.

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** The series is open for research.
- COPYRIGHT:** Copyright has been transferred to The Henry Ford by the donor. Copyright for some items in the collection may still be held by their respective creator(s).
- ACQUISITION:** Ford Motor Company Archives donation, 1964.
- RELATED MATERIAL:** Related material held by The Henry Ford:  
Part of the Oral History subgroup, which includes:  
- Owen W. Bombard interviews series, Accession 65
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 834 **or** 975, Nevins and Hill interviews series, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Collection processed by Ford Motor Company Archives staff, December 1962 and September 1964
- DESCRIPTION INFORMATION:** Original collection inventory list prepared by Ford Motor Company Archives staff, December 1962 and September 1964
- Finding aid prepared by Elyssa Bisoski, March 2012, and published in March 2012.
- Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACs) and local guidelines.

## **HISTORICAL NOTE**

Well before the formal creation of the Ford Motor Company's fiftieth anniversary committee in the summer of 1950, the concept of a company archives was seriously discussed in connection with the event. An oral history program was also instituted to complement and enhance the historical record. Personal friends, associates, company employees, and company executives were interviewed under the aegis of the project. Begun in 1951, the program was headed by Owen Bombard who trained with Allan Nevins at Columbia University's Oral History Research Office. Under Bombard's direction, interviews were conducted, recorded on reel to reel audio tapes, and transcribed in narrative rather than in question and answer form. A draft manuscript was then prepared from the transcript. Indexes were created for most of the completed histories and bound with the original copy. Among those interviewed were Ford Motor Company engineers, production men, dealers, sales people, suppliers, and purchasers. Social acquaintances of Henry Ford included family members, friends, educators, antiquarians, and employees at the Fords' Fair Lane estate. Over three hundred interviews were conducted by the time the program was discontinued in 1956. About 238 were finalized and bound; another 100 were left in various stages of completion. Lengths vary greatly from a few pages to several hundred. Oral histories were also conducted in the 1950s by Allan Nevins and Frank Hill in tandem with research for their three-volume history of Henry Ford and the Ford Motor Company.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The Oral History subgroup is comprised of two series, the Owen W. Bombard interviews series and the Nevins and Hill interviews series. The Nevins and Hill interviews series contains transcripts of personal interviews Allan Nevins and Frank Hill conducted with Ford Motor Company officers and executives while researching Ford Motor Company history. Interviewees included Henry Ford II, Ernest Kanzler, Robert S. McNamara, Benson Ford, and Percival Perry.

## **SUBJECT TERMS**

### Names, Personal and Corporate

Ford, Henry, 1917-1987

Ford, Benson, 1919-1978

Kanzler, Ernest Carlton, 1892-1967

Davis, J. R., (John R.), 1894-1985

Miller, Arjay R. (Arjay Ray), 1916-

McNamara, Robert S. (Robert Strange), 1916-

Williams, Walker A. (Walker Alonzo), 1901-1981

Ford Motor Company--History

Ford Motor Company. Archives. Oral History Section.

### Genre or Form

Oral histories

Sound recordings

## CONTAINER LIST

<b>Box no.</b>	<b>Description</b>
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### ACCESSION 834

#### Folder 1

Interview transcript - Lord Perry of Stock Harbor in Nassau, March 28, 1952

### ACCESSION 975

#### Box 1

Interview transcripts

- E. K. Brush
- Henry Ford II
- Ernest Kanzler
- J. R. Davis
- C. Bosworth
- L. D. Crusoe
- Benson Ford
- John Dyketra
- William Clay Ford
- D. S. Harder
- J. E. Lundry
- Arjay Miller
- Robert S. McNamara
- Ben Miller (2 folders)
- C. Patterson
- Walker Williams
- James O. Wright
- T. O. Yntema
- Extras