

Finding Aid to the Philip E. Orbanes Papers, 1905-2013

Summary Information

Title: Philip E. Orbanes papers

Creator: Philip E. Orbanes (primary)

ID: 112.7138

Date: 1905-2013 inclusive; 1967-2005 bulk

Extent: approx. 12 linear feet (physical) and 1.3 GB (digital)

Language: All materials are in English unless otherwise noted.

Abstract: The Philip E. Orbanes papers are a compilation of correspondence, legal contracts, newspaper articles, reference materials, research notes, game advertisements, photographs, audio files, and other papers collected and used by Philip E. Orbanes over the course of his career in the American toy and game industry. The bulk of the materials are from 1967 through 2005. Staff at The Strong recorded a video oral history of Orbanes in 2013.

Repository:

Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong
One Manhattan Square
Rochester, New York 14607
585.263.2700
library@museumofplay.org

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Use: This collection is open to research use by staff of The Strong and by users of its library and archives. Though the donor has not transferred intellectual property rights (including, but not limited to any copyright, trademark, and associated rights therein) to The Strong, he has given permission for The Strong to make copies in all media for museum, educational, and research purposes.

Custodial History: The Philip E. Orbanes papers were donated to The Strong in December 2012 as a gift from Philip E. Orbanes. These materials were accessioned by The Strong under Activity ID 11530, Object ID 112.7138. (In addition to these papers, The Strong received a sizeable donation of board games, puzzles, card games, video games, trade catalogs, and books from Philip E. Orbanes within the same Activity ID.)

Preferred citation for publication: Philip E. Orbanes papers, Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong

Processed by: Julia Novakovic, March 2013

Revision Note: This finding aid was updated in May 2013 with additional clarification on dates of games, based on information provided by Philip E. Orbanes. Also, it was updated in June 2013 to reflect a subsequent donation and the addition of the video oral history to this collection. Revised in January 2021 to note Parker family papers in archives.

Controlled Access Terms

Personal Names

- Anspach, Ralph, 1926-
- Darrow, Charles, 1889-1967
- Dunnigan, James F. (Jim), 1943-
- Orbanes, Philip, 1947-

- Parker, George Swinnerton, 1866-1952
- Phillips, Elizabeth Magie, 1866-1948
- Sackson, Sid, 1920-2002

Corporate Names

- Gamescience Corporation
- Gamut of Games
- Ideal Toy Corporation
- Infinity Quest Corporation
- Operation Design Corporation
- Parker Brothers, Inc.
- Winning Moves Games, Inc.

Subjects

- Board game industry
- Board game industry--United States--Handbooks, manuals, etc.
- Board game industry--United States.
- Board games--Design and construction.
- Board games--United States--History--20th century.
- Electronic games industry--United States
- Electronic games--History
- Game design and development
- Games--Research.
- Monopoly (Game)
- Monopoly (Game)--History.

Biographical Note

Philip Orbanes was born and raised in Cape May County, New Jersey. During his adolescence, he took a strong interest in playing and inventing board and strategy games. After graduating high school in 1965, Orbanes founded Gamescience Corporation, the first of many entrepreneurial endeavors. Over the next few years, he and his partners provided game designs for companies such as Renwal Products, which bought the assets of Gamescience in 1968. Gamescience soon became Operation Design Corporation (later integrated into Orbanes' new company, Infinity Quest Corporation). Infinity Quest focused on developing strategy games, consumer electronic programs, and puzzles. It also acquired the game magazine *Strategy & Tactics*. This early foray into the game industry helped to fund Orbanes' undergraduate education at Case Western Reserve University. Throughout the 1970s, Orbanes cultivated strong relationships with other game designers, including Sid Sackson. He worked for Gamut of Games during this decade as well.

Orbanes joined Ideal Toy Corporation in 1976 as director of its games division. His initiative and acumen soon led him to Massachusetts-based Parker Brothers, where he became director of new product research in 1979. Parker Brothers named Orbanes vice president of product development in 1980, then senior vice president of research and development in 1985. During his time at

Parker Brothers, Orbanes developed a reputation as an authority on the game Monopoly, serving as a chief judge at U.S. and world Monopoly tournaments. In 1990, Orbanes left Parker Brothers to establish his own consulting business. Along with three other seasoned game industry professionals, he launched another game company, Winning Moves Games, in 1995. Winning Moves, located in Danvers, Massachusetts, frequently produced classic card and board games licensed from companies such as Hasbro, Inc., the owner of Parker Brothers and Milton Bradley games. As of 2013, Orbanes serves as vice chairman of Winning Moves, following his lengthy tenure as president of the company.

In 1988, with the permission of Parker Brothers, Orbanes authored *The Monopoly Companion*. This book explained the oft-contended origins of the game, its colorful history, and strategies for players. He also continued to acquire his own personal collection of rare and unique versions of Monopoly, many of which appeared in subsequent books. The March 2002 issue of the *Harvard Business Review* published an article by Orbanes called “Everything I Know about Business I Learned from Monopoly,” prompting his renewed research on the history of Parker Brothers. He conducted interviews with members of the Parker family and former Parker Brothers employees, and gained access to George S. Parker’s personal archives. The resulting book, *The Game Makers: The Story of Parker Brothers from Tiddledy Winks to Trivial Pursuit* (2004), traced Parker Brothers from its 1883 inception through the start of the 21st century. He followed with *Monopoly: The World’s Most Famous Game—And How It Got That Way* (2006) and *Monopoly, Money, and You: How to Profit from the Game’s Secrets of Success* (2013).

Collection Scope and Content Note

The Philip E. Orbanes papers contain materials from 1905 through 2013, with the bulk of the material dated from 1967-2005. The items in this collection include game designs, game instructions, personal and business correspondence, legal contracts, photographs, reference materials, research notes, and newspaper/magazine articles utilized by Philip E. (“Phil”) Orbanes throughout his lengthy career in the toy and game industry. This collection also includes research materials (including photocopies of materials from the Parker Brothers’ corporate archives) used by Orbanes for his books *The Monopoly Companion* (Bob Adams, Inc. Publishers: Boston, 1988), *The Game Makers: The Story of Parker Brothers from Tiddledy Winks to Trivial Pursuit* (Harvard Business School Press: Boston, 2004), and *Monopoly: The World’s Most Famous Game – And How It Got That Way* (Da Capo Press: Boston, 2006). Additional scope and content information is listed for each series under the “Contents List” section of this finding aid.

The Philip E. Orbanes papers are arranged into nine series, three of which are further divided into subseries. The collection is housed in 21 archival document boxes. Digital video comprises one series, located on the internal network of The Strong.

Related Materials

For more on George S. Parker and the Parker family, see also the Parker family papers (donated to The Strong by Orbanes in 2020). Additional information on the Parker Brothers Co. can be found in the Collection of John J. Fox Parker Brothers oral histories.

System of Arrangement

- Series I: Personal and business correspondence, 1960-1994
- Series II: Contracts and agreements, 1968-1979
- Series III: Game designs and instructions, 1936-1994
 - Subseries A: Orbanes-created games
 - Subseries B: Other designer-created games
 - Subseries C: Published instructions/game materials
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 - Subseries D: Toy and game industry newsletters
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 - Subseries A: Parker Brothers company history
 1. Name/subject files
 2. News articles
 3. Advertising
 - Subseries B: George S. Parker
 - Subseries C: Monopoly
 1. Name/subject files
 2. Variations of Monopoly
 3. Publications
 4. Anti-Monopoly trial transcripts
- Series VI: Photographs, 1970s
- Series VII: Audio, 1958-1991
- Series VIII: Parker Brothers reference binders, 1979, 1982
- Series IX: Video oral history, 2013

Contents List

Series I: Personal and business correspondence, 1960-1994

Scope and Content Note: This series comprises letters, reports, office memos, and other correspondence to and from Philip E. Orbanes throughout his career in the toy and game industry. Within these papers are also game sketches and notes. Additional communications can also be found throughout Series III and Series IV, as they pertain to a specific topic.

Box 1

- Folder 1 Gamescience and Operation Design Corp. correspondence, 1960-1969
- Folder 2 Operations Design Corp. and Infinity Quest correspondence, 1969-1970
- Folder 3 Correspondence between Jack Keller and Phil Orbanes, 1969-1971
- Folder 4 Phil Orbanes' date book/ address book, 1971-1972
- Folder 5 Infinity Quest and other game-related correspondence, 1971-1972
- Folder 6 "Association Test – Five Symbols for Gamut of Games," March 1973
- Folder 7 Infinity Quest, Gamut of Games, and Rand Game Associates correspondence, 1973-1974
- Folder 8 Game-related and personal correspondence, 1975-1979
- Folder 9 NPO Toy Market Index, January-December 1978

Box 2

- Folder 1 Ideal Toy Corp. sales, ledger, and notes, 1961-1978
- Folder 2 Game-related and personal correspondence, 1980
- Folder 3 Game-related and personal correspondence, 1981-1985
- Folder 4 Game-related and personal correspondence, 1986-1988
- Folder 5 Parker Brothers' June 1987 management conference [1987]
- Folder 6 Game-related and personal correspondence, 1989-1994
- Folder 7 Game-related notes and correspondence, undated
- Folder 8 Unused stationery – Gamescience, Operation Design Corp., and Infinity Quest

Box 13 (Oversized)

- Folder 7 Gamescience marketing projections, compiled by Operation Design Corp, April 1969

Series II: Contracts and agreements, 1968-1979

Scope and Content Note: Various legal contracts and agreements pertaining to Philip E. Orbanes' game companies are housed within this series. These include agreements between Gamescience Corp. and Renwal Products, Inc., the acquisition of *Strategy & Tactics* magazine, and other contracts involving Operation Design Corp. and Infinity Quest. Other legal documents in this series are related to licenses and royalties owed Orbanes based on his game designs.

Box 2

- Folder 9 Contracts and agreements, 1968-1970
- Folder 10 Aquarius 2000- copy of patent, 1971
- Folder 11 Contracts and agreements, 1971-1972
- Folder 12 Contracts and agreements, 1973-1979

Series III: Game designs and instructions, 1936-1994**Subseries A: Orbanes-created games**

Scope and Content Note: This subseries contains game instructions, sketches, notes, mocked-up cards and game boards, and other game specs designed by Philip E. Orbanes. Of note is the narrative written by Orbanes to outline the toys and games he invented prior to joining Parker Brothers in 1979; this lists various puzzles, novelties, paper and pencil games, traditional board games, card games, and “occult devices.”

Box 3

- Folder 1 Phil Orbanes' toy and game inventions (1968-1974) narrative, c. 1979
- Folder 2 Action, Phil Orbanes [undated]
- Folder 3 Adventure: A Game of Monsters, Villains, and Treasure, Phil Orbanes [?], [undated]
- Folder 4 Bluecoats vs. Redcoats (part of “Great Moments in American History” collection), Phil Orbanes, c. 1974
- Folder 5 California Goldrush (part of “Great Moments in American History” collection), Phil Orbanes, c. 1974
- Folder 6 Dreamaster, Phil Orbanes, c. 1979
- Folder 7 Dreamaster, Phil Orbanes, c. 1979
- Folder 8 Dreamaster, Phil Orbanes, 1979-1980
- Folder 9 The Great Nostalgia Game, Phil Orbanes [undated]
- Folder 10 King of the Animals/ King of the Jungle, Phil Orbanes [?], c. 1979
- Folder 11 Mad Scientist, Phil Orbanes, 1975
- Folder 12 Mickey's Fortune Telling Watch, Phil Orbanes, 1994
- Folder 13 The Moneymaker Game, Phil Orbanes, 1970
- Folder 14 No Holds Barred, Phil Orbanes, 1979
- Folder 15 On Guard, Phil Orbanes, 1975
- Folder 16 Pandemonium, Phil Orbanes and Ralph H. Baer, 1992
- Folder 17 Plastic puzzles concepts, Phil Orbanes, 1974-1975

Box 4

- Folder 1 Prix, Phil Orbanes, c. 1971
- Folder 2 Prose Bowl, Phil Orbanes, 1979-1980
- Folder 3 Quip, Phil Orbanes, 1978
- Folder 4 The Race for the Moon (part of “Great Moments in American History” collection), Phil Orbanes, c. 1974
- Folder 5 The Sky's the Limit, Phil Orbanes, 1975
- Folder 6 Transcontinental Railroad (part of “Great Moments in American History” collection), Phil Orbanes, c. 1974
- Folder 7 The Weather Game, Phil Orbanes [?], 1979
- Folder 8 World Trade, Phil Orbanes [undated]
- Folder 9 Miscellaneous sketches and notes, Phil Orbanes [undated]

Subseries B: Other designer-created games

Scope and Content Note: Within this subseries are game designs and instructions received by Philip E. Orbanes from other game designers. He also collaborated with Sid Sackson on the Spectaculars manipulative puzzles. (For extensive information on Sid Sackson, see the Sid Sackson collection housed in the Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play at The Strong.) Additional communication between Orbanes and these other game designers can be found in Series I of this collection.

Box 4

- Folder 10 James Dunnigan, Marriage? A Game, 1969
- Folder 11 Daniel H. Pearson, Orion, 1973
- Folder 12 Charles Phillips, Electronic Competition Runner, Sept. 1979
- Folder 13 Charles Phillips, Impulse, Sept. 1979
- Folder 14 Charles Phillips, Sneak Attack, 1980
- Folder 15 Sid Sackson, Cheat a Little [undated]
- Folder 16 Sid Sackson, The Good Earth, 1974
- Folder 17 Sid Sackson, Top Secret [undated]
- Folder 18 Sid Sackson and Phil Orbanes, Spectaculars, 1975-1980
- Folder 19 Louis Zocchi, Battle of Britain, 1968
- Folder 20 Louis Zocchi, Star Trek, 1972
- Folder 21 Unidentified creator, Defense Commander, 1980
- Folder 22 Unidentified creator, Flip Flop [undated]
- Folder 23 Unidentified creator, Night Stalker games, 1980

Subseries C: Published instructions/game materials

Scope and Content Note: This series houses both original and photocopied published game instructions, game boards, game cards, and other game components used for reference by Philip E. Orbanes. (For information on Parker Brothers games, please see Series V.)

Box 4

- Folder 24 The 9th Dimension Tarot, St. Croix, Inc., 1971
- Folder 25 1914, Avalon Hill Co., 1968
- Folder 26 Aquarius II, Hoi Polloi, Inc., 1973
- Folder 27 Aquarius 2000, Everyone Products, Inc., 1970
- Folder 28 Auction Poker, Creative Communications and Research, 1975
- Folder 29 Bird Watcher, Parker Brothers, 1958
- Folder 30 Boardwalk, Gamesystems, Inc., 1983

Box 5

- Folder 1 Cartel, Gamut of Games, 1973
- Folder 2 The Checkered Game of Life, Milton Bradley [undated]
- Folder 3 Checkpoint: Danger!, Ideal Toy Corp., 1978
- Folder 4 Civil War, Avalon Hill Co. [?] [undated]
- Folder 5 Clue, Parker Brothers, 1950
- Folder 6 Confrontation, Gamescience Corp., 1967
- Folder 7 Conquest (later renamed Risk!) [undated]

- Folder 8 D-DAY, Avalon Hill Co., 1961
- Folder 9 Dallas, Maruca Industries, 1985
- Folder 10 Diplomacy, Avalon Hill Co., 1976
- Folder 11 Electronic Detective, Ideal Toy Corp., 1978
- Folder 12 The Game of Politics, Parker Brothers, 1936
- Folder 13 The Great Game of Who?, Parker Brothers, 1951
- Folder 14 Guadalcanal, Avalon Hill Co., 1966
- Folder 15 Hassle, Hoi Polloi, Inc., c. 1974-1975
- Folder 16 Hurricane, William S. Doyle Co., 1966
- Folder 17 Management, Avalon Hill Co., 1960
- Folder 18 Mille Bornes, Parker Brothers, 1962
- Folder 19 Monopoly, Parker Brothers, 1961
- Folder 20 Montage, Gamut of Games,” 1973
- Folder 21 Orbit, Gametime Inc., c. 1974
- Folder 22 Rails Through the Rockies, Adventure Games, 1981
- Folder 23 Rich Uncle, Parker Brothers, 1946
- Folder 24 Runners Up!, Parker Brothers, 1979
- Folder 25 Spill and Spell, Parker Brothers, 1957
- Folder 26 Star Reporter, Parker Brothers, 1952
- Folder 27 Strike It Rich, Gamut of Games, 1976
- Folder 28 Suspense!, Gamut of Games, 1974
- Folder 29 Thistle, Parker Brothers, 1966
- Folder 30 Universe, Parker Brothers, 1966
- Folder 31 VIET NAM, Gamescience Corp. [undated]
- Folder 32 The War of the Worlds II, Rand Game Associates, 1974
- Folder 33 Word Rummy, Gabriel Industries, 1980
- Folder 34 Miscellaneous information on published games

Series IV: Toy and game reference materials, 1935-1990

Subseries A: News articles

Scope and Content Note: This subseries comprises newspaper articles clipped and kept by Philip E. Orbanes for reference during his career in the toy and game industry. Many of the articles are about traditional card and board games, as well as the introduction of electronic and video games into the market. Some articles have been annotated by Orbanes, and others have short notes or memos attached. Of particular interest are features on “trendy” toys during the 1980s and their impact on the American consumer culture.

Box 6

- Folder 1 Newspaper articles, 1935, 1961-1971
- Folder 2 Newspaper articles, 1972-1974
- Folder 3 Newspaper articles, 1975-1977
- Folder 4 Newspaper articles, 1978-1979
- Folder 5 Newspaper articles, 1980-1981
- Folder 6 Newspaper articles, 1982

Box 7

Folder 1	Newspaper articles, 1983
Folder 2	Newspaper articles, 1984
Folder 3	Newspaper articles, 1985
Folder 4	Newspaper articles, 1986

Box 8

Folder 1	Newspaper articles, 1987
Folder 2	Newspaper articles, 1988
Folder 3	Newspaper articles, January-June 1989
Folder 4	Newspaper articles, July 1989-1990

Subseries B: Magazines

Scope and Content Note: Orbanes' collection of game-related materials also held about two dozen popular gaming magazines. Many of these have been removed from this collection and have been shelved in the Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play's closed stacks in order to supplement the library's serials collection. These include:

- *The Gamer* (Issue 1 [July/Aug 1981], Issue 5 [Mar/Apr 1982])
- *Games & Puzzles* (No. 1 [May 1972])
- *Games International* (No. 3 [Mar 1988], No. 7 [July 1988], No. 10 [Nov 1988])
- *Moves* (No. 5 [Oct 1972])
- *Strategy & Tactics* (Vol. 1, No. 8 [Sept 1967]; Vol. 1, No. 9 [Nov 1967]; Vol. 1, No. 10 [Dec 1967]; Vol. 2, No. 1 [Jan/Feb 1968]; Vol. 2, No. 3 [May/Jun 1968]; Vol. 2, No. 4 [July/Aug 1968] (2 copies); Mar/Apr 1969; No. 27 [May/Jun 1971]; No. 30 [Jan 1972]; No. 33 [July 1972] (2 copies); No. 41 [Nov/Dec 1973]; No. 83 [Nov/Dec 1980]; No. 100 [Mar/Apr 1985].

The magazines that remain housed in this subseries include full issues dedicated to personal consumer electronics, reviews of games in lesser-known titles, and two issues of *Writer's Digest*.

Orbanes also donated a bound volume of *LIFE* magazines, one of which contains a paper version of the Parker Brothers' board game Civil War 1863, which could be removed and played. This is housed in the library stacks (Object ID 113.3219).

Box 9

Folder 1	<i>Newsweek</i> , December 11, 1978, "Turned-On Toys"
Folder 2	<i>Writer's Digest</i> , November and December 1979
Folder 3	"World Game Review," March 1984 and February 1985
Folder 4	<i>Electronic Games</i> , November 1984
Folder 5	<i>Atari Explorer</i> , February 1985
Folder 6	"Gamer's Alliance Report," Spring and Summer 1989

Subseries C: Toy and game company sales brochures/catalogs

Scope and Content Note: This subseries contains toy and game company brochures and catalogs collected by Philip E. Orbanes. These were interspersed throughout his papers. For more Parker Brothers' game catalogs and advertisements, please see Series V, Subseries A. (Additionally, the Brian Sutton-Smith Library and Archives of Play houses a vast collection of toy and game company catalogs within its holdings.)

Box 9

- Folder 7 3M Games, 1970
- Folder 8 Avalon Hill Co. Games, 1966-1981
- Folder 9 Crown Recreation, Inc., 1978
- Folder 10 Games Gallery, Ltd [undated]
- Folder 11 Gamut of Games, 1973-1975
- Folder 12 Ideal Toy Corp., Order forms, 1953-1978
- Folder 13 Lakeside Games, 1960
- Folder 14 Mattel Electronics, 1978
- Folder 15 Milton Bradley, 1978
- Folder 16 Parker Brothers, 1960s-1970s
- Folder 17 Playskool, 1978
- Folder 18 Reiss, 1971-1975
- Folder 19 Simulations Publication, Inc. (SPI), 1970s
- Folder 20 SKOR-MOR Products, Inc., 1979
- Folder 21 Various Japanese game company catalogs, 1970s [predominantly in Japanese]
- Folder 22 Miscellaneous game catalogs/advertisements, 1970s-1980s

Subseries D: Toy and game industry newsletters

Scope and Content Note: Within this subseries are various game industry newsletters from companies such as Avalon Hill, Milton Bradley, General Mills, and Coleco. There are also industry-wide newsletters about electronic gaming and two issues of the Toy Manufacturers of America's Toy Industry Fact Book. For Parker Brothers-specific newsletters, please see Series V, Subseries A.

Box 9

- Folder 23 Toy and game industry newsletters, 1966-1985
- Folder 24 Toy and game industry newsletters, 1986-1989

Subseries E: Other publications

Scope and Content Note: This subseries keeps various reference materials, (mainly photocopies from published sources) used by Philip E. Orbanes. He referenced much of this subseries for Dreamaster; for more information on this game, please see Series III, Subseries A.

Box 10

- Folder 1 Research notes/photocopies from *Content Analysis of Dreams* by C. Hall (related to Dreamaster)
- Folder 2 Research notes/photocopies from “Symbols Sourcebook” (related to Dreamaster)
- Folder 3 Astroflash Computer Horoscope printout, October 1969
- Folder 4 Various reference material, 1970s-1980s

Series V: Orbanes’ research files, 1905-2013**Subseries A: Parker Brothers company history**

Scope and Content Note: This subseries holds research files utilized by Orbanes for his book *The Game Makers*. He conducted interviews with former employees, such as Channing Bacall and Ranny Barton (two relatives of George S. Parker) who worked at the Parker Brothers’ plant in Salem, Massachusetts. Orbanes gained access to the Parker Brothers’ archives as well as George S. Parker’s family papers. Within this subseries is information on a wide variety of early Parker Brothers games, including game instructions and photographs. It has been further subdivided into three categories: Name/subject files; News articles; and Advertising. (Many of the full-color advertisements are oversized and housed in Box 13.)

Box 10

- Folder 5 Bargain Day game (c. 1937)
- Folder 6 Baseball games, Parker Brothers
- Folder 7 Bear Stearns Fourth Annual Toy Conference, November 28, 1990, information packet with Phil Orbanes’ notes
- Folder 8 Channing Bacall
- Folder 9 Chivalry/ Camelot game
- Folder 10 Diabolo action game
- Folder 11 Essex Institute, April 1987, “Instructive and Amusing: Essays on Toys, Games, and Education in New England”
- Folder 12 Essex Institute, 2002
- Folder 13 *The Game Makers* publicity and book reviews, 2003-2004
- Folder 14 Game Preserve auction, 1988, news articles, correspondence, and notes
- Folder 15 *Gamester* internal Parker Brothers newsletter, 1948-1988
- Folder 16 General Mills, Inc.
- Folder 17 George S. Parker diary entries (copies), c. 1937
- Folder 18 Grace M. Parker narrative pages (copies), c. 1930s
- Folder 19 Hasbro Annual Report, 1989

Box 11

- Folder 1 Kenner-Parker Toys, Annual Reports, 1985-1986
- Folder 2 Mah-jongg
- Folder 3 Miscellaneous Parker Brothers-related research materials
- Folder 4 Nouveautés de Parker [in French]
- Folder 5 Ouija boards
- Folder 6 Parker Brothers' 75th Anniversary Dinner Guest Book, October 1958
- Folder 7 Parker Brothers' 1980 Long Range Plan
- Folder 8 Parker Brothers' company Family Album, 1991
- Folder 9 Parker Brothers' Report of Operations, 1980
- Folder 10 Parker Brothers' Royalties and Licensees
- Folder 11 Parker Brothers' Spring Program sales histories
- Folder 12 Parker family tree, notes by Phil Orbanes
- Folder 13 Parker history from Ranny Barton, June 13, 2002
- Folder 14 Pastime Puzzles
- Folder 15 Photos and drawings for Parker Brothers book
- Folder 16 Ping Pong
- Folder 17 *Play* – Parker Brothers 1951 Annual Outing
- Folder 18 “Playing by Different Rules” excerpt
- Folder 19 Pollyanna game
- Folder 20 Popintaw game
- Folder 21 Ranny Barton
- Folder 22 Reference material for *The Game Makers*
- Folder 23 Research, historical subjects for Parker Brothers book
- Folder 24 Robert B.M. Barton memoir pages (copies), c. 1989
- Folder 25 Rook game
- Folder 26 Selchow & Righter Company, history
- Folder 27 Soma puzzle cubes
- Folder 28 Sorry! board game (c. 1934)

Box 12

- Folder 1 Table Tennis
- Folder 2 Time Tapestry Reference Guide and Map, 1999
- Folder 3 Tonka Corporation
- Folder 4 Tonka, Stephen Shank article, December 1989
- Folder 5 “Toy Buying in the United States - A One Year Study,” A.J. Wood Research Corp., 1965
- Folder 6 Toy Fair Press Conference, February 1974
- Folder 7 Parker Brothers-related news articles, 1924-1994
- Folder 8 Parker Games advertising, 1953-1954
- Folder 9 Parker Games advertising, 1955-1956
- Folder 10 Parker Games advertising, 1958-1959
- Folder 11 Parker Games advertising, 1960-1962
- Folder 12 Parker Games advertising [undated]
- Folder 13 Parker Games photographic negatives [undated]
- Folder 14 Parker Brothers' officers diagram (1883-1984), 2013

Box 13

- Folder 1 Christmas List toy advertisements, 1950s
- Folder 2 Large Parker Brothers advertisements, 1950s-1960s
- Folder 3 *Esquire* magazine covers, 1936-1952
- Folder 4 Salem plant aerial photograph/marked-up blueprint
- Folder 5 Parker Brothers' Games – Archive Game Listings, 1885-1935 (by year)
- Folder 6 Parker Brothers' Games – Archive Game Listings, 1840-1989 (alphabetical and by year)

Subseries B: George S. Parker

Scope and Content Note: The materials contained in this subseries were owned by George S. Parker, founder of Parker Brothers' Games. Notations on the partial scrapbooks pages and within the full scrapbooks are in his hand, as well as the poem. The scrapbooks compiled by Parker contain newspaper articles, business cards, game advertisements, game instructions, postcards, photographs, and other ephemera. The Harvard Freshman Red Book and Harvard 1922 Yearbook feature George's middle child, Edward Parker, who died in an airplane crash in 1921; these also contain newspaper clippings inserted by the Parker family on the tragedy. These materials came into Orbanes' possession during his research on the Parker Brothers game company.

Box 14

- Folder 1 George S. Parker partial scrapbook pages, c. 1905
- Folder 2 George S. Parker scrapbook pages, c. 1925
- Folder 3 George S. Parker poem [undated]
- Object 1 Harvard Freshman Red Book 1922, c. 1919
- Object 2 Harvard Class Album, 1922
- Object 3 George S. Parker "Pastime" scrapbook, 1907, 1913-1921
- Object 4 George S. Parker "Advertising and Miscellaneous" scrapbook, 1905, 1913-1921

Subseries C: Monopoly

Scope and Content Note: This subseries holds research files utilized by Philip E. Orbanes for his books *The Monopoly Companion* and *Monopoly: The World's Most Famous Game*. Among these materials are correspondence with fellow Monopoly enthusiasts, photographs, news articles, copies of patents, copies of legal agreements, information on specific editions of Monopoly games, tournament narratives, eBay listings of rare games, information on predecessors to Monopoly, and more. Additionally, there are several files on the Anti-Monopoly trial that took place between Ralph Anspach and then-parent company of Parker Brothers, General Mills. This subseries has been further divided into four categories: Name/subject files; Variations of Monopoly; Publications; and Anti-Monopoly trial transcripts.

Box 15

- Folder 1 Andy Egendorf
- Folder 2 Anne Williams, early Monopoly trade articles [April 2004]
- Folder 3 Atlantic City History, newspaper articles

- Folder 4 Auction information on The Landlord's Game and Parker Brothers collections, 2003
- Folder 5 "Beyond Boardwalk and Park Place," Noel Gunther and Richard Hutton (copies)
- Folder 6 Bill Boyd
- Folder 7 Bob Adams, Inc. Publishing
- Folder 8 Boondoggling game (c. 1936), 2007
- Folder 9 Brer Fox an' Brer Rabbit game graphic [undated]
- Folder 10 Bulls and Bears game, with Charles Darrow photograph [undated]
- Folder 11 Carnival game
- Folder 12 Charles Darrow 1934-1935 Monopoly game board and cards (copies)
- Folder 13 Charles Darrow correspondence (copies)
- Folder 14 Charles Darrow handmade cards for Monopoly, c. 1930s [2005]
- Folder 15 Charles Darrow obituaries, 1967
- Folder 16 Charles Darrow "oversized" Monopoly set, c. 1933 [2005]
- Folder 17 Charles Darrow tie box Monopoly set
- Folder 18 Charles Darrow tie box Monopoly set auction, Feb. 12, 2008 [c. 2008]
- Folder 19 Dan Glimne
- Folder 20 Dan Sadowski
- Folder 21 Elizabeth Magie Phillips correspondence to George Parker, c. 1930s (copies)
- Folder 22 "Esquire Man"
- Folder 23 Finance game, instructions and graphics [2003-2005]
- Folder 24 Fortune game, notes, instructions, and copies of cards
- Folder 25 Franklin Mint – Monopoly collector's edition and train bank
- Folder 26 George S. Parker scrapbooks, c. 1935-1951 (copies)
- Folder 27 Heap/Stark notes and correspondence
- Folder 28 Inflation game, correspondence and play money [2004]
- Folder 29 Inflation game, information and graphics, 2004-2005
- Folder 30 Jerry Teal, Jr.
- Folder 31 Knapp Electric Company

Box 16

- Folder 1 The Landlord's Game, copies of patents and instructions
- Folder 2 The Landlord's Game, correspondence and graphics
- Folder 3 The Landlord's Game, Buckwalter print
- Folder 4 Miscellaneous Monopoly research materials
- Folder 5 Mock Trial game
- Folder 6 Monopoly chronology
- Folder 7 Monopoly documentary draft, Heiko Schier, 1987
- Folder 8 Monopoly documentary correspondence, Cody Wheeland, 2001
- Folder 9 "Monopoly: From Berks to Boardwalk," Charles J. Adams III, Winter 1978 (copy)
- Folder 10 Monopoly game show, 1989
- Folder 11 Monopoly history
- Folder 12 Monopoly legal history
- Folder 13 Monopoly-related correspondence
- Folder 14 Monopoly-related news articles, pt. I, 1936-1980

- Folder 15 Monopoly-related news articles, pt. II, 1981-2009
- Folder 16 Monopoly tokens
- Folder 17 Monopoly unit sales, 1935-1987 [c. 1987]
- Folder 18 Monopoly World Championship, Bermuda 1980, information packet
- Folder 19 *The Monopoly Companion* proposal
- Folder 20 *The Monopoly Companion* reviews and publicity, c. 1988
- Folder 21 “Mr. Monopoly” (Merwin Goldsmith)
- Folder 22 Parker Brothers’ consent to Phil Orbanes to write *The Monopoly Companion* and *The Game Makers* [undated]
- Folder 23 Parker Brothers’ sales numbers, 1980-1981, 1983, 1987-1989

Box 17

- Folder 1 Parker plant, original building floor plan [undated]
- Folder 2 Patricia McFarland, correspondence with Phil Orbanes
- Folder 3 Phil Orbanes’ antique Monopoly collection display, December 2003
- Folder 4 Phil Orbanes with Darrow oilcloth Monopoly game board at Parker Brothers Archives [undated]
- Folder 5 Ralph Anspach collection of “Anti-Monopoly” materials, auction announcement, 2005
- Folder 6 “RNB and Ollie notes” [original PEO title of folder]
- Folder 7 Running for President game, c. 1915
- Folder 8 Scott Nearing
- Folder 9 Stock Market game instructions and graphic, c. 1936 [2005]
- Folder 10 UK Monopoly patent, c. 1936 (eBay listing) [2008]
- Folder 11 Verification of Charles Darrow Monopoly game by Phil Orbanes, October 1, 1997, and related materials
- Folder 12 Victor Watson, correspondence and accompanying articles, 2004-2005
- Folder 13 Winning Moves UK – Monopoly special editions list, 2000s
- Folder 14 \$2 million Monopoly set by Sidney Mobell, 2010
- Folder 15 Alan Turing Monopoly edition, 2012
- Folder 16 Austrian Monopoly game, c. 1936 [2003]
- Folder 17 Danza de Millones (Spanish “Monopoly”)
- Folder 18 Deluxe Monopoly No. 3 game, c. 1975 [2005]
- Folder 19 Giant Monopoly board, Berlin, Germany, 2005
- Folder 20 Guam Island Opoly board game [2005]
- Folder 21 Irish Free State Monopoly game, c. 1936, correspondence [2012]
- Folder 22 Makalot game, c. 1937 [2006]
- Folder 23 Metrópolis game
- Folder 24 Michael Graves-designed Monopoly game [2005]
- Folder 25 MO-NOP game
- Folder 26 Monopoly Black Box Edition game, c. 1933 [2004]
- Folder 27 Monopoly Black Box UK Edition game, c. 1936 [2003]
- Folder 28 Monopoly games, c. 1935
- Folder 29 Monopoly Gold Edition game, England
- Folder 30 Monopoly Gold Edition game, Germany

- Folder 31 Monopoly Gold Edition game, United States
- Folder 32 Monopoly: The Here and Now Edition game
- Folder 33 Monopoly Library Edition game, c. 1936 [2002]
- Folder 34 Monopoly metal money
- Folder 35 Monopoly No. 25 Deluxe Wooden Edition game, c. 1935 [2008]
- Folder 36 Monopoly paper labels and envelope, c. 1936 [2010]
- Folder 37 Monopoly scratch-off lottery ticket, Massachusetts Lottery, c. 2005
- Folder 38 Monopoly UK fancy set, c. 1936 [2009]
- Folder 39 Monopoly with Stock Exchange add-on, c. 1936 [2005]
- Folder 40 Monopoly-related ephemera (eBay listings) [2000s]
- Folder 41 Philippines “knock-off” of Monopoly, c. 1967 [2009]
- Folder 42 Russian Monopoly fact sheet, 1988
- Folder 43 Shanghai Real Estate game
- Folder 44 Ticket to Ride game
- Folder 45 White-backed Darrow Monopoly board info, 2012
- Folder 46 “Monopoly Memories” by Parker Brothers, c. 1990
- Folder 47 Phil Orbanes, “Everything I Know About Business I Learned From Monopoly,” Harvard Business Review, March 2002
- Folder 48 Phil Orbanes, “Meet Dan Fox: The Artist Who Created Mr. Monopoly,” (article to be published) June 4, 2013

Box 18

- Folder 1 Anti-Monopoly trial transcript, pgs. 1-105, November 15, 1976
- Folder 2 Anti-Monopoly trial transcript, pgs. 105-223
- Folder 3 Anti-Monopoly trial transcript, pgs. 224-396
- Folder 4 Anti-Monopoly trial transcript, pgs. 297-469
- Folder 5 Anti-Monopoly trial transcript, pgs. 470-564 (end)
- Folder 6 Anti-Monopoly trial appeals, 1977 and 1980

Series VI: Photographs, 1970s

Scope and Content Note: This series contains various game product photographs from Orbanes’ collection, including games that he worked on throughout his years in the toy and game industry. A Magic-Mount photo album containing both candid and posed photos of the employees at Gamut of Games is also housed in this series. (There are many additional photographs interspersed throughout the Philip E. Orbanes papers, especially relating to a specific game title, or a game collector, in his research notes series.)

Box 19

- Folder 1 Photographs, Gamut of Games products, 1970s
- Folder 2 Photographs, various game products, 1970s
- Folder 3 Gamut of Games Company Photo Album, 1969-1975

Series VII: Audio, 1958-1991

Scope and Content Note: Within this series are different sets of audiocassette recordings utilized by Philip E. Orbanes. The first contains recorded audio from panel research discussions on toys and games in 1991. The second set of audio tapes is duplicated from Professor John J. Fox's Parker Brothers oral history project. The oral history tapes helped to verify and supplement his research while writing *The Game Makers*.

Also in this subseries is an audiocassette labeled "Monopoly – HBM -1959," which plays a calypso-style song about the board game Monopoly and players' trials and tribulations. This song was created by Boston-based advertising agency Humphrey, Browning, & McDougall. According to Orbanes, this song was intended for a television commercial that never aired, and a copy of the audio was given to him in 1988 while working with KingWorld Productions and Merv Griffin on the "Monopoly Game Show."

Box 19

- Folder 4 Audiocassettes, Panel Opinions, Inc., 1991
- Folder 5 Monopoly song (3:05), unknown artist, c. 1959

Box 20

Oral history audiocassette tapes, originally recorded by Professor John J. Fox, Salem State College, 1986. [Note: These duplicate the audio tapes in the Collection of John J. Fox Parker Brothers oral histories.]

- PB 1. Louis Vanne
- PB 2. Louis Vanne
- PB 3. Angie Gagnon
- PB 4. Channing Bacall
- PB 5. Channing Bacall
- PB 6. Henry Sullivan
- PB 7. Harry Manning
- PB 8. George Fox
- PB 9. George Fox
- PB 10. Ranny Barton
- PB 11. Ranny Barton
- PB 12. Helen Mitchell
- PB 13. Robert Barton
- PB 14. Robert Barton

Series VIII: Parker Brothers reference binders, 1979, 1982

Scope and Content Note: This series houses two binders of Parker Brothers-created resources retained by Orbanes. Each of these may be the only extant copy of these materials.

The first binder, labeled “1979 Competitive Electronics,” features product information on various competing toy and game company’s electronic games, analysis, and copies from catalog sheets. Orbanes’ notes from a March 1979 electronic games meeting are also within this binder.

The second binder, labeled “1983 Video Game Preview,” is a comprehensive overview of Parker Brothers’ endeavor into the video game market. Utilized for an October 1982 conference, the “Video Game Preview” binder contains company data, detailed marketing and advertising plans, information about the video game products to be launched, sales policies, and a list of conference attendees. Video game cartridges introduced at this preview included popular licensed titles such as *Frogger*, *Spiderman*, *G.I. Joe*, *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back*, and *The Lord of the Rings*. (*The Star Wars: Revenge of the Jedi* video game titles were later changed to *Return of the Jedi* when the movie studio renamed the film.)

Box 21

- Object 1 Parker Brothers competitive electronic games review, 1979
Object 2 Parker Brothers 1983 Video Game Preview binder, October 1982

Series IX: Video oral history, 2013

Scope and Content Note: The video oral history contained in this series was recorded on June 24, 2013 by Chris Bensch, Vice President of Collections and Chief Curator at The Strong. Topics include the chronology and highlights of Philip Orbanes’ career, influential people in the industry, his time at Parker Brothers, and more. Three segments comprise the video oral history, with a total run time of about 62 minutes. This is located on the internal network of The Strong.

- “Phil Orbanes 1, 6-24-2013,” MP4 video (00:29:50)
- “Phil Orbanes 2, 6-24-2013,” MP4 video (00:29:50)
- “Phil Orbanes 3, 6-24-2013,” MP4 video (00:02:14)