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## **Finding Aid of the Donald Penn papers 5316**

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USC Libraries Special Collections

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Los Angeles, California 90089-0189

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URL: <http://libraries.usc.edu/locations/special-collections>

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**Contributing Institution:** USC Libraries Special Collections

**Title:** Donald Penn papers

**Creator:** Penn, Donald R., 1933-2016

**Identifier/Call Number:** 5316

**Physical Description:** 9 Linear Feet9 boxes

**Date (inclusive):** 1960s-2000

**Abstract:** Donald R. Penn received his bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering and electrophysics from the University of Southern California (1963, 1968). He spent most of his career with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, but also taught part-time at UCLA, Loyola Marymount University, Georgia Tech, Louisiana State University, and the University of Florida. He also continued his affiliation with USC by developing educational programs with regional utilities. This collection is comprised of USC engineering course syllabi from the 1960s and 2000; documents related to the Sylmar power station post 1994 Northridge earthquake and work on the System performance analysis of power networks.

**Language of Material:** English .

**Storage Unit:** 1

**Storage Unit:** 2

**Storage Unit:** 3

**Storage Unit:** 4

**Storage Unit:** 5

**Storage Unit:** 6

**Storage Unit:** 7

**Content Description**

USC engineering course syllabi from the 1960s and 2000; documents related to the Sylmar power station post 1994 Northridge earthquake and work on the System performance analysis of power networks.

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Gift of Erik Penn, February 13, 2017.

**Biographical / Historical**

Donald Penn (BSEE '63, MSEE '68) received his bachelor's and master's degrees at USC in electrical engineering and electrophysics. During his undergraduate senior year at USC he received an internship at the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power where he was hired upon graduation and where he worked for most of his career. Penn continued his affiliation at USC by developing onsite educational programs with regional utilities and he also managed a program on electric power as well. His work took an industrial turn when he began to focus on electrical power and power grids which led to an interesting opportunity to work on a "high voltage direct current transmission system" called the Pacific DC Intertie 3000 megawatt direct current system which extends from Sylmar to the Washington state line. The technology was developed in Europe. He has also taught part-time at UCLA, Loyola Marymount University, Georgia Tech, Louisiana State University and the University of Florida all while working full time at LADWP. Upon his retirement in 1998, he formed a consulting company focused on solving electrical power grid problems as a result of earthquakes and received a five year contract from Southern California Edison.

**Conditions Governing Access**

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE: Advance notice required for access.

**Conditions Governing Use**

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**Preferred Citation**

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**Processing Note**

The collection is unprocessed.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Los Angeles (Calif.) -- Department of Water and Power -- Archival resources

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Correspondence

Reports, publications, studies, and documentation -- Archival resources

Penn, Donald R., 1933-2016 -- Archives

University of Southern California -- Archives

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