



The Chess Data Archives of Jeremy Gaige

Jon Edwards

Andy Ansel

Jeremy Gaige

October 9, 1927 (New York) – February 19, 2011 (Philadelphia)

- Meticulous chess archivist
- Best known for his four volume compendium of chess crosstables
- and for his Chess Personalia, basic biographical data on chess players



Jeremy Gaige Monographs

Chess Tournaments

A CHECKLIST

Vol. I

1849-1950

Compiled by
JEREMY GAIGE

A Catalog of U. S. A. Chess Personalalia

Compiled by
JEREMY GAIGE

BCM Obit Index

(1881-1993)

compiled by
Jeremy Gaige

A Catalog of Chessplayers & Problemists

REVISED EDITION

Compiled by
JEREMY GAIGE

Jeremy Gaige's Chess Archive

- Prior to his death, Gaige gifted two cartons (containing 11 research binders) to well-known Chess Game Historian and Preservationist Andy Ansel
- After his death, the remainder of Gaige's archive, nine cartons of binders, were forwarded to Fred Wilson, the prominent New York City chess book dealer.
- Fred forwarded the binders to Jon Edwards, the 32nd World Correspondence Champion. Jon has a PhD in History from Michigan State University
- Jon and Andy are collaborating to bring this archive back into prominence





Jeremy Gaige's Bibliography (from Wikipedia)

- *A Catalog of Chess Players and Problemists* (1969)
- *Chess Tournament Crosstables, vol I, 1851–1900* (1969)
- *Chess Tournament Crosstables, vol II, 1851–1900* (1971)
- *Chess Tournament Crosstables, vol III, 1901–1920* (1972)
- *Chess Tournament Crosstables, vol IV, 1921–1931* (1974)
- *Chess Tournaments - A Checklist: Vol I: 1849-1950* (1984)
- *Chess Tournaments - A Checklist: Vol II: 1951-1980* (1984)
- *Chess Tournament Crosstables, vol I, 1851–1900* (1985), revised version of the 1969 edition
- *FIDE-Titled Correspondence Players* (1985)
- *Catalog of British Chess Personalia* (1985)
- *Oxford-Cambridge Chess Matches (1873–1987)* (1987)
- *Chess Personalia - A Biobibliography* (1987), reprinted (2005: McFarland)
- *Catalog of USA Chess Composers* (1987)
- *Swiss Chess Personalia* (1987)
- *FIDE-titled composers* (1988)
- *Problemist obituary index* (1989)
- *Chess Personalia - A Biobibliography* (1989), privately circulated update of the 1987 edition
- *Index of obituaries in the British Chess Magazine 1881-1988* (1989)
- *British FIDE and ICCF titleholders* (1989)
- *FIDE Female Titleholders* (1991)
- *USA FIDE-Titled Players & Arbiters* (1993)
- *Chess Personalia - A Biobibliography* (1994), privately circulated update of the 1987 edition

Jeremy Gaige's Bibliography (Gaige revisions beyond Wikipedia)

- *A Catalog of Chess Players and Problemists* (1969) **Rev 1971**
- *Chess Tournament Crosstables, vol I, 1851–1900* (1969) **Rev 1992, 1995**
- *Chess Tournament Crosstables, vol II, 1851–1900* (1971)
- *Chess Tournament Crosstables, vol III, 1901–1920* (1972) **Rev 1986-1992**
- *Chess Tournament Crosstables, vol IV, 1921–1931* (1974)
- *Chess Tournaments - A Checklist: Vol I: 1849-1950* (1984) **Rev 1989**
- *Chess Tournaments - A Checklist: Vol II: 1951-1980* (1984) **Rev 1984-1989**
- *Chess Tournament Crosstables, vol I, 1851–1900* (1985), revised version of the 1969 edition
- *FIDE-Titled Correspondence Players* (1985)
- *Catalog of British Chess Personalia* (1985) **Rev 1992**
- *Oxford-Cambridge Chess Matches (1873–1987)* (1987)
- *Chess Personalia - A Biobibliography* (1987), reprinted (2005: McFarland) **Rev 1994**
- *Catalog of USA Chess Composers* (1987) **Rev 1987**
- *Swiss Chess Personalia* (1987)
- *FIDE-titled composers* (1988) **Rev 1991**
- *Problemist obituary index* (1989)
- *Chess Personalia - A Biobibliography* (1989), privately circulated update of the 1987 edition **Rev 1994**
- *Index of obituaries in the British Chess Magazine 1881-1988* (1989) **Rev 1993**
- *British FIDE and ICCF titleholders* (1989) **Rev 1988-1991**
- *FIDE Female Titleholders* (1991)
- *USA FIDE-Titled Players & Arbiters* (1993) **Rev 1995**
- *Chess Personalia - A Biobibliography* (1994), privately circulated update of the 1987 edition

Additional and much lesser known Jeremy Gaige Monographs

<u>Australian Chess Personalia</u>	1987
<u>Austrian Chess Personalia</u>	1984
<u>Baltic Chess Personalia</u>	1987
<u>Belgian Chess Personalia</u>	1988
<u>British Chess Personalia</u>	1991
<u>Bulgarian Chess Personalia</u>	1987
<u>Canadian Chess Personalia</u>	1989
<u>Chess Obituaries in the London Times</u>	1989
<u>Correspondence Chess Personalia (Alphabetically by country)</u>	1988
<u>Czech Chess Personalia</u>	1986
<u>Correspondence Chess Players</u>	1988
<u>Danish Chess Personalia</u>	1988
<u>French Chess Personalia</u>	1988
<u>German Chess Personalia</u>	1986, 1992
<u>Hungarian Chess Personalia</u>	1984
<u>Italian Chess Personalia</u>	1987
<u>Netherland Chess Personalia</u>	1990
<u>New England Chess Personalia</u>	
<u>New Zealand Chess Personalia</u>	1987
<u>Polish Chess Personalia</u>	1986
<u>Scottish Chess Personalia</u>	1981, 1988
<u>Scottish Tournaments and Crosstables</u>	1994
<u>Swedish Chess Personalia</u>	1989
<u>USA Chess Personalia</u>	1980, 1991, 1993
<u>USA Chess Composers</u>	1987
<u>USA ICCF Personlia</u>	1995
<u>USSR Chess Personlia</u>	1982
<i>includes USSR Female Chess Personalia</i>	
<u>Yugoslavia Chess Personalia</u>	1986

Preliminary observations

- Gaige's word processing data files were not preserved
- Apart from his publications and monographs, the pages in the archive are all that remains of Gaige's lifelong efforts
- Most of the letter-quality monographs in the archive contain Gaige's hand-written comments, additions, and corrections
- The archives also contain the voluminous records and photocopies from which he derived the publications
- Gaige intended to update his crosstable research through to the 1980s

Preliminary conclusions and directions

- Gaige continued to compile and revise the data, well past known publication dates
- Unable to attract publishers for most of his efforts, Gaige privately circulated updated monographs to chess historians and to those who helped him
- Gaige was active in these endeavors until 1995
- McFarland's 2005 paperback reprint of the original 1987 Chess Personalia did not include the numerous revisions that Gaige made in the 1994 edition, whose 800+ pages are available [here](#)
- Gaige's lifelong commitment to unearthing, compiling, and preserving chess data deserves an immortality that he himself could not secure
- We have scanned all of Gaige's updated, letter-quality monographs and we are making them freely available to the entire chess community

Access to the Jeremy Gaige Archive

- All the existing monographs in the archive are being scanned
- All scans are freely available [here](#)
- Non-commercial use of the archive is free and encouraged
- All commercial inquiries should be made [here](#)

Name ↑	Owner	Last modified ▼
 Checklist of Annual Tournaments	me	Jan 22, 2023
 Checklist of Chess Tournaments	me	Feb 7, 2023
 Chess Crosstables	me	Jan 22, 2023
 Chess Obituaries	me	Jan 19, 2023
 Chess Personalia A-Z (1994)	me	Jan 26, 2023
 Chess Personalia by Country	me	Jan 19, 2023
 Chess Titles	me	8:07 AM
 Correspondence Chess	me	Jan 22, 2023
 FIDE Rating Lists	me	Mar 6, 2023
 Miscellaneous	me	Jan 24, 2023
 Player Records A-Z	me	Jan 26, 2023
 The Chess Archives of Jeremy Gaige.pdf 	me	Jan 31, 2023

Further reading on Jeremy Gaige and his archive

<https://www.chesshistory.com/winter/extra/gaige.html>

<https://en.chessbase.com/post/edward-winter-s-che-explorations-60->

<https://www.uschess.org/index.php/Obituaries/Jeremy-Gaige.html>

<https://worldchesshof.org/hof-inductee/jeremy-gaige>

<https://www.kwabc.org/en/jeremy-gaige.html>

<http://www.chessdryad.com/articles/ephemera/gaige.pdf>

Interested in the Gaige Archive?

Our next steps

- Complete the scanning of all binders
- Freely share the scans within the archive for non-commercial uses
- Outreach to chess archivists, historians, journalists, and publishers
- Publicity in chess publications and online chess venues

Goals

- Promote Gaige's extraordinary, lifelong efforts
- Donation of all of Gaige's physical binders to the Cleveland Public Library once the scanning and the inventory are complete
- Finding a secure, long-term host for the Archive's scans.
- All commercial proceeds to be donated to chess charities

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