

Leon Henkin, "The Discovery of My Completeness Proofs," *The Bulletin of Symbolic Logic* 2 (1996), 127–158.

Reviewed by

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It is sometimes said, by no one in particular and by many in general, that research mathematicians develop an interest in the history of mathematics only after they are no longer active in creative original research, at the end of their careers, when they are prepared to take a long reflective look back at their accomplishments and assess how these fit with the general development of their field. The specific stimulation for Henkin's writing of this article was an invitation which he received to participate in a symposium devoted to "Histoire de la théorie des modèles". In any event, we assuredly owe much both to Henkin for penning this paper and to Hourya Sinaceur, the organizer of the symposium on history of model theory that led to Henkin's participation and the article which it bred.

This is the sort of article that anyone with a serious interest in the history of logic should welcome. It is the sort of writing that any historian of logic would be excited to read and, were it not already published, love to discover. It is a detailed personal account of the creation of a seminal part of a pioneering aspect of the recent history of modern logic. Henkin's paper is a blend of intellectual biography, careful and detailed exposition, and history. Along the way, we learn about Henkin's education, in particular what he learned about logic as a student. This in turn provides us the bonus of an insight into the status of knowledge of logic during Henkin's student days, from the late 1930s through the early 1940s, and into the pedagogy of logic during the period in question.