

Robert Mattox

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Nathan Fine was born in October 1916 in Philadelphia, he attended Temple University from where he was awarded a B.S. in 1936. He then moved to the University of Pennsylvania to study for his Master's degree which was awarded in 1939. He taught at a junior high school from 1941 to 1942. Fine was appointed as Instructor in Mathematics at Cornell University for 1942, and his next was to the same position at Purdue University from 1942 to 1945. Of course these last positions were held during World War II and, while Fine undertook war work as a research mathematician at the Naval Ordnance Plant in Indianapolis during 1944-1945, and then he worked for the Operations Evaluations Group in Washington, D.C. during 1946-1947. He undertook research at the University of Pennsylvania for a Ph.D. under the supervision of Antoni Zygmund. Fine was only at the University of Pennsylvania for a short while and Fine was lucky to have his doctoral studies supervised by such an outstanding mathematician. Fine was appointed to the position of Assistant Professor of Mathematics at the University of Pennsylvania in 1947 and in 1956 he was promoted to full professor. In 1963 he moved from the University of Pennsylvania to Pennsylvania State University, where he remained until his retirement in 1978. Fine's main work centered around the Jeep problem which he solved. He wrote a book on Hypergeometric series and Applications [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nathan\\_Fine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nathan_Fine) [https://mathshistory.st-andrews.ac.uk/Biographies/Fine\\_Nathan/](https://mathshistory.st-andrews.ac.uk/Biographies/Fine_Nathan/)