



Smithsonian

Anacostia Community Museum

Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation, c. 1983

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2014 September 19

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Anacostia Community Museum Archives
Title:	<i>Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation</i> exhibition records
Date:	c. 1983
Identifier:	ACMA.03-016
Creator:	National Air and Space Museum (U.S.)
Extent:	2 Sound recordings (audio cassette) 1 Linear foot ((1 box)) 0.05 Linear feet
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Other Archival Materials

This collection relates to the Black Wings Exhibit and Book Collection housed at National Air and Space Museum, Archives Division, MRC 322, Washington, DC, 20560.

Other Finding Aids

inventory, item level

Preferred Citation

Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation exhibition records, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

Use of the materials requires an appointment. Some items are not accessible due to obsolete format and playback machinery restrictions. Please contact the archivist at acmarchives@si.edu.

Restrictions

The Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation is the physical property of the Anacostia Community Museum. Literary and copyright belong to the author/creator or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, and to obtain permission to publish or reproduce, contact the Museum Archives.

Scope and Contents

In the 1980s, the National Air and Space Museum created an exhibit, with a correlating text called *Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation*. The exhibit and book were dedicated to the American Black Aviator, who has anonymously played a historic role in shaping the growth of modern aviation. *Black Wings* encompasses the men and women who had to overcome enormous social pressures in order to gain the right to pursue the dream of flight

in both military and civilian circles. This show was exhibited at the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum from April 01, 1984 to August 05, 1984.

These records document the planning, organizing, execution, and promotion of the exhibition. Materials include correspondence, research files, administrative records, brochures, education packages, and design layouts.

Local Call Number(s)

ACMA 03-016

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- African American air pilots
- African Americans
- Museum exhibits

Types of Materials:

- Brochures
- Correspondence
- Exhibit scripts

Names:

- Anacostia Community Museum
- Anacostia Neighborhood Museum
- National Air and Space Museum--Exhibitions

Container Listing

Series ACMA AV03-016: *Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation* audiovisual records, circa 1983

0.05 Linear feet

2 Sound recordings (2 audio cassette sound recordings)

2 Video recordings (2 VHS 1/2" video recordings)

Creator: National Air and Space Museum (U.S.)
Language: English.
Scope and Contents: In the 1980s, the National Air and Space Museum created an exhibit, with a correlating text called *Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation*. The exhibit and book were dedicated to the American Black Aviator, who has anonymously played a historic role in shaping the growth of modern aviation. *Black Wings* encompasses the men and women who had to overcome enormous social pressures in order to gain the right to pursue the dream of flight in both military and civilian circles. This collection contains the audiovisual materials created when the exhibit was borrowed and adapted for exhibit at the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum.
Restrictions: Use of the materials requires an appointment. Some items are not accessible due to obsolete format and playback machinery restrictions. Please contact the archivist at acmarchives@si.edu.
Related Archival Materials: This collection relates to the *Black Wings Exhibit and Book Collection* housed at National Air and Space Museum, Archives Division, MRC 322, Washington, DC, 20560.
Names: National Air and Space Museum. Exhibitions
Anacostia Community Museum
Topic: African Americans
Museum exhibits
African American air pilots
Aeronautics
Genre/Form: Sound recordings
Video recordings

ACMA AV003453-1: *Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation* Narration, circa 1984

4 Sound recordings (open reel; 1/4 inch)

020233 001700 001624 000911

Creator: Anacostia Neighborhood Museum
National Air and Space Museum

Technical: 020233 001700 001624 000911

Language: English.

Notes: ACMA AV003453-2

ACMA AV003455

ACMA AV003507

The narrator provides history of black men and women in aviation.

Narration or voice over with music. Part of *Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation* Audiovisual Records. Consistent beeps throughout

several of the recordings. Some of the recordings contain some of the same content. Undated.

Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation Narration, Exhibition Records AV03-016, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

The exhibition, *Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation*, profiled the men and women who had to overcome enormous social pressures in order to gain the right to pursue the dream of flight in both military and civilian circles. The exhibition, originally created and displayed at the National Air and Space Museum, was dedicated to the American Black Aviator, who has anonymously played a historic role in shaping the growth of modern aviation. See an expanded version of the exhibition circulated by SITES, including among its additional artifacts photo murals and audio-visual programs, and the flight suit worn by black astronaut Guion Bluford during preparations for his 1983 space shuttle flight. The SITES exhibition is divided into four parts: Headwinds, the black pioneers of World War I and the early 1920s; Flight Lines, the changing role of blacks in the 1930s and '40s; Wings for War, black involvement in World War II; and Era of Change, their breakthroughs in commercial aviation after World War II. The collection, *Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation* Audiovisual Records, contains the audiovisual materials created when the exhibit was borrowed and adapted for exhibit at the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum from April 1, 1984 - August 5, 1984.

Original exhibition at National Air and Space Museum. Exhibition at Anacostia Neighborhood Museum from April 1, 1984 - August 5, 1984.

Names: Anacostia Community Museum
Anacostia Neighborhood Museum

Topic: African Americans
Air pilots
African American air pilots
African American women air pilots
Women air pilots
Aeronautics
Museum exhibits

Place: Anacostia (Washington, D.C.)
Washington (D.C.)
United States

Genre/Form: Sound recordings
Narration

ACMA AV002043: Short Films on Aviation and Space Flight, circa 1984

1 Video recording (VHS)

005635

Creator: Anacostia Neighborhood Museum
National Air and Space Museum

Technical: 005635

Language: English.

Notes: Several short films about Black aviation history, Blacks in the Air Force, aerial combat, Tuskegee Airmen, and World War II; and one

short film about Robert Goddard and interplanetary space travel. Titles transcribed from physical asset include 'Blacks in Aviation,' 'Blackwings,' and 'Father of Space Age: Robert Goddard.'

Short films. Related to the exhibition 'Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation Audiovisual Records.' Undated.

Short Films on Aviation and Space Flight, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

The exhibition, *Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation*, profiled the men and women who had to overcome enormous social pressures in order to gain the right to pursue the dream of flight in both military and civilian circles. The exhibition, originally created and displayed at the National Air and Space Museum, was dedicated to the American Black Aviator, who has anonymously played a historic role in shaping the growth of modern aviation. See an expanded version of the exhibition circulated by SITES, including among its additional artifacts photo murals and audio-visual programs, and the flight suit worn by black astronaut Guion Bluford during preparations for his 1983 space shuttle flight. The SITES exhibition is divided into four parts: Headwinds, the black pioneers of World War I and the early 1920s; Flight Lines, the changing role of blacks in the 1930s and '40s; Wings for War, black involvement in World War II; and Era of Change, their breakthroughs in commercial aviation after World War II. The collection, *Black Wings: The American Black in Aviation Audiovisual Records*, contains the audiovisual materials created when the exhibit was borrowed and adapted for exhibit at the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum from April 1, 1984 - August 5, 1984.

Original exhibition at National Air and Space Museum. Exhibition at Anacostia Neighborhood Museum from April 1, 1984 - August 5, 1984.

Names: Goddard, Robert Hutchings, 1882-1945
Anacostia Community Museum
Anacostia Neighborhood Museum
United States. Air Force

Topic: African Americans
Air pilots
African American air pilots
Aeronautics
World War, 1939-1945
Astronautics
Space flight
Museum exhibits

Place: Anacostia (Washington, D.C.)
Washington (D.C.)
United States

Genre/Form: Video recordings

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