



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Peter W. Westburg Drawings

2002

National Air and Space Museum Archives
14390 Air & Space Museum Parkway
Chantilly, VA 20151
NASMRefDesk@si.edu
<https://airandspace.si.edu/archives>

Table of Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Collection Overview | 1 |
| Administrative Information | 1 |
| Scope and Contents..... | 1 |
| Biographical / Historical..... | 1 |
| General..... | 2 |
| Names and Subjects | 2 |
| Container Listing | |

Collection Overview

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Repository: | National Air and Space Museum Archives |
| Title: | Peter W. Westburg Drawings |
| Date: | 1970-1981 |
| Identifier: | NASM.1987.0001 |
| Creator: | Westburg, Peter W., 1914-1984 |
| Extent: | 2.2 Cubic feet ((1 map case drawer)) |
| Language: | English . |

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Madeline Westburg, Purchase, 1986, 1987-0001, Madeline Westburg until her death; then NASM

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

Material is subject to Smithsonian Terms of Use. Should you wish to use NASM material in any medium, please submit an Application for Permission to Reproduce NASM Material, available at [Permissions Requests](#)

Biographical / Historical

Peter W. Westburg (1914-1984) was raised in Michigan City, Indiana, and relocated to Santa Monica, California, just before World War II to work for Douglas Aircraft Company. As a lifelong aeronautical engineer for Douglas he held several patents, including a flap mechanism for the DC-8. Westburg is perhaps best known for his superbly accurate and detailed scale view drawings of many military and civil aircraft from the 1930s. Working closely with Westburg, MODEL BUILDER magazine published all of his drawings, each accompanied by photographs and brief histories of the aircraft. After Westburg's death in 1984 the National Air and Space Museum authorized Paul L. Smith, an associate of Westburg's, to undertake a fundraising effort to purchase the Westburg drawings for the archives.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of Westburg's original drawings. The material consists of 105 ink-on-mylar detail drawings of 37 aircraft from the 1920s and 1930s. Westburg executed all these drawings between April 1970 and February 1981.

General

NASMrev

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Airplanes
- Airplanes -- Design and construction
- Airplanes -- Models
- Works of art

Types of Materials:

- Drawings

Names:

- Westburg, Peter W., 1914-1984

Preferred Titles:

- Century illustrated monthly magazine*