



# Smithsonian

*National Air and Space Museum*

Charles E. Taylor Collection

2002

National Air and Space Museum Archives  
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<https://airandspace.si.edu/archives>

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Air and Space Museum Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Charles E. Taylor Collection
<b>Date:</b>	1928-1966 (bulk 1928-1956)
<b>Identifier:</b>	NASM.1987.0006
<b>Creator:</b>	Taylor, Charles Edward, 1868-1956
<b>Extent:</b>	0.23 Cubic feet ((1 slim legal document box))
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Charles Edward Taylor, II, Gift, 1986, 1987-0006, 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](#)

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## Biographical / Historical

Charles Edward Taylor (1868-1956), sometimes referred to as 'the first airplane mechanic,' worked intermittently from 1901 to 1920 for Orville and Wilbur Wright and the Wright-Martin Company. Born in Nebraska in 1868, Taylor built the first engine that powered an airplane in flight, a little four-cylinder, gasoline engine which was used in the Wright 1903 Flyer at Kitty Hawk on December 17, 1903.

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## Scope and Contents

This accession includes Taylor's correspondence with his son, Rueben W. Taylor, (1928-1948), and the Garrison Machine Works, (1953-1956), makers of gears used in the Wright flyer engines. The letters to Rueben Taylor are originals, while the Garrison Machine Works correspondence are mostly xerox copies. Also included are brief biographical sketches of Taylor.

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## General

NASMrev

## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics -- 1903-1916
- Airplanes
- Airplanes -- Design and construction
- Airplanes -- Motors
- Wright (Brothers) 1903 Flyer

### Types of Materials:

- Biographies
- Correspondence

### Names:

- Taylor, Charles Edward, 1868-1956
- Wright, Orville, 1871-1948
- Wright, Wilbur, 1867-1912
- Wright-Martin Aircraft Co.