



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Winfield B. "Bert" Kinner Collection

Patricia Williams

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical	1
Scope and Contents	2
Arrangement	2
Names and Subjects	

Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Winfield B. "Bert" Kinner Collection
Date:	1919-1993
Identifier:	NASM.1995.0004
Creator:	Kinner, Winfield B. "Bert," 1882-1957
Extent:	1.31 Cubic feet (3 boxes, 1 folder, 1 map folder)
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection consists of approximately 1.31 cubic feet of material relating to Winfield B. "Bert" Kinner, a pilot and businessman active in the aviation industry.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Donna Hunter Kinner, Gift, 1994, NASM.1995.0004. Additional material received via the South County Historical Society in 2013.

Processing Information

Arranged and described by Patricia Williams, 1994. Updated and encoded by Jessamyn Lloyd, 2023.

Preferred Citation

Winfield B. "Bert" Kinner Collection, NASM.1995.0004, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

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

Winfield B. "Bert" Kinner (1882--1957) enlisted in the Air Corps during World War I, but the war ended before he was trained to fly. So in 1919, Kinner moved to Los Angeles, CA, where he rented a barn, built his first airplane and taught himself to fly. Until his retirement in 1941, Kinner remained active in the aviation business. Kinner organized the following aircraft and engine companies: Kinner Airplane & Motor Corp; Security Aircraft Corp; American Aircraft

Corp; and Security National Aircraft Corp. Aircraft produced by these corporations included: Kinner K-1 Airster -- which was the first aircraft Amelia Earhart purchased; Kinner B-2 Sportwing; and the Kinner B-1 and Kinner K Sportsters. Kinner is perhaps most famous for producing the popular Kinner K5 engine and for designing the first folding wing aircraft -- the Security Airster S1-A and S1-B.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of the following: copy negatives, newspaper and magazine clippings, brochures, correspondence, invitations, photographs, Kinner corporation documents; and letters to the Kinnners from Amelia Earhart.

In the fall of 2013, the South County Historical Society transferred two binders containing mostly copy photography that had been given to them by the same donor.

Arrangement

The collection is currently arranged by type of material and by size.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics, Commercial -- United States
- Airplanes -- Motors
- Kinner K-1
- Kinner K-5 Engine
- Kinner Sportster B-1
- Kinner Sportster K-100
- Kinner Sportwing B-2
- Periodicals
- Security National Airster S-1-A
- Security National Airster S-1-B

Types of Materials:

- Correspondence
- Photographs
- Publications

Names:

- American Aircraft Co.
- Earhart, Amelia, 1897-1937
- Kinner Airplane and Motor Co.
- Kinner, Winfield B. "Bert.", 1882-1957
- Security (Security National) Aircraft Corp