



# Smithsonian

*National Air and Space Museum*

Ruth Law and Doris Hayes  
Photograph and Certificate

Patricia Williams

1996

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

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Air and Space Museum Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Ruth Law and Doris Hayes Photograph and Certificate
<b>Date:</b>	1916
<b>Identifier:</b>	NASM.1996.0021
<b>Creator:</b>	Law, Ruth
<b>Extent:</b>	0.05 Cubic feet (1 folder)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	Ruth Law (1891-1970) was the first woman to loop the loop, the first person to fly a plane at night and a one-time holder of the Chicago to New York aerial speed record. After World War I, Law was active in the "Ruth Law Flying Circus," a three-plane troupe that traveled to state and county fairs. This collection consists of a photograph of aviator Ruth Law and her passenger Doris Hayes sitting in Law's aircraft. There is also a "Certificate of Flight," signed by Law, which certifies that Hayes was her passenger in Seabreeze, Florida, on February 21, 1916.
<b>Digital Content:</b>	<a href="#">Image(s): Ruth Law and Doris Hayes Photograph and Certificate</a>

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Hugh A. MacLean, Gift, 1996, NASM.1996.0021

### Processing Information

Arranged and described by Patricia Williams, 1996. Encoded by Jessamyn Lloyd, 2022.

### Preferred Citation

Ruth Law and Doris Hayes Photograph and Certificate, NASM.1996.0021, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

### Conditions Governing Use

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## **Biographical / Historical**

Ruth Law (1891-1970) was the first woman to loop the loop, the first person to fly a plane at night and a one-time holder of the Chicago to New York aerial speed record. After World War I, Law was active in the "Ruth Law Flying Circus," a three-plane troupe that traveled to state and county fairs. Her husband, Charles Oliver, persuaded her to retire from flying to "home and hearth" in 1922.

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## **Scope and Contents**

This collection consists of a photograph of aviator Ruth Law and her passenger Doris Hayes sitting in Law's aircraft. There is also a "Certificate of Flight," signed by Law, which certifies that Hayes was her passenger in Seabreeze, Florida, on February 21, 1916.

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## **Arrangement**

Collection is in original order.

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## **Names and Subject Terms**

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

Subjects:

- Aeronautical sports
- Aeronautics
- Women air pilots

Types of Materials:

- Certificates
- Photographs