



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Abrams Explorer Drawings

Patti Williams

2019

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Abrams Explorer Drawings
Date:	1937
Identifier:	NASM.2018.0079
Creator:	Abrams Aircraft Corp
Extent:	1.28 Cubic feet (1 container)
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection consists of over 260 blueprints of the Abrams Explorer.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Barbara Brown, Gift, 2018, NASM.2018.0079.

Processing Information

Arranged, described, and encoded by Patti Williams, 2019.

Preferred Citation

Abrams Explorer Drawings, NASM.2018.0079, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

The Abrams Explorer, built in 1937, was the only one ever created and was uniquely designed for aerial survey and mapping functions. By featuring obstruction-free camera platforms, Abrams Aircraft CEO Dr. Talbert Abrams planned to market the plane to the United States armed forces for surveys, mapmaking, and aerial photography. The aircraft was successfully tested and used for government contract survey work until the beginning of the war when the military opted for more survivable, converted high-speed fighter aircraft for photo reconnaissance. Dr. Abrams lent the Abrams Explorer to the National Air Museum in 1948, and it was officially donated in 1973.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of over 260 blueprints of the Abrams Explorer.

Arrangement

No arrangement.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Abrams Explorer
Aeronautics

Types of Materials:

Technical drawings