



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Ann Wood-Kelly Photographs

Patti Williams

2020

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
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Arrangement.....	2
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	3

Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Ann Wood-Kelly Photographs
Date:	1942 - 1945
Identifier:	NASM.2019.0044
Extent:	0.01 Cubic feet (1 legal folder.)
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection consists of six black and white prints of Ann Wood-Kelly during her career in the British Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA), 1942 to 1945.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Vince Czaplyski, Gift, 2009, NASM.2019.0044

Processing Information

Arranged, described, and encoded by Patti Williams, 2020.

Preferred Citation

Ann Wood-Kelly Photographs, NASM.2019.0044, 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

Ann Wood-Kelly (1918 - 2006) was educated in Philadelphia, Belgium, and at D'Youville College in Buffalo, New York. She took up flying and attended ground school through the Federal Government's Civilian Pilot Training Program (CPTP). Initially rejected for the all-male Bowdoin College flight training program, Wood-Kelly was accepted when the twelve-person program failed to locate a twelfth male applicant. She received her pilot's license in 1939, and in a short time she became a flight instructor herself in the Bowdoin program. In 1942 Wood-Kelly was recruited by Jacqueline Cochran to become one of the twenty-four American women flyers to serve in the British Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA). From 1942 to 1945, she ferried more than 900 planes of 75 different models to destinations in England and France. In recognition of her wartime service to the United Kingdom, Wood-Kelly was awarded the King's Medal by King George IV. After the war, she served as the First Assistant to America's first Civil Air Attaché, based at the US Embassy in London. Later

Wood-Kelly returned to the United States where she held management positions for several airlines including Northeast Airlines, Pan American Airways, and Air New England. In 1964, she was appointed to the Women's Advisory Committee on Aviation by Lyndon B. Johnson. Throughout her aviation career Wood-Kelly was active in a variety of aviation organizations, including the National Aeronautic Association, the Aero Club of New England, and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA).

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of six black and white prints of Ann Wood-Kelly during her career in the British Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA), 1942 to 1945.

Arrangement

No arrangement.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Aeronautics
World War, 1939-1945

Names:

Great Britain. Air Transport Auxiliary
Wood-Kelly, Ann

Container Listing

Folder Ann Wood-Kelly Biographical File, Folder 1

Photographs, 1942 - 1945

NASM-9A16150: Photograph - "Packing, Mt. Royal Hotel, Montreal, Ann, Helen Harrison, Polly Potter, May '42"

[Image\(s\): Photograph - Packing, Mt. Royal Hotel, Montreal, Ann, Helen Harrison, Polly Potter, May '42](#)

Notes: Informal view of (left to right) Ann Wood-Kelly, Helen Harrison, and Polly Potter leaning over a partially open suitcase, taken at the Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, May 1942. NASM-9A16150.

NASM-9A16151: Photograph - "Polly, Ann, Check Pilot, Helen, April '42"

[Image\(s\): Photograph - Polly, Ann, Check Pilot, Helen, April '42](#)

Notes: View of (left to right) Polly Potter, Ann Wood-Kelly, an unidentified pilot, and Helen Harrison posed in front of a North American Harvard [T-6 family], April 1942. NASM-9A16151.

NASM-9A16152: Photograph - "Ratcliffe - Beginning our day in the faithful Anson"

[Image\(s\): Photograph - Ratcliffe - Beginning our day in the faithful Anson](#)

Notes: Close-up view of Avro 652A Anson, Ann Wood-Kelly visible in rear window. Taken at Ratcliffe airfield, Leicester, England. NASM-9A16152.

NASM-9A16153: Photograph - "Mrs. Roosevelt reviewing us at White Waltham with Pauline Gower"

[Image\(s\): Photograph - Mrs. Roosevelt reviewing us at White Waltham with Pauline Gower](#)

Notes: View of Eleanor Roosevelt (standing under umbrella wearing fur stole) reviewing British Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA) pilots at White Waltham Airfield in England. Standing beside Roosevelt and looking at her is Pauline Gower, Ann Wood-Kelly can be seen at far left in the line of four pilots standing in front of an unidentified aircraft. NASM-9A16153.

NASM-9A16154: Photograph - "A.W. [Ann Wood-Kelly] ready for Take-off in Spitfire"

[Image\(s\): Photograph - A.W. \[Ann Wood-Kelly\] ready for Take-off in Spitfire](#)

Notes: Partial one-quarter left rear view of Supermarine Spitfire on the ground, Ann Wood-Kelly at the controls. NASM-9A16154.

NASM-9A16155: Photograph - "Ratcliffe Airfield"

[Image\(s\): Ratcliffe Airfield](#)

Notes: Aerial view of Ratcliffe airfield, Leicester, England. A Handley Page Halifax, Short S.29 Stirling, and an Avro 683 Lancaster are visible in the foreground. NASM-9A16155.