



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Charles W. Chillson Collection

Hank Brown

2000



National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Charles W. Chillson Collection
Date:	1950-1956
Identifier:	NASM.XXXX.0008
Creator:	Chillson, Charles W., 1910-
Extent:	3.12 Linear feet 3.5 Cubic feet (8 boxes)
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection largely documents Chillson's affiliation with the ARS, particularly his presidency in the early 1950s, and includes correspondence with ARS members, aerospace companies, and organizations such as the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the British Interplanetary Society, the International Astronautical Federation, and the Institute of Aeronautical Sciences. There is also correspondence with Wernher von Braun and Esther C. Goddard. The collection also includes papers presented to or published by the ARS, some diagrams and photographs highlighting rocket plans or capabilities, and some pamphlets and articles on rockets.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Charles W. Tillson, Gift, 1971, XXXX-0008

Processing Information

Finding aid prepared by Hank Brown, 2000.

Finding aid encoded by Elizabeth Bauerle, December 2011.

Restictions

No restrictions on access

Biographical Note

Charles W. Chillson (1910 -) was an expert in air and rocket propulsion. Chillson received his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University in 1931 and went to work in Chemical Engineering at the California Institute of Technology from 1931 until 1936. During those years, Chillson worked with C. K. Greene on a mechanical controllable-pitch propeller which progressed through whirl-testing at the Army Air Force Engineering Division at Wright Field, OH. Chillson then moved to Curtiss-Wright's Curtiss Propeller Division as an engineer and project designer (1936-1940) and was later promoted to chief researcher for the years 1940 to 1947. In 1947, Chillson won the Collier Trophy for his propeller work and became chief

engineer of the newly formed Rocket Department at Curtiss-Wright. In 1950, he became program chairman of the American Rocket Society (ARS) Board of Directors and was later elected vice president (1951) and president (1952-1955), before being made a fellow of the ARS in 1956.

Scope and Contents

This collection largely contains documents of Chillson's affiliation with the American Rocket Society (ARS), particularly his presidency in the early 1950s. The collection includes ARS organizational documents, correspondence regarding arrangements for National and Regional meetings, copies of technical papers presented at conventions and a few photographs. The collection is arranged as follows:

Arrangement

Series I:

ARS National Meetings ARS Regional Meetings Director Correspondence Conventions Meetings Committees

Series II:

Joint Meetings Technical Papers Publications

Each series was listed in chronological order. The ARS Regional Meetings are listed alphabetically by state and then in chronological order.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Astronautics
- Jet propulsion
- Periodicals

Types of Materials:

- Correspondence
- Drawings
- Manuscripts
- Photographs
- Publications

Names:

- American Rocket Society
- Chillson, Charles W., 1910-
- Goddard, Esther C.
- Von Braun, Wernher, 1912-1977

Container Listing

Series 1: Series 1

Box 1, Folder 1	ARS directors meeting, 1952-06-23 Notes: minutes
Box 1, Folder 2	ARS directors meeting & correspondence, 1952
Box 1, Folder 3	ARS correspondence, circa 1950-circa 1954
Box 1, Folder 4	ARS correspondence, 1951 - 1954
Box 1, Folder 5	ARS business correspondence & annual reports, 1950 - 1951
Box 1, Folder 6	ARS business correspondence & annual reports, 1951 - 1952
Box 1, Folder 7	ARS business correspondence & annual reports, 1953 - 1955
Box 1, Folder 8	ARS correspondence regarding Journal of American Rocket Society, 1951 - 1953
Box 1, Folder 9	ARS corporate members: correspondence, 1955
Box 1, Folder 10	ARS Nov -- Dec convention: correspondence, 1950
Box 1, Folder 11	ARS Nov -- Dec convention: tentative acceptances, photos, 1950
Box 1, Folder 12	ARS Nov -- Dec Convention: recommendations & invitations, 1950
Box 2, Folder 1	ARS Nov -- Dec convention Rocket Propellants, 1950 Notes: correspondence regarding presentation of technical papers
Box 2, Folder 2	ARS Nov -- Dec Convention, Rocket Propellants, 1950 Notes: correspondence regarding presentation of technical papers
Box 2, Folder 3	ARS Nov -- Dec Convention, Rocket Propellants, 1950 Notes: correspondence regarding presentation of technical papers
Box 2, Folder 4	ARS 6th Annual Convention, 1951 Notes: Copies of Advance Program, papers & correspondence
Box 2, Folder 5	ARS 6th Annual Convention, 1951 Notes: correspondence regarding presentation of technical papers
Box 3, Folder 1	ARS 6th Annual Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey, 1951-11-28 - 1951-11-30

	Notes: program, correspondence regarding presentation of technical papers
Box 3, Folder 2	ARS 6th Annual Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey, 1951-11-28 - 1951-11-30 Notes: technical papers
Box 3, Folder 3	ARS 6th Annual Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey, 1951-11-28 - 1951-11-30 Notes: photos & correspondence
Box 3, Folder 4	ARS 6th Annual Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey, 1951-11-28 - 1951-11-30 Notes: correspondence
Box 3, Folder 5	ARS 6th Annual Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey, 1951-11-28 - 1951-11-30 Notes: Correspondence regarding presentation of technical papers.
Box 3, Folder 6	ARS Annual Meeting, 1950
Box 4, Folder 1	ARS Annual Meeting, correspondence, 1952, circa 1951-circa 1952
Box 4, Folder 2	ARS Annual Meeting, brochures & correspondence, 1952-12-03 - 1952-12-05
Box 4, Folder 3	ARS August Meeting, 1954
Box 4, Folder 4	ARS October Meeting, correspondence, 1954-10-15, circa 1954
Box 4, Folder 5	ARS November Meeting, correspondence, 1954-11-30, circa 1954
Box 4, Folder 6	ARS December Meeting, correspondence, 1954
Box 4, Folder 7	ARS January Meeting, correspondence, 1955-01-21, circa 1955
Box 4, Folder 8	ARS February Meeting, correspondence, 1955-02-18, circa 1955
Box 4, Folder 9	ARS March Meeting, correspondence, 1955-03-18, circa 1955
Box 4, Folder 10	ARS June Meeting, correspondence, 1955-06-10, circa 1955
Box 4, Folder 11	ARS National Fall Meeting, 1955-09-19 - 1955-09-21 Notes: program & brochure
Box 4, Folder 12	ARS Dr. Von Braun Dinner correspondence, 1952
Box 4, Folder 13	ARS Dinner Meeting, correspondence, 1955-10-21, circa 1955
Box 4, Folder 14	ARS Ad Hoc Space Flight Committee, correspondence & reports, 1952

Box 4, Folder 15	ARS Awards Committee, correspondence, 1952
Box 4, Folder 16	ARS Coordinating Committee, correspondence, 1951 - 1955
Box 4, Folder 17	ARS Financial Committee, 1949 - 1952
Box 4, Folder 18	ARS Membership Committee, correspondence & directory, 1952 - 1954
Box 4, Folder 19	ARS Program Committee correspondence, 1951 - 1954
Box 5, Folder 1	ARS Publicity Committee, 1951 - 1953
Box 5, Folder 2	ARS Aircraft Trade Show, correspondence, 1955-05-04 - 1955-05-06
Box 5, Folder 3	ARS Picatinny Arsenal Trip, correspondence, circa 1955, 1955-05-07
Box 5, Folder 4	ARS Press Conference, articles & correspondence, circa 1954 - circa 1955, 1955-08-16
Box 5, Folder 5	ARS questionnaires, 1955-01
Box 5, Folder 6	ARS publications, 1953 - 1956
Box 5, Folder 7	ARS Alabama Section, By-Laws, undated
Box 5, Folder 8	ARS California Section, 1956 Notes: (Southern, CA) Ballot Instructions for Amendments to the By-Laws and for Election of Officers.
Box 5, Folder 9	ARS Florida Section, Cocoa Beach, newsletter, 1955-05
Box 5, Folder 10	ARS Fort Wayne Section, Indiana, newsletter, Rocketry, 1955-12 - 1956-01
Box 5, Folder 11	ARS Fairleigh Dickinson College Chapter, Rutherford, New Jersey, 1950 - 1955 Notes: [Fairleigh Dickinson Rocket Society], article & correspondence
Box 5, Folder 12	ARS New York Section: By-Laws & correspondence, 1953 - 1956
Box 5, Folder 13	ARS New York Section: President's correspondence, 1955
Box 5, Folder 14	ARS New York Section: correspondence & reports, 1955 - 1956

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Series 2: Series 2

Box 6, Folder 1	ARS New York Section March Meeting, 1954 Notes: Correspondence.
Box 6, Folder 2	ARS New York Section April Meeting, circa 1954, 1954-04-23 Notes: Correspondence & technical papers.
Box 6, Folder 3	ARS New York Section May Meeting, circa 1954, 1954-05-21 Notes: Correspondence
Box 6, Folder 4	ARS New York Section June Meeting, circa 1954, 1954-06-25 Notes: Correspondence.
Box 6, Folder 5	ARS New York Section, Princeton University, 1955-10-01, circa 1955 Notes: Correspondence & meeting notice.
Box 6, Folder 6	ARS New York Section September Meeting, circa 1954, 1954-09-18 Notes: Correspondence & 1 photo.
Box 6, Folder 7	ARS New York Section November Meeting, circa 1955, 1955-11-18 Notes: Correspondence & meeting notice.
Box 6, Folder 8	ARS New York Section January Meeting, 1956-01-24 Notes: Meeting notice.
Box 6, Folder 9	ARS Northeastern New York Section, 1952 Notes: Correspondence.
Box 6, Folder 10	ARS New York Section, Special Student Meetings, 1955
Box 6, Folder 11	ARS Cleveland-Akron Section, Ohio, 1956, 1955 Notes: Newsletters.
Box 6, Folder 12	ARS Washington -- Baltimore Section, 1952 Notes: Articles, By-Laws & correspondence.
Box 6, Folder 13	ARS Miscellaneous Masters of Correspondence, 1955
Box 6, Folder 14	ARS Miscellaneous Masters of Presentations of Technical papers & correspondence, 1950 - 1954
Box 6, Folder 15	ARS Flight Testing Conference in Daytona Beach, Florida, 1959-03-23 - 1959-03-25 Notes: Presentation of technical papers, brochures & personal notes.
Box 7, Folder 1	ARS & American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Institute of Radio Engineers Meeting, 1955 Notes: Articles & correspondence.

Box 7, Folder 2	ARS & American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Convention, 1950 Notes: Brochures & correspondence.
Box 7, Folder 3	ARS & ASME Convention, circa 1951, 1950 Notes: Correspondence & presentation of technical papers.
Box 7, Folder 4	ARS & ASME Convention, 1950, circa 1951 Notes: Correspondence & presentation of technical papers.
Box 7, Folder 5	ARS & ASME Convention, 1950, circa 1951 Notes: Correspondence & presentation of technical papers.
Box 7, Folder 6	ARS & ASME Fall Meeting, 1951-09-26 - 1951-09-28 Notes: Correspondence & presentation of technical papers.
Box 7, Folder 7	ARS & ASME Chicago Meeting, 1952-09-07 - 1952-09-11 Notes: Advance releases & correspondence.
Box 7, Folder 8	ASME Thermal Barrier Session, 1954 Notes: Brochures & correspondence.
Box 7, Folder 9	American Society for Engineering Education, 1951-06 Notes: List of Colleges/Universities.
Box 7, Folder 10	Institute of Aeronautical Sciences (IAS) negotiations, 1950 - 1952
Box 7, Folder 11	IAS & ARS National Convention, 1952-01-28 - 1952-02-01, circa 1952 Notes: Correspondence, photos & presentation of technical papers.
Box 8, Folder 1	IAS & ARS National Convention, circa 1952, 1952-01-28 - 1952-02-01 Notes: Correspondence, photos & presentation of technical papers.
Box 8, Folder 2	International Astronautical Federation, circa 1952 - circa 1955 Notes: By-Laws & correspondence.
Box 8, Folder 3	2nd International Congress of Aeronautics, 1951-09-03, 1951 Notes: Correspondence, minutes & presentation of technical papers.
Box 8, Folder 4	3rd International Congress of Aeronautics, circa 1951 - circa 1952, 1952-09-01 - 1952-09-06 Notes: Correspondence.
Box 8, Folder 5	The Early History of Rocket Research by Joseph W. Siry, 1950
Box 8, Folder 6	Rocket Newsletter, 1956-01
Box 8, Folder 7	Some Interaction of Circular Liquid Jets by Dexter Miller, Jr., prepared for presentation at November, ARS Convention, 1951
Box 8, Folder 8	Rocket & Jet Propulsion, 1950 - 1955

Notes: Miscellaneous publications.

Box 8, Folder 10;	3 Negatives: Correspondence regarding November 1951 ARS Convention, 1951-11
Box 8, Folder 9	3 Negatives (photographic)
	Notes: [POOR CONDITION]
	Figure 7, Hydraulic Pump on Splash Plate negative, Figure 8, Spray Sheet formed between Adjacent Jets negative & Negative with no title & no number from folder

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