



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Thompson Brothers Balloon Company Collection

2002

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Thompson Brothers Balloon Company Collection
Date:	[ca. 1903-1939]
Identifier:	NASM.XXXX.0014
Creator:	Thompson Brothers Balloon & Parachute Company
Extent:	0.4 Cubic feet ((1 flatbox))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Frank H. Thompson, Gift, 1971, XXXX-0014, not NASM

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

The Thompson Brothers Balloon & Parachute Company was established in 1903 to manufacture balloons but they soon shifted to exhibition work, as manufacturing and sales became a sideline for the company. In 1933, the company was operating out of Aurora, Illinois, and was manufacturing and distributing balloons, parachutes, and aerial apparatus for performers as well as furnishing parachute leaps from airplanes and balloons. The company closed in 1939.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of memorabilia and records relating to the company, including clippings, copperplates, expense accounts, photos, and so forth. The collection also includes a manuscript by Frank H. Thompson (1971) giving a history of the company.

General

NASMrev

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics -- Exhibitions
- Aeronautics, Commercial
- Aeronautics, Commercial -- United States
- Balloons
- Balloons -- Exhibitions
- Parachutes

Types of Materials:

- Business records
- Clippings
- Financial records
- Manuscripts
- Photographs

Names:

- Thompson Brothers Balloon & Parachute Company