



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

New York City Aerial Photographs

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2019

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	New York City Aerial Photographs
Date:	Circa 1929-1931
Identifier:	NASM.XXXX.0043
Creator:	Fairchild Aerial Surveys
Extent:	0.51 Cubic feet (1 flat box)
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection consists of two scrapbooks containing aerial views of the New York City area with related newspaper clippings.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

No donor information, unknown, unknown, NASM.XXXX.0043

Processing Information

Arranged, described, and encoded by Jessamyn Lloyd, 2019.

Preferred Citation

New York City Aerial Photographs, NASM.XXXX.0043, 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

The Fairchild group of companies grew out of the aerial photography interests of Sherman M. Fairchild. Fairchild developed the first synchronized camera shutter and flash in 1916 and in 1919 developed a specialized camera for the purpose of aerial photography that featured a between-the-lens shutter. By 1924, Fairchild had established Fairchild Aerial Surveys, Inc. which secured contracts to photo-map various areas, including New York City. The photography produced by Fairchild Aerial Surveys, Inc. was used for a variety of applications including city planning, tax appraisal work, and geological surveys, and the company also introduced many types of equipment pertaining to aerial photography. Fairchild Aerial Surveys, Inc. went out of business in 1965.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of two scrapbooks containing aerial views of the New York City area with related newspaper clippings. The aerial views, which were taken by Fairchild Aerial Surveys, Inc. and reproduced in an unidentified publication, showcase prominent city locations. The photographs are numerically arranged as if in a feature series, and each photograph has the caption "Around New York in an Airplane," followed by the location and a textual description of that area. The first scrapbook contains entries 1-100 and the second scrapbook has entries 101-154 (some numbers are not included). The second scrapbook also contains additional clippings that show other views of the New York City area.

Arrangement

Collection is in original order.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Aerial photography

Types of Materials:

Aerial Photographs
Clippings
Scrapbooks

Places:

New York (N.Y.)

Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1

[\[Scrapbook S-70A\]](#)

Notes: Any gaps in numbering are due to blank pages in the original.
Blank pages have not been digitally reproduced.

Box 1, Folder 2

[\[Scrapbook S-70B\]](#)

Notes: Any gaps in numbering are due to blank pages in the original.
Blank pages have not been digitally reproduced.