



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Early Ballooning Prints

Amanda Buel

2019

National Air and Space Museum Archives
14390 Air & Space Museum Parkway
Chantilly, VA 20151
NASMRefDesk@si.edu
<https://airandspace.si.edu/archives>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Early Ballooning Prints
Date:	1769-1918 (bulk 1869-1875)
Identifier:	NASM.XXXX.0137
Creator:	Unknown
Extent:	0.25 Cubic feet (1 slim legal box)
Language:	This collection contains materials in both English and French.
Summary:	The Early Ballooning Prints collection contains .25 cubic feet of material related to early ballooning history.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Unknown, Unknown, Unknown, XXXX.0137

Processing Information

Arranged, described, and encoded by Amanda Buel, 2019.

Preferred Citation

Early Ballooning Prints, Acc. NASM.XXXX.0137, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

This collection documents 18th, 19th, and 20th century ballooning feats. One print, while not of the period, depicts the oldest known representation of a parachute (1617).

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of prints, newspapers, articles, and a letter related to early ballooning history.

Arrangement

The collection is organized according to format.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Balloons -- History
- Balloons -- pre-1900

Names:

- Post, Augustus

Container Listing

Series 1: Prints, undated

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Folder 1, Item 1 | AIAA C #7 [Untitled print]
Notes: Caption: The First Balloon Ascension made by human beings was on November 21, 1783, when Pilatre de Pozier and the Marquis d'Arlandes first trusted themselves to a "fire balloon." Rising from the Bois de Boulogne, they travelled over 5 miles in about 25 minutes, attaining a height of 500 feet. The result was completely successful. |
| Folder 1, Item 2 | AIAA C #8; Homo Volans - "The Flying Man"
Notes: Caption: The oldest known representation of a parachute; Designed in 1617, by Fausto Veranzio, after the plans of Leonardo de Vinci, who inspired this idea. Practically the same design as that which Garnerin made the first successful descents in 1797. |
| Folder 1, Item 3 | AIAA C #9 [Untitled print]
Notes: Caption: First Reconnaissance by a balloon in warfare, at the Battle of Fleurin in August 1794, by Officers of the French Army, in an engagement against the Russian and Austrian forces. |
| Folder 1, Item 4 | AIAA #10; François Pilatre de Rozier |
| Folder 1, Item 5 | Actualités
Notes: Caption: Inconvénient pour un aéronaute parisien d'opérer sa descente dans une contrée qui n'est point habitée par des Écossais. |

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Series 2: Articles, 1769-1870

Folder 2, Item 1 [The Pennsylvania Chronicle, and Universal Advertiser, January 30-February 6, 1769](#)
Notes: Contains a notice about "John Barnhill's Flying Machine" on page 15.

Folder 2, Item 2 [The Aerial Messenger, June 13, 1839](#)

Folder 2, Item 3 [Harper's New Monthly Magazine, July 1869](#)

Folder 2, Item 4 [Harper's Weekly, November 5, 1870](#)

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Series 3: Miscellaneous Materials, circa 1890-1918

Folder 3, Item 1 [\[French cover about Louis Capazza\]](#)

Folder 4, Item 1 [\[Aerial League of America letter\], December 18, 1918](#)

Notes: Addressed to Mr. Charles Hollerith; signed by Augustus Post.

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