



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Evan J. Parker Scrapbook

Patricia Williams and Jessamyn Lloyd

2001, 2019

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Scope and Contents.....	2
Arrangement.....	2
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	

Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Evan J. Parker Scrapbook
Date:	1908-1966
Identifier:	NASM.XXXX.0348
Creator:	Parker, Evan Jenkins, 1885-1966
Extent:	328 Cubic feet (1 flatbox)
Language:	English .
Summary:	This collection consists of a red scrapbook, with the following title: "Pioneer Dirigible Flights 1908, 1910, 1911." The scrapbook contains photographs, newspaper articles and programs documenting Evan Jenkins Parker's dirigible career and his involvement in the Early Birds.
Digital Content:	Image(s): Evan J. Parker Scrapbook

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Evan Parker, through the Early Birds, Gift, 1966?, NASM.XXXX.0348.

Processing Information

Arranged and described by Patricia Williams in 2001. Description updated and encoded by Jessamyn Lloyd in 2019.

Preferred Citation

Evan J. Parker Scrapbook, NASM.XXXX.0348, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Evan Jenkins Parker (1885-1966), a pioneer dirigible pilot, made his first solo flight in a dirigible at Hutchinson, Kansas in 1908 and until 1911 he flew at county fairs and other exhibitions in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. Parker worked for Charles J. Strobel, a designer and manufacturer of airships, who

also scheduled their appearance at various events. During his work with Strobel, Parker both constructed and flew dirigibles. He had several close calls, including when the airship crashed into a roller coaster and electrical wires. When he was 27, Parker ended his professional flying career and went to work for the Eastman Kodak Company. Parker was a member of the Early Birds.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of a red scrapbook, with the following title: "Pioneer Dirigible Flights 1908, 1910, 1911." The scrapbook contains photographs, newspaper articles and programs documenting Evan Jenkins Parker's dirigible career and his involvement in the Early Birds including views of flights made at numerous events in Kansas, Missouri, Washington, Utah, Idaho, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maryland, Texas, Florida, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Virginia, as well as Canada and Puerto Rico. The scrapbook also contains a chronology of Parker's career which includes descriptions of the airships he worked on and piloted and a list of the flights he made as well as a biographical statement chronicling his life. There are also event invitations and programs pertaining to the donation of an Early Birds plaque to the Smithsonian Institution, the dedication of the Early Birds Monument on Governor's Island, New York, and a booklet about an Early Birds mural painted by Justin C. Gruelle.

Arrangement

This 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:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics -- 1903-1916
- Aeronautics -- Exhibitions
- Aeronautics, Commercial
- Airships

Types of Materials:

- Clippings
- Photographs
- Programs
- Scrapbooks

Names:

- Early Birds of Aviation (Organization).
- Parker, Evan Jenkins, 1885-1966
- Strobel Dirigible Co.