



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

Moisant Family Scrapbooks, 1910-1912

Karen Whitehair

1994



National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Moisant Family Scrapbooks
Date:	1910-1912
Identifier:	NASM.XXXX.0535
Creator:	Moisant, John, 1868-1910 Moisant, Alfred, 1862-1929 Moisant, Matilde, 1887-1964
Extent:	5 Cubic feet (3 oversized boxes) Please handle the scrapbooks very carefully, as they are in poor condition due to general use.
Language:	English .
Summary:	This Moisant Family Scrapbooks consist of three oversized scrapbooks containing newspaper accounts of the Moisants' flying escapades, as well as press releases and writings. The articles also discuss the following aviators who were involved with the Moisants: Harriet Quimby, Roland Garros, Rene Barrier, Rene Simon, John J. Frisbie, Charles Hamilton, and Shakir S. Jerwan.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Lt. Col. John L. Miles, Gift, 1942, NASM.XXXX.0535.

Related Archival Materials

The National Air and Space Museum (NASM), Archives Division also holds additional materials about the Moisant Family. Biographical information can be found in the biographical fiche collection at the NASM Archives/Garber Facility. In the NASM archives downtown facility, we recommend the Biographical Files which contain additional newspaper and journal articles, letters, memorabilia and photographs. For more information on John Moisant, please see the John B. Moisant Scrapbook Collection (Accession number XXXX-0536) on microfiche.

Related Materials

The National Air and Space Museum (NASM) Archives also holds additional materials about the Moisant Family. Biographical information can be found in the Biographical series of the National Air and Space Museum Technical Reference Files, NASM.XXXX.1183, which contain additional newspaper and journal articles, letters, memorabilia, and photographs. For more information on John Moisant, please see the John B. Moisant Scrapbook Microfiche, NASM.XXXX.0536.

For photographic materials please see the Videodisc Imagery Collection, NASM.XXXX.1000. In some cases, there are original print photographs available in the NASM Archives and copy negatives at the Smithsonian Institution Archives. Please consult a staff member for more details and information about ordering reproductions.

Processing Information

Processed by Karen Whitehair, 1994. .

Encoded by Rena Schergen, February 2012. Updated by Melissa A. N. Keiser, October 2018.

Preferred Citation

Moisant Family Scrapbooks, Acc. XXXX-0535, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical Note

The Moisant Family -- John, Alfred and Matilde -- helped spark America's early interest in aviation. John Moisant (1868-1910) trained at the Bleriot School in France and made the first successful cross-country, passenger-carrying flight from Paris to London in 1910. That fall he competed in the Gordon-Bennett Trophy Races but was killed in December while flying an exhibition in New Orleans, LA. His brother Alfred was president of the Moisant Aviation School and of the Hempstead Plains Aviation Company, 1911. Alfred also organized the Moisant International Aviators, Inc., which embarked upon a series of flight exhibitions in the United States and Mexico, 1911-1912. The Moisants' sister, Matilde (1887-1964), joined the family's exhibition tour and was the second American woman to become a licensed pilot. Matilde established two altitude records before giving up exhibition flying in 1912.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of three oversized scrapbooks containing newspaper accounts of the Moisants' flying escapades, as well as press releases and writings. The articles also discuss the following aviators who were involved with the Moisants: Harriet Quimby, Roland Gerros, Rene Barrier, Rene Simon, John J. Frisbie, Charles Hamilton, and Shakir S. Jerwan. Dates, condition of scrapbooks, and a brief description of content for each scrapbook are listed below.

Arrangement

Three stand-alone scrapbooks; no arrangement.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Aeronautics
Aeronautics -- Exhibitions

Airplane racing
Flight training

Types of Materials:

Scrapbooks

Names:

Barrier, Rene
Frisbie, John J.
Garros, Roland
Hamilton, Charles K., -1913
Hempstead Plains Aviation Company
Jerwan, Shakir S., 1881-1942
Moisant Aviation School
Moisant International Aviators, Inc.
Moisant, Alfred, 1862-1929
Moisant, John, 1868-1910
Moisant, Matilde, 1887-1964
Quimby, Harriet, 1875-1912
Simon, Rene

Container Listing

Box 1

[Scrapbook 1: Moisant Aviation School Clippings \[S-65A\], 1911-1913](#)

The scrapbook has rot, a torn canvas cover, brittle paper, and general deterioration. HANDLE VERY CAREFULLY.

Notes: Activities of the Moisant Aviation School between 1911-1913. Male and female aviators such as Harriet Quimby are mentioned.

Box 2

Scrapbook 2: Moisant Aviators Clippings [S-65B], 1910-1912

Cover-leather edges have red rot. Paper-very brittle. Newspaper Clippings-deteriorating. The scrapbook appears to have water damage. There is evidence of past mold activity (inactive at present). There are also insect casings on one corner (inactive at present). Damage due to general use. HANDLE WITH EXTREME CARE. Digital image scans of Scrapbook 2 have not yet been produced due to the extremely fragile condition of the original scrapbook.

Notes: Activities (mostly air/meet shows) of the Moisant Aviators both nationally and internationally from 1910-1912. The scrapbook has subject headings which are listed below (please note that these headings are not inclusive of the topics found in the scrapbooks--headings were made by the creator of the scrapbooks).

Scrapbook Headings:

- Richmond, VA, November 1910
- Chattanooga, TN, November/December 1910
- Memphis, TN, November/December 1910
- Tupelo, MS, December 1910
- New Orleans, LA, December 1910
- Dallas, TX, December 1910 and January 1911
- Fort Worth, TX, January 1911
- Oklahoma City, OK January 1911
- Waco, TX January 1911
- Temple, TX, January 1911
- Houston, TX, November 1910 and January 1911
- San Antonio, TX, January/February 1911
- El Paso, TX, January/February 1911
- Monterrey, Mexico, February/March 1911
- Mexico City, Mexico, February/March 1911
- Havana, Cuba, March 1911
- Hutchison, KS, March/April 1911
- Pueblo, CO, March/April 1911
- Denver, CO, April 1911
- Newton, KS, April 1911
- St. Joseph, MO, April 1911
- Omaha, NB, April/May 1911
- Des Moines, IA, May/June 1911
- Ottumwa, IA, June 1911
- Davenport, IA, June 1911
- Galesburg, IL, June 1911
- Detroit, MI, May/June 1911

The scrapbook also contains information about other aviators, such as Harriet Quimby.

Box 3

[Scrapbook 3: Publicity Stories \[S-65C\], 1911](#)

Cover-leather edges have red rot. Paper-very brittle. Newspaper Clippings-deteriorating The Scrapbook appears to have water damage. There is evidence of past mold activity (inactive at present). Damage due to general use. HANDLE VERY CAREFULLY.

Notes: Press releases about the activities of the Moisant aviators. Also contains basic handbook of the Moisant School of Aviation, Hempstead Plains Aviation Company, March 1911.