



Smithsonian  
*National Air and Space Museum*

Aerial Navigation Company  
Stock Certificate [Rufus Porter]

2010

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Air and Space Museum Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Aerial Navigation Company Stock Certificate [Rufus Porter]
<b>Identifier:</b>	NASM.XXXX.1028
<b>Date:</b>	(bulk 1852)
<b>Extent:</b>	0.05 Cubic feet ((1 folder))
<b>Creator:</b>	Porter, Rufus, 1792-1884
<b>Language:</b>	English .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Julia Hobson Mills, Gift, 1939

### Preferred Citation

Aerial Navigation Company Stock Certificate [Rufus Porter], Accession XXXX-1028, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

### Conditions Governing Use

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## Biographical / Historical

Rufus Porter (1792-1884) was an artist, musician, teacher, inventor, and the founder of Scientific American magazine. In 1852 he tried to sell {dollar}5 shares of stock in Aerial Navigation Company to fund an "aeropot" or dirigible to carry passengers between New York and California. However, a tornado, vandalism by "rowdy visitors" at the unveiling, and the disintegration of the canvas caused by the varnish eroded his funds for that venture.

## Scope and Contents

This collection consists of one 7.75 x 5 inch {dollar}5 stock certificate in Aerial Navigation Company, No. 779, dated 19 June 1852, to N. C. Brazeal. The certificate has been mounted.

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

Aeronautics  
Transcontinental flights -- United States

Types of Materials:

Stock certificates

Names:

Aerial Navigation Co.