



Smithsonian Institution Archives

Tom D. Crouch Papers, 1942-1946, 1962-2016

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Smithsonian Institution Archives
Washington, D.C.
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu
Title:	Tom D. Crouch Papers
Identifier:	Accession 18-201
Date:	1942-1946, 1962-2016
Extent:	3.03 cu. ft. (3 record storage boxes) (1 oversize folder)
Creator::	Crouch, Tom D.
Language:	English

Administrative Information

Oversize

This collection contains oversize material.

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Accession 18-201, Tom D. Crouch Papers

Descriptive Entry

This accession consists of the personal papers of Tom D. Crouch, a senior curator of aeronautics at the National Air and Space Museum (NASM). Crouch joined the curatorial staff at NASM in 1974 to assist with preparing exhibitions for the opening of the museum in 1976. In 1985, he transferred to the National Museum of American History (NMAH) where he was a curator and supervisor in the Division of Engineering and Industry, before eventually being appointed Chairman of the Department of Social and Cultural History in 1987. Crouch returned to NASM in 1990 when he was named Chairman of the NASM Department of Aeronautics, a position he held until 1999 when he became Senior Curator. Crouch served on the First Flight Centennial Commission Advisory Board and was active in planning activities for the centennial of the first flight by brothers Orville and Wilbur Wright. He also was involved in the planning, development and production activities for the exhibitions *A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution* and *Men and Women: A History of Costume, Gender, and Power* at NMAH, as well as for the NASM exhibitions *The Flying Roosevelts*, *NASA/ART: Fifty Years of Exploration*, *R. G. Smith: The Old Master of the Sky*, *Fly Marines! The Centennial of Marine Corps Aviation: 1912-2012*, and *The Enola Gay*, including the resolution of issues surrounding the display of the bomber at the museum. Some materials date to when the department came to be known as the Aeronautics Division and then the Aeronautics Department.

Materials include correspondence, memoranda, and notes; lecture papers; publications; information in regard to advisory boards, conferences, seminars, committees, and special events; meeting agendas; proposals; reports; contracts and agreements; exhibition scripts, floor plans, design information, and visitor comment forms; oral history interview transcripts; press releases, articles, newspaper clippings,

and newspapers; photographs, slides, and negatives; appointment books documenting matters in regard to the *Enola Gay* exhibition controversy; copies of legislation related to aviation; newsletters; collections management information; awards; and brochures.

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Aeronautical museums
- Aeronautics
- Committees
- Congresses and conventions
- Contracts
- Historical museums
- Museum curators
- Museum exhibits
- Museums -- Collection management
- Museums -- Educational aspects
- Special events
- Speeches, addresses, etc.

Types of Materials:

- Black-and-white photographs
- Black-and-white transparencies
- Brochures
- Clippings
- Color photographs
- Color transparencies
- Floor plans
- Glass negatives
- Manuscripts
- Newsletters
- Newspapers

Names:

- A More Perfect Union: Japanese Americans and the U.S. Constitution (Exhibition) (1987-2004: Washington, D.C.)
- Crouch, Tom D.
- Enola Gay (Bomber)
- Enola Gay (Exhibition) (1995-1998: Washington, D.C.)
- First Flight Centennial Commission Advisory Board
- Fly Marines! The Centennial of Marine Corps Aviation: 1912-2012 (Exhibition) (2012-2013: Washington, D.C.)
- Men and Women: A History of Costume, Gender and Power (Exhibition) (1989: Washington, D.C.)
- NASA/ART: Fifty Years of Exploration (Exhibition) (2011: Washington, D.C.)
- National Air and Space Museum (U.S.)
- National Air and Space Museum (U.S.). Aeronautics Department
- National Air and Space Museum (U.S.). Aeronautics Division
- National Air and Space Museum (U.S.). Department of Aeronautics
- National Museum of American History (U.S.)

National Museum of American History (U.S.). Department of Social and Cultural History
R. G. Smith: The Old Master of the Sky (Exhibition) (2000: Washington, D.C.)
The Flying Roosevelts (Exhibition) (1982-1983: Washington, D.C.)
Wright, Orville, 1871-1948
Wright, Wilbur, 1867-1912

Container Listing

Box 1

- Box 1 of 3 Correspondence (general), 1976-2006 (3 folders)
- Box 1 of 3 United States-Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Bilateral Information Talks, 1988 (2 folders)
- Box 1 of 3 *Enola Gay* Exhibition (general)
- Box 1 of 3 *Enola Gay* Exhibition: Correspondence, 1985-1998 (2 folders)
- Box 1 of 3 *Enola Gay* Exhibition: Crouch Response to Controversy, 1995
- Box 1 of 3 *Enola Gay* Exhibition: Photographs, 1996
- Box 1 of 3 *Enola Gay* Exhibition: Papers, Articles, and Press Releases, 1993-1998 (7 folders)
- Box 1 of 3 *Enola Gay* Exhibition: *Enola Gay* and Atomic Bomb Articles, circa 1962-1985
- Box 1 of 3 Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan
- Box 1 of 3 Historians' Committee for Open Debate on Hiroshima, 1995

Box 2

- Box 2 of 3 Treaty of Paris, 1986-1988
- Box 2 of 3 United States Military History Institute Documents, 1942-1946 (2 folders)
- Box 2 of 3 Dibner Library Exhibition Script
- Box 2 of 3 Wright State University National Aerospace Conference, 1996-1998 (2 folders)
- Box 2 of 3 Smithsonian History of Aviation Project, 1983-1985
- Box 2 of 3 First Flight Centennial Federal Advisory Board, 2000
- Box 2 of 3 Yale-Smithsonian Seminar on Material Culture, 1995
- Box 2 of 3 *The Flying Roosevelts* Exhibition, 1981
- Box 2 of 3 "The Eagle Aloft: Two Centuries of Ballooning in America" Book Outline, 1980
- Box 2 of 3 *NASA/ART: Fifty Years of Exploration* Exhibition, 2007
- Box 2 of 3 Tom D. Crouch: Lectures, 1993-2011

- Box 2 of 3 Tom D. Crouch: "Some Thoughts on Public History and Social Responsibility," 1989
- Box 2 of 3 Tom D. Crouch: Curriculum Vitae
- Box 2 of 3 Balloon History for *The Mini Page*, 2007
- Box 2 of 3 Wright Brothers Documentary Films, 1992-2003
- Box 2 of 3 Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park, 1992
- Box 2 of 3 Miami University Graduate Research Forum, 2011
- Box 2 of 3 The Wright Brothers in Dayton Program, 2004
- Box 2 of 3 Glenn H. Curtiss Museum, 2008
- Box 2 of 3 Aviation and the Human Experience, 2003
- Box 2 of 3 Ball State University: Electronic Field Trip Program, 2003, 2008
- Box 2 of 3 National Air and Space Museum (NASM) Collections Management, 1997-1998
- Box 2 of 3 Gender Perspectives: The Impact of Women on Museums Seminar, 1989
- Box 2 of 3 Evaluation Study Report: Visitor's Views of the Eighteenth Century, 1983
- Box 2 of 3 Dedication of the Langley Aerodrome (University of Pittsburgh), 1980
- Box 2 of 3 Tom D. Crouch: Press Releases, 1988-2001
- Box 2 of 3 Charles Billman Interview, 2002
- Box 2 of 3 Tom L. Freudenhiem, 1986, 1989
- Box 2 of 3 *R. G. Smith: The Old Master of the Sky* Exhibition: Script, 2000
- Box 2 of 3 Smithsonian Voices of Discovery in Los Angeles, 1996
- Box 2 of 3 University of Wyoming Collection Survey, 1992
- Box 2 of 3 Book Reviews, 1984
- Box 2 of 3 Centennial of Flight Commission and the Advisory Board, 1998-2003 (5 folders)
- Box 2 of 3 The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library, 1995
- Box 2 of 3 Smithsonian *Music in America* Meeting, 1987

- Box 2 of 3 Dayton Centennial and *Flyover* Sculpture Dedication, 1996
- Box 2 of 3 Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta, 2004
- Box 2 of 3 Photographs of Tom D. Crouch, circa 1974-2004
- Box 2 of 3 Investigation of Visitor Responses to Four Exhibitions at NASM, 2016
- Box 2 of 3 NASM Thematic Unit Concept Script: Satellites, 1974
- Box 2 of 3 Wright Brothers Stamp, 2001
- Box 2 of 3 Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historic Preservation Act, 1991-2003
- Box 2 of 3 Frederick Durant Oral History Interview, 2002
- Box 2 of 3 From Kites to the Wrights Project, 1999
- Box 2 of 3 Early Flight (general)
- Box 2 of 3 Michal McMahon: "The Romance of Technological Progress: A Critical Review of the National Air and Space Museum," 1981

Box 3

- Box 3 of 3 *Men and Women: A History of Costume, Gender, and Power* Exhibition, 1988-1989
- Box 3 of 3 Chairman, Department of Social and Cultural History, National Museum of American History, 1988-1989
- Box 3 of 3 Chairman, Department of Aeronautics, NASM, 1990-1994
- Box 3 of 3 *A More Perfect Union* Exhibition, 1987 (2 folders)
- Box 3 of 3 *A More Perfect Union* Exhibition: Correspondence, 1986-2001 (4 folders)
- Box 3 of 3 *A More Perfect Union* Exhibition: Press Releases, 1987-1998 (3 folders)
- Box 3 of 3 Appointment Books, 1991-1998 (8 folders)

Oversize

- Oversize Terry Takacs' Original Drawings for the Satellites and Sounding Rockets Gallery, NASM, 1976
- Oversize *Fly Marines! The Centennial of Marine Corps Aviation* Exhibition: Floor Plan, 2011
- Oversize Photograph: Apollo Eleven Thirtieth Anniversary, Astronaut Reunion, NASM, 1999

Oversize	Smithsonian Institution "Castle" Building Drawing Prints
Oversize	Monticello Drawing Print