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Collection Overview

Repository: Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., osiaref@si.edu

Creator: National Air and Space Museum, Assistant Director for Exhibits

Title: Exhibition Records

Dates: circa 1963-1986

Quantity: 6.16 linear meters and 3 oversize drawers.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 352, National Air and Space Museum, Assistant Director for Exhibits, Exhibition Records

Historical Note

The Exhibits Division was created in 1974 with Francis A. Baby as its Chief. Baby served until 1978 when Frank A. Nelms became Acting Chief. In 1979 Melvin B. Zisfein held the title of Acting Chief. In 1980 the Exhibits and Presentations Division was formed with Richard D. Crawford as Acting Chief. Edward Bedno was selected as Chief in 1981, with Crawford succeeding him in 1982. Crawford served in the position of Chief in 1983 and then as Assistant Director for Exhibits and Production Operations in 1984. Later that year Nadya A. Makovenyi became Chief of Exhibits, then Assistant Director for Exhibits, 1985- .

Descriptive Entry

These records provide documentation of the creation and preparation of exhibits for the most important period in the history of the National Air and Space Museum (NASM) - the planning, fabrication, and installation of two dozen major galleries for the new museum building, which opened in 1976. Also included is material on exhibits in the Arts and Industries Building, where the museum was located before 1975, and on smaller, changing exhibitions, as well as on the plans for the NASM restaurant. A very small portion of the records relate to exhibitions at the National Museum of Natural History, created by staff who worked on exhibitions at both museums. The records consist of correspondence, memoranda, reports, policy statements, procedure lists, reviews, contracts, some photographs, and a number of oversize plans and drawings.
Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:
Aeronautical museums

Names:
Assistant Director
Baby, Francis A.
Bedno, Edward
Crawford, Richard
Makovenyi, Nadya A
National Air and Space Museum (U.S.). Assistant Director for Exhibits
National Museum of Natural History (U.S.)
Nelms, Frank A.
Zisfein, Melvin B.
Container Listing

Box 1

U.S.S. America Plaque, 1974
Poseidon, 1973-1974
Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1973
Exhibit Cases (MHT - Museum of History and Technology)
Elevator Information, 1972
Damaged Exhibit, 1974
Mannequins, 1973
NASM - General, 1973-1975
OAO (Orbiting Astronomical Observatory) - Copernicus, 1973-1974
Viking Mission, 1975-1976
Engine Photos, c. 1974
Puppets (Flight Technology Gallery), 1974-1976
Flight Technology (General), 1975
Flight Technology - Engines and Miscellaneous, 1975-1976
Flight Technology, 1974-1975
General Information - Exhibits Scheduling, 1975-1976
Building - Miscellaneous, 1974-1976
Scripts to be Reviewed, 1975
Stamps (Hall of Philately and Postal History), 1972
MNH (Museum of Natural History) Faculty Lounge Case
Grasshopper, 1971-1972
Teaching Machine (Electricity Hall), 1971
Hall of Historic Americans, 1971
S.F. Baird, 1971
Foyer - MNH
Telegraph Exhibit, 1972
Spiders, 1971

Center for Earth and Planetary Studies Photo File

Perry Correspondence, 1963-1970

Box 2

Perry, 1968-1970

Commodore Perry, 1968-1969

M.C. Perry - Loan Material, 1968-1970

Electricity, 1968-1971

Docent Chart, 1971-1972

Eskimo Ivory Carving, 1973

Whale Hall File, c. 1969

Andrew Jackson Downing File, c. 1969

Commemorative Stamp to Honor XI International Botanical Congress, 1969

Miscellaneous Photographs and Negatives

Art of Organic Forms, 1968

High School Graphics, 1971

Photo Exhibit Poster, 1971

Early Birds Mural, 1970

Vibrating World, 1969

Hall No. 6 Photo - Lab and BMD (Buildings Management Division) Requests, 1970

Receipt for Stamps, 1971

Man's New Environment: Life in the Sea - Balcony Exhibit (Temporary), 1969

The Japan Expedition: Commodore Perry (Union Carbide), 1969

Yugoslavian Tapestries and Graphic Art, 1963

The Japan Expedition: Commodore M.C. Perry, 1968

Postal History Miscellaneous, 1971-1972

Renaissance Astronomy, 1972

Hall No. 6 - Miscellaneous, 1966-1970

Hall No. 6 - General, 1965
Hall No. 2 - Balcony Drawings
Scientific Illustrations, 1969
Japan Expedition of Commodore Perry, 1968
Reading Files, 1977-1979 (4 folders)
Bonnie Dalzell and Other Slide Shows, 1977-1978
Copyright Law
Early Flight Film, 1979-1980

Box 3
Oak Tree Films - Apollo to the Moon, Cosmic Awakening, and Great Spacecraft, 1980
Releases, 1979-1980
Production Records, 1978
Wheels, Wings, and Wire, 1984
Space Shuttle IMAX Film, 1981-1983
Dukane Equipment Information
Flyers Script, 1982
IMAX Film #3 - Meeting, 1980
Flyer - Production Records
Flyer - Final Script, 1981
Historical Films - Aerospace, 1974
UK Film - Rocket Flight, 1968
Film Lists, 1972-1979
Leadership Materials
Films in the Astronautics Department, 1972
Creative Dept. Inc., 1977
Denoyer-Geppert, 1980
Sharp-Compet
Metro Manual, 1977
Spacial Images Ltd., 1977
Notes - March 1974-February 1975 (12 folders)
Ardmore

Winbush, 1975

Yankelovich Inc.

Walter Landor Associates - Industrial Designers

Toshihiko Sakow Associates

Shipping Invoices and Bills of Lading, 1975

Project Status Reports, 1980

Vertical Flight - Electronic Console, 1974

Inventory (Design), 1974-1975

Complete Requisitions, FY 1976

Purchase Orders, 1975

Requests, FY 1976

Contracts, 1975-1977 (folders 1-2 of 6)

Box 4

Contracts, 1975-1977 (folders 3-6 of 6)

Weekly Reports, FY 1984 (3 folders)

Weekly Reports, 1982-1983 (2 folders)

Air Transportation - Contracts, 1975

Benefits from Flight Fabrication - Contracts, 1975-1976

World War II - Contracts, 1975-1976

Satellites and Rocketry - Contracts, 1976

Balloons and Airships - Contracts, 1976

Air Transportation - Contracts, 1976

Mannequins - Contracts, 1976

Experimental Flight - Contracts, 1976-1977

Space Hall - Contracts, 1976

Vertical Flights - Contracts, 1975-1977

Flight Technology - Contracts, 1975

West Gallery - Contracts, 1976-1977
Trophy Cases - Contracts, 1975-1976

Sea Air Operations, 1975-1976

"I Need" Lists, 1975

Inventory Record Sheet

Announcement and Memoranda, 1979


Exhibits Scripts Logbook, 1979-1981

Box 5

Audiotape Used in Television Footage by Michael Shapiro, 1/4" audiotape

Scripts 1-180 (8 folders)

Box 6

Administrators of NASA - Architectural Drawings, 1984

Space Hall - Braille Script

East Gallery - Braille Script

Sea Air Operations - Braille Script

Air Transportation - Braille Script

Milestones of Flight - Braille Script

Pioneers of Flight - Braille Script

World War II - Braille Script

Image of Airplane

Box 7

Audiotapes Used in Exhibitions, 1978-1979 (4 audio cassettes)

Motion Picture Inventory (3 folders)

NASM Exhibit Policy

Exhibit Reports

Exhibits - Alberto Santos Dumont

Douglas World Cruiser

Lighter Than Air

Balloons and Airships (2 folders)
HK-1 (3 folders)

Exhibition Flight

Douglas Northrup Legacy

Flying for Fun

West Gallery Concept Script, 1980

Box 8

Exhibition Updates and Special Exhibitions, 1977 (3 folders)

Apollo to the Moon (4 folders)

Benefits of Flight (2 folders)

Rocketry and Space Flight (2 folders)

Sales Shop - Becker and Becker, 1975-1976

Ramsey Room

Elevator Signs

Signage

Apollo to the Moon - Signage

Balloon Material

Sea Air Ops

Satellites and Sounding Rockets (folders 1-3 of 4)

Box 9

Satellites and Sounding Rockets (folder 4 of 4)

Spacearium (3 folders)

Production Expenditures, FY 1975

X-Airplane Original, 1975-1976

World War II Aviation, 1975-1976

X-Airplanes, 1975-1976

Air Transportation, 1975

Air Traffic Control, 1974

Vertical Flight, 1975-1979

General Aviation, 1976
Independence Lobby - Trophy Hall, 1975-1976
Apollo to the Moon - Preliminary Design, 1974
Theater and Miscellaneous Designs
Charles Forberg - Architectural Consulting
Flight in Arts Quotations, 1976
Mannequins, 1975-1976
Balloons and Airships - Toshihiko Sakow Associates
Balloons and Airships - Target Communications, Inc.
Balloons and Airships - Brown and Craig Inc.
Balloons and Airships - Lopez Salpeter Inc.
Balloons and Airships - Roger Tierney Associates
Balloons and Airships - Design and Productions Inc.
Balloons and Airships - Walter Dorwin Teague Associates
Balloons and Airships - LeRoy Winbush Design
Balloons and Airships - Friday Architects Planners
X Airplanes - Robert P. Gersin Associates Inc.

Box 10

Contractual Design and Fabrication Specifications
Experimental Flight - Specifications
Sea Air Operations - Specifications
Flight Testing (X Planes)
Sea Air Gallery - Budget Estimate
X Airplanes - Joseph A. Wetzel Associates
Space Hall and X Airplanes - Roger Tierney and Associates
X Airplanes - Lopez Salpeter Inc.
X Airplanes - Corporate Design Systems
Central Control System - General Exhibits Inc.
X Airplanes - Raymond Loewy
Satellites and Air Transportation - Roger Tierney Associates
X Airplanes - Walter Dorwin Teague Associates Inc.
Sea Air Ops - Lawrence Deutsch Design
Sea Air Ops - Toshihiko Sakow Associates
Sea Air Ops - Nelson Benzing Design Associates Inc
Felix Stephen Gula Associates - Sea Air Ops
X Airplanes - Design Etcetera Ltd.
X Airplanes - Lawrence Deutsch Design
Sea Air Ops - Roger Tierney Associates
Sea Air Ops - General Exhibits Inc.
Space Hall
Space Suits
World War I
Silver Hill/Garber
Life in the Universe
Animals
Life in the Universe - Phase II
Contracts
Box 11
Mars Globe
Martin Marietta - Life in the Universe Loans
Mariner 10
Life in the Universe
Specification and Contracts, 1975-1976 (2 folders)
Special Exhibits Gallery, 1976-1977
Spacearium
First World Cruiser, 1978
Contracts for Rotunda Exhibit
World Cruiser
Douglas World Cruiser - Script and Photos
Medals, 1978

Douglas World Cruiser - Script, etc.

Man's Right to Knowledge and the Free Use Thereof

Quasars, Pulsars, Black Holes, and HEAOs (High Energy Astrophysical Observatory)

Exhibit Ideas, Notes, and Research

Langley Visitor Center

Notes and Specifications

Aircraft Photos

Beech Aircraft Special

NAM (National Air Museum) (A&S) Panels 4-19 - Original and Edited

NAM (A&S) Panels 20-32B - Original and Edited

NAM (A&S) Panels 4-31 - Typography

NAM (A&S) Floor Exhibits and Floor Cases - Original and Edited

A&I Aerospace Art Hall - Original and Edited

Tiros Exhibit - Original and Edited

Box 12

NASM North Hall

NAM Miscellaneous

NAM (A&I - Arts & Industries Building) General Aviation Units 1-25 - Original and Edited

NASM West Hall

NASM Special Exhibits - Original and Edited

NAM (A&I) Astronautics - Original and Edited

NASM Fallen Astronauts

NAM (A&I Outside) - Original and Edited

NAM (A&I) Aeronautical Propulsion - Original and Edited

Apollo 17 Launch

NASM Aerial Exploration

Return to Files
Flying Tigers - NASM Special
Spirit of St. Louis
NASM (Miscellaneous) - Original and Edited
Pan-American Goodwill Flight - Original and Edited
NAM DC-7 Exhibit (I-VIII) - Original and Edited
Great Hall
Great Hall - Panels
Great Hall - Case
Copernicus
Benefits from Flight (3 folders)
Miscellaneous - All Halls
Benefits from Space (Flight) (folders 1-3 of 4)

Box 13
Benefits from Space (Flight) (folder 4 of 4)
Air Transportation - Lawrence Deutsch Design
Air Transportation - Walter Dorwin Teauge Associates
Air Transportation - The Burdick Group
Air Transportation - Roger Tierney Associates
Air Transportation - Herb Rosenthal and Associates Inc.
Air Transportation - ISD Inc.
X Airplanes - Herbst/Lazar Design Inc.
Air Transportation - Target Communications Inc.
Air Transportation - Felix Steph Gula Associates
Air Transportation - Design and Production Inc.
X Airplanes - Harper and George Inc.
X Airplanes - Toshihikow Sakow Associates
X Airplanes - Joseph Wetzel Associates
Model of the Surface of Planet Mars - Design and Production Inc., 1977
Design Contract Specifications
Metro Signs
Music Rights - The Mask, 1977
Exhibition - Flight
Benefits - Baby
Bil Baird
East Bay
East Gallery
Museum Shops, 1976
Doolittle
Signage, 1976-1977
Evaluation Forms - Fabrication
Air Traffic Control - Specifications

Box 14
Flying for Fun
Micro-master Exhibition Drawings
Viking Exhibition
Apollo to the Moon (3 folders)
Balloons and Airships (4 folders)
World War II Aviation Gallery
Coordinator - World War II
WT - Correspondence
WT 1 - Recognition Models
WT 2 - Reviews
WT 2 - P-51 Mustang
WT 3 - Macchi C 202
WT 4 - Messerschmitt Bf.109G
WT 5 - Super Marine Spitfire
WT 6 - Mitsubishi A6M5 Zero
WT 7 - Martin B-26 "Flak Bait"
WT 8 - B-17 Mural
WT 9 - Aircraft Identification
WT 10 - Uniforms
WT 11 - Missing Numbers

Box 15
WT 12 - A Wing and a Prayer
WT 13 - Flying Tigers
WT 14 - Battle of Britain
WT 15 - Eagle Squadron
WT 16 - WASPs
WT 18 - Aces
WT 19 - Training Cartoons
WT 20 - Aircraft
WT 21 - Tokyo Raid
WT 22 - Art
WT 23 - History
WT 24 - Engines
WT 25 - Enola Gay
WT 26 - Armament
WT 27 - Fifty Mission Cap
WT 28 - Fight for the Sky
WT 29 - US Air Crew Badges
Photos and Negatives of Aircraft (3 folders)
Battle of Britain Tableau
Miscellaneous Scripts

Box 16

NASM Floor Plans - Drawings 1.0-7.3

Oversize

Folder 1 Cultures of Asia and Africa (NMNH, Hall 7) - Exhibition Drawings, 1963-1967
Folder 2
Folder 3
Folder 4 Restaurant Addition, 1986