The Descriptive Finding Guide for the Waldo Waterman Personal Papers
SDASM.SC.10154

AR
San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives
6/2016
2001 Pan American Plaza, Balboa Park
San Diego 92101
URL: http://www.sandiegoairandspace.org/
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: San Diego Air and Space Museum Library and Archives
Title: Waldo Waterman Personal Papers
Identifier/Call Number: SDASM.SC.10154
Physical Description: .4 Cubic Feet
The collection of Waldo Waterman includes newspaper articles, magazine articles, manuscripts, photographs, blueprints and correspondence regarding his invention of the Aeroplane. The collection includes original blueprints, correspondence with patent offices and other people who were interested in his invention. There are several manuscripts of books written by Waterman and several magazine articles were written about him. There are two boxes in this collection due to the oversized documents that needed to be stored. 2 archival boxes

Date (bulk): bulk
Abstract: Waldo Dean Waterman an aviation pioneer from San Diego, California.

Biographical / Historical
Waldo Dean Waterman an aviation pioneer from San Diego, California. He was born on June 16, 1894 in San Diego, CA. He was an inventor of many types of aircraft and engines. His most notable contribution to aviation was the first tailless monoplanes, the first aircraft with modern tricycles landing gear and the first successful low cost and simple to fly. It was resembled a flying car and was commonly called a Flivver Aircraft. He built his first aircraft, a bipe plane hand-glider in 1909. In 1911, he partnered with Glenn Curtiss when he moved his winter headquarters to North Island. In 1912, Waterman attended the University of California as a student of mechanical engineering. He became head of the Department of Theory of Flight, School of Military Aeronautics at the University of California. He later became Chief Engineer at the U.S. Aircraft Corporation. He moved to Santa Monica, CA where he became a test pilot for Bach Aircraft and established the Waterman Air Craft Manufacturing Company. In 1960 he built and flew his last aircraft called The Early Bird based on the original Curtiss Pusher. He died on December 8, 1976.

Conditions Governing Access
The collection is open to research by appointment

Scope and Contents
The collection of Waldo Waterman includes newspaper articles, magazine articles, manuscripts, photographs, blueprints and correspondence regarding his invention of the Aeroplane. The collection includes original blueprints, correspondence with patent offices and other people who were interested in his invention. There are several manuscripts of books written by Waterman and several magazine articles were written about him. There are two boxes in this collection due to the oversized documents that needed to be stored.

Immediate Source of Acquisition
The materials in this collection were donated to the San Diego Air & Space Museum in 1976. The collection has been processed and is open for research with no restrictions.

Related Materials
North Island Files Waterman Aircraft Files

Subjects and Indexing Terms
North Island Naval Air Station
Waterman Arrowbile
Waterman Whatsit
Waterman, Waldo Dean
Curtiss, Glenn Hammond

Box 1 of 2

SERIES I: Log Books

Folder 1 - Aircraft Log Books
SERIES II: Newspaper and Magazine Articles

Folder 2 - Air Progress Magazine
Physical Description: Folder contains one original copy and a photo copy of a six-page article in Air Progress Magazine dated January 1969 titled “What a Man: Wonderful Waldo Waterman”.

Folder 3 - American Aircraft Modeler Magazine
Physical Description: Folder contains one original and one copy of a five-page of the article in American Modeler Magazine dated November 1970 titled: “Plane on the Cover: Areobile.”

Folder 4 - Applause Magazine Article about the Waterman Mansion
Physical Description: Folder contains an article about Waterman Mansion dated August 1978.

Folder 5 - Various Articles about Waldo Waterman
Physical Description: Folder contains various articles about Waldo Waterman.

SERIES III: Transcripts

Folder 6 - Biography of Waldo Waterman: Reel #1, Side #1 Transcript
Physical Description: Folder contains twenty pages of transcript from the recording of a biography of Waldo Waterman.

Folder 7 - Biography of Waldo Waterman: Reel #1, Side #2 Transcript
Physical Description: Folder contains eighteen pages of transcript from the recording of a biography of Waldo Waterman.

Folder 08 - Biography of Waldo Waterman: Reel #1 Transcript
Physical Description: Folder contains eighteen pages of transcript from the recording of the biography about Waterman titled “Waterman’s Wings”. It contains Waterman’s corrections.

Folder 9 - Aerial Ace Weekly Article Dated November 1, 1920
Physical Description: 1. Blueprints and article about the Waterman Type 3L400 Aeroplane 2. Blueprints and article about the Bijur Automatic Starter 3. An article about Recent Areo Patents dated November 1, 1920

Folder 10 - Aerial Ace Weekly Article Dated July 25, 1921
Physical Description: Folder contains an article and blueprints of pages of “The Waterman Racing Monoplane”.

SERIES IV: Blueprints, Correspondence, and Manuscripts

Folder 11 - Blueprints and Correspondence regarding The Waterman Arrowplane.
Physical Description: Folder contains twenty-one sleeves of correspondence and blueprints regarding The Waterman Arrowplane.

Folder 12 - Blueprints and Correspondence regarding Aircraft Designs.
Physical Description: Folder contains seven sleeves pages of blueprints regarding aircraft Waterman was designing.
Folder 13 - Biography of Waldo Waterman pages 300-305
Physical Description: Folder contains five pages of transcript of the Biography written about Waldo Waterman.

Folder 14 - Correspondence from 1930-1939
Physical Description: Folder contains letters and other correspondence to and from Waldo Waterman regarding the planes he invented.

Folder 15 - Correspondence from 1960-1969
Physical Description: Folder contains letters and other correspondence to and from Waldo Waterman regarding the planes he invented.

Folder 16 - Correspondence from 1970-1990
Physical Description: Folder contains letters and other correspondence to and from Waldo Waterman regarding the planes he invented.

Folder 17 - “Early Naval Aviation at San Diego”
Physical Description: Folder contains a thirteen page manuscript about early naval aviation in San Diego by Waldo Waterman.

Folder 18 - “The Establishment of North Island”
Physical Description: Folder contains a seven page manuscript about the establishment of North Island by Waldo Waterman.

Folder 19 - Fliers, Pamphlets about Waterman’s Flying Automobile W-5 Arrowbile
Physical Description: Folders contain fliers, Pamphlets and other information regarding Waterman’s Flying Automobile the W-5 Arrowbile.

Folder 20 - Hallett Chronology of Aeronautics Prior to 1906
Physical Description: Folder contains four pages of Waldo Waterman’s comments about the Hallett Chronology of Aeronautics prior to 1906.

Folder 21 - Manuscript of “History of Glenn H. Curtiss”
Physical Description: Three page manuscript of the History of Glenn H. Curtiss by Waldo Waterman.

Folder 22 - Industrial Lease Agreement and Advertisement for a Building for Lease.
Physical Description: Folder contains an industrial lease agreement with Waldo Waterman as a lessor. The lease agreement is dated 197_ and does not have a name filled out for the person leasing the property. There is an advertisement for space available for lease in Santa Monica, CA.

Folder 23 - Aero Digest Aviation Engineering September 1, 1945
Physical Description: Folder contains a manuscript of an article titled “Let’s Encourage American Ingenuity” written by Waldo D. Waterman when he was president of Waterman Research Engineering Company. It is dated September 1, 1945 and published in Aero Digest Aviation Engineering.
Folder 24 - Newspaper Articles from 1939-1976
Physical Description: Folder contains various newspaper articles from 1939 to 1976 about Waldo Waterman and his flying experiences.

Folder 25 - Newspaper articles with no dates
Physical Description: Folder contains various newspaper articles with no dates about Waldo Waterman and his flying experiences.

Folder 26 - Magazine Article “Now Comes the Auto-Plane!”
Physical Description: Folder contains a magazine article titled “Now Comes the Auto-Plane” by Clyde Pangborn with no publication date or magazine reference. Two copies of page ten only.

Folder 27 - Magazine Article the “Whatsit”

Folder 28 - German Article: “Die Vision: Mit dem Autoflugzeug den Stau austricken”
Physical Description: Folder contains a magazine article written in German about the “Auto Plane. No date or publisher.

Folder 29 - Photographs and Letters Regarding Patents Regarding Waterman’s Inventions
Physical Description: Folder contains letters between Waldo Waterman and several people regarding Waldo Waterman’s invention patents and photographs of various airplanes.

Folder 30 - Patents on Controls
Physical Description: Folder contains patents on the controls of the aeroplanes he invented.

Box 2 of 2

SERIES V: Photographs

Folder 1 - Personal Photographs of Waldo Waterman 1909-1966
Physical Description: Folder contains twenty-three 8x10 photographs of Waldo Waterman from 1909-1966. These photographs include pictures of Waldo Waterman with his various planes.

Folder 2 - Personal Photographs and a Drawing of Waldo Waterman 1909-1976
Physical Description: Folder contains thirty small photographs and one drawing of Waldo Waterman from 1909-1976.

SERIES III: Transcripts

Folder 3 - “The Personal Recollections of Pioneer Airman” by Waldo Waterman
Physical Description: Folder contains a one hundred thirty-six page transcript of “The Personal Recollections of Pioneer Airman” by Waldo Waterman recorded on tape in 1974-1975. It was compiled and edited by Warren D. Shipp and was under the sponsorship of the San Diego Aerospace Museum.
Folder 4 - Report of Chief Engineer Stout Research Division May 15, 1943 - May 1, 1944
Physical Description: Folder contains the cover page and twenty-six pages of transcript of the Report of Chief Engineer Stout Research Division from May 15, 1943-May 1, 1944 prepared by Waldo D. Waterman on June 25, 1944.

Folder 5 - Western Air Express, Ontario Aircraft and the Air Mail
Physical Description: Folder contains a nine page transcript describing the Western Air Express, Ontario Aircraft and the Air Mail.

Folder 6 - Zeroxied Copies of Pages from Kenneth Kendall’s Diary
Physical Description: Folder contains two copies of Zeroxied pages from Kenneth Kendall’s diary. Each copy has eight pages to it.

Folder 7 - Partial Transcript of “The Wings of Waldo Waterman”
Physical Description: Folder contains thirteen miscellaneous fire-damaged pages of the transcript “The Wings of Waldo Waterman”.

Folder 8 - “History of the Development of the Modern Tricycle Landing Gear, Tailless Flying Wing and the Roadable Airplane”
Physical Description: Folder contains seventeen pages of fire-damaged transcript by Waldo Waterman titled “History of the Development of the Modern Tricycle Landing Gear, Tailless Flying Wing and the Roadable Airplane”.

Folder 9 - “Waldo and His Glider, August 1909 on Hawthorne Street, San Diego”
Physical Description: Folder contains a nine page transcript of a magazine article published by Waterman and Carpenter, 1975.

Folder 10 - “Studebaker-Waterman S-1 Tear-down and Inspection Manuscript
Physical Description: Folder contains sixty-eight pages of manuscript titled “Studebaker-Waterman S-1 Tear-down and Inspection.”

Folder 11 - Waterman Patent Correspondence Regarding the Arrowbile
Physical Description: Folder contains correspondence between Waldo Waterman and several individuals regarding the patent of his Arrowbile.

Folder 12 - Research Materials
Physical Description: Folder contains various sources for research used in creating this finding guide.

SERIES IV: Blueprints, Correspondence, and Manuscripts

Folder 13 - Legal and Oversized Correspondence I
Physical Description: Folder contains legal and oversized correspondence between Waldo Waterman and various agencies regarding his patents.

Folder 14 - Legal and Oversized Correspondence II
Physical Description: Folder contains legal and oversized correspondence between Waldo Waterman and various agencies regarding his patents.

Folder 15 - Legal and Oversized Blueprints and Drawings of Waterman’s Inventions
Physical Description: Folder contains the legal sized and oversized blueprints and drawings of Waldo Waterman’s inventions.