Guide to the Histories of Ames Research Files

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Collection processed by:
Helen Rutt, Leilani Marshall, and April Gage

Date Completed:
December 2019

Encoded by:
Leilani Marshall and April Gage

Date encoded:
December 2019

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Histories of Ames Research Files

Date: 1970-2009

Identifier/Call Number: AFS1070.9

Collector: NASA Ames Research Center NASA Ames History Archives

Extent: 209 digital items (1.02 Gigabytes) and 6.3 cubic feet of analog material

Repository: NASA Ames Research Center NASA Ames History Archives

Moffett Field, California 94035

Abstract: This collection contains research materials collected by individuals hired by NASA to write histories of NASA Ames or its research and development activities. Included are drafts of monographs, articles, and biographical sketches of personnel, as well as the materials gathered by the authors during their research. The documentation in this collection covers the history of NASA Ames from the early 1940s through the early 2000s, and includes information gathered from sources such as oral interviews, historical collections in the Ames History Archives, the Center's newsletter (Ames "Astrogram"), Ames business units, and writings and papers by NASA Ames engineers and scientists. The following researchers compiled the materials in this collection: Edwin P. Hartman, Edith W. Watson, Elizabeth A. Muenger, Glenn E. Bugos, Kristen Edwards, Karen Dunn-Haley, and James N. Anderson.

Physical location: History Archives Reading Room, N207-112C

Language of Material: All material is in English.

Access

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

Copyright does not apply to United States government records. For non-governmental material, researcher must contact original creator.

Preferred Citation

NASA Ames History Archives, NASA Ames Research Center. Moffett Field, California. AFS1070.9, Histories of Ames Research Files, [Container number] : [Folder number]. [Identification of item]. [Date, if available].
Acquisition Information
The legacy material in Series I-VI of this collection was acquired over time, without acquisition documentation, and processed as a collection for the first time in 1998 by Helen Rutt, then re-processed in 2005 by Leilani Marshall. Series VII was acquired from James N. Anderson in 2009 (Acc. 2019-009).

Scope and Content
The Histories of Ames Research Files collection comprises research products and supporting materials accumulated by individuals hired by NASA to write about the history of Ames. The materials in this collection cover portions of the center’s history from 1940 through the early 2000s. Included are drafts of historical products such as monographs, biographical sketches, and articles, as well as research files compiled by the researchers, which include source materials, notes, and oral interviews.

The collection is organized by researcher and the body of materials they produced.


Series III, Elizabeth A. Muenger, comprises the research files that Muenger accumulated for her monograph entitled Searching the Horizon: A History of Ames Research Center, 1940-1976 (NASA SP-4304), as well as a draft copy of the work.


Series V, Kristen Edwards, contains the research files that supported her 1999 article entitled The US-Soviet/Russian Cosmos Biosatellite Program.

Series VI, Karen Dunn-Haley, includes research files and drafts of papers written by Dunn-Haley on the issues of manpower, the environment, safety, and external affairs at Ames Research Center.


Indexing Terms
The following terms may be used to index this collection.

Personal Names
Anderson, James N.
Bugos, Glenn E.
Dunn-Haley, Karen
Edwards, Kristen
Hartman, Edwin Phelps
Muenger, Elizabeth A.
Watson, Edith W.

Corporate Name
Ames Research Center

Geographic Names
Moffett Field (Calif.)
Series I. Edwin P. Hartman

Outline

Box 1, Folder 1
Box 1, Folder 2

Part I

Typescript
Box 1, Folder 3
Box 1, Folder 4

Photographs
Box 1, Folder 5
Box 1, Folder 6
Box 1, Folder 7

Part II

Typescript
Box 1, Folder 8
Box 1, Folder 9
Box 1, Folder 10
Box 1, Folder 11

Photographs
Box 1, Folder 12
Box 2, Folder 1
Box 2, Folder 2
Box 2, Folder 3
Box 2, Folder 4
Box 2, Folder 5
Box 2, Folder 6
Box 2, Folder 7

Part III

Typescript
Box 2, Folder 8
Box 2, Folder 9
Box 2, Folder 10
Box 2, Folder 11

Photographs
Box 2, Folder 11

Guide to the Histories of Ames Research Files
Series I. Edwin P. Hartman

Part III

Guide to the Histories of Ames Research Files

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 2, Folder 12</th>
<th>496-1 to 546-1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 1</td>
<td>546-2 to 596-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 2</td>
<td>603-1 to 612-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 3</td>
<td>649-1 to 711-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 3, Folder 4</td>
<td>713-1 to end</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Series II. Edith W. Watson

Physical Description: Boxes 3-10

Series Scope and Content Summary

The second series contains research files that former assistant to the center director Edith Watson (known as "Edie" by her colleagues) compiled in 1977 in order to provide source material for updating Hartman's book Adventures in Research. The update to the Hartman book was not completed until several years later when Elizabeth Muenger was commissioned to write it. These files are especially useful in understanding the activities and research that was taking place at Ames during the 1960s and 1970s. Content of note are histories of some of the center's branches, which were written by individuals in the branches at Watson's request.

This series is organized alphabetically by subject, following Watson's own arrangement scheme.

- Box 3, Folder 5: Research Projects Listing
- Box 3, Folder 6: Administration (Directorate) A
- Box 3, Folder 7: Advanced Avionics Program FS
- Box 3, Folder 8: Aeronautics Division 1976-; Aeronautics Division 1966- 8/29/76 FA
- Box 3, Folder 10: Aeronautics Corporate Memory Seminars (1978)
- Box 3, Folder 11: Air Force Space Digest Articles - Giant Harvest from Space - Today and Tomorrow by James J. Haggerty
- Box 3, Folder 12: Air Force Systems Command Liaison Office
- Box 3, Folder 13: Airborne Missions Applications Division SEP
- Box 3, Folder 14: Aircraft - list of Ames' Aircraft (1961-1979) F
- Box 3, Folder 15: Aircraft Operations Division 1/2/74- FO
- Box 3, Folder 16: Allen, H. Julian, Director, 10/65 - 2/69
- Box 3, Folder 17: Annual Report to Center by Director
- Box 4, Folder 1: Army Aeronautical Research Laboratory (AARL)
- Box 4, Folder 2: ASEE-NASA Fellowship Program
- Box 4, Folder 3: Astronautics (Directorate) Code S
- Box 4, Folder 4: Augmentor Wind Jet STOL (Buffalo C-8) FV
- Box 4, Folder 5: Avionics Systems Branch FSV
- Box 4, Folder 6: Award - H. Julian Allen
- Box 4, Folder 7: Awards
- Box 4, Folder 8: Benefits from Space Research [folder 1 of 2]
- Box 4, Folder 9: Benefits from Space Research [folder 2 of 2]
- Box 4, Folder 10: Biomedical Research Division 3/16/72 - LR [folder 1 of 3]
- Box 4, Folder 11: Biomedical Research Division 3/16/72 - LR [folder 2 of 3]
- Box 4, Folder 12: Biomedical Research Division 3/16/72 - LR [folder 3 of 3]
- Box 4, Folder 13: Biosatellite
- Box 5, Folder 1: Biosatellite [Biosatellite Project: Historical Summary Report December 1969]
- Box 5, Folder 2: Boyd, John W.
- Box 5, Folder 3: Buck, Jeff - Ames Lab Scrapbook
- Box 5, Folder 4: Buck, Jeff - Maps and aerial photos of Ames
- Box 5, Folder 5: Buck, Jeff - Photos of Ames people, events, and facilities
- Box 5, Folder 6: C-141 Starlifter SEP
- Box 5, Folder 7: Chapman, Dean R.
- Box 5, Folder 8: Chemical Research Projects Office SC
- Box 5, Folder 9: Contracts
- Box 5, Folder 10: Convair CV-340 Flying Laboratory History FS

Guide to the Histories of Ames Research Files

AFS1070.9 5
Series II. Edith W. Watson

Guide to the Histories of Ames Research Files

Box 5, Folder 11  Development (Directorate) 1964-1975
Box 5, Folder 12  Direct Lift Control Project (DLC)
Box 5, Folder 13  Director's Staff
Box 5, Folder 14  Directors Deputy Directors (Ames)
Box 5, Folder 15  Discoveries about Jupiter
Box 5, Folder 16  Economic Value: Prewar - J. Boyd's data
Box 5, Folder 17  [Emme, Eugene] Miscellaneous
Box 6, Folder 1  Energy Manager DDE
Box 6, Folder 2  Environmental Biology Division 1964-1972 (March) LV
Box 6, Folder 3  Environmental Impact Statement [folder 1 of 2]
Box 6, Folder 4  Environmental Impact Statement [folder 2 of 2]
Box 6, Folder 5  Equal Opportunity Programs Office DE
Box 6, Folder 6  Federal Aviation Administration - Ames
Box 6, Folder 7  Fellowships (Miscellaneous)
Box 6, Folder 8  Final Institutional Environmental Impact Statement 1977
Box 6, Folder 9  Financial Management Division
Box 6, Folder 10  Flight Systems Research Division; Full-Scale Systems Res. Div. 1966-71 FS (1)
Box 6, Folder 11  Flight Systems Research Division; Full-Scale Systems Res. Div. 1966-77 FS (2)
Box 6, Folder 12  Follow-up File
Box 6, Folder 13  Galileo Memorial Scholarship Program (Miscellaneous)
Box 6, Folder 14  Goodwin, Glen
Box 6, Folder 15  Harnett, Daniel J. Statement before Committee on Aeronautical Space Sciences, United States Senate
Box 6, Folder 16  Harper, Charles W.
Box 6, Folder 17  Health and Safety Office DS
Box 6, Folder 18  Helicopter Technology Division 1977- FH
Box 6, Folder 19  Honorary Awards Ceremony (Director's Speeches)
Box 6, Folder 20  Headquarters Historical Data on Ames Genesis
Box 6, Folder 21  Institutional Operations Office DO
Box 7, Folder 1  Land Acquisition
Box 7, Folder 2  Lecture Series
Box 7, Folder 3  Legal Counsel DL
Box 7, Folder 4  Lunar Samples
Box 7, Folder 5  Manpower Reductions
Box 7, Folder 6  Medical Services Branch - Dr. R. Pelligra
Box 7, Folder 7  Medium Altitude Missions Branch SEM
Box 7, Folder 8  Montgomery Glider
Box 7, Folder 9  NASA-Ames Airborne Laboratory (Convair 990) SE
Box 7, Folder 10  NASA/DOD
Box 7, Folder 11  NASA Exchange Council
Box 7, Folder 12  NASA HQ. News Conference 1970
Box 7, Folder 13  NASA Progress Reports 1965-1976
Box 7, Folder 14  National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE)
Box 7, Folder 15  New Facilities
Box 7, Folder 16  Organization Charts 1966-1977
Box 7, Folder 17  Organizational Changes
Box 7, Folder 18  Organizational Codes
Box 8, Folder 1  Papers Presented (Pioneer)
Box 8, Folder 2  Patent Counsel DP
Box 8, Folder 3  Personnel Division
Box 8, Folder 4  Pioneer Project
Box 8, Folder 5  Pioneer F Mission to Jupiter
Box 8, Folder 6  Pioneer 11 Jupiter Encounter
Box 8, Folder 7  Pioneer Venus
Box 8, Folder 8  Planetary Atmosphere Experiments Test (PAET) S
Box 8, Folder 9  Planning and Analysis Office DM
Box 8, Folder 10  Procurement Division
Box 8, Folder 11  Public Affairs Office DI
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 8, Folder 12</th>
<th>Resources Management Office</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 8, Folder 13</td>
<td>Roberts, Leonard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 8, Folder 14</td>
<td>S.F. Municipal Railway Cable Car System, Study of 9/23/76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 1</td>
<td>Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 2</td>
<td>SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) LXI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 3</td>
<td>Significant Events at Ames 1964-82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 4</td>
<td>Simulation Sciences Division 1966-1977 FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 5</td>
<td>Sixty Years of Aeronautical Research 1917-1977 By Don Baals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 6</td>
<td>Space Projects Division SP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 7</td>
<td>Space Science Division SS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 8</td>
<td>Space Science Division: Solar Division History, Lunar Magnetometer, Moon Rocks (Sonett, et al) SS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 9</td>
<td>Space Shuttle Orbiter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 10</td>
<td>Space Technology Assistance to Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 11</td>
<td>SPARCS (Solar-Pointing Aerobee Rocket Control System)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 12</td>
<td>Stanford Sloan - MIT Sloan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 13</td>
<td>STOL Operating System Experiments Program FS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 14</td>
<td>Stratospheric Projects Office (7/74); Climate Stratosphere Research Office (5/77) SO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 15</td>
<td>Technology Utilization Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 9, Folder 16</td>
<td>Technology Utilization Program report 1973 and 1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 1</td>
<td>V/STOL Aircraft Technology Division FV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 2</td>
<td>University Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 3</td>
<td>Vehicle Environment Division S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 4</td>
<td>Series III. Elizabeth A. Muenger</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Physical Description: Boxes 10-12
Series Scope and Content Summary

The third series comprises the research files that historian Elizabeth Muenger accumulated to support her 1985 monograph entitled Searching the Horizon: A History of Ames Research Center, 1940-1976 (NASA SP-4304). Muenger's files provide insight into the center's technological achievements, particularly in areas such as life sciences and thermal protection systems. Muenger also collected several writings by William F. Ballhaus, Jr., who was the center director at that time.

This series is arranged by subject files and then book drafts. The subject files are arranged alphabetically and the drafts are arranged chronologically.

Subject Files

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 10, Folder 5</th>
<th>Ames - 1950's</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 6</td>
<td>1960's - Ames</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 7</td>
<td>1969 - 1976 Ames</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 8</td>
<td>Aeronautical Lab vs. Research Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 9</td>
<td>Ames - Relations with Moffett Military</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 10</td>
<td>Ames in Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 11</td>
<td>Appendices Info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 12</td>
<td>Appendix E Life Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 13</td>
<td>Articles Apropos to Ames</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 14</td>
<td>Astronautics Chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 15</td>
<td>Ballhaus [writings by William F. Ballhaus Jr. - folder 1 of 4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 16</td>
<td>Ballhaus [writings by William F. Ballhaus Jr. - folder 2 of 4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 17</td>
<td>Ballhaus [writings by William F. Ballhaus Jr. - folder 3 of 4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 10, Folder 18</td>
<td>Ballhaus [writings by William F. Ballhaus Jr. - folder 4 of 4]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 1</td>
<td>A Chronology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 2</td>
<td>Consortium [University]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 3</td>
<td>Construction at Ames - Early Beginnings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 4</td>
<td>Facilities - chapter from Searching the Horizon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 5</td>
<td>Founding of Ames</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 6</td>
<td>Hunsaker, J.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 7</td>
<td>Jones, R.T.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 8</td>
<td>Life Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 9</td>
<td>Life Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 10</td>
<td>Life Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 11</td>
<td>Life Sciences - [chapter from Searching the Horizon]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 12</td>
<td>Life Sciences rewrite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 13</td>
<td>NACA Records [at the National Archives]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 14</td>
<td>Organization Charts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11, Folder 15</td>
<td>Perhaps Used; Perhaps Future Reference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 1</td>
<td>Reworks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 2</td>
<td>Robinson Revisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 3</td>
<td>Shuttle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 4</td>
<td>Thermal Protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 5</td>
<td>Unused Life Science Stuff from Klein files</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 6</td>
<td>Used Chronology Material</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 7</td>
<td>Used Chronology Material [re: Pioneer Saturn]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 8</td>
<td>Used Material [folder 1 of 2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 9</td>
<td>Used Material [folder 2 of 2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 10</td>
<td>Victory, John - pieces of oral history interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 11</td>
<td>Washington Research [material from NASA History Office and National Archives]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 12, Folder 12</td>
<td>Washington Research [material from NASA History Office about Hans Mark]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**List of Chapter Readers**

Box 12, Folder 13

**List of Chapter Readers**

**Drafts**

Box 12, Folder 14

**Cover to Chapter 2, October 1982**

Box 13, Folder 1

**Chapter 3 to Chapter 5, October 1982**

Box 13, Folder 2

**Chapter 6 to Chapter 7, October 1982**

Box 13, Folder 3

**Chapter 8 to end, October 1982**

Box 13, Folder 4

**Cover to Chapter 2, February 1983**

Box 13, Folder 5

**Chapter 3 to Chapter 5, February 1983**

Box 13, Folder 6

**Chapter 6 to Chapter 8, February 1983**
### Series III. Elizabeth A. Muenger
**Subject Files**

- **Box 13, Folder 7**
  - **Chapter 9 to end, February 1983**

### Paul Bennet Files
**Box 13, Folder 8**

**Paul Bennett's files about Muenger's history of Ames**

**Series IV. Glenn E. Bugos**

**Physical Description:** Boxes 14-15

**Series Scope and Content Summary**
The fourth series contains drafts and peer review commentary for the 2000 book by former Ames center historian Glenn Bugos entitled *Atmosphere of Freedom: Sixty Years at the NASA Ames Research Center* (NASA SP-4314). No research files are found in this series. The value of this series resides primarily in the feedback from Ames personnel and other NASA historians who reviewed the work while in progress.

Materials are arranged by drafts and reviews, followed by information related to some of the imagery used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 14, Folder 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Working Outline</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drafts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 14, Folder 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Copy edit, October 1999</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 14, Folder 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Index</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 14, Folder 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Layout draft</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 14, Folder 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>My comments on layout</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Peer Reviews</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 14, Folder 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reviewed by Elizabeth Muenger</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 14, Folder 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reviewed by Roger Launius</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Draft comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 14, Folder 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comments by David Morse</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 14, Folder 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comments by Jack Boyd</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 14, Folder 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comments by Harry McDonald</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 14, Folder 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Draft comments</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 15, Folder 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Request for Comments</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Images</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 15, Folder 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NASA Art Program</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 15, Folder 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spare Photos</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Guide to the Histories of Ames**

**Research Files**
Series IV. Glenn E. Bugos

Images

Box 15, Folder 4  Image Captions

Series V. Kristen Edwards

Physical Description: Boxes 15-17

Series Scope and Content Summary

The fifth series contains the research files that supported historian Kristen Edwards’s 1999 article entitled The US-Soviet/Russian Cosmos Biosatellite Program, which was published in the fall issue of Quest: The History of Spaceflight Quarterly. These files mainly pertain to the Cosmos Biosatellite program, which was a series of joint US/Russian space biosciences investigations conducted aboard Russia’s unpiloted, Earth-orbiting, Bion satellites. Also included are files pertaining to other space life sciences topics and the study of life sciences at Ames.

This series is arranged alphabetically by subject, followed by a draft copy of the paper.

Subject Files

Box 15, Folder 5  Ames Astrosgrams
Box 15, Folder 6  Ames News Release
Box 15, Folder 7  Ames Online Information about Bion
Box 15, Folder 8  Animal Rights
Box 15, Folder 9  Arnaud, Sara
Box 15, Folder 10  Bibliographies
Box 15, Folder 11  Bielitzki, Joseph
Box 15, Folder 12  Bion 11
Box 15, Folder 13  Chambers, Larry
Box 15, Folder 14  Cohen, Bernard
Box 15, Folder 15  Connolly, James
Box 15, Folder 16  Cosmos Biosatellite Funding
Box 15, Folder 17  Cosmos 782
Box 16, Folder 1  Cosmos 936
Box 16, Folder 2  Cosmos 1129
Box 16, Folder 3  Cosmos 1514
Box 16, Folder 4  Cosmos 2044
Box 16, Folder 5  Cosmos 2229
Box 16, Folder 6  Edgerton, Reggie
Box 16, Folder 7  Helwig, Denise
Box 16, Folder 8  Holton, Emily
Box 16, Folder 9  Joint Working Group Meeting Protocols
Box 16, Folder 10  Journal Articles on Bion
Box 16, Folder 11  Institute for BMP, Moscow
Box 16, Folder 12  Interviews with Russians, by Richard Mains
Box 16, Folder 13  Mains, Richard
Box 16, Folder 14  NASA HQ Press Releases
Box 16, Folder 15  NASA Life Sciences Info
Box 16, Folder 16  Overviews on Bion (collected by Mains)
Box 17, Folder 1  Philpott, Delbert
Box 17, Folder 2  Photographs
Box 17, Folder 3  San Jose Mercury News Articles
Box 17, Folder 4  Skidmore, Mike
Box 17, Folder 5  Souza, Kenneth L.
Box 17, Folder 6  Tverskaya, Galina
Box 17, Folder 7  U.S./Russian Space Cooperative Agreements

Preliminary Drafts

Box 17, Folder 8

Guide to the Histories of Ames Research Files

AFS1070.9  10
The U.S.-Soviet/Russian Cosmos Biosatellite Program

Series VI. Karen Dunn-Haley

Physical Description: Boxes 17-18

Series Scope and Content Summary

The sixth series includes research files for papers Dunn-Haley published in 1999 that examined issues of manpower, the environment, safety, and external affairs at Ames. The material in this series provides insight into safety, work, labor, and environmental issues as addressed at Ames in the late 1990s.

This series is arranged alphabetically by subject, followed by draft copies of the papers in alphabetical order.

Subject Files

Box 17, Folder 9
Environment

Box 17, Folder 10
External Affairs

Box 17, Folder 11
Interviews

Box 17, Folder 12
Labor Issues

Box 18, Folder 1
National Federation of Federal Employees

Box 18, Folder 2
Safety Issues

Box 18, Folder 3
Selected Bibliography on NASA Ames History

Drafts of Papers

Box 18, Folder 4

External Affairs, Education and Environmental Issues (May 1999)

Box 18, Folder 5

Manpower Sources at Ames

Box 18, Folder 6

Safety Issues at NASA Ames (April 1999)

Box 18, Folder 7


Series VII. James N. Anderson

Physical Description: Box 18

Series Scope and Content Summary

The seventh series includes research files, oral interviews, historical articles, and biographical sketches of selected Ames personnel. The material was produced by Ames center historian James Anderson while serving as a research assistant in 2008-2009 to support the seventieth anniversary edition of the book Atmosphere of Freedom (NASA SP-2010-4314). Biographical articles and recorded interviews of the following individuals are present: James O. Arnold (Stardust, planetary probes, TPS), Anthony Colaprete (astrophysical, planetary and atmospheric science; Mars, Earth's moon, LCROSS), Patricia S. Cowings (space biomedicine), David J. Des Marais (astrobiology, extremophiles), Meyya Meyyappan (nanotechnology), and Charles K. Sobeck (Galileo Probe, Kepler). A paper about the Stardust mission is included with supporting research files and oral interviews with James O. Arnold, Dave E. Jordan, Daniel J. Rasky, Scott A. Sandford, and Huy K. Tran.

This series is arranged into two portions: biographical interviews, organized by narrator, and Stardust. These files are all further arranged into three parts: paper drafts and notes, recordings, and research files. This entire series is in digital format (PDF, RTF, MP3).