W. C. MOYER AIRCRAFT PHOTOGRAPHS, 1929–1959

Collection Information

Historical Sketch

Scope and Content Note

Series Contents

Cataloging Information

Processed by

Pamela Tranfield 12 December 2002

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:

4 folders

COLLECTION.

1929-1959

DATES:

PROVENANCE: W. C. Moyer, Wickenburg, Arizona, 1981

RESTRICTIONS: None

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REPRODUCTION

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ALTERNATE None

FORMATS:

RELATED None

HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION 1981.0323

NUMBER:

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Stout Field is located west of Holt Road, north and south of Minnesota Street in west Indianapolis. Established in 1926, the airport was one of twelve stops along an early transcontinental route from New York to Los Angeles. The site was alternately known as Cox Field, Mars Hill Airport, the National Flying Field, and the Indianapolis National Guard Airport. The airport was officially named for Richard H. Stout, a decorated veteran of World War I.

Curtiss Flying Service operated an air passenger service and flying school on the site until 1931, when a new municipal airport was established. The U.S. Army Air Corps used Stout Field as a training base and conducted air transport operations from the site during World War II. The Indiana State Police used the airfield following the war and purchased more land in order to build extensions to the runways. The site proved inadequate for landing military jets, so much of the land was sold in 1953.

The Indianapolis Municipal Airport opened to passenger airline service on 16 February 1931 and was dedicated on 25 September 1931. Located on South High School Road, the site was renamed Weir Cook Municipal Airport on 28 March 1944. H. Weir Cook was an Indiana-born fighter pilot who died in a plane crash in New Caledonia on 24 March 1943. The airport was renamed Indianapolis Municipal Airport in 1976.

Sources:

Fischer, Robert T. "Stout Field." In *The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, edited by David J. Bodenhamer and Robert G. Barrows, 1301–2. Bloomington & Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1994. F534.I55 E4 1994

Marlette, Jerry. "Indianapolis International Airport." In *The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, edited by David J. Bodenhamer and Robert G. Barrows, 787. Bloomington & Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1994. F534.I55 E4 1994

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection includes fifty-seven black-and-white photographs, mostly of military and civilian aircraft on the ground at Stout Field and Indianapolis Municipal Airport between 1929 and 1940. Most of the photographs are affixed to album pages. Loose photographs show crowds celebrating at Monument Circle on V-J Day and construction of a home at 57th and Pennsylvania Street in 1929.

Other material consists of thirteen mechanically reproduced trading cards created by the Carnation Milk Company and the National Biscuit Company in 1959. The cards depict military and civilian aircraft and include descriptions and silhouettes.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Photographs, 1929-46

CONTENTS CONTAINER

[Album pages] 1929–45 Box 1, Folder 1

WWII aircraft on display, Memorial Plaza, 1946 Box 1, Folder 2

[Loose photographs] 1934–circa 1945 Box 1, Folder 3

Series 2: Trading cards, n.d.-1959

CONTENTS CONTAINER

[Trading cards, n.d.–1959] Box 1, Folder 4

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

- 1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: http://157.91.92.2/
- 2. Click on the "Traditional Search" icon.
- 3. Click on the "Call Number" radio button.
- 4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, P 0070).
- 5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.