



University Libraries Special Collections & University Archives

E. M. Laird Collection

Collection Summary

Title:	E. M. Laird Collection
Call Number:	MS 89-18
Size:	0.5 linear feet
Acquisition:	Donated by Dale Schrag, circa 1981
Processed By:	Staff, 1989; JEF, 10-13-1998; MN, 9-2014
Note:	None
Restrictions:	None

Literary Rights

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Restrictions

None

Content Note

The E. M. Laird Collection contains transcriptions and audio tapes of interviews with Laird, an early airplane manufacturer in Wichita. Photographs of Laird and an autographed copy of a commemorative booklet produced for "Matty' Laird Day" in Wichita, April 8, 1978, also are included.

Biography

E. M. (Emil Matthew) "Matty" Laird, 1886-1982, was an early airplane designer and manufacturer in Wichita. Laird introduced his Laird "Swallow" airplane in 1920 when he was 23 years old. A total of 45 Laird Swallows were built in Wichita, 43 of them while Laird was with the company. In 1919, E. M. Laird Aviation Co Inc. was formed with partners William Burke and Jacob M "Jake" Moellendick. Laird sold his interest to Moellendick in 1923. In early 1924, the company became the Swallow Airplane Manufacturing Company, owned by Moellendick, Lloyd H. Stearman, and Walter H. Beech. Their company built the "New Swallow" and later went into receivership

August 12, 1927. Laird returned to Chicago where he engaged in the design and manufacture of airplanes for the U.S. Air Mail Service among others.

Detailed Description: Series Listing

Series 1	Box 1	E. M. Laird Materials. Transcriptions and audiotapes of interview with E. M. Laird. Also included are photographs of and booklet concerning Laird.
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Detailed Description: Box and Folder Listing

Series 1 – E. M. Laird Materials

Box 1	FF 1	Two copies of the transcribed interview with E. M. "Matty" Laird on April 10, 1978 by Sondra Van Meter and Dale Schrag.
Box 1	FF 2	Transcribed interview with E. M. Laird on September 13, 1978 by Dale Schrag.
Box 1	FF 3	Revised copy of transcribed interview with E. M. Laird on September 13, 1978 with Dale Schrag.
Box 1	FF 4	Two photographs and one page of proofs of E. M. Laird.
Box 1	FF 5	Two booklets entitled "Specifications for 'Matty' Laird's Day with the Laird Swallow, April 8, 1978. One booklet is autographed by E. M. Laird.
Box 1	FF 6	Three copies of the transcribed interview conducted on April 10, 1978 with E. M. Laird by Sondra Van Meter and Dale Schrag.
Box 1	FF 7	Audiotapes from the two interviews.
Box 1	FF8	Audiotapes from the two interviews.

For information, please contact us at:

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