

William E. Scarborough collection on the Batson Aero Yacht project

Descriptive Summary

Repository:	Georgia Historical Society
Creator:	Scarborough, William E.
Title:	William E. Scarborough collection on the Batson Aero Yacht project
Dates:	1984-1985
Extent:	0.1 cubic feet (2 folders)
Identification:	MS 1799

Biographical/Historical Note

William E. Scarborough is a retired Navy captain who has researched and written about the Batson Aero Yacht project.

The Batson Aero Yacht was the inspiration of Matthew A. Batson (1866-1917) of Anna, Illinois, a retired Army captain. In 1912, Batson came up with a design for an aircraft that he envisioned could hold ten men and fuel for several days, fly at a speed of 100 m.p.h., and make transatlantic flights to Liverpool, England. He then formed the Batson Air Navigation Company and relocated to Dutch Island in Savannah, Georgia to begin manufacturing his aircraft. Construction on the first aircraft began in April 1913 by a crew of locally hired workers. The first prototype was completed by November 1913, but technical and mechanical malfunctions took place with every test run and the Batson Aero Yacht never made it out of Savannah. As a result, the Batson Air Navigation Company faced financial troubles and was liquidated and ultimately sold at auction in July 1915.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains photocopies of William E. Scarborough's research and the article he wrote on the failed Batson Aero Yacht project. Included are copies of newspaper clippings, journal articles, manuscripts, and photographs related to the project.

Index Terms

Aircraft industry--Georgia.
Articles.
Batson Aero Yacht.
Batson Air Navigation Company.
Batson, Matthew A., 1866-1917.
Clippings (information artifacts)
Photographs.
Research notes.
Scarborough, William E.

Administrative Information

Processing Information

This collection is processed at the Basic Level (or collection level). There is no detailed inventory for this collection as it is not fully processed. To request that this collection be added to our priority list of collections to be fully processed as staffing and funding allow, please contact the Library and Archives staff.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Sponsorship

Encoding funded by a 2008 Archives-Basic Projects grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.
