

Title: Hamilton, Thomas Papers

Call Number: Mss-0478

Inclusive Dates: 1910 – 1989

Bulk: 0.3 cu. ft.

Location: CV, Sh. 016

Historical Note: Thomas F. Hamilton was born July 28, 1894 and demonstrated an early interest in aviation. He established the Hamilton Aero Mfg. Co. in Vancouver, Canada in 1915. In 1917, he came to Milwaukee to work for the Matthews Brothers Woodworking Co. as the head of their propeller department. After the First World War he purchased the aviation department of Matthews Brothers and set-up the Hamilton Aero Mfg. Co. of Milwaukee, which manufactured propellers and pontoons. In 1926 Hamilton decided to create an all-metal aircraft, the series of which became known as the Hamilton Metalplane. First flown in 1927 the initial example was christened “Maiden Milwaukee” by Hamilton’s daughter.

The fortunes of Hamilton’s Metalplane Mfg. Co. rose and fell (it was a separate business enterprise from the Aero Mfg. Co.) before it was acquired by an Eastern aviation manufacturing syndicate, along with the propeller division, to become the Hamilton Metalplane division of Boeing Airplane Company, a division of United Aircraft and Transport Corp. (1929).

Abstract: The collection includes correspondence, published materials, photographs, and legal documents.

Administrative Note: The collection was processed on September 16, 1989 by R. Fuhrman. The collection was reprocessed on September 26, 2011 by Jenny Stevenson.

See Also:

M.F. #498 Early Hamilton Aviation Scrapbook

M-44 Hamilton photographs

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