



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minnesota State Archives

METROPOLITAN AIRPORTS COMMISSION

An Inventory of Its Historical Materials

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

Agency: Minneapolis-Saint Paul Metropolitan Airports Commission.
Series Title: Historical materials.
Dates: 1943 - [1996].
Quantity: 7.7 cu. ft. (2 boxes and 8 loose volumes).
Location: See Detailed Description section for box locations.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

A variety of materials documenting both the history of the Metropolitan Airports Commission [MAC] and Minnesota aviation in general. Included are an undated, calligraphic history of MAC, written by John Lammert, covering the period from 1940 through 1986; anonymous typescripts detailing Minnesota's aviation history up to 1943 and MAC's airports from the 1940s into the 1970s; background subject files; materials documenting the career of Harold W. "Bill" Atkins, No. 1 Senior Pilot for Northwest Airlines and internationally known aviation photographer, most likely gathered to support his 1996 induction into the Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame (ca. 1996); and "Aviation Around the World," calligraphic copies of articles about aviation events and stories compiled by Lammert from the 1988 and 1989 *St. Paul Pioneer Press* and affiliated newspaper services.

There are also eight scrapbooks (1943-1949, 1952-1963, 1973-1982) of newspaper and magazine clippings documenting activities of MAC and the airports under its supervision.

INDEX TERMS

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.

Topics:

Aeronautics--Minnesota--Twin Cities Metropolitan Area--History.
Aeronautics--Photography.
Aeronautics--United States--History.

Air pilots--Minnesota--Twin Cities Metropolitan Area--Biography.
Airport authorities--Minnesota--Twin Cities Metropolitan Area.
Airports--Minnesota--Twin Cities Metropolitan Area--History.

Persons:

Lammert, John.
Atkins, Harold W., 1919-.

Organizations:

Minneapolis-Saint Paul Metropolitan Airports Commission--History.
Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame.
Northwest Airlines, inc.
St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Types of Documents:

Scrapbooks.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation:

[Indicate the cited volume and page or item and folder title here]. Minneapolis-Saint Paul
Metropolitan Airports Commission. Historical Materials. State Archives.
See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

Accession Information:

Accession number(s): 2004-28

Processing Information:

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note both the location and box numbers shown below. Each file consists of one folder unless specified otherwise.

Location	Box	
103.K.13.2F	1	History of MAC, undated. 5 folders. Written by John Lammert. Photocopy of calligraphic history covering 1940-1986; includes newspaper photographs. 804 pages. Airports of MAC, undated. Photocopy of typewritten history covering 1940-1970s; author unknown (note in file is signed only "Jim"). Airports of MAC, Volume two, undated. Typescript covering 1940-1960s; author unknown (note in file is signed only "Jim").

Location	Box	
103.K.13.2F	1	<p>Background notes on history of MAC: Yearly listings; compiler unknown. Commission actions, 1944-1960. Financial information, 1944-1960. Major airports, 1944-1960. Secondary airports, 1944-1960. Military, 1946-1960.</p> <p>History, draft three. Typescript; author unknown. Appears to be a history of aviation in Minnesota prior to the creation of the Metropolitan Airports Commission.</p> <p>The Bill Atkins Archives, [ca. 1996]. 2 folders. Materials most likely gathered to support Harold W. "Bill" Atkins' 1996 induction into the Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame. Atkins was the No. 1 Senior Pilot at Northwest Airlines, an internationally known aviation photographer, and pioneered an anti-collision light system.</p> <p>Aviation Around the World, 1988-1989. Written by John Lammert. Handwritten (calligraphic) copies of articles on aviation events and stories found in newspaper services affiliated with the <i>St. Paul Pioneer Press</i>. Includes some newspaper photographs. Each volume also contains a sheet listing the newspapers used and Lammert's abbreviations for each. The first volume says it is a continuation from 1987; however, the location of any previous volumes is unknown.</p> <p>1988: Volume 1. 4 folders. January – August 5; 722 pages.</p> <p>1988: Volume 2. 3 folders. August 5 – December 31; 619 pages.</p> <p>1989: Volume 1. 3 folders. February 4 – April 13; 614 pages.</p> <p>Folder 1.</p>
103.K.13.3B	2	<p>Folders 2-3.</p> <p>1989: Volume 2. 4 folders. April 14 – July 21; 739 pages.</p> <p>1989: Volume 3. 3 folders. July 23 – September 17; 524 pages.</p>

Location	Box	
103.K.13.3B	2	1989: Volume 4. 3 folders. September 19 – December 29; 517 pages. Scrapbooks, 1943-1982. 8 oversize volumes. Mostly clippings from local newspapers, with a few articles from aviation magazines. Most are identified as to newspaper and date and are roughly arranged in chronological or reverse chronological order within each volume. Coverage for the years 1950-1951 and 1964-1973 are missing. Topics involve all activities of the Metropolitan Airports Commission and the airports they manage.
139.C.5	Loose	Volume 1: 1943-1946. Volume 2: 1946. Volume 3: 1946-1949. Volume 4: 1952-1955.
139.C.6	Loose	Volume 5: 1955-1957. Volume 6: 1957-1963. Volume 7: 1974-1976. Volume 8: 1977-1982.