

Dayton Air Service Incorporated Committee

MS – 136

Wright State University
Department of Special Collections and Archives

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Winter 1984

Introduction

The records of the Dayton Air Service Incorporated Committee were accessioned into the Wright State University Department of Archives and Special Collections in October 1983. They were donated by Phyllis Smith of the Miami Conservancy District.

The papers in this collection date from 1922-1943. The collection is arranged as follows:

- Series 1: Articles of Incorporation, Board of Trustee Minutes, 1922-1943
- Series 2: Secretary's Correspondence and Records, 1922-1938
- Series 3: Subscription/Fund Raising Correspondence, 1922-1927

There are no restrictions on the use of these materials.

Brief Historical Sketch

The Dayton Air Service Incorporated Committee was incorporated 14 November 1922 as the legal successor to a previous voluntary committee. The purpose of this corporation was to raise, collect, and administer the fund known as "The Dayton Air Service and Wright Memorial Fund" which was to be used to purchase land at or near Dayton, Ohio, and to convey this land to the U.S. Government for the public purpose of establishing an air service experiment station. The fund was also to be used for the purchase of land on which a Wright Brothers memorial would be erected.

The air field portion of the plan was basically completed by 1925. Plans for the erection of a memorial began in 1912 and in 1922 the Wright Brothers Memorial Commission was reorganized for the purpose of completing the memorial. In May 1938, the remainder of the Dayton Air Service Incorporated Committee's funds was transferred to the Wright Memorial Commission. Land owned by the committee was transferred to the Miami Conservancy District for the purpose of establishing a Wright Memorial. Information on the establishment of this memorial can be found in the Wright Memorial Commission Papers, MS-134. The Dayton Air Service Incorporated Committee held its last board meeting on 6 December 1943.

Scope and Content

The records of the Dayton Air Service Incorporated Committee contain a variety of correspondence, Board of Trustee minutes and other working papers of the committee.

Series 1 contains Articles of Incorporation and Board of Trustee Minutes, 1922-1943.

Series 2 contains the largest amount of material, the Secretary's (Ezra Kuhn) correspondence. The correspondence includes information on the day functioning of the committee; the acquisition and transfer of land; and some financial data. The bulk of the correspondence was generated from 1922-1925.

Series 3 contains correspondence to and from subscribers, and subscription forms.

Materials are arranged chronologically within each series.

Container Description

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
Series 1: Articles of Incorporation and Board of Trustee Minutes, 1922-1943			
1	1	Articles of Incorporation and Board Minutes	1922-1943
Series 2: Secretary's Correspondence, 1922-1938			
1	2	Correspondence and Records	1922
	3	Correspondence and Records	1923
	4	Correspondence and Records	1924
	5	Correspondence and Records	1924-1925
	6	Correspondence and Records	1925-1938
Series 3: Subscription/Fund-Raising Correspond.			
1	7	Correspondence	1922-1927