



Finding Aid for

FORD TRI-MOTOR HOMECOMING RECORDS, 1955-1958
Accession 613

Finding Aid Published: October 2011



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OVERVIEW

REPOSITORY: Benson Ford Research Center
The Henry Ford
20900 Oakwood Blvd
Dearborn, MI 48124-5029
www.thehenryford.org
research.center@thehenryford.org

ACCESSION NUMBER: 613

CREATOR: Ford Motor Company. Office of Public Relations.

TITLE: Ford Tri-Motor homecoming records

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1955-1958

QUANTITY: 0.8 cubic ft.

LANGUAGE: The materials are in English

ABSTRACT: The Ford Tri-Motor airplane was produced in 1927 by the Stout Metal Airplane Company, owned by Henry Ford. In 1955 an anniversary celebration was held for the aircraft and in 1958 it was commemorated again with a historical marker in Dearborn. This collection includes photographs, correspondence, clippings and programs from these two events.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** The collection is open for research
- COPYRIGHT:** Copyright has been transferred to The Henry Ford by the donor. Copyright for some items in the collection may still be held by their respective creator(s).
- ACQUISITION:** Ford Motor Company Archives donation, 1964
- RELATED MATERIAL:** Related material held by The Henry Ford
- Stout Metal Airplane Division records subseries, 1920-1942, Accession 18, 251 and 383.
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 613, Ford Tri-Motor homecoming records, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Collection processed by Ford Motor Company Archives staff, May 1964.
- DESCRIPTION INFORMATION:** Original collection inventory list prepared by Ford Motor Company Archives staff and published in May 1964.
- Finding aid prepared by Elyssa Bisoski, October 2011, and published in October 2011.
- Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and local guidelines.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Henry Ford bought the Stout Metal Airplane Company in July 1925, and in 1927 produced the first all-metal tri-motor aircraft, which pilots called the "Tin Goose." The plane was designed to fly on two engines as well as it did on three and could maintain level flight with only one engine operating. Its length was 49 feet, 10 inches and the wingspan was 74 feet. It had two-blade metal propellers and a maximum speed of 130 mph, faster for its day than any other form of transportation.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The records consist of a scrapbook of clippings, correspondence, and other material relating to the 25th anniversary on September 18, 1955, of the National Air Tours won by the Ford Tri-Motor. There is also a scrapbook of photographs relating to the event and signatures of the guests. Also included is an album compiled for a Michigan historical marker unveiling on May 8, 1958 at the Dearborn Inn in Dearborn, Michigan, entitled "Ford Firsts in Aviation." The marker commemorated Ford Motor Company's contributions to aviation. The album contains photographs of guests, phases of the program (the historic marker dedication), mementos, correspondence, clippings and publicity.

SUBJECT TERMS

Names, Personal and Corporate

Ford, Henry, 1863-1947

Ford, Edsel, 1893-1943

Ford Motor Company. Office of Public Relations.

Ford Airport (Dearborn, Mich.)

Dearborn Inn (Dearborn, Mich.)

Subjects

Ford Motor Company. Anniversaries, etc.

Ford three-engined monoplane (Transport plane)

Aeronautics--Michigan

Aircraft industry

Historical markers

Ford Tri-motor airplane

Genre and Form

Photographs

Scrapbooks

CONTAINER LIST

Box no.	Description
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Box 1

Ford Tri-Motor Homecoming Scrapbook, 1955 (three-ring binder containing clippings, correspondence, etc., pertinent to the September 18, 1955 event)

Scrapbook, 1955 (three-ring binder containing photographs relating to the event and signatures of the guests)

Box 2

Ford Firsts in Aviation, 1958 (album containing photographs, programs and correspondence pertaining to the dedication of a historical marker in Dearborn. Pages have been removed from album)