



Guide to the  
Histories of Ames Research Files  
AFS1070.9

NASA Ames History Archives  
NASA Ames Research Center

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## **Descriptive Summary**

**Title:**

Histories of Ames Research Files

**Collection Number:**

AFS1070.9

**Creator:**

Ames Research Center

**Dates:**

Inclusive: 1940-2009

**Extent:**

209 digital items (1.02 Gigabytes) and 6.3 cubic feet of analog material

**Repository:**

NASA Ames History Archives

Moffett Field, California 94035

**Abstract:**

This collection contains research materials collected by individuals hired by NASA to write histories of NASA Ames or its research and development activities. Included are drafts of monographs, articles, and biographical sketches of personnel, as well as the materials gathered by the authors during their research. The documentation in this collection covers the history of NASA Ames from the early 1940s through the early 2000s, and includes information gathered from sources such as oral interviews, historical collections in the Ames History Archives, the Center's newsletter (Ames "Astrogram"), Ames business units, and writings and papers by NASA Ames engineers and scientists. The following researchers compiled the materials in this collection: Edwin P. Hartman, Edith W. Watson, Elizabeth A. Muenger, Glenn E. Bugos, Kristen Edwards, Karen Dunn-Haley, and James N. Anderson.

## **Administrative Information**

**Access:**

Collection is open for research.

**Accruals:**

Research files about Ames Research Center by James N. Anderson (Acc. 2019-009) were added to the collection to form Series VII in December 2019.

**Publication Rights:**

Copyright does not apply to United States government records. For non-governmental material, the researcher must contact the original creator(s) to obtain approvals.

**Languages and Scripts:**

All records are in English.

**Preferred Citation:**

Expanded:

NASA Ames History Archives, NASA Ames Research Center. Moffett Field, California.

AFS1070.9, Histories of Ames Research Files, [Container number] : [Folder number].

[Identification of item]. [Date, if available].

Abbreviated:

NASA ARC. AFS1070.9 [Container number] : [Folder number]. [Identification of item]. [Date, if available].

**Acquisition Information:**

The legacy material in Series I-VI of this collection was acquired over time, without acquisition documentation, and processed as a collection for the first time in 1998 by Helen Rutt, then re-processed in 2005 by Leilani Marshall. Series VII was acquired from James N. Anderson in 2009 (Acc. 2019-009).

**Scope and Content**

The Histories of Ames Research Files collection comprises research products and supporting materials accumulated by individuals hired by NASA to write about the history of Ames. The materials in this collection cover portions of the center's history from 1940 through the early 2000s. Included are drafts of historical products such as monographs, biographical sketches, and articles, as well as research files compiled by the researchers, which include source materials, notes, and oral interviews.

The collection is organized by researcher and the body of materials they produced.

- Series I, Edwin P. Hartman, contains drafts of Hartman's book *Adventures in Research: A History of Ames Research Center, 1940-1965* (NASA SP-4302).
- Series II, Edith W. Watson, contains research files Watson compiled for updating Hartman's book *Adventures in Research*.
- Series III, Elizabeth A. Muenger, comprises the research files that Muenger accumulated for her monograph entitled *Searching the Horizon: A History of Ames Research Center, 1940-1976* (NASA SP-4304), as well as a draft copy of the work.
- Series IV, Glenn E. Bugos, contains comment drafts of Bugos's book *Atmosphere of Freedom: Sixty Years at the NASA Ames Research Center* (NASA SP-4314).
- Series V, Kristen Edwards, contains the research files that supported her 1999 article entitled *The US-Soviet/Russian Cosmos Biosatellite Program*.
- Series VI, Karen Dunn-Haley, includes research files and drafts of papers written by Dunn-Haley on the issues of manpower, the environment, safety, and external affairs at Ames Research Center.
- Series VII, James N. Anderson, includes research files, oral interviews, and historical articles produced by Anderson to support the 2010 edition of the book *Atmosphere of Freedom* (NASA SP-2010-4314).

## System of Arrangement

The collection is arranged into series by researcher, roughly in the order of when their work was either commissioned by NASA or subsequently acquired by the archives. Within each series, the original order was retained as much as possible.

Series I: Edwin P. Hartman  
Series II: Edith W. Watson  
Series III: Elizabeth A. Muenger  
Series IV: Glenn E. Bugos  
Series V: Kristen Edwards  
Series VI: Karen Dunn-Haley  
Series VII: James N. Anderson

## Other Finding Aids

The following supplemental finding aids are available for this collection:

- Series VII - The digital file structure

## Series Descriptions

### **Series I: Edwin P. Hartman, Boxes 1-3.**

The first series contains draft versions of Edwin Hartman's book *Adventures in Research: A History of Ames Research Center, 1940-1965*, published in 1970 (NASA SP-4302), as well copies of the photographs used in the book. No research files are found in this series.

Edwin Hartman's papers provide comprehensive information about the first twenty-five years of Ames, such how the center was founded, when various structures were built, how various research disciplines evolved, and many of the center's earliest managers, scientists, engineers, and researchers, as well as their areas of expertise and the contributions they made to the field of aeronautics and aerospace.

This material is arranged to reflect the structure of Hartman's book. Within the subseries, photographs follow typescripts of the book chapters.

### **Series II: Edith W. Watson, Boxes 3-10.**

The second series contains research files that former assistant to the center director Edith Watson (known as "Edie" by her colleagues) compiled in 1977 in order to provide source material for updating Hartman's book *Adventures in Research*. The update to the Hartman book was not completed until several years later when Elizabeth Muenger was commissioned to write it. These files are especially useful in understanding the activities and research that was taking place at Ames during the 1960s and 1970s. Content of note are histories of some of the center's branches, which were written by individuals in the branches at Watson's request.

This series is organized alphabetically by subject, following Watson's own arrangement scheme.

**Series III: Elizabeth A. Muenger, Boxes 10-12.**

The third series comprises the research files that historian Elizabeth Muenger accumulated to support her 1985 monograph entitled *Searching the Horizon: A History of Ames Research Center, 1940-1976* (NASA SP-4304). Muenger's files provide insight into the center's technological achievements, particularly in areas such as life sciences and thermal protection systems. Muenger also collected several writings by William F. Ballhaus, Jr., who was the center director at that time.

This series is arranged by subject files and then book drafts. The subject files are arranged alphabetically and the drafts are arranged chronologically.

**Series IV: Glenn E. Bugos, Boxes 14-15.**

The fourth series contains drafts and peer review commentary for the 2000 book by former Ames center historian Glenn Bugos entitled *Atmosphere of Freedom: Sixty Years at the NASA Ames Research Center* (NASA SP-4314). No research files are found in this series. The value of this series resides primarily in the feedback from Ames personnel and other NASA historians who reviewed the work while in progress.

Materials are arranged by drafts and reviews, followed by information related to some of the imagery used.

**Series V: Kristen Edwards, Boxes 15-17.**

The fifth series contains the research files that supported historian Kristen Edwards's 1999 article entitled *The US-Soviet/Russian Cosmos Biosatellite Program*, which was published in the fall issue of *Quest: The History of Spaceflight Quarterly*. These files mainly pertain to the Cosmos Biosatellite program, which was a series of joint US/Russian space biosciences investigations conducted aboard Russia's unpowered, Earth-orbiting, Bion satellites. Also included are files pertaining to other space life sciences topics and the study of life sciences at Ames.

This series is arranged alphabetically by subject, followed by a draft copy of the paper.

**Series VI: Karen Dunn-Haley, Boxes 17-18.**

The sixth series includes research files for papers Dunn-Haley published in 1999 that examined issues of manpower, the environment, safety, and external affairs at Ames. The material in this series provides insight into safety, work, labor, and environmental issues as addressed at Ames in the late 1990s.

This series is arranged alphabetically by subject, followed by a draft copies of the papers in alphabetical order.

### **Series VII: James N. Anderson, Box 18.**

The seventh series includes research files, oral interviews, historical articles, and biographical sketches of selected Ames personnel. The material was produced by Ames center historian James Anderson while serving as a research assistant in 2008-2009 to support the seventieth anniversary edition of the book *Atmosphere of Freedom* (NASA SP-2010-4314). Biographical articles and recorded interviews of the following individuals are present: James O. Arnold (Stardust, planetary probes, TPS), Anthony Colaprete (astrophysical, planetary and atmospheric science; Mars, Earth's moon, LCROSS), Patricia S. Cowings (space biomedicine), David J. Des Marais (astrobiology, extremophiles), Meyya Meyyappan (nanotechnology), and Charles K. Sobeck (Galileo Probe, Kepler). A paper about the Stardust mission is included with supporting research files and oral interviews with James O. Arnold, Dave E. Jordan, Daniel J. Rasky, Scott A. Sandford, and Huy K. Tran.

This series is arranged into two portions: biographical interviews, organized by narrator, and Stardust. These files are all further arranged into three parts: paper drafts and notes, recordings, and research files. This entire series is in digital format (PDF, RTF, MP3).

### **Indexing Terms**

The following terms may be used to index this collection.

#### Corporate Name

Ames Research Center

#### Geographic Name

Moffett Field (Calif.)

#### Personal Name

Anderson, James N.

Bugos, Glenn E.

Dunn-Haley, Karen

Edwards, Kristen

Hartman, Edwin Phelps

Muenger, Elizabeth A.

Watson, Edith W.

### **Related Collections**

AFS1070.8A: Archives Reference Collection