

## COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY STATEMENT

### CLASSIFICATION: GIMBEL COLLECTIONS

SEPTEMBER 1999

**General Purpose:** With holdings dating from the 15<sup>th</sup> century, The Colonel Richard Gimbel Aeronautical History Collection records man's dream of flight from antiquity to the advent of powered flight. It is one of the most prestigious aeronautical history collections in existence.

**Collection Level Intensity:** Comprehensive.

**Geographical Areas:** No limitations.

**Chronological Periods:** Dating from 15<sup>th</sup> century, with concentrated coverage from 1700-1914.

**Types of Material Collected:** Books, serials, newspapers, manuscripts, medals, china, glassware, sheet music, dime novels, philatelic items, greeting cards, stereopticon slides, photographs, diaries, broadsides, prints, toys, and other artifacts and memorabilia.

**Types of Material Excluded:** No material is rejected exclusively because of type.

**Other Factors:** Materials will complement aeronautical history items in the regular collection. The rarity, value, and condition of the resources require that special access controls exist. Much of material will be restricted to use in the Library/Gimbel Room.

**Subjects and Collection Levels:** All aspects of aeronautics to 1914 are gathered. Emphases are centered on ballooning, imaginary flight, development of manned heavier-than-air craft, kites, gliders, and lighter-than-air craft. The development of theories of flight, principles of aerodynamics, rocketry, and proposed military use of aeronautic vehicles are also stressed. Early literature, which depicts an aspect of flight, or fiction, poetry, and essays, which make even passing references to flight, are considered. All areas are collected comprehensively, given availability of funds. No languages are excluded.

**Weeding Criteria:** Once material is deemed appropriate for the collection, it will be retained except in case of duplicates. Duplicates will be used for exchange with other libraries or collections to enhance the Gimbel resources.

Last updated by Duane Reed, Archivist