

1909, Governors Island, New York

Front view of Wright airplane in hangar on Governors Island, with group of spectators viewing the machine. The flights from Governors Island were made in fulfillment of a contract made by Wilbur providing for a series of flights during the Hudson-Fulton celebration to be held in New York in September and October 1909. These flights were the first over American waters.

HAHFC 1241; LOOWGF 9; SMIN 43,056-B

Three-quarter left front view of Wright airplane on drill field.

HAHFC 1245

Left front view of Wright airplane in front of hangar, attached canoe visible on underside of airplane.

SMIN 42,805-C. Similar: Aeronautics, v. 5, Nov. 1909: 180

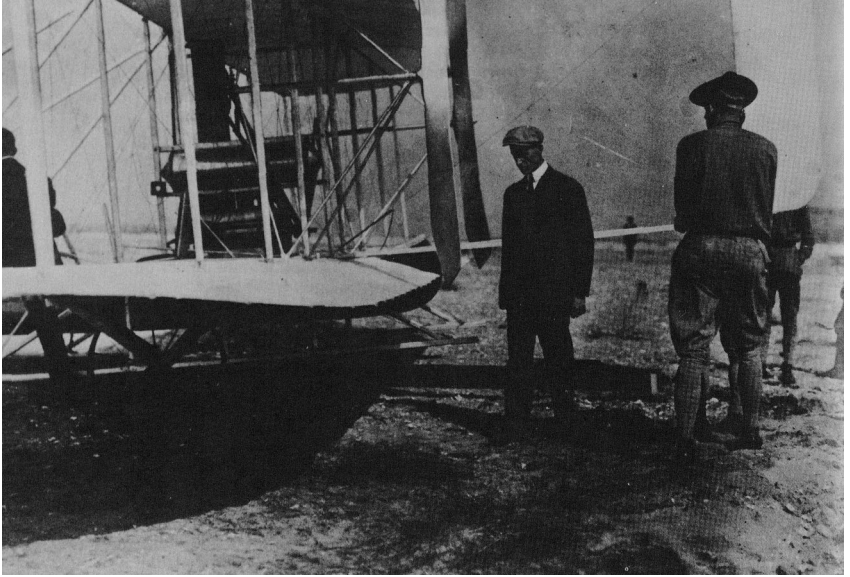
Three-quarter front view of Wright airplane in front of hangar, showing canoe attached to underside of airplane, spectators in background, September 29.

LC-BAIN

Close-up three-quarter front view of Wright airplane in front of hangar, showing canoe attached to underside of airplane, a number of spectators visible in background, September 29.

LC-BAIN

Wilbur looks at the Wright airplane with a canoe attached to its underside at Governors Island, New York, October 4, 1909. National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution, photo no. A2330.



Close-up view of center section of Wright airplane in hangar.
SMIN A2330-B. Similar: SMIN 42,805-E

Three photographs of Wilbur, wearing derby hat, gray-vested suit, white collar, and tie, talking with several groups of men, military and civilian.

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Side view of Wright airplane with canoe lashed to bottom, with Wilbur at side looking ahead toward starting rail.

CHBLWB facing 272; Harper's Weekly, v. 53; Oct. 16, 1909; 7 HMSHSA facing 186

Rear side view of Wright airplane with Wilbur looking at canoe attached to its underside.

HAHFC 1251; SMIN A2330

Front side view of Wright airplane showing attached canoe, and Wilbur facing camera.

Automobile Topics, v. 19, Oct. 9, 1909: 20

Three-quarter front view of Wright airplane with Wilbur in center facing camera. Officer at right is placing a wheel at one end of the lower wing in order to push the machine back to the hangar.

Am R Rs, v. 40, Nov. 1909: 557

Three-quarter front view of Wright airplane on drill field showing attached canoe on underside and American flag displayed near pilot's seat. Large crowd of spectators is assembled in front of the airplane and soldiers hearing rifles are standing guard in front and behind it.

SMIN 31,248

Close-up three-quarter front view of Wright airplane on drill field, Wilbur with cap, back to camera, examining the canoe attached to its underside, September 29.

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Three photographs showing Wright airplane being removed from hangar and pulled into starting position by military personnel at field.

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Photograph of ten soldiers pulling Wright airplane from hangar to drill field, canoe visible on underside of airplane.

HAHFC 1243; SMIN 42,804-A

Three-quarter front view of Wright airplane being examined by a number of cameramen and journalists.

SMIN A2330-A

Wilbur walking in front of Wright machine, attached canoe visible on underside of airplane, military personnel at rear.

SMIN 42,804-B

Wright airplane on launching track.

SMIN 43,008-M

Wilbur with towing dolly.

SMIN 43,055-G

Three-quarter front view of Wright airplane, attached canoe visible, Wilbur at front adjusting motor, Charles Taylor at rear adjusting propeller, preparatory to flight.

COCKDH following 168

Launching track and crowd of civilians and military personnel in foreground, Wright airplane at right of photograph.

SMIN 43,148-C

Side view of Wilbur starting his trip around Statue of Liberty, in low level flight over parade ground.

J Franklin In, v. 256, Dec. 1953: 495; LOOWGF 12

Wilbur in level flight above ship in the Hudson River.

New York Evening Mail, Sept. 29, 1909: 1

Wilbur flying over Hudson River as seen from Pennsylvania Railroad terminal building in Jersey City.

New York Tribune, Oct. 5, 1909

Photo taken from Jersey City showing Wilbur in flight against a background of New York City skyscrapers as he was returning to Governors Island.

Harper's Weekly, v. 53, Oct. 16, 1909:1

Right side view of Wright airplane in flight over Governors Island.

SMIN 43,147

Wilbur flying to right on a course from Governors Island drill field around the Statue of Liberty on Bedloe's Island and back, September 29.

LC-BAIN

Two long-range views from Governors Island of Wilbur in Wright airplane at low level flight, the first flight over American waters, September 29.

LC-Bain

Wilbur flying to the left around the Statue of Liberty.

Harper's Weekly, v. 53, Oct. 9, 1909; New York American, Sept. 30, 1909:1

Crowd watching Wilbur's flight around Statue of Liberty from Fort Castle William on Governors Island.

LC-BAIN

Crowd, many seated on grass, many reading newspapers as they wait, at Battery Park, New York, watching for Wilbur to come around Statue of Liberty in this first flight over American waters.

LC-BAIN

Crowd, standing behind chains at seawall, watching for Wilbur in his first flight over water around Statue of Liberty.

LC-BAIN

Wilbur in flight turning to right as airplane approaches landing on Governors Island.

New York Times, Oct. 10, 1909

Wilbur in Wright airplane returning to Governors Island at sunset, following flight around Statue of Liberty.

HAHFC 1249

Wilbur in level flight above drill field, moving to left on Governors Island, as he takes off on a flight of about 20 miles to Grant's Tomb and back, which lasted 33 minutes, 33 seconds, carrying a canoe on the underside of airplane as a safety precaution, October 4.

LC-BAIN; MCFWP 192; Am R Rs, v. 40, Oct. 1909: 521; Collier's, v. 80, Sept. 21, 1927: 18; HARFF 155; HAWBHP 87; SMIN 31,980-C. Similar, airplane tilted to right: LC-BAIN

Wilbur turning to right as he takes off from Governors Island on a flight to Grant's Tomb.

Aero, v. 1, Oct. 9, 1909:366; The Car, v. 30, Oct. 13, 1909: cover; HAHFC 1247

Route followed by Wilbur in his Hudson River flight to Grant's Tomb.

Aeronautics, v. 5, Nov. 1909: 180

Wilbur turning to left as he takes off from Governors Island on his approximately 20-mile flight to Grant's Tomb.

CHBLWB facing 272; Harper's Weekly, v. 53, Oct. 16, 1909: 7

Wilbur taking off from Governors Island on his flight to Grant's Tomb, five cameramen at left of picture taking photographs.

SMIN A1136

Rear view of Wilbur taking off on his flight to Grant's Tomb.

COCKDH following 168; SMIN A2330-C

Wilbur flying up the Hudson River en route to Grant's Tomb, New York City skyline visible below.

Graphic, v. 80, Oct. 16, 1909: 489; SMIN 6800-1d; YPHA 37

Wilbur flying over a cargo ship and a tugboat sending out a dense cloud of black smoke over the Hudson River, October 4.

Harper's Weekly, v. 53, Oct. 16, 1909: 7

Wilbur in flight up Hudson River to Grant's Tomb, passing over German warship *Corsair* anchored in the Hudson River.

New York Evening Telegram, Oct. 4, 1909: 1

Wilbur flying over British warship *Arsyll* opposite Grant's Tomb.

New York Globe, Oct. 4, 1909: 1

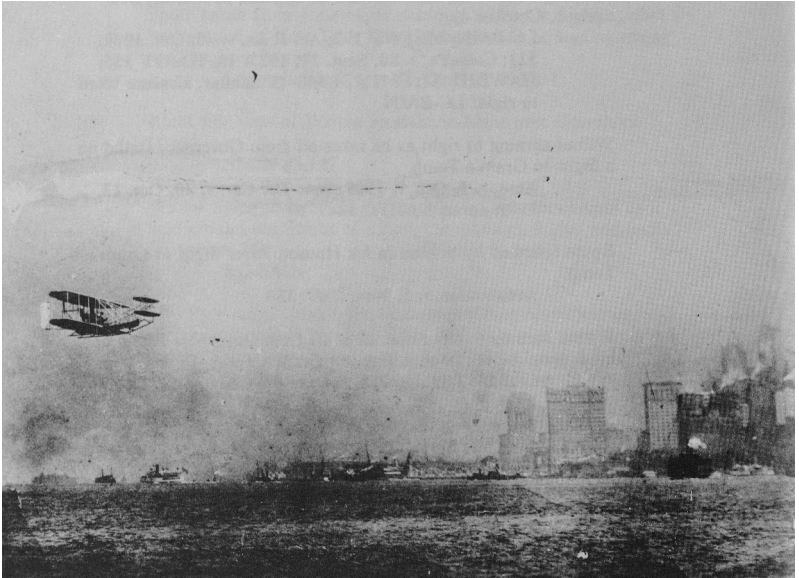
Wilbur returning to starting point on Governors Island on his return flight from Grant's Tomb.

New York Evening Telegram, Oct. 4, 1909: 1

Wilbur on return from trip to Grant's Tomb flies over British warships in Hudson River.

LC-BAIN. Similar, enlarged LC-BAIN

As Wilbur flew some twenty miles over the Hudson River to Grant's Tomb on October 4, 1909, New Yorkers had their first glimpse of an airplane in flight.



Wilbur photographed in flight from the top of Fort Castle William on Governors Island returning from Grant's Tomb.
New York World, Oct. 15, 1909: 1

Wilbur returning to Governors Island following trip to Grant's Tomb, the New York City skyline visible below at right.
New York World, Oct. 15, 1909: 1

Wilbur returning to Governors Island following trip to Grant's Tomb, the New York City skyline visible below at right.
Aero Club Am Bul, v. 1, July 1912: 21; Harper's Weekly, v. 53, Oct. 16, 1909: 1; NOZWBC facing 177; SMIN 43,148-B; WODKH facing 221; World's Work, v. 20, Aug. 1910: 13310

Wilbur approaching Governors Island following his trip to Grant's Tomb, the New York City skyline still visible on the right of the picture.
MCFWP 193; Am R Rs v. 40, Nov. 1909: 551; MILWA v. 2: 201; SMIN 31,980-G

Wilbur being congratulated on his successful flight to Grant's Tomb by Secretary William J. Hammer of the Aeronautic Committee of the Hudson-Fulton Celebration Committee.

New York Evening Sun, Oct. 5, 1909

Captain Dorcy, James M. Beck, Charles E. Taylor, Wilbur, and William J. Hammer gathered in front of the Wright airplane following Wilbur's flight up the Hudson River, October 4.

COCKDH following 168; U.S. Air Services, v. 17, Jan. 1932: 27