



ATLANTIC – AMERICA

AUGUST 2 — SEPT. 28, 1924

"AS WE DREW NEAR LAKE WASHINGTON...WE BROKE OUR V-FORMATION AND FLEW ABROAD OVER SAND POINT FIELD, SO THAT EACH PLANE SHOULD FINISH THE FLIGHT AT THE SAME TIME. BEAENEATH US WE SAW A WELCOME SIGN, ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY FEET LONG AND WITH LETTERS TWENTY FEET HIGH" - SMITH

LANDING AT SAND POINT

OFFICIALLY, THE WHEELS OF THE CHICAGO touched the field at 1:28pm on September 28th, 1924 at Sand Point Airfield. From Seattle to Seattle it had taken them 175 days, flying 26,345 miles in a total of 363 hours and 7 minutes.

"FIFTY THOUSAND CITIZENS OF SEATTLE GAVE US A MAGNIFICENT RECEPTION...COUPLES ARRANGED THEIR MARRIAGES TO COINCIDE WITH THE TERMINATION OF THE WORLD FLIGHT AND THERE WAS A FASHION FOR A TIME OF WEARING BEAUTY PATCHES CUT IN THE SILHOUETTE OF A DOUGLAS CRUISER. THEY WERE EVEN NAMING BABIES FOR US."

The following afternoon, Seattle friends took us out to Sand Point Field, where Lee Arnold's sister, Mrs. Francis L. Cole unveiled a monument commemorating the fact that Seattle had been the starting point and the end of the first World Flight. It was a granite shaft fifteen feet high with a globe at the top surmounted by a pair of bronze wings. On one side was a bronze plate bearing our names and the dates of our departure and return. We had certainly never expected to see our names on a monument until we were under it."

-SMITH

Below Image: Return to Sand Point Naval Air Station with crew of the Navy World Flight Monument (Courtesy NPS)

Below Image: World War I Veterans (Courtesy Sea-Plane.org and Space Museum)

Back Row (L-R):
Charles Lindbergh
Vernon Riffe
Earl Gannett
Harold "Doc" Campbell
Sigurd "Rube" Olsen
Arvid "Red" Smith

Round-World Flight—To End at Seattle

SO IT WAS THAT AMERICA claimed the honor of being the first to circumnavigate the globe by air, proving the skill of her engineers and courage of her aviators to the world. The success of the world flight was also largely owed to collaboration between the twenty-two countries on the flight path.

In accomplishing the post-WWI goals of the United States Army Air Force to foster public interest and trust in American aeronautics, we can say that the World Flight went above and beyond.

For Seattle, the historic flight helped to push Congress to develop a Naval Air Station at Sand Point and in 1929, Naval Station Puget Sound was created. It operated for many years as an education facility for naval aviators and several training aircraft from that era, suffering a similar fate as the Boston, lay submerged at the bottom of Lake Washington to this day.

Today, though its airfield runways were torn down in the 1970s, Magnuson Park's aviation history remains visible in its national designation as the Sand Point Naval Air Station Historic District and in its principal monument, standing sentinel at the entrance to the park.

**THIS EXHIBITION BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
FRIENDS OF MAGNUSON PARK • 4CULTURE • MERCY HOUSING**

For more than 12,000 years the Sand Point peninsula in northeast Seattle was a hunting grounds for the People of the Lake, now called the Duwamish tribe.

They hunted beaver, ducks, deer and bear and fished in the shallow 30 acre lake connected to Lake Washington that was the spawning ground for cutthroat trout and steelhead. Cedar and fir grew around the lake.

These farmers greatly changed the landscape, cutting trees down and planting crops. Sand Point was outside the city limit then but parts of it became both a county and a city park.

After WWI Bill Boeing and others advocated for an airport and Sand Point Airfield became Seattle's first airport in 1920. The Navy took over the airfield financed by county bonds and the public airport moved to Boeing Field in 1927.

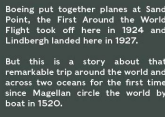




EXHIBIT OPENS OCTOBER 2020 AT WARREN G. MAGNUSON PARK

AMERICANS HOLD WORLD'S AIR LAURELS

AND SO, IN PLANES MADE OF WOOD, CLOTH AND WIRE, WITH NO RADIOS TO COMMUNICATE BETWEEN EACH OTHER OR THEIR GROUND SUPPORT, WITHOUT PARACHUTES OR LIFE VESTS, EIGHT BRAVE MEN EMBARKED FROM SEATTLE ON

THE FIRST WORLD FLIGHT

RELIVE THE ADVENTURE.

VIRTUAL SOFT OPEN SEPT 28, 6-7PM
 HTTPS://ZOOM.US/J/95225892008
 MORE INFO: FRIENDSOFMAGNUSONPARK.ORG

First World Flight Exhibition Catalog

ALSO INCLUDED:

- Advertising language and editable poster file
- Customizable panel and font/color package for your designer to create an exhibit panel specific to your site.
- 25 Instagram and/or Facebook-ready posts highlighting moments of The First World Flight to share on social media