

Roger Douglas Connor

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
National Air and Space Museum
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EDUCATION

George Mason University, Virginia
Ph.D. candidate in American History, expected completion 2017

George Mason University, Virginia
M.A. in American History, May 2010

The George Washington University, Washington, DC
M.A. in Museum Studies, History Core, May 2002

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia
B.S. in Business Management, May 1993

AWARDS AND HONORS

Associate Fellow, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, 2008

Smithsonian Institution Unsung Hero, 2002

National Air and Space Museum Peer Award, 2003

MAJOR EXHIBITS

Time and Navigation (Major permanent 5,000 sq. ft. exhibition, National Air and Space Museum flagship location, opened 2013): Co-curator: conception, development, scripting, artifact selection, interactive development, fund raising

Vertical Flight Exhibit Station (Udvar-Hazy Center, 2004): Script writing, photo research, artifact selection.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Museum Specialist (Curator), Aeronautics Division, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., September 2000 to Present

Curates Vertical Flight and Instrument Collections including maintenance of the collection through acquisition and deaccession. Assists in the conception, organization, and presentation of exhibitions. Conducts research and writing to support the Collection. Interacts with the public, other institutions and the media on matters regarding the historical development of rotorcraft and other aviation technology.

Pilot Examiner (U.K. CAA BX Authorization)/Assistant Chief Flight Instructor, Ormond Beach Aviation, Inc., December 1993 to February 1999

Supervised the flight training of approximately 1,000 students pursuing U.K. Private Pilots Licenses (PPL). Conducted approximately 250 PPL and IMC flight tests on behalf of the Civil Aviation Authority of the United Kingdom. Accumulated 2,500 flight hours of instruction given to both U.S. and U.K. syllabi.

BOOKS

In the Cockpit II: Inside History Making Aircraft of World War II (with Chris Moore), Harper Collins, 2010.

Virginia Aviation, Arcadia Press, 2014.

Time and Navigation: The Untold Story of Getting from Here to There (co-author), Smithsonian Books, 2015.

CONSULTATION

Chair, American Helicopter Society History Committee, 2008-2011 (Vice Chair, 2006-2008). Managed Committee projects to further historical research and interpretation into the field of rotorcraft and VTOL aircraft.

Technical Consultant and Script Editor

“Straight Up: Helicopters in Action,” SK Films, IMAX format feature-length production, March to September 2002. “Helicopter Missions,” Windfall Films/SI Networks, four hour-long productions, April 2008 to February 2009.

AERONAUTICAL RATINGS: Airplane (4,000+ Hours Total Time): Commercial Pilot, Single Engine Land and Sea; Multi Engine Land; Instrument; Flight Instructor, Airplane; Instrument; Multi Engine; Ground Instructor, Airplane and Instrument;
Helicopter (55 Hours Total Time): Solo and Solo Cross-Country endorsements.