AVIATION TAKES FLIGHT AT OHIO STATE

First Airport
Biplane takes off over Ohio State airfield in 1917, where Ohio Stadium now sits. Pilot Charles F. Kettering was the first Ohio State Board of Trustees member to travel to a board meeting by airplane.

1917: Pilot Charles F. Kettering lands at the first Ohio State landing field, west of Neil Avenue, making him the first Ohio State Board of Trustees member to travel to a board meeting by plane.

First board member arrives by airplane:
In 1917, Pilot Charles F. Kettering lands at the first Ohio State landing field, west of Neil Avenue, making him the first Ohio State Board of Trustees member to travel to a board meeting by plane.

School of Aeronautics opens:
First squadron: School of Aeronautics opens May 21, 1917, when the first squadron of 16 cadets reported.

Lt. MacReady lands on the Oval:
After WWI, aviation becomes dormant on campus until Engineer's Day, May 24, 1928. The world's altitude record holder, Lt. MacReady, lands his Waco biplane on the Oval. He's greeted by Engineering Dean E.A. Hitchcock.

1928

1939: Mary Lee Wilkerson in a biplane inside the aviation laboratory on campus.

University starts civil pilot training program.