

CURTISS JENNY

There was one particular airplane that filled the skies of North Texas and America at this time – the Curtiss JN-4 "Jenny." It was a wooden-framed, cloth-covered, biplane of American design from the Curtiss Aeroplane Company of Buffalo, New York. The Royal Flying Corps brought 254 of their Canadian-built version to Texas for winter training. Over 6,800 were built at factories around the US. Not intended for combat, the aircraft became the de facto training plane. After the war, they could be purchased as surplus for a few hundred dollars. They were used by pilots for many years to barnstorm, and a Jenny was probably the first airplane Americans ever





saw in the first half of the 20th Century. Only a few dozen exist today, and only small handful still fly.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Crew: two Length: 27 ft 4 in (8.33 m) Wingspan: 43 ft 7¾ in (13.3 m) Height: 9 ft 10½ in (3.01 m) Empty weight: 1,390 lb (630 kg) Max. takeoff weight: 1,920 lb (871 kg) $1 \times \text{Curtiss OX-5 V8 piston, 90 hp (67 kW)}$ Powerplant:

PERFORMANCE

Maximum speed: Cruise speed: Endurance: Service ceiling:

75 mph (65 knots, 121 km/h) 60 mph (52 knots, 97 km/h) 2 hours 6,500 ft (2,000 m)

TAKE AWAY: The Curtiss Jenny was a biplane made of wood and fabric. It was the predominant airplane of the era and was used for many years by military and civilian fliers.







