

LOCAL FLYING MAP

With the development of six major airfields in North Texas each with many new pilots, it was important that aviators knew where they were. Aviation charts were in their infancy, and there were none for Texas at the time. Pilots improvised by taking notes and making their own crude maps from nearby recognizable landmarks. Flying units began making their own until common maps were developed. These were eventually known as Local Flying Maps. Pictured here is modern version of one created for North Texas in 1918. It shows Taliadro Field north of Fort Worth, Carruthers Field southwest of Fort Worth, Barron Field south of Fort Worth, Love Field in Dallas and all the important landmarks and towns used as reference while flying.

TAKE AWAY: Maps are important to navigation. Aviation is no exception. At the beginning of the war there were no maps for airmen. These were hand-drawn and printed locally.

Images, Fort Worth Aviation Museum

