

Apollo 11

The Voyage in Covers

"We choose to go to the Moon! We choose to go to the Moon... We choose to go to the Moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard"

- John F. Kennedy, speech at Rice University, September 12, 1962

Purpose: The purpose of this exhibit is to tell the story of the flight of Apollo 11, from launch; to landing on the Moon; to the return to Earth and the immediate aftermath.

Scope: The scope of this exhibit is only that of the mission. It will not cover the events leading up to the mission. This is a narrative of the mission, as such the exhibit will not emphasize the technical aspects of the covers shown. It is using the covers to tell the story of the mission.

Historical Perspective: On May 25, 1961, President John F. Kennedy called for the United States to land a man on the Moon "before this decade is out." By 1969 everything was in place. Apollo 8 orbited the moon in December 1968. Apollo 9 and Apollo 10 had rehearsed every part of the mission except for the actual landing. On July 16, 1969, Neil Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin Jr., and Michael Collins banded the Apollo 11 spacecraft and launched for the Moon.



Facsimile of one of three Moon landing covers signed by the Apollo 11 Crew before the flight. The facsimile was produced by Fleetwood.