



I'm Fred Olds,
founder of this museum.
Search the museum and see if
you can answer my
questions!

FRED'S FINDS

ONE GIANT LEAP: FIND THESE SPACE
RELATED OBJECTS

The Ham Capsule

On January 31, 1961, a chimpanzee named Ham successfully completed a 16-minute, 39-second suborbital flight. This capsule—which included a custom-fitted, custom-molded seat, called a “couch”—was fitted for his safety and pressurized and temperature controlled separately from the Mercury spacecraft. The experiment tested whether human-control could be maintained during the entirety of a spacecraft’s launch, weightless flight, and reentry.



Q: What does HAM stand for?

A:

Beddingfield’s Lab Coat



This lab coat was worn by Samuel Beddingfield during the Mercury and Gemini eras. Beddingfield, a native of Clayton (Johnston County), joined NASA as an engineer in 1959, one of only 33 agency employees assigned to Cape Canaveral, Florida. He later worked with Atlas-rocket-powered Mercury spacecraft and on the Gemini and Apollo programs—one of few people to work on NASA’s first three manned programs.

Q: How many badges are on his lab coat?

A:

George Cox’s Orange Flight Suit

This orange flight suit was worn by copilot George Cox during the recovery mission for astronaut Alan B. Shepard Jr. and his Mercury capsule, *Freedom 7*.

Q: What animal is featured on the patch next to Cox’s orange flight suit?

A:



State Flags (2)

Can you find the **two** North Carolina flags located in the *One Giant Leap* exhibit?

1. One flag was small enough to fly to the moon along with the other 49 US state flags in the Apollo 11 spacecraft.
2. Another, larger flag has the wrong colors, but it is still a North Carolina flag! This state flag, carried aboard the *Challenger* by North Carolinian Michael J. Smith, was recovered from the ocean surface following the space shuttle's accident. The change in color is due to the explosion.

Q: What did the astronauts of Apollo 11 bring back from the moon in addition to the state flag?

A:

Friden Calculating Machine



In the early days of spaceflight, people—not devices that provided instant results—performed the calculations necessary for space travel. Women, including some from North Carolina, comprised the majority of these “calculators,” or “computers,” taking on work originally performed by engineers. They used large, spring-loaded mechanical calculating machines, like this Friden, to run calculations at their desks.

Q: A popular book (later made into a movie) introduced some of these women's accomplishments to the world. What was the name of that book and movie? Hint: The book title is mentioned in the object's description.

A:

BONUS: Fragments of the Wright Flyer



Located in *The Story of North Carolina*, these pieces of the original Wright Flyer were taken into space by North Carolina astronaut William E. Thornton aboard the space shuttle *Challenger* in April 1985.

Q: Where and when was the original Wright Flyer flown?

A: