A few good aerodynamic history refs from NASA, W.H. Mason, Sept. 15, 2014

John Becker, The High Speed Frontier, (NASA SP-445) (very candid discussion of NACA/NASA Aero Programs), he wrote one on hypersonics that wasn’t published by NASA but is in the Virginia Tech Special Collections.

Erik Conway, High Speed Dreams, Johns Hopkins Press, 2005. This is an authentic telling of the NASA HSR Program of the 1990s, the history previous to it, and its demise.

Background on NACA: The Wind and Beyond (several volumes. Hansen, Ed., this is a huge amount of good older material, NASA SP-2003-4409, SP-2007-4409) Note: Hansen’s writing has a NASA bias. This volume is curiously named after von Kármán’s autobiography, which is also a must read.

In addition, NASA has been generating reports on the Aeronautical History of the NACA and NASA. I have the electronic versions of all the ones I know about.

NASA SP-445, Becker, The High Speed Frontier
NASA SP-468 Loftin, Quest for Performance
NASA RP-1187 Ames Flight Test Powered Lift
NASA SP-4302 Ames Research History
NASA SP-1998-3300 NASA Ames FIt Research
NASA SP-2000-4522 Milt Thompson, Flight Research: Problems Encountered and What They Should Teach Us (with A Background Section by J.D. Hunley)
NASA SP-2000-4519 Joe Chambers Partners in Freedom
NASA SP-2003-4529 Joe Chambers Concept to Reality
NASA SP-2005-4539 Joe Chambers Innovation in Flight
NASA SP-2002-4526 Seth Anderson Memoirs
NASA SP-2003-4409-vol1_pt 1 The Ascent of the Airplane
NASA SP-2003-4409-vol1_pt 2 The Ascent of the Airplane
NASA SP-2003-4409-vol1_pt 3 The Ascent of the Airplane
NASA SP-2003-4409-vol1_pt 4 The Ascent of the Airplane
NASA SP-2007-4409-vol2-pt 1 Reinventing the Airplane
NASA SP-2007-4409-vol2-pt 2 Reinventing the Airplane
NASA SP-2007-4409-vol2-pt 3 Reinventing the Airplane
NASA SP-2009-574 ACEE Program: The Apollo of Aeronautics
NASA SP-2009-575 Joe Chambers, Modeling Flight
NASA SP-2010-570 Vol 1 Aeronautics Contributions
NASA SP-2010-570 Vol 2 Aeronautics Contributions
NASA SP-2014-614 Joe Chambers, Cave of the Winds

Not published by NASA, but also by Joe Chambers and son, Radical Wings & Wind Tunnels: Advanced Concepts Test at NASA Langley, Specialty Press, 2008
NASA’s current and highly commendable efforts at case studies can be found at

http://www.nasa.gov/connect/ebooks/index.html

This site should be checked frequently, as they appear to be continually adding new volumes.

Relevant to Configuration Aerodynamics in particular, look at the following: