

Collection #
P 0257

**DUNCAN P. SCHIEDT
COLLECTION, 1913–1990S**

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Processed by
Robert Smith, Shirley Yegerlehner, Dorothy A. Nicholson
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Revised by Wilma L. Moore
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Revised by Dorothy A. Nicholson July 2015

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 half size document case of photographs

COLLECTION DATES: 1913–1990s

PROVENANCE: Duncan P. Schiedt, Pittsboro, Indiana, ca. 1985, 2010

RESTRICTIONS: Negatives may be viewed only with the assistance of library staff.

COPYRIGHT:

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish the photographs must be obtained from Duncan P. Schiedt through the Coordinator of Visual Reference Services at the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Duncan Preston Schiedt Collection (M1178)
Twelve Lives in Jazz
General Collection Folio: ML3561.J3 S33 1996;
The Jazz State of Indiana
General Collection: ML3561.J3 S318 1999

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1985.0002; 2010.0303

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Photographer of jazz, Duncan Schiedt, wrote in the Preface to *Jazz State of Indiana* (1977 and 1999) “Indiana represented something special in jazz history.” Hoosier jazz, he felt, made a special contribution to the “Midwestern Style” widely adopted by college and professional jazz bands.

Born in 1921 to Jacob B. and Kitty (Preston) Schiedt in Atlantic City, New Jersey, he moved with his family to New York City where he attended George Washington High School. There he discovered ‘swing’ music and the joys and mysteries of taking pictures. In 1938 he bought his first decent camera, an Argus C. and took pictures with it in New York Times Square movie palaces, nightclubs, and big band shows.

Called to serve in WWII, he honed his skills as a cameraman in the Army Air Force where his experience and reliability earned him the privilege of recording atomic bomb tests in the western Pacific area, including Bikini atoll, south of Wake Island. Returning to civilian life he worked as a photographer in advertising married Betty Benjamin, and moved (1951) to Indianapolis, Indiana, where his parents had settled. In the Hoosier capital he became acquainted with local jazz performers and clubs, and in 1956 helped organize the Indianapolis Jazz Club.

The interests of jazz and photography merged and became more than a hobby. As a photographer of jazz musicians and venues, Schiedt visually recorded—always in black and white—performers in movie houses, night clubs and big-band shows, processing his films in his own darkroom so that any picture bearing his name was totally his own work. So successful was he that Marian McPartland, hostess of NPR’s “Piano Jazz,” later opined that the music Schiedt’s subjects played “echoes in our hearts and minds.”

Jazz State of Indiana, one of four books Schiedt authored, shows a remarkable amount of research in his topic, treating theatre bands, black bands, campus bands, all-girl bands, dancing centers, marathons, and much more.

While in retirement in Pittsboro, Indiana, Schiedt maintained a small business supplying photos of jazz personalities to publishers, museums, researchers, and authors. Following a brief illness he passed away on March 12, 2014. His family donated a portion of his collection to the Indiana Historical Society and a larger body of his work to the Smithsonian Institution.

Sources:

Clipping File: Indiana Authors [Sch-Scz], IHS Reference Room Collection.

Internet: www.bigbandlibrary.com/bigbandnewsAugust2007.html

Materials in collection

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains black-and-white photographs of mostly African-American jazz musicians and performers who played Indiana Avenue. Some of the images were taken by Schiedt and others are older images that were copied by him. The majority of images date from the 1920s through the 1940s.

The photographs are arranged by topic and are alphabetical within each folder by the name of the band or performer. Identifying information written on the verso of each photograph by Duncan Schiedt has been transcribed by the processor and is included with the names.

Permission to reproduce or publish the photographs must be obtained from Duncan P. Schiedt through the Coordinator of Visual Reference Services at the Indiana Historical Society.

Series 1: Photographs

Folder 1: Bands

Folder 2: Individual Musicians

Folder 3: Clubs and Music Companies

Folder 4: Posters and Broadsides

Folder 5: Unidentified

Series 2: Printed Materials

Folder 6: Exhibit brochure

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Photographs, 1913–1970s

CONTENTS

The Brown Buddies:

Indpls. Band of early 1930s, formed of Attucks pupils originally and named for the music teacher, Russell Brown.

Roger Jones, center trumpet

Bob Lamar, bass

James “Step” Wharton, piano

Duke Hampton Family Band, ca. 1930

Duke Hampton Orchestra:

Indpls., outgrowth of Hampton family band

Slide Hampton on trombone

Farley’s Garden Park Jazz Band:

Early Indiana band.

Farley on piano

Geo. Temple, trumpet, later with Indpls. Recorder
(2 photographs)

Frank Clay’s Military Band:

Frank Clay’s Military Band, ca. WW I era

Hoagy Carmichael Orchestra:

Columbia Club, Indpls., winter 1928–29.

Hoosier Melody Lads (Speed Webb’s first band):
seasons 1924–25.

Cliff Levi, tuba

Ernest McCormick, trombone

Lester Smith, banjo

Speed Webb, drums

Herman Berry, piano

Nelson Douglas, trumpet

Harvey Scott, alto sax

Geo. White, alto sax

CONTAINER

Photographs:

Box 1, Folder 1

Kioda Barber's Colored Five:
Indpls., early 1920s or just prior.
Kioda "Ki" Barber, piano
Frank Fowler Brown, drums
[see poster]

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

La Von Kemp and his orchestra

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Paris Family Band:
Crawfordsville, In.; played circuses, carnivals, etc,
with Roy Gray's Amusement Co., 1916.
Sidney Paris, trumpet
Wilbur Paris, trombone & baritone
Both were later in big time dance orchestras.

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Pickaninny Brass Band, led by Jack Powell, 1913

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Raymond (Syd) Valentine and His Patent Leather Kids.

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Riff Brothers:
Indpls., 1930s; later became "Ink Spots"
Left to Right
"Miff"
"Deek"
Orville "Hoppy" Jones
Slim Green

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Riverside Park Skating Rink Orchestra:
Indpls, early 1920s, contingent of Frank Clay's
Military Band.
Owen Granger, baritone
Ernest McCormick, trombone
John Gray, drums
Lawrence Jones, trumpet
Dud Board, bass
Walter Temple, trumpet

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Speed Webb and his Orchestra:
(also called S. Lawrence (Speed) Webb and his
Hollywood Blue Devils), Indpls., 1929
Teddy Wilson, piano
Vic Dickenson, trombone
Roy Eldridge, trumpet
(2 photographs)

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Wes Montgomery Trio:
Essex House, Indpls, 1959.
Sonny Johnson, Drums
Melvin Rhyne, organ
Wes Montgomery, guitar
Wes Montgomery, et al. at rehearsal. Includes:
Montgomery, David Baker, Melvin Rhyne, Larry
Ridley, and David Young

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Wisdom Brothers Band:
Cotton Club House Band, mid 1930s.

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Baker, David
David Baker with trombone
David Baker on trombone and Sonny Johnson on
drums

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Buck and Bubbles Vaudeville team:
music/dancing/singing
John Sublette (Bubbles) on right from Indpls.

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Carr, Leroy:
Indpls., top blues singer of early 1930s.
(2 photographs)

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Clay, Frank, ca. 1916
teacher, band leader and cornetist

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Coe, Jimmy
Oliver, Dave

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Crump, Jesse:
pianist, entertainer, played Indianapolis. Early 1920s,
photo taken in 1950.

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Doggett, Bill

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Dupree, Jack "Champion Jack"	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Dyer, Willis playing Hammond organ. (3 photographs)	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Gaither, Bill (Indpls) right Hill, Honey (left) Slim, Bumble Bee (center) Recording blues artists in 1930s	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Hampton, Locksley "Slide"	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Hampton Sisters: Aletra (on piano) and Virtue (on bass) at Indianapolis Museum of Art, ca. 1990s	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Holliman, Ben (right), member of Indpls. Bands. (2 photographs)	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Hubbard, Freddy	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Johnson, J. J.	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Johnson, J. J.	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Montgomery, "Monk"	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Montgomery, Wes Playing guitar (2 poses) Wes Montgomery with guitar and David Baker with trombone, standing with backs touching	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Morin, Wheeler, ("Doc " Wheeler): Muncie and Indpls, had New York recording band in 1930s, later a D.J.	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2

<p>Rachell, James “Yank”, Indianapolis Estes, John “Sleepy” Blues artists and recording team</p>	<p>Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2</p>
<p>Sissle, Noble, Indianapolis Horne, Lena</p>	<p>Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2</p>
<p>Sissle, Noble Smith, Russell Early 1920s.</p>	<p>Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2</p>
<p>Cotton Club, Indianapolis: N. E. corner Vermont and Senate Aves.</p>	<p>Photographs: Box 1, Folder 3</p>
<p>Starr Piano Co. Works Richmond, Indiana; during 1913 flood.</p>	<p>Photographs: Box 1, Folder 3</p>
<p>Starr Piano Co., interior scene, early 20th century, probably prior to W.W.I.</p>	<p>Photographs: Box 1, Folder 3</p>
<p>Starr Piano Co. workers and managerial staff at periodic employee’s “picnic” in plant, probably prior to W.W.I.</p>	<p>Photographs: Box 1, Folder 3</p>
<p>Starr Piano Co. table setting arrangements for one of the periodic in- plant “picnics” for employees, probably prior to W.W.I.</p>	<p>Photographs: Box 1, Folder 3</p>
<p>Starr Piano Co. representation of famous Gennett Record Label on company building, Richmond, Indiana, just before demolition, c. 1976–78.</p>	<p>Photographs: Box 1, Folder 3</p>
<p>Darrell Rupert Harris (pianist) and his Black Diamond Orchestra, Indiana: poster for South Bend area booking; Ted (Wingy) Carpenter, one-armed trumpet player, was the chief attraction, 1930.</p>	<p>Photographs: Box 1, Folder 4</p>
<p>Kioda Barber’s Colored Five, poster for performance in South Bend, Ind. 1921</p>	<p>Photographs: Box 1, Folder 4</p>

Speed Webb and his Hollywood Blue Devils:
poster used after the band was in California in mid-to-
late 1920s and had appeared in some silent films.

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 4

Speed Webb and his Orchestra:
flyer used ca. 1929–30

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 4

Walker Theater
Poster, Indiana Avenue, Indianapolis, 1930s.

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 4

Unknown band, ca. 1920s

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 5

Composite photograph:
Unknown female and five unknown male performers
(two photographs)

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 5

6 4x5 polyester copy negatives of photographs in the
collection

4x5 Polyester Negatives:
[1]–[6]

Series 2: Printed Materials, n.d.

CONTENTS

“Photography and All That Jazz: Duncan P. Schiedt”
[exhibit brochure] n.d.

CONTAINER

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 6

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:
<http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, P 0257).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.