

Collection #
P 0849

**PAUL B. SCHEIPS PHOTOGRAPHS,
CA. 1910S**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 OVB photograph folder

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1910s

PROVENANCE: Purchased from Bookworm & Silverfish of Wytheville, Virginia, 2003

RESTRICTIONS: None

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RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBERS: 2003.0391, 2003.0393

NOTES:

HISTORICAL / BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

In 1855 Henry Deibert established a grocery store in Peru, Miami County, Indiana. It was among the earliest enterprises in Peru's commercial history. Henry Deibert retired sometime in the 1870s and sold the business to one of his sons, Frank I. Deibert. Frank I. Deibert's Groceries and Provisions was located at 75 S. Broadway at Main Street. He had five assistants working in the store with him. Frank died in 1912, and sometime after that, the store was known as Scheips & Garske, owned and operated by Paul Bernard Scheips and Emil G. Garske. The corner store had two addresses: 75 S. Broadway and 562 W. Main Street.

In January 1917 Scheips & Garske bought the Glennon & Wendt grocery store, which was located at 12 S. Broadway in Peru. In 1921 Paul B. Scheips sued Emil Garske, but the outcome of that lawsuit is unknown. Sometime in the 1920s, Paul B. Scheips and his family moved to Evansville, Indiana, where two of his brothers, Carl and Ernst, were proprietors of Scheips Bros. shoe store.

Paul Bernard August Scheips was born in Hobart, Lake County, Indiana, on 8 April 1889. His father, Reverend Ernst Heinrich Scheips, immigrated from Germany in 1864 and was a Lutheran minister. His mother, Louise Maria Elizabeth Nolte Scheips, was from Ohio. It appears that Ernst and Louise may have had fifteen children, although not all lived to adulthood. The family moved to Peru by 1900.

Paul B. Scheips married Cleo Keim (1890–1975) in December 1913 in Peru. They had two children, Paul Joseph (1914–2002) and Betty Louise (Klusmeier) (1918–2008). Paul B. claimed exemption from military service during World War I due to being blind in his right eye and because he was needed to support his family. After they moved to Evansville, Paul B. and Cleo were proprietors of Scheips' Delicatessen in the 200 block of Southeast Fourth Street there. Later Paul B. operated the cafeteria at Hoosier Cardinal, a plastics manufacturing plant in Evansville. Paul B. Scheips died on 26 September 1952 in Evansville.

Paul Joseph Scheips was an historian who worked for the Defense Department in the Army's Center of Military History and previously with the Army Signal Corps Historical Division. He spent most of his adult life in the Washington DC, Virginia, and Maryland area. The photographs in this collection were purchased from a dealer in Virginia the year following Paul J.'s death, so it is likely that they had been in his possession.

Sources:

Ancestrylibrary.com (Accessed 26 January 2023):

- Find a Grave
- Indiana, U.S., Birth Certificates, 1907–1944
- Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899–2017
- Indiana, U.S., Marriages, 1810–2001
- United States Federal Census, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940, 1950
- U.S., City Directories, 1822–1995
- U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014
- U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918

“Deaths and Funerals: Paul B. Scheips.” *Evansville Courier and Press*, 27 September 1952, p. 16.

Five Rare Peru and Miami County, Indiana, Books. Reference Room Folio: F 534 .P47 F5 1979:

Graham, John A. *Pioneer History of Peru and Miami County*. Published in 1877.

Holman, Omer. “*Here We Live Over the Last Fifty Years*”: *Peru and Miami County, 1885–1935*.

Weaver, Clarence E., editor. *A Description of the City of Peru, Miami County, Indiana*.

“Named Special Judge: Glen Gifford to Sit in the Suit of Scheips against Garske.” *The Tipton Daily Tribune*, 12 December 1921, p. 1.

“Remember ‘Hold the Fort...?’” *Evansville Press*, 24 February 1972, p. 29.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of two mounted black-and-white photographs of grocery stores that were known to be owned or partly owned by Paul B. Scheips in Peru, Indiana. One shows seven men standing on the sidewalk outside a grocery store that appears to bear the name F.I. Deibert. Paul B. Scheips is second from right and is the only man identified. The other shows seven men and a boy standing in front of the Glennon and Wendt “Fancy Groceries” store. Both photographs have the name of Paul B. Scheips written on back. Research has found the Glennon and Wendt store to be located at 12 S. Broadway, but the photo of it has “Main Street” written on back.

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Mounted photo shows seven men standing on sidewalk outside grocery store that appears to bear the name F.I. Deibert. Paul B. Scheips is second from right and is the only man identified. The store window displays Monarch Coffee, Oriole Breakfast Flakes, Good Luck Coffee, cheese, canned goods, and other products. Easy Task Soap, Ivory Soap, and Mail Pouch chewing tobacco are also advertised on the front of the store. [ca. 1910s]

Mounted photo shows the Glennon and Wendt grocery store with seven men and a boy standing in front (one man is in the doorway). Watermelons and baskets of other produce are out front. Written on back: “Peru Indiana / Paul B.A. Scheips / Grocery / Main Street.” [ca. late 1910s]

CONTAINER

OVB Folder 1 of 1

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