

Collection #  
P 0794

**RATIO ARCHITECTS COLLECTION,  
1924-1998, N.D.**

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 photograph box; 5 architectural drawing folders; 1 mammoth flat file folder; 9 folders 4x5 black-and-white acetate negatives; 2 folders 35mm black-and-white negatives; 5 4x5 boxes glass negatives; 1 folder color slides; 1 half-size manuscript box

COLLECTION DATES: 1924–1998, n.d.

PROVENANCE: Gift from RATIO Architects, Inc., 2018

RESTRICTIONS: Slides and negatives must be requested in advance and may be viewed by appointment only and with the assistance of library staff.

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2018.0267

NOTES:

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

In 1980, young architects Cornelius M. Alig and Harold D. Garrison met while working at the firm of Browning, Day & Pollack. They struck up a friendship and along with another peer, Bill Browne, formed an architectural firm of their own in Indianapolis called HDG Architects (from Garrison's initials). In addition to the architectural process, the three founders shared an interest in real estate development projects, particularly in urban areas. HDG's successes accordingly led to the formation of a development counterpart business called Mansur Development.

In the early 1980s, the Lilly Endowment, corporate leaders, and city government were looking to revitalize downtown Indianapolis. The HDG/Mansur partnership provided some of that boost through development projects like Lockerbie Marketplace, which turned an ex-Sears, Roebuck & Co. building into a downtown grocery store, dry cleaner, bookstore, and drug store.

The firm was so successful that in 1988, the two businesses split into separate entities. Browne bought out his HDG partners and changed the firm's name to RATIO Architects. Meanwhile, Mansur created such landmarks as the Market Tower on the northeast corner of Market and Illinois Streets.

Sources:

"Mansur becomes Alig's tool for fulfilling dream" Indianapolis News, September 13, 1988, p. 25.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The collection is primarily made up of visual materials resulting from HDG and/or RATIO projects in the 1980s and 1990s. The chief exception is BV 5460, which is the complete Historic Preservation Tax Certification Application (Part II) for the Indiana Roof Ballroom renovation in 1986. It is mostly a text document but does include donated historic photographs of the venue as well as detailed condition photographs taken by the team of architects prior to renovation. It also includes reproductions of the original 1926 drawings and drawings of the proposed work.

Also included in the collection are 158 glass negatives of the Hamilton County Courthouse in Noblesville. The images are a result of the firm's photogrammetry work on the building, in which individual sections of the façade were photographed for measurement purposes. Compass directions indicating the side of the building shown are inscribed on the images. They have been arranged from the east façade, clockwise around the compass to northeast. The last group of images inscribed "ST" were taken from the top of the building looking north.

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Aerial views of Riverside Amusement Park site,  
ca. 1984

Color aerial views of Riverside Amusement Park site,  
ca. 1984

Sears, Roebuck & Co. (Lockerbie Marketplace),  
333 N. Alabama St., masonry cleaning and repair,  
before and after photos, 1985–1986

Lockefield Gardens, 1986, before renovation

Indianapolis Athenaeum brick and roof work, 1993

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran School,  
731 Weghorst St., 1995

Indianapolis Public School No. 9,  
407 Fulton St., 1995

Commercial façade,  
120 S. Delaware St., 1997

Commercial facades,  
100 block of S. Meridian St., 1998

Commercial façade,  
111 S. Meridian St., 1998

Commercial façade,  
117 S. Meridian St., 1998

Vajen Exchange Block,  
116 S. Meridian St., 1998

500 block of Indiana Ave., n.d.

Citizens Energy downtown steam plant, n.d.

### CONTAINER

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Box 1, Folder 2

Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 3

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Old Indianapolis City Hall, 202 N. Alabama St., n.d.	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 15
T.C. Steele State Historic Site [Nashville, Ind.], n.d.	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 16
Trinity Episcopal Church, 3243 N. Meridian St., n.d.	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 17
Trinity Episcopal Church / St. Richard's School, 3243 N. Meridian Street, n.d.	Slides, Folder 1 of 1
Indiana Roof Ballroom "historic photos"	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 18
Indiana Roof Ballroom "historic photos" negatives	4x5 Acetate Negatives, 9 folders
Indiana Roof Ballroom contact sheets	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 19
Indiana Roof Ballroom renovation historic preservation tax certification application [1 of 3]	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 20
Indiana Roof Ballroom renovation historic preservation tax certification application [2 of 3]	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 21
Indiana Roof Ballroom renovation historic preservation tax certification application [3 of 3]	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 22
Severin Hotel photograph; Trinity Episcopal Church print; n.d.	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 23
Hamilton County Courthouse photogrammetry, East 1–East 16 (2 ½ x 3 ½ glass negatives)	4x5 Glass Negative Storage, Box 1
Hamilton County Courthouse photogrammetry, East 17–South 7 (2 ½ x 3 ½ glass negatives)	4x5 Glass Negative Storage, Box 2
Hamilton County Courthouse photogrammetry, South 8–West 10 (2 ½ x 3 ½ glass negatives)	4x5 Glass Negative Storage, Box 3
Hamilton County Courthouse photogrammetry, West 11–North 1 (2 ½ x 3 ½ glass negatives)	4x5 Glass Negative Storage, Box 4
Hamilton County Courthouse photogrammetry, North 2–ST 4 (2 ½ x 3 ½ glass negatives)	4x5 Glass Negative Storage, Box 5

Indiana Roof Ballroom, 35mm black-and-white negatives	35mm Acetate Negatives, 2 Folders
Architectural Drawings: Garfield Park Foley Greenhouse, 1937; Woodruff Place Fountain Restoration, 1976; Sears Roebuck & Co., 1931–1948; Indiana State Museum (Old City Hall), n.d.	Arch Storage: 3:61-4j Folder 1
Architectural Drawings: Speedway High School Building, 1947; Speedway High School Addition, 1944; John E. Hollet Jr. Residence, 1935; Cannelton Cotton Mill (HABS drawing), 1973–1974	Arch Storage: 3:61-4j Folder 2
Architectural Drawings: Acme Evans, 1924, 1960, 1961, 1977, 1978, n.d.	Arch Storage: 3:61-4j Folder 3
Architectural Drawings: Acme Evans, 1960	Arch Storage: 3:61-4j Folder 4
Architectural Drawings: Nutz and Grosskopf Building, n.d.; Athenaeum, n.d.; Ben-Hur Building (Crawfordsville, IN), 1940; White River State Park Capital City Landing, 1996	Arch Storage: 3:61-4j Folder 5
Mammoth architectural drawing: Circle Center, Washington Street Elevation, 1993	Mammoth Flat File: FF: 19-f
Correspondence regarding renovation of L.S. Ayres building, 1 W. Washington St., 1984	Manuscripts, Box 1, Folder 1
Xeroxed photographs of Sears, Roebuck & Co. (Lockerbie Marketplace), 333 N. Alabama St., 1984–1986	Manuscripts, Box 1, Folder 2
Inkjet-printed color photographs of YWCA building, 725 N. Pennsylvania St., 1996 (includes 1996 prints of 1924–1925 and 1964 images)	Manuscripts, Box 1, Folder 3
Inkjet-printed color photographs of 500 block, Indiana Avenue, n.d.	Manuscripts, Box 1, Folder 4
Inkjet-printed color photographs of roof work on Athenaeum, n.d., and photocopies of 1898 pamphlet on Athenaeum (das Deutsche Haus).	Manuscripts, Box 1, Folder 5