Collection #
P0494

W. REISINGER DECORATING CO. PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM, CA. 1903–1920

Collection Information

Biographical/Historical Sketch

Scope and Content Note

Contents

Cataloging Information

Processed by

Kelly Gascoine and Dorothy Nicholson
17 July 2008

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

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	Visual Materials: 1 folder of photographs
COLLECTION DATES:	Ca. 1903–1920
PROVENANCE:	John J. Small, 937 North Bolton Avenue, Indianapolis, IN, 46219. 24 September 1999.

RESTRICTIONS:	None
COPYRIGHT:	
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.
ALTERNATE FORMATS:	
RELATED HOLDINGS:	
ACCESSION NUMBER:	1999.0680
NOTES:	

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL SKETCH

This photo album was collected by Jay Small (30 October 1917-27 January 2000). He was an Indianapolis antiques dealer. His personal interests included collecting images and books related to Indiana history.

In the early twentieth century, the W. Reisinger Decorating Company decorated store fronts, buildings, businesses, and private homes in and around Indianapolis with flags and patriotic bunting. Wesley Reisinger started the company in 1903 in Indianapolis. The business was first located on South Alabama Street, relocated to Pembroke Arcade off East Washington Street in 1913, moved to East Washington Street in 1920, and settled on North Randolph Street in 1924. At some point they were also located at 228 E. Ohio Street as identified in two photographs in this collection. The business ended when Wesley Reisinger died in 1929 or 1930.

Sources:

P0391. Jay Small Postcard Collection

Polk's Indianapolis (Marion County, Ind.) City Directory. Taylor, Mich.: R.L. Polk & Co. Various years, 1900–1931.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The photographs in this collection date to the first two decades of the twentieth century and were taken in Indianapolis, Lebanon, and Crawfordsville. They include several images of the 1913 Indianapolis Auto Show, floats and carriages decorated for the floral parade in Indianapolis as well as various buildings and other events, all of which were decorated by the W. Reisinger Decorating Company. The collection also includes three newspaper articles about Reisinger and the Indianapolis auto shows from the years 1912 and 1984.

The photographs were removed from the album and are stored in one folder. The original order of images was maintained and the photographs are in good condition.

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Overland Automobile Company Car Display at the Speedway, n.d. (2 photos)	Photographs: Folder 1
Indianapolis Automobile Show at the Coliseum, March 1913, Photographs by the H.H. Coburn Company (4 photos)	Photographs: Folder 1
Political rally in the State House, n.d. (1 photo)	Photographs: Folder 1
Event on Monument Circle in front of the English Theatre and Hotel, n.d. (1 photo)	Photographs: Folder 1
L. Strauss & Co. exterior, n.d.	Photographs: Folder 1
Fairgrounds Coliseum interior, n.d. (1 photo)	Photographs: Folder 1
Germania Hall, n.d. (1 photo)	Photographs: Folder 1
Unidentified auditorium, n.d. (1 photo)	Photographs: Folder 1
Carriages and floats decorated for the Floral Parade on the Circle, n.d. (5 photos)	Photographs: Folder 1
Art Hall, possibly located inside the Pembroke Arcade, n.d. (1 photo)	Photographs: Folder 1
Group of costumed men on horseback in front of Das Deutsche Haus, n.d. (1 photo)	Photographs: Folder 1
W. Reisinger Decorating Co. at 228 E. Ohio Street, Mais Motor Truck parked in front of the building with a Reisinger sign, n.d. (2 photos)	Photographs: Folder 1
Lebanon, Indiana Courthouse dedication: Lebanon Courthouse Cason-Neal building First National Bank building Farmers State Bank Knights of Pythias Castle Hall, Reisinger sign is on display with the 23 S. Alabama Street address, n.d. (5 photos)	Photographs: Folder 1
Crawfordsville, Indiana: Crawfordsville Courthouse unidentified hotel, n.d. (2 photos)	Photographs: Folder 1
2 newspaper articles about the Reisinger Company and the Indianapolis Auto shows, 1912, 1984	Photographs: Folder 1

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, P0494).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.