

Collection #
M 1324
CT 2410-2503

**INDIANAPOLIS ARSENAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL
ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEWS, 1974-1991**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 5 manuscript boxes: 2 document cases and 3 cassette tape boxes containing 94 cassette tapes, 1 folder color photographs

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1974-1991

PROVENANCE: Marjorie Snodgrass, 4245 Springwood Ct., Indianapolis, IN 46228

RESTRICTIONS: None

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RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999.0501

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

In 1863, Captain of Ordinance, Thomas J. Treadwell was appointed in command of the not-yet-built military installation in Indianapolis, Indiana. He was responsible for drawing up some of the first plans for the layout of the installation, but left the post just a year later.

The land was not officially a Civil War arsenal until 1865, and the arsenal building and barracks were not completed until 1867. By 1893, nine other buildings would be added to the campus for the purpose of storing heavy artillery, arms, and munitions. During the Spanish-American War in 1898, the arsenal was raised to 1st class. At this time infantry, cavalry, and horse equipment and artillery harnesses were made in shops on the grounds.

By the time the arsenal closed in 1902, it had seen 15 different commanders in charge and had a total of 50 soldiers stationed there.

The land and buildings were bought by Mr. M.B. Wilson, the trustee of Winona Lake Technical and Agricultural College. The college took over in 1903 and lasted there for 6 years. A few years later the Indianapolis Public School System took over the property to build the third high school in Indianapolis. In 1912, Principal Milo H. Stuart opened IPS's Arsenal Technical High School.

Arsenal Tech currently has three distinct academies: the New Technology High School, the Math-Science academy, and the Campus academy. Many of the original buildings still stand, including the barracks built in 1867. A shop building and Stuart Hall were added to the campus in the 1920s and 1930s. There are currently 17 buildings on the 76 acres of land that make up the campus, making it both the oldest military installation in Central Indiana and the oldest high school.

Sources:

Arsenal Technical High School, *History of Arsenal Tech*, www.myips.org/Page/37229

NPS, *Arsenal Technical High School*, www.nps.gov/nr/travel/indianapolis/arsenaltech.htm

Sengenberger, Ella. "Looking Back to Arsenal Days."

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains audio taped interviews of Arsenal Technical High School graduates from 1915 to 1964. There are 68 interviews (conducted between 1989-1991) each of which includes transcripts, cassette tapes, and permission of use documents. Some of the interviews also have photographs. Also included in the collection is an audio taped walking tour of the campus by Jack Carlock (n.d.) and an audio taped faculty discussion in Mr. Reed's office (1974).

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