

Collection #
SC 3418

**INDIANAPOLIS BICYCLE LICENSE
DOCUMENT, 1898**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 1 folder

COLLECTION
DATES: 17 March 1898

PROVENANCE: Herbert Heller, Greencastle, Indiana, September, 1988.

RESTRICTIONS: None

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NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Bicycles first appeared in Indianapolis in 1869, but did not become a popular means of transportation until the 1880s with the creation of the two-wheeled safety bicycle with pneumatic tires. Harry Hearsey began selling these safety bicycles in Indianapolis in 1889. Their popularity became so great that it caused traffic congestion on the city's streets. In 1893 the Indianapolis City Council attempted to reduce the congestion by adopting a licensing ordinance. All bicycles required a license which cost \$1.00.

Sources:

Encyclopedia of Indianapolis. Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1994, p. 320.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This license was issued to Miss B. C. Coffin of Indianapolis on 17 March 1898. No biographical information was available on Miss Coffin.

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CONTAINER

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