

Collection #
P 0604

**PERU SENTINEL PRINTING INC.
PHOTOGRAPHS, 1909–1983**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 6 photograph folders

COLLECTION
DATES: 1909–1983

PROVENANCE: Al Jeffrey, Denver, Indiana, n.d

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE
FORMATS:

RELATED
HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION
NUMBER: 1998.1139X

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

John A. Graham began the Peru Sentinel after the Peru *Herald* ceased publication. The *Herald*, Peru's first Democratic party organ, had stopped printing newspapers in May, 1848, after its owner, John H. Scott, became too riddled with debt to continue. Graham met Scott on the sidewalk one day and casually asked him if he would be willing to sell his printing press. Scott accepted the offer and the *Sentinel's* first edition hit the streets of the city on 28 June 1848.

Graham tried to print a daily edition of the newspaper, but quickly found that the city could not support it. He remained at the newspaper until August 1861, when he retired to pursue other interests.

The paper remained on hiatus until Judge Wilson B. Loughridge, a friend of Graham, bought the press. Loughridge remained a partner in the paper until 1867. The paper changed hands many times in the 1870's before Louis B. Fulwiler and Richard Cole bought it in 1879.

Fulwiler and Cole brought back stability to the journal, keeping ownership for a decade, before selling to C. N. Kenton. Kenton owned the paper for less than a year and sold it to F. A. Haimbaugh in November 1889. Around 1897 Haimbaugh sold the Sentinel to William H. Zimmerman and Frank McElheny.

Zimmerman and McElheny created the Sentinel Printing Company and retained control of the paper and job printing firm for seventeen years before Claude and Roy Kiser acquired an interest in the business in 1915. Zimmerman died in an automobile accident in 1913, and McElheny continued as the publisher of the Sentinel alone for two years. McElheny, sold his interest in the journal to William R. Lehman. Lehman did not continue as a partner for long, selling to the Kisers in 1921.

In June 1924, after seventy-five years in the newspaper business, the Sentinel's name and subscription list was sold to the owners of the Peru Tribune. The Kisers continued to run the job printing portion of the company. Claude Kiser remained as a proprietor of the printing business until he sold his interests to Bill Manmiller, a partner of Kiser since 1936. Manmiller sold out to Alfred C. Jeffrey in 1979.

Sources:

Indiana Historical Society Records. <<http://www.indianahistory.org/our-services/books-publications/hbr/peru-sentinel-printing.pdf>>. Accessed 6 September 2017.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains fifteen photographs and two prints.

The majority of the photographs are of the Peru Sentinel Printing Inc. building (inside and out) between 1909 and 1936, with a few containing persons of interest. Persons include F.A. Haimbaugh, T.J. Finch, Claude Kiser and Roy Kiser.

Several of the photographs are from 1980, showing several people who were most likely employees. Persons include James Smidth, Dale Hight, Elsie Hull, Parvin Brauniller, Ruby Johnson and Nadine Eckelbarger.

There are two photographs of Miss Miami County pageant competitors, including the 1983 winner Terri Laycock.

There is one group photograph of the Craftsman Club of Indianapolis. No date is indicated. However, on the back is written that Bill Manmiller was owner of Peru Sentinel Printing Inc. from 1936–1979. It may be inferred that the photo was taken between those dates. As well, period dress of those in the photo indicates it was taken in the late 1960's or early to mid 1970's.

One print is of Emmett Kelly, a.k.a. Weary Willie the sad clown, holding a cabbage. On the back is part of an advertisement for the Burger Chef restaurant of Peru, Indiana; the other is a depiction of the "white" Miami Indian woman Frances Slocum enticing travelers to visit Miami County, Indiana.

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