THOMAS L. PLIMPTON SLIDE COLLECTION, 1980–2002

Collection Information

Historical Sketches

Scope and Content Note

Series Contents

Processed by

Dorothy A. Nicholson January 2017

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

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF 2 slide albums in cold storage COLLECTION:

COLLECTION 1980–2002 DATES:

PROVENANCE: Thomas L. Plimpton, Lawrence, Indiana, 2003

RESTRICTIONS: Slides are in cold storage and must be requested a day ahead. For viewing slides researchers must be assisted by library staff.

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RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION 2003.0017 NUMBER:

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCHES

Indiana State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument: During Mayor William Hudnut's administration, several buildings and areas in the Indianapolis downtown were beautified, including Monument Circle. Dedicated in 1902, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument was in need of restoration. The exterior work on the monument began in 1986 and was completed in time for the opening of the Pan American Games hosted by the city in 1987.

Bank One: Originally known as the S. A. Fletcher & Company, it was founded by Stoughton A. Fletcher in 1839. Over the years, it grew and merged with other banking firms until 1954 when it became the second largest bank in Indiana as American Fletcher National Bank (AFNB). Growth continued under the leadership of Frank E. McKinney, Jr. president and chairman of the board of the American Fletcher Corporation (AFC). The merger of American Fletcher Corporation into the Banc One Corporation was announced on May 11, 1986 with McKinney as chairman and later chief executive officer of Banc One, Indiana. Known as Bank One, Indianapolis, in 1992 it was the largest bank in the state.

The Bank One Tower opened in 1990 as the tallest building in Indianapolis. Planning began in 1969, buildings on the site were purchased and demolished, and ground-breaking began on June 19, 1987. The topping out ceremony occurred on December 9, 1988, and the first move-in was on December 8, 1989. Built on a full city block between Meridian and Pennsylvania streets, it is bounded on the north by Ohio Street. The building later became the Chase Tower and as of 2017 is named the Salesforce Tower.

First Indiana Bank: Established in 1934 as First Federal Savings and Loan of Indianapolis the institution has undergone many changes. In 1989 at the time the new building was constructed at 135 North Pennsylvania Street the bank changed its name to First Indiana Bank. It has continued to change and merge with other institutions. As of 2017 the building is named the BMO Bank Building.

Sources:

Greiff, Glory-June "Bank One Building" *Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*. Indiana University Press: Bloomington & Indianapolis, 1994.

Plimpton, Thomas L. "Bank One, Indianapolis" *Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, Indiana University Press: Bloomington & Indianapolis, 1994.

Rollins, Suzanne T. "Bank One Tower" *Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, Indiana University Press: Bloomington & Indianapolis, 1994.

www.chasetowerindy.com/

www.ffiec.gov/nicpubweb/nicweb/InstitutionHistory

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains 35 mm color slides taken by the donor, Thomas L. Plimpton. The slides date from 1980 to 2002 and show the renovation of the Indiana State Soldier's and Sailor's Monument on the Circle, and construction of the Bank One Tower and First Indiana Bank in downtown Indianapolis.

There are also images of advertising signs and structures in Indianapolis and the surrounding area, with a few images taken in Bloomington, Indiana. Plimpton's focus in these images was on the signs but he also shows many buildings that have been torn down or restored. Two examples of buildings before restoration are the W.H. Bass Photo Company and the Slippery Noodle Inn; both buildings have undergone improvements.

The slides came grouped by subject in slide trays. The processor arranged the slides in chronological order into the following series.

Series 1: Indiana State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Restoration, 1986–1987. The slides were not numbered, the processor numbered them to maintain order.

Series 2: Bank One Tower and First Indiana Bank, 1980–1989; shows site demolition of existing buildings and construction for Bank One and First Indiana Bank towers. The main focus of this series is the Bank One Tower construction. The First Indiana Bank tower was also under construction at the same time and Plimpton took some images of that building's progress also. The un-numbered slides were numbered by the processor to maintain order.

Series 3: Advertising Signs and Structures, 1983–1991; arranged in chronological order following the donor's numbered slide list with descriptions.

Series 4: Advertising Signs and Structures, 1992–2002; arranged in chronological order following the donor's numbered slide list with descriptions.

Series 3 and 4 are accompanied by two handwritten numbered lists created by Plimpton. His numbering system has been maintained in these two series. The lists are stored at the front of Album 2

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Indiana State Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument Restoration, June 1986–July 1987

CONTENTS CONTAINER

June 30, 1986–July 17, 1987 35mm Color Slides

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Belzer Middle School group painting sign on 35mm Color Slides

construction barricade around monument, October Album 1

1986; view of finished sign, February 1987 Slides 42a–42d

Mt. Vernon Elementary School group painting sign on 35mm Color Slides

construction barricade around monument, October Album 1

1986; view of finished sign, February 1987 Slides 42e–42h

Series 2: Bank One and First Indiana Bank Construction, 1980-1989

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Slides 43, 44

Demolition begins on east end of Ohio and 35mm Color Slides

Pennsylvania streets: February 1980 Album 1

Slides 45–57

Demolition continues: March 1980 35mm Color Slides

Album 1 Slides 58–71

Demolition continues: April 1980 35mm Color Slides

Album 1 Slides 72–76

Demolition continues: May 1980 35mm Color Slides

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Album 1

Album 1

Slides 92–108

Site clean-up and tree and grass planting: 35mm Color Slides

July–November 1980

Slides 109–121

Chamber of Commerce Building: May 1981 35mm Color Slides

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View of trees and grass on east end of block: 35mm Color Slides

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Demolition ends: April 1982 35mm Color Slides

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Planting grass and trees on site: May 1982 35mm Color Slides

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Pony rides and zoo animals on site: October 1982 35mm Color Slides

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Airplane display on site: July 1983 35mm Color Slides

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Construction trailers on site: August 1983 35mm Color Slides

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Drill on site: July 1986 35mm Color Slides

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Demolition of parking garage for First Indiana Plaza

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Album 1 Slide 152

First Indiana Bank, digging foundation: 35mm Color Slides

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First Indiana Bank, foundation work and crane: 35mm Color Slides

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Slides 155–158

First Indiana Bank construction, 35mm Color Slides

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Slides 159–161

Bank One site, construction begins: January 1987 35mm Color Slides

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First Indiana Bank construction: 35mm Color Slides

January–February 1987 Album 1

Slides 164–167

First Indiana Bank construction: March 1987 35mm Color Slides

Album 1

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Bank One and First Indiana Bank construction: 35mm Color Slides

April 1987 Album 1

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First Indiana Bank construction: May–June 1987 35mm Color Slides

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Bank One ground breaking ceremonies, Mayor Hudnut

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35mm Color Slides

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Cameraman suspended from crane: July 1987 35mm Color Slides

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First Indiana Bank, topping out: July–September 1987

35mm Color Slides

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Album 1

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Bank One, construction site, foundation begins in

shadow of First Indiana Bank:

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Bank One ground work: January 1988 35mm Color Slides

Album 1

Slides 207-210

Bank One, excavation and cranes: February 1988 35mm Color Slides

Album 1

Slides 211-214

Bank One, steel going up: March–April 1988 35mm Color Slides

Album 1

Slides 215-222

Bank One, steel going up: May 1988 35mm Color Slides

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Slides 223–230

Bank One, steel going up: June 1988 35mm Color Slides

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Slides 231–233

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Bank One, steel workers: November 1988 35mm Color Slides

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Slides 238–246

Bank One view of War Memorial from the top,

35mm Color Slides

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Slides 247, 248

Bank One topping out, girder with signatures,

35mm Color Slides

Governor Orr, Lt. Governor Mutz at ceremonies, Album 1

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Bank One exterior views as windows are installed: 35mm Color Slides

January–September 1989

Slides 255–259

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Bank One exterior view at night, Christmas tree in 35mm Color Slides

lobby, Bank One Center plaque: December 8, 1989 Album 1

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Series 3: Advertising Signs and Structures, 1983-1991

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