

Collection #
P 0810

**AMERICAN STANDARD OLD TIMERS' DAY PHOTOGRAPHS
1971–1978**

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Processed by

Barbara Quigley
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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 COLLECTION: 1 folder of photographs

COLLECTION DATES: 1971–1978

PROVENANCE: Gift from Carol L. Mason, 1993

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1993.0746

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The U.S. Plumbing Products division of American Standard, Inc., manufactures toilets, sinks, and bathtubs. In Kokomo, Indiana, the company had its origins as the Great Western Pottery Company, which was founded in 1893 at 2025 N. Wabash Street. The gas boom had attracted many industries to Howard County with offers of free natural gas. Godlove Conradt, his son, Albert Valentine Conradt, and William G. Coxon purchased thirteen acres of woodland property on the north side of Kokomo and began clearing the land in 1891. Two years later they opened the Great Western Pottery plant and started production with about fifty employees.

At first the plant manufactured only water closets. In 1899 Great Western purchased the Brewer Pottery Company of Tiffin, Ohio. Subsequently, the company produced different types of water closets and became the first in the country to manufacture lavatories from vitreous china.

In the 1910s, Great Western was purchased by the Standard Sanitary Manufacturing Company of Pittsburgh. In 1929 Standard Sanitary merged with the American Radiator Company to form the corporation known as American Standard, Inc.

It appears from this collection that the American Standard plant in Kokomo held annual reunions of former employees, known as Old Timers' Day.

Sources:

Howard County Historical Society. Description of aerial view of American Standard Sanitary Corp. plant <https://howardcounty.pastperfectonline.com/photo/FAE56B16-B10E-4FC0-B88E-111239469863> Accessed 14 October 2020.

Trott, Craig. "Thrones & Basins," *Kokomo Perspective*, 10 March 2018
http://kokomoperspective.com/kp/lifestyles/thrones-basins/article_d65d622c-217d-11e8-88ef-8b038c08f089.html Accessed 14 October 2020.

Van Kley, Bonnie. "Revived pottery has long history in county." In *Footprints*, vol. 4, issue 3, pp. 8–10, published by the Howard County Historical Society, August 2015
https://howardcountymuseum.org/files_uploaded/August_newsletter12015_DBedit.pdf
Accessed 14 October 2020.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of eight black-and-white group portraits of former employees of the American Standard plant in Kokomo, Indiana, who gathered annually for Old Timers' Day. This collection includes the group portrait for every year from 1971–1978. Names are listed on the backs of three photographs – those from 1975, 1976, and 1978. All photos show the group posed outside of a brick building, except the one taken in 1976, which was taken indoors.

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Old Timers' Day gathering – 1971

Old Timers' Day gathering – 1972 [stamped on back:
Sep 20 1972]

Old Timers' Day gathering – 1973 [stamped on back:
Oct 3 1973]

Old Timers' Day gathering – 1974

Old Timers' Day gathering – August 14, 1975 –
names listed on back: Row #1 – Harlow Hecht, John
Renner, Roger Johnston, Virgil Languell, Albert
Clark, Albert Tedlock, Owen Mason, Howard Snow,
Harold Crumley, Frank Hunt, Ralph Pierce, William
Wikel. Row #2 – Lee Fowler, John Ault, Howard
McClory, Joseph Evans. Row #3 – Perry Haworth,
Virgil Pickett, Orlie Nicholson. Row #4 – Louis
Johnson, Frank Freeman (Benjamin), Victor Clausen,
Walter Salsberry [Walter Salsbery]. Row #5 – Herb
Ulsh, John Jester, Fred Armstrong, Henry Walker,
Lewis Luttrell, Herb Davis. Row #6 – Harrell Frost,
Wilbur Pickett, Vorrheis Bowen [Voorheis Bowen],
Ellis Reeves, Herman Stephens.

Old Timers' Day gathering – August 25, 1976 –
names listed on back: Roger Johnston, Harrell Frost,
Frank Freeman, Perry Haworth, Herbert Davis, Virgil
Pickett, George Luttrell, Orlie Nicholson, Henry
Walker, Herbert Ulsh, John Ault, Howard Snow,
Charles Mitchell, Victor Clausen, Floyd McGuire,
Robert Yockey, Fred Armstrong, Donald Rice, John
Renner, Owen Mason, Howard McClory, Harlow
Hecht, Joe Evans, Virgil Languell, Lee Fowler, Harold
Crumley, Paul Whitesides, William Wikel, Albert
Glover, Homer Moody, Wilbur Pickett, Wayne
Pearson, Ellis Reeves, Frank Hunt, Vince Buchert.

Old Timers' Day gathering – 1977

CONTAINER

Photographs, Folder 1 of 1

Photographs, Folder 1 of 1

Photographs, Folder 1 of 1

Photographs, Folder 1 of 1

Photographs, Folder 1 of 1

Photographs, Folder 1 of 1

Photographs, Folder 1 of 1

Old Timers' Day gathering – 1978 – listed on back:
Charles Conwell, L. George Luttrell, Wilbur Pickett,
Benjamin Freeman, Arthur Chism, Arthur Kenworthy,
Orlie Nicholson, Charles Frazier, Victor Clausen,
Herbert Ulsh, John Ault, Howard Snow, Edward
Iseminger, Oliver Flick, Warren Southard, John
Renner, Ralph Pierce, Herbert Davis, Jesse Custer,
Hoot Huston, Virgil Pickett, Don Rice, Albert
Tedlock, Fred Armstrong, Raymond Bougher, Forrest
Nutt, Perry Haworth, Frank Hunt, Raymond
Laughner, Wayne Pearson, Floyd McGuire, Joe
Evans, Harrell Frost, Albert Glover, Albert Pillion,
Howard McClory, Owen Mason, Charles Reel, Paul
Whiteside, Harold Crumley, Albert Clark, Martin
Baker, Bill Wikel. Staff members attending: Taylor
Gainer, plant manager; Scott Bergquist,
superintendent; Steven Thurn, industrial relations
manager; Gregg Skulicz, controller; Joe Wisler,
production control; Tom Rose, general foreman
fabricating.

Photographs, Folder 1 of 1