ANDERSON FAMILY
COLLECTION, CA. 1885–CA. 1950

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Cataloging Information

Processed by
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:
2 boxes of photographs, 3 folders of OVA photographs, 4 folders of manuscript material

COLLECTION DATES:
Ca. 1885–ca. 1950
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Oscar J. Anderson was born ca. 1892, possibly in Delaware or Blackford County, Indiana. His grandfather is believed to have been Orlando Anderson, a druggist in Hartford City, Indiana, ca. 1900. Oscar Anderson graduated from Common School, Fowler Township, in Benton, Indiana, in 1904.

He worked for M. L. Harrington as an automobile salesman in 1919 and may have married into the Harrington family of Fowler, Indiana. By the 1940s Anderson became the proprietor of a Ford automobile dealership in Redkey, located in Jay County, Indiana.

Sources:
Items found in the collection.
McKnight, L. A. Progress of Education in Benton County. Indianapolis: County Board of Education, 1906.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists mainly of black-and-white portraits made at photographic studios in Indiana, Illinois, and California between ca. 1885 and ca. 1950. Manuscript material consisting of a letter to Oscar Anderson and an insurance policy in his name, make it likely that the collection originated with Oscar J. Anderson of Fowler and Redkey, Indiana.

At least four generations of the Anderson family are believed to be represented in the collection. The processor arranged the photographs into six series based on the physical features of the subjects and the locations of the photographic studios that produced the images.

The family groupings include the Orlando and Sarah Anderson Family (Series 1) and the Oscar J. Anderson Family (Series 2). Oscar Anderson was identified from a photograph of a school football team in Fowler. The photograph is dated 1903 and was made at the MacAdams Studio in Fowler.

The Harrington Family (Series 3) is based on an annotation on the verso of a carte de visite which identifies an “M. C. Harrington” as a young child. Oscar Anderson worked for Harrington through the 1920s and may have married into
the family. The young women in this series may be related to Anderson through the Harringtons, as Anderson’s image
does not appear in this series. The items date from ca. 1910 to 1931, which may indicate that the subjects were close
family members. All photographs in this series were made by Alex Frechette at the Fowler Studio, Fowler, Indiana.

(Series 4), The Uncles and Cousins of Oscar J. Anderson (?) are believed to be related to Oscar Anderson through his
father. The adult males in these photographs resemble individuals in a family portrait stored in Series 1, Folder 1. The
photographs were created at the Rickert Studio, Huntington, Indiana and photographic studios in Illinois and
California.

Portraits Not Identified by Location (Series 5) contains photographs of men, women, and children that could not be
placed according to physical features or the name of a photographic studio. A portrait of a group of women may have
been taken in Hartford City. Della Herbaugh Seelig of Washington Township stands in the second row from the front,
third from the right.

Manuscript and Printed Material in (Series 6) includes a letter to Oscar J. Anderson from Jacoby Eisehman of Las
Vegas, Nevada. The letter discusses equipment used by Eisehman’s auto business and invites Anderson to leave
Fowler and join him in the company business. The series also contains Oscar J. Anderson’s insurance policy that lists
his wife “Franc” as a beneficiary.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Orlando and Sarah Anderson Family, ca. 1885–ca. 1918

CONTENTS

[Orlando Anderson Family (?), photograph by J.C.
Adams Studio, Hartford, Indiana] [ca. 1885]

Orlando and Sarah Anderson (?) [ca. 1900–ca.
1913]

[Three Family Portraits, Orlando Anderson Family
(?)] [ca. 1918]

CONTAINER

OVA Photographs,
Folder 1

Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 1

OVA Photographs,
Folder 2

Series 2: Oscar J. Anderson, ca. 1895–ca. 1955

CONTENTS

[Two portraits of babies, Anderson Family (?)]
[ca. 1890–ca.1895]

[Fowler Township Common School Football Team,
Oscar Anderson holding ball] [1903]

[Portrait of young girl, Anderson sibling (?)] [ca.
1900]

[Man in uniform, subject may be Oscar Anderson or
sibling] [ca. 1917]

[Anderson Family photographs made in Muncie,
Indiana] [ca. 1935]

[Anderson Family photographs made in Fowler,
Indiana] [ca. 1935–1938]

CONTAINER

Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 2

Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 3

Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 4

Photographs,
Box 1, Folder 5

Photographs,
Series 3: Harrington (?) Family, ca. 1880–1931

CONTENTS

[Harrington Family (?)] [ca. 1880–ca. 1893] Photographs, Box 1, Folder 10

[Harrington Girls (?) Photographs Made by Alex Frechette of the Fowler Studio] [ca. 1910–ca. 1921] Photographs, Box 1, Folder 11

Mother and Two Daughters, Harrington Family (?) [ca. 1925] Photographs, Box 1, Folder 12

[Two Sisters, Harrington Family (?)] [ca. 1928] Photographs, Box 1, Folder 13

[Young Woman, Harrington Family (?)] [ca. 1924; ca. 1930] Photographs, Box 1, Folder 14

[Portrait of Young Woman][ca. 1930] Photographs, Box 1, Folder 15

Lona [Harrington Family (?)] 1931 Photographs, Box 1, Folder 16

Series 4: Uncles and Cousins of Oscar J. Anderson (?) ca. 1900–ca. 1930

CONTENTS

[Wedding photograph made by Rickert Studios, Huntington, Indiana, Anderson Family (?)] [ca. 1913] Photographs, Box 1, Folder 17

[Portrait of young girl made by Rickert Studios, Huntington, Indiana, Anderson Family (?)] [ca. 1925] Photographs, Box 1, Folder 18

[Anderson Family photographs made by Rickert Studios, Huntington, Indiana] [ca. 1930] Photographs, Box 1, Folder 19

[Portrait of man by Moorfield, Indianapolis, Indiana, Oscar Anderson’s sibling (?)] 1920 Photographs, Box 1, Folder 20

[Portrait of woman by The Foster Shop, Lafayette, Indiana] [ca. 1920] Photographs, Box 1, Folder 21
Series 5: Portraits not identified by location, ca. 1900–ca. 1950

CONTENTS

[Large gathering of women, event unknown, Hartford City (?)] [ca. 1900] Photographs, Box 2, Folder 4

[Portrait of woman] [ca. 1920] Photographs, Box 2, Folder 5

[Sister and brother, Anderson Family] [ca. 1945] Photographs, Box 2, Folder 6

[Young woman, about age 16] [ca. 1950] Photographs, Box 2, Folder 7

Series 6: Manuscript and printed material, 1918–ca. 1948

CONTENTS

[Letter from Jacoby Eisehman to Oscar J. Anderson] 1918 Manuscript Collections: Folder 1

[Insurance policy—National Casualty Co.] 1929 Manuscript Collections: Folder 2

[Social Service speech] [ca. 1948] Manuscript Collections: Folder 3

[Greeting cards; invitation] [ca. 1920s] Manuscript Collections: Folder 4

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:  http://157.91.92.2/

2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.

3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.

4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, P 0294).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.