CHARLES K. HARRIS
COLLECTION, 1940S–1950S

Collection Information

Biographical Sketch

Scope and Content Note

Contents

Cataloging Information

Processed by

Wilma L. Moore
December 2, 2009

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; 3 negatives

COLLECTION DATES: 1940s–1950s

PROVENANCE:

RESTRICTIONS: None
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Charles K. Harris (7-7-1888—11-24-1957), the son of Isaac and Edmonia Harris was born in Owensboro, Kentucky. He was a World War I veteran. After moving to Indianapolis, he began a photography studio, ca. 1919. His studio had several locations including 1102 N. Senate, 550 ½ Indiana Avenue, 628 N. West Street, and 631 N. West Street.

In 1941, he married Johnnie Mae Grigley. Four children were born to this union: Charles K., Jr., Ida Darlene, Pamela, and Garry Keith. Harris was a member of the Shiloh Baptist Church where he served as a trustee. He was a member of the Eastside Better Business League, Senate Avenue Young Men’s Christian Association, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People—Indianapolis chapter.

He died at the Veteran Administration Hospital located on West 10th in Indianapolis, and he was interred at Crown Hill Cemetery. After his death, his widow continued the Harris Brothers Studio.

Sources:
Materials in the collection  
Indianapolis Recorder, November 30, 1957, p. 1. (obituary)
Indianapolis city directories.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Most of the items in the collection pertain to Charles K. Harris and his wife, Johnnie Mae. The black and white pictures are of Harris, his wife, two houses, and two unidentified men. The three photographs of his wife were taken in an office with her at a desk with a telephone; in a kitchen with her standing next to a table; and in a kitchen with her standing at a stove. There is a portrait of Harris. There is a photograph of a house that has a sign and images indicating that the building contained the Harris Brothers Studio. A second photograph has two adjacent houses—one is the same house with shutters and without the sign and images. The collection also contains three 4X5 acetate negatives.

CONTENTS
CONTENTS
Photographs of Charles K., Johnnie Mae Harris, and the Harris Brothers Studio, and two unidentified men
Handwritten obituary; news clippings; and business card

CONTAINER
Photographs
Folder 1

Folder 1

1. Man in chair reading a newspaper
2. Woman with fancy dress, hat, and necklace
3. Woman with a hat on head and purse in hand

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://opac.indianahistory.org/
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, P0154).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.