

FLORENCE BAKER HOLLIDAY DIARIES, 1909-1942

Collection #:
M 703

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Processed by
Chris Harter
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USER INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 2 manuscript boxes

COLLECTION DATES: 1909-1942 (1910-1929 missing)

PROVENANCE: Dr. Robert M. Taylor, Jr., Indianapolis, IN, 7 January 1998

RESTRICTIONS: None

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: SC 2494, Jaquelin Smith Holliday Papers; SC 1631, Women's Organization for National Prohibition Reform (Marion County) Minutes

ACCESSION NUMBERS: 1998.0161

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Florence Baker Holliday (1871-1947) was born in Indianapolis, the daughter of Conrad Baker, Governor of Indiana and founder of the law firm of Baker and Daniels (See: M008, Conrad Baker Papers). She had wide cultural and philanthropic interests. She was a founder of the Dramatic Club, and a member of the Woodstock and Progressive Clubs, the Propylaeum, the Garden Club of Indianapolis, and the Marion County chapter of the Women's Organization for National Prohibition Reform. (See: M 646, Dramatic Club Records; M 699, Indianapolis Propylaeum Records; M 672, Garden Club of Indianapolis Records; and SC 1631, W.O.N.P.R. Minutes).

Her husband, Jaquelin S. Holliday (1867-1944) was born in Indianapolis, the son of William J. and Lucy (Redd) Holliday. He graduated from Racine College, and attended Yale Law School in 1887-1888. From 1900 to 1940 he was president of W. J. Holliday and Company, a wholesale iron and steel firm, and expanded its operations to include a branch in Hammond.

The Hollidays were one of the five families who built homes in Shooters Hill, an incorporated village on the bluffs above White River just east of Michigan Road.

For more information on the Holliday family, see the card catalog under individual members' names.

Source: Collection guide - SC 2494, Jaquelin Smith Holliday Papers.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of 15 diaries kept by Florence Baker Holliday. The diaries cover the years 1909 and 1930 through 1942. Many of the entries are brief, filling no more than one page, and document Mrs. Holliday's daily activities. She often mentioned her attendance at club meetings, visitors, people she dined with, and books she read. She also included various trips taken by her and her husband, Jaquelin Smith Holliday. Interesting entries include: a visit to see Booth Tarkington's play, *Colonel Satan* (7 January 1931); a visit with President Herbert Hoover while in Washington, D.C. (15 April 1931); and dinner at Meredith Nicholson's home (19 May 1931). The 1931 through 1933 diaries contain numerous references to her anti-Prohibition activities and attendance at meetings of the Marion County chapter of the Women's Organization for National Prohibition Reform.

The collection also contains a 1941 diary that does not appear to be Mrs. Holliday's; however, the author could not be identified.

BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

BOX 1: 1909, 1930-1936 **FOLDER CONTENTS**

- 1 Diaries--1909, 1930
- 2 Diaries--1931, 1932
- 3 Diaries--1933, 1934
- 4 Diaries--1935, 1936

BOX 2: 1937-1942 **FOLDER CONTENTS**

- 1 Diaries--1937, 1938
- 2 Diaries--1939 (two)

3 Diaries--1940, 1941

4 Unidentified Diary--1941; F. B. Holliday Diary--1942

CATALOGUING INFORMATION

MAIN ENTRY: Holliday, Florence Baker, 1871-1947

SUBJECT ENTRIES: Holiday, Florence Baker, 1871-1947--Diaries

Holliday, Jaquelin S. (Jaquelin Smith) 1867-1944

Nicholson, Meredith, 1866-1947

Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964

Tarkington, Booth, 1869-1946. Colonel Satan

Women's Organization for National Prohibition Reform. Indiana Division

Clubs--Indiana--Indianapolis

Women--Indiana--Indianapolis--Societies and clubs

Prohibition--Indiana--Indianapolis--Societies, etc.

Travelers--Indiana--Indianapolis--Diaries

Indianapolis (Ind.)--Social life and customs

END