COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 2 manuscript boxes, 1 half-sized manuscript box, 1 half-sized photograph box, 5 artifacts

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1785–1991

PROVENANCE: Rudolf K. Haerle, Jr. Middlebury, Vermont and George Haerle, Indianapolis, Indiana

RESTRICTIONS: Born digital items such as flash drives have files that are stored in the collection folder. See library staff for assistance.

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Elizabeth Haerle Papers (SC2425); Elizabeth Haerle Papers (M0354); Mutual China Company Records (SC1939); Richard C. Vonnegut Sr. Visual Collection (P0042); Rudolf K. Haerle Collection (P 0234)


NOTES:
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Haerle Family:

George Christian Haerle was born in 1868 to Ludwig Wilhelm “William” Haerle (1838–1905) and Julie Pfingst Haerle (b. 1848). William, a German immigrant from in Heilbronn, Württemberg, Germany, operated a Fancy Dry Goods and Ladies Furnishings Store in Indianapolis, Indiana that was known for selling quality merchandise. The store was established in 1862 on the north side of Washington Street and east of Illinois Street, but he later relocated the store to 4 West Washington Street. William's son George was also a dry goods and women's apparel merchant in the early 1900s. By the 1930s, he was an accountant for a steel company before passing away in 1932.


Rudolf married Elizabeth Shepard (b. 1905 to Grace and Frank Shepard) and the couple had two children: George (b. 1929) and Rudolf Jr. (b. 1931). Louise was married to Elsa Haerle.

Hollweg Family:

Norma Hollweg Haerle's father, Louis Hollweg, was born in Westphalia, Germany in 1840 (d. 1951). He immigrated to the United States in 1860 and became a merchant for Hollweg & Reese, a wholesale glassware and crockery company. Louis had two other children: Ferdinand (b.1876) and Julia (b. 1878).

Sources:

Ancestry.com

Indianapolis News, November 25, 1905.

Materials in collection
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains materials primarily from the Haerle and Hollweg families. It has been separated into six series in keeping with the original organization from the donor.

Series One: This series contains letters and photographs of the Hollweg, Shepard, and Haerle families. The letters are primarily to and from other family members. The photographs of the Haerle family include William, George, Norma, Elisabeth, Rudolf (Sr.), and Louis. The Hollweg photographs include Ferdinand and one image of the Hollweg and Reese Storefront. The Shepard photographs show a young Elizabeth and a middle-aged Frank.

*Note: Elisabeth Haerle, spelled with an 's', was the Aunt-in-Law of Elizabeth Shepard Haerle, spelled with a 'z'

Series Two: This series contains letters and photographs from Elizabeth and Rudolf's European Vacation. Several of the letters and photographs are from friends wishing them a happy voyage.

Series Three: This series contains various documents related to the Karrmann, Hollweg, and Haerle families. There are wedding announcements, calling cards, receipts, and funeral arrangements. Also included are two diaries written by Norma Haerle in 1894 and 1895 and the Elreah Chronicle, a scrapbook with photographs and typed poems describing the person in the photo and what they enjoy about the summer home, which was named Elreah (Haerle backwards).

Series Four: This series contains materials related to the Boy Scouts. Rudolf Haerle was a Boy Scout from the late 1910s to the early 1920s. The collection contains his ID cards, medals, and patches.

Series Five: Elizabeth Haerle was very interested in politics in the 1960s and 1970s. This series contains many of the publications she read as well as several letters/responses on her concerns about President Nixon.

Series Six: The last series contains letters and documents that are all written in German and do not have a clear addressee. There are also several memorial programs for deceased family members as well as several photographs of various views of Heilbronn, Württemberg.
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