

Collection #
SC 3499

**HARRY EDGAR CARMONY
AUTOBIOGRAPHY, CA. 1902–1982**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 3 manuscript folders

COLLECTION
DATES: 1902–1982

PROVENANCE: Barbara Cover, Shelbyville, IN

RESTRICTIONS: None

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RELATED
HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION
NUMBER: 1982.1015

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Harry Edgar Carmony was born 12 September 1882 to a large family in a farming community in Shelby, Indiana. Harry was the third of eight children. His parents, Thomas F. and Emily J. Carmony, were farmers, and the children were expected to help with farm chores. Harry and his siblings attended school as regularly as possible, depending on the needs of the farm. When not working, Harry enjoyed journaling and writing poetry.

In 1903, Harry received his teaching license and began teaching at the Union Township School near his home. He later taught at a school in Hanover Township located in Shelby County. He was a God-fearing man and often began his lessons with a scripture reading. That same year he married a childhood sweetheart, Fannie Ellen Brown (b. 18 October 1883), on 13 September 1903. Together they had six children: Paul, Edwin, Aida, Cecil, Esther, and Byron.

Fannie passed away March 1955 and Harry followed several months later in September 1955. Throughout his life, Harry continued to be an educator and was involved in his church and the family farm.

Sources:

Material in the collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection comprises of Carmony's handwritten autobiography which includes the mundane, yet interesting, details and anecdotes about farm work and the people who made up the farming community. Recorded in the nearly 250 pages of his autobiography are the events that make a community, such as births and deaths, marriages, and families working together to help each other in times of need. Carmony writes of his experiences and relationships with excellent detail.

Typed excerpts from Harry Edgar Carmony's journal, include descriptions of his relationships with family and peers, his daily activities, and notable moments in his life. The journal excerpts have a table of contents, which break Carmony's life into distinct periods, such as "Early Years," "Marriage," "Family," etc. Harry recorded his daily life and community happenings religiously in his journal beginning as a student and continuing until around 1914. He recorded events in his journal, intending for it to be used as a marker for the daily life he and his community lived. Some of the excerpts were transcribed from recorded tapes. The excerpts also include genealogical information that Harry gathered about his mother and father's sides of the family.

Also included in this collection are a series of letters from Carmony's children pertaining to the death of his wife, Fannie and a copy of his handwritten autobiography.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS

Autobiography of Harry Edgar Carmony, ca. 1953;
1982

Typed Journal Excerpts, ca. 1902; 1982

Harry Edgar Carmony Correspondence, 1955, n.d.

CONTAINER

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