

Collection #
P 0284

**HARTFORD CITY NEWS-TIMES
COLLECTION, 1954–1991**

[Collection Information](#)

[Historical/Biographical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Series Contents](#)

[Cataloging Information](#)

Processed by

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August 1994

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November 2003

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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 1 document case of photographs

COLLECTION DATES:	Ca. 1957–1991
PROVENANCE:	Forms part of the Cecil Beeson/Blackford County Historical Society Collection
RESTRICTIONS:	None
COPYRIGHT:	May be held by the American Daily Publishing Company.
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.
ALTERNATE FORMATS:	None
RELATED HOLDINGS:	None
ACCESSION NUMBER:	1994.0734T
NOTES:	

HISTORICAL/BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The *Hartford City News-Times* began as the *Hartford City Times* in 1885. Elwood Huffman and Frank Geisler owned the newspaper for ten years. Archie Tracy purchased the business in 1895 and merged the operations with the rival *Daily Times-Gazette* at the turn of the century. Herbert Honey bought the *Times* in 1919 and, with the assistance of Ralph Monfort, merged the company with the *Blackford County News* in 1937. The American Daily Publishing Company bought *The Hartford City News-Times* in 1977.

Arnold W. McCombs, born 22 September 1909 in Hartford City, Indiana, was the son of Frank and Garnet (Peck) McCombs. He worked as a photographer for newspapers in Hartford City from 1927 until his retirement in 1975. In addition to his work with the *News-Times*, McCombs was the official photographer for the coroner's office and contributed to the *Muncie Star*. He died 23 September 1983 in Muncie, Indiana.

King-Ryte Photography Studio of Hartford City was a portrait studio operated by Earl M. Kingsley and his family from ca. 1953 to ca. 1969. The business was located at 320 West Washington Street from ca. 1953 to ca. 1960 and at 302 North High Street from ca. 1961 to ca. 1967. At various times in its history, King-Ryte processed negatives and created prints intended for use in the *Hartford City News-Times*.

Sources:

A History of Blackford County, Indiana. Blackford County Historical Society. Hartford City, Indiana: 1986.

Hartford City News-Times, 26 September 1983.

Hartford City Telephone Directory. Indiana Bell. 1953.

Hartford City Telephone Directory. Indiana Bell. 1969.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of 162 black-and-white photographs that were intended for use in the *Hartford City News-Times* between ca. 1954 and 1991. The photographs depict celebrations, awards ceremonies, and other community

events. Mayors and other political officials are also featured, as well as businesspeople. Views of Blackford County include photographs of businesses and the demolition of buildings within Hartford City and Montpelier.

Arnold W. McCombs of the *News-Times* staff and other free-lance photographers created the photographs in this collection. Most of the photographs are date-stamped, and some have identifying information on the back of the image. Those photographs actually used in the *News-Times* usually appeared in the publication one to two days following the date stamp. Individual photographers other than McCombs are credited with three photographs in the collection. The volume of photographs created by McCombs necessitated the creation of a separate series for his work. King-Ryte Photography Studios of Hartford City periodically processed film and created prints for the *News-Times*. Images printed at King-Ryte have an identifying name stamp.

A small number of newspaper clippings originally stored with particular photographs have been photocopied and included in the relevant folder. The photocopies may be reduced from the size of the original clipping.

Series 1: *Hartford City News-Times* consists of eighty-two photographs taken by various photographers at the newspaper between 1966 and 1991. The photographs are arranged in twenty folders according to subject. The images include portraits of Blackford County officials and citizens, buildings, businesses, and local celebrations. The series also includes eight newspaper clippings.

Series 2: Arnold W. McCombs consists of sixty-five photographs by Arnold W. McCombs in association with his work with the *Hartford City News-Times*. McCombs' work was identified by his personal business stamp on the back, and in one case an attribution in ink. The images are arranged in twenty folders according to subject, and date from ca. 1950s to 1981. Subjects include an archeological discovery in Blackford County, views of public buildings in Hartford City, businesses and businesspeople, local celebrations, and city officials. The series also includes a letter to Cecil Beeson from B. K. Swartz, Jr., assistant professor of Anthropology at Ball State University, and two newspaper clippings.

Series 3: King-Ryte Photography Studios, consists of fifteen photographs processed at King-Ryte Studio. The images are arranged in seven folders by subject, and date from 1954 to 1967.

The collection arrived at the Indiana Historical Society Library in 1994 as part of the Cecil Beeson/Blackford County Historical Society Collection. The photographs were contained in subject files created by Beeson and members of the Historical Society. These files also contained photographs made by individuals who were not associated with the *Hartford City News-Times*. The IHS processor selected photographs that had been made for the *Hartford City News-Times*, for reasons of provenance, and created subject files within this collection based on the content of the images. Descriptive titles assigned by the processor are enclosed with a pair of [] brackets.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: *Hartford City News-Times*, 1966–1991

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
[Awards] [ca. 1970–ca. 1976]	Box 1, Folder 1
[Bicentennial Celebrations—Hartford City] 1976	Box 1, Folder 2
[Blackford County 4-H Club] [ca. 1985]	Box 1, Folder 3
[Burns Family] 1978	Box 1, Folder 4
[Businesses—Hartford City] [ca. 1973]	Box 1, Folder 5
[Cemeteries] 1979–1988	Box 1, Folder 6

[Children] 1976–1986	Box 1, Folder 7
[Courthouse—Hartford City] [ca. 1973]	Box 1, Folder 8
[Elk's Building—Wrecking] 1974	Box 1, Folder 9
[<i>Hartford City News-Times</i> Building] [ca. 1980]	Box 1, Folder 10
[Hartford City—Views] 1986	Box 1, Folder 11
[Mayors and Other Public Officers] [ca. 1966–ca. 1969]	Box 1, Folder 12
[Pennsylvania Railroad Freight Yards] [ca. 1978]	Box 1, Folder 13
[Portraits, Folder 1] [ca. 1966-1978]	Box 1, Folder 14
[Portraits, Folder 2] [ca.1976-1989]	Box 1, Folder 15
[Portraits, Folder 3] 1966–1991	Box 1, Folder 16
[Portraits, Folder 4] 1973–1976	Box 1, Folder 17
[Rest Homes—Hartford City] [ca. 1985]	Box 1, Folder 18
[Unidentified Photographs] [ca. 1978]	Box 1, Folder 19
[Veterans and War Memorial] 1988	Box 1, Folder 20

Series 2: Arnold W. McCombs, ca. 1950s–1976

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
[Awards] 1971–1977	Box 1, Folder 21
[Blackford County—Archeology] 1965	Box 1, Folder 22
[Board Of Trade] 1967	Box 1, Folder 23
[Businesses and Businesspeople] 1965–1978	Box 1, Folder 24
[Cemeteries] 1961–1977	Box 1, Folder 25
[Children] 1965–1973	Box 1, Folder 26
[Courthouse—Hartford City] 1965	Box 1, Folder 27
[Fire Department—Hartford City] 1976	Box 1, Folder 28
[Fourth Of July Celebrations—Hartford City] 1975–1978	Box 1, Folder 29
[Hydro Substation--Wrecking] 1967	Box 1, Folder 30
[Library--Hartford City] 1964–1966	Box 1, Folder 31

[Montpelier, Indiana] 1976–1979	Box 1, Folder 32
[Odd Fellows Building] 1974–1976	Box 1, Folder 33
[Parades] 1967–1976	Box 1, Folder 34
[Portraits, Folder 1] 1968–1974	Box 1, Folder 35
[Portraits, Folder 2] 1968–1969	Box 1, Folder 36
[Railroad Accidents] 1970	Box 1, Folder 37
[Schools—Hartford City High School; Blackford County High School] 1968–1981	Box 1, Folder 38
[Schools—Parkside School] [ca. 1950s]	Box 1, Folder 39
[Unidentified Photographs][ca. 1976]	Box 1, Folder 40

Series 3: King-Ryte Photo Studios, 1954–1967

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
[Board of Trade—Hartford City] 1954	Box 1, Folder 41
[Businesses and Businesspeople] [ca. 1960]	Box 1, Folder 42
[Cemeteries] 1967	Box 1, Folder 43
[Mayors and Other Public Officers] [ca. 1950s]	Box 1, Folder 44
[Schools] [ca. 1960s]	Box 1, Folder 45
[Sneath Glass Works] [ca. 1960]	Box 1, Folder 46
[Unidentified Photographs] [ca. 1967]	Box 1, Folder 47

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 0284).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.