

Collection #
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BV1024–1025
OM0196
OM0264

HASSELMAN FAMILY MATERIALS, CA. 1860–1958

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Processed by

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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	2 manuscript boxes, 2 bound volumes, 2 oversize manuscript folders, 1 oversize architectural drawing
COLLECTION DATES:	Ca. 1860–1958
PROVENANCE:	Anna Hasselman, Indianapolis, Ind.: 1946, 1962
RESTRICTIONS:	Absolutely no photocopying of the architectural drawing is permitted.
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REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.
ALTERNATE FORMATS:	
RELATED HOLDINGS:	Pioneer painters of Indiana collection (M0822) contains photos of Lewis (157) and Otto Hasselman (158) portraits <i>Washington Foundry and Machine Works: Pamphlet</i> Collection HD9519.W27 W2
ACCESSION NUMBER:	1946.0017, 1962.1002
NOTES:	The architectural drawing has been digitally scanned and reproductions are available to researchers. Contact Visual Reference Services for order number 9672.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

Lewis W. Hasselman, archetype of the Hasselman clan in Indiana and father of Otto and Watson, came to the Hoosier capital from Miamisburg, Ohio, where he had been elected as an Overseer of the Poor in 1833. Earlier he made substantial contributions to Germantown, a neighboring community.

He moved with his family to the Hoosier capital in 1850 and with Almus Vinton, founded the Washington Foundry which fabricated agricultural implements, steam engines, grist mills and sawmill equipment. In 1864 Hasselman and Vinton were drawn into a legal suit (of undetermined origin), *Hasselman and Vinton vs. Herman Kortepeter*, argued in Danville, Indiana. The two industrialists lost the jury case, the passion of which nearly led to bloodshed when their attorney Leander Campbell, confronted Kortepeter's attorney, Albert Porter, and pulled out a club, prompting Campbell, to reach for his pistol. In the end no harm was done.

When Vinton retired from the business (1865), Hasselman reorganized and called it the Eagle Machine Works, located at the intersection of South Meridian and Louisiana streets. In time, it moved to the two hundred block of North Meridian. Later it merged with Sinker-Davis Machine Co., adding the manufacturing of threshing machines. Lewis also served as a trustee on the local School Board in the early 1860s.

In 1870 Lewis and his cousin William Fishback, an Ohio-born attorney who settled in the Hoosier capital in 1857 and later law partner of Benjamin Harrison, bought the *Indianapolis Journal*. Fishback became editor, a position he held for only a short while. Hasselman and Fishback moved on to the *St. Louis Democrat*. That tenure lasted but a couple of years.

Lewis built a handsome house located on the southwest corner of Meridian and Vermont streets. Designed by **Francis Costigan**, an early and respected Indiana architect, Hasselman largely looked to imported Italian workers to complete the internal work. Later the house was known as the Fahnley house, named for its last owner. The house was razed after 1921 for the construction of the Indianapolis Athletic Club.

Otto H. Hasselman, Lewis' son, was born in 1847 in Miamisburg, Ohio. The family moved to Indianapolis where Otto, following a meager education, hired into his father's foundry in the Hoosier capital. He served with the 132nd Indiana Regiment during the Civil War and, because of injuries, received a pension of \$30 a month. Mustered out of the army and convinced that foundry life did not suit his tastes, he moved into journalism and politics. In time he owned a print shop, Hasselman Printing Company and at age 20 he owned one-sixth interest in the Journal Building on Monument Circle but sold that in his mid twenties. Meanwhile he moved to St. Louis where he occupied the office of business manager of the *St. Louis Democrat*, owned by his father and William Fishback. The paper's demise brought Otto back to Indianapolis where a few years later he formed the

Journal Job Printing Company for commercial printing projects and stepped into the position of proprietor of the *Indianapolis Journal*. As a Republican, he did not hesitate to take positions in political matters of the city and state. This led to his designing of election booths for voting, for which in 1893 he was granted a patent. Olive, his wife, noted in her diary (December 31, 1880) that Otto was a hard worker and spent much time in his varied jobs. But her longer view prompted her to add, “yet many do not succeed even after putting forth every effort.”

Ataxia finally took its toll after a decade of suffering. On April 21, 1906, he died at his home on North Alabama St., in Indianapolis. He left two children Anna and Lewis, and a brother Watson. The funeral was conducted at the family home; burial in a private ceremony, followed in Crown Hill Cemetery. The City Editor of the *Indianapolis News* opined that Hasselman was one of six “brains” of the state Republican Party.

Olive Eddy Hasselman, wife of Otto, graduated in 1866 from Chicago’s Dearborn Seminary, a school for girls. She enjoyed writing and lecturing—one of her contemporaries, a newspaper writer, commenting on her writing style, called her a “graceful writer, deeply versed in belles-lettres”—she early on found her professional niche in art, its practice, its history, its criticism, and its preservation. A friend of Charles and Cornelia Fairbanks—the U.S. senator and Vice President from Indiana—she was sought after by the local art community for her knowledge and her character. For years Olive faithfully kept a dairy noting family and personal goings and comings. This she continued when in 1885 she toured Western Europe: England, Scotland and France. In England, after seeing the York Cathedral she penned metaphorically, “I thank God that I [saw] this Cathedral, and I thank him that he inspired the builder to make it.”

The marriage of Otto and Olive seems to have been a solid one. After some months of illness from an undisclosed malady, part of which time she spent outside the home, Olive noted in her diary (May 16, 1880), “I never was so anxious to be with my husband and little girl as now.” Notwithstanding the journal entry, she was not a whiner.

Olive died in Washington D.C. on an undetermined date, though after her husband’s demise. Burial followed in Graceland Cemetery, in Evanston, Illinois, in a plot of the Eddy family. In Indianapolis, she was a member of the Woman’s Club, the Catherine Merrill Club, and of Meridian St. M.E. Church. She and Otto were listed repeatedly in various editions of the *Indianapolis Blue Book*, beginning at least as early as the 1873 edition.

Posterity has also left for us in this collection diaries of Olive Hasselman’s mother **Anna W. Eddy** (Mrs. Thomas M.) of Evanston, Illinois.

Anna Hasselman, daughter of Otto and Olive Hasselman, was born in Indianapolis on January 12, 1872. She studied at, graduated (1892) from, and later taught for several years at Mount Vernon Seminary, Washington D.C. Subsequently she moved to New York City to further her artistic career. There she enrolled at Columbia University, participated in the Art Students League, and in the Chase School of Art. Family support allowed her to spend valuable time with top drawer painters such as William Forsyth, William Merritt Chase

and Charles Lasar. She also studied in New England with Charles W. Hawthorne and with Eliot O'Hara, followed by time in Egypt, France, Italy and Germany.

After her extensive studies both in the U.S. and abroad, she settled down in her hometown where she taught and served as curator of the John Herron Art Museum from 1921–1952. Her classes at John Herron dealt with still life, history of painting and sculpture, and lectures on architecture. Much in demand, she frequently lectured at local venues, both religious and secular. Prior to accepting an appointment to John Herron, a public notice announced (May 1903) that she would teach in a new classical K-12 prep school soon to open at Meridian and 16th streets and which would bear the name of Tudor Hall, antecedent to Park-Tudor now located at College and 71st streets. The never-married curator retired at age 81 from John Herron and later moved to the Methodist Home in Franklin, Indiana, where on April 16, 1966 she breathed her last. Her body was cremated.

Her watercolor “Church in Kennebunkport” (1930) and her “Street in Kennebunkport, Maine” (same year) are part of the Indiana State Museum collection. In Indianapolis she was a member of the Art Association and exhibited her work in the galleries of the Lieber Company. She was part of the elite social coteries of Indianapolis, and of art and musical productions. Her name occurs frequently in newspapers as artist, judge, exhibitor, bookplate designer, and curator of and teacher at John Herron Art Museum.

One newspaper reporter, after interviewing Anna, described her as a small, slender woman “abounding in energy and good spirits . . . with a flare for touches of vivid color,” an apt description of a woman who succumbed at age 95. She wielded a hammer, pounded nails, cut wire and brushed on paint with aplomb, and all for pure enjoyment, not in order to sell her works. Possessing no fear of public speaking and blessed with a trove of facts about art, artists and the larger world, she found her place on numerous lecture platforms. At age 90 she traveled to Europe alone and reportedly had a wonderful time. She held memberships in the Society of Indiana Pioneers, and Portfolio Club, and Meridian St. Methodist Church.

Sources:

Materials in the collection

Biographical History of Eminent and Self-Made Men of the State of Indiana, II (Cincinnati, 1880)

Bodenhamer, David J. and Robert G. Barrows, *Encyclopedia of Indianapolis* (Bloomington, 1994)

Clipping Files, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis

Dunn, Jacob, *Greater Indianapolis*, I (Chicago, 1910)

Judith V. Newton, *Skirting the Issue* (Indianapolis, 2004)

Indiana Magazine of History, lxii (1966), 175ff

Indianapolis Star and *Indianapolis News*, multiple issues.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of a small amount of Otto Hasselman's correspondence and legal papers; diaries of his wife, Olive Eddy Hasselman (1879–1880, 1891–1898); diaries of her mother, Anna Eddy of Evanston, Ill. (1897, 1900); and the school diary of Hasselman's son, Lewis W. (1892). Correspondents include Albert J. Beveridge. There is one architectural rendering of the Hasselman home by the architect, Francis Costigan ca. 1860.

Series 1: Hasselman family papers and correspondence.

Series 2: Hasselman family diaries of Olive Eddy Hasselman (Mrs. Otto H., Lewis W. Hasselman, and Anna W. Eddy (Mrs. Thomas M.).

Series 3: Anna Hasselman scrapbook: The scrapbook contains mostly newspaper articles pasted in. The pages are numbered and many topics are listed in the Contents section with the page numbers. Newspaper articles that were laid in were copied on acid free paper and are now in folders. Some laid in materials were left in the scrapbook.

Series 4: Anna Hasselman Programs and Ephemera are mostly theater programs and printed materials related to plays and social events.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Hasselman Family papers and correspondence, ca. 1860–1927

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Architectural drawing of the Louis Hasselman house [later known as the Fahnley house] by the architect Francis Costigan, ca. 1860	Oversize Graphics: Folder 1 Flat File 2-m
U.S. Volunteer Service. The President's thanks and certificate of honorable service to Corporal Otto H. Hasselman, 132 nd Regiment...volunteers for 100 days 1864, Oct. 1	OM264
Dearborn female seminary, Chicago, diploma, Olive W. Eddy, 1866, June 28	OM196
Hasselmann, Otto H. Patent papers for voting booths Sept. 2 1890	Box 2, Folder 2
Hasselmann, Otto H. Patent papers for voting booths Oct. 7 1890	Box 2, Folder 3
Hasselmann, Otto H. Patent papers for election booths, Apr. 4, 1893.	Box 2, Folder 4
Letter to Mrs. Thomas Eddy from her sister Miss Frances E. Willard on World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union letterhead, Jan. 15, 1898, TLS	Box 2, Folder 6
Receipt from Library of Congress for copyright fees, Dec. 10, 1900	Box 2, Folder 6
Ransdell, D.M. Telegram, bill granting pension passed Senate, Apr. 2, 1902	Box 2, Folder 6
Beveridge, Albert J., Letter from U.S. Senate, to O. H. Hasselman, Indianapolis, saying bill granting him a pension passed the Senate, Apr. 3, 1902	Box 2, Folder 6

Noble, Cyrus B.: Letter to whom it may concern, giving details of injury to Otto. H. Hasselman while were both serving in the 132nd Regiment, Nov. 23, 1905, TLS 2p. Box 2, Folder 6

V. Warner, Commissioner: letter to Otto H. Hasselman, Indianapolis, regarding his pension based on his service in Co. A, 132nd Regiment, Letter head: Dept. of Interior, Bureau of Pensions, Washington, D.C., Dec. 19, 1905. 2p TLS Box 2, Folder 6

Letter written in U.S. Senate in Washington, D.C. to Mrs. Otto Hasselman from Albert Beveridge. He noticed her in Senate gallery; invites her to sit in executive gallery in the future. Enclosed: ticket to executive gallery, U.S. Senate Chamber. March 11, 1908, TLS, 1p. Box 2, Folder 6

Note from Imperial Japanese Embassy, Washington, TLS, 1 p. Box 2, Folder 6

Series 2: Hasselman Family Diaries, 1879–1900

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CONTAINER

Olive Eddy Hasselman (Mrs. Otto H.), Indianapolis Diary: Jan 1, 1879–Dec. 31, 1879 Box 1, Folder 1

Olive Eddy Hasselman (Mrs. Otto H.), Indianapolis and on trips
Diary: Jan. 1, 1880–Aug. 13, 1881 BV1024

Olive Eddy Hasselman (Mrs. Otto H.), Indianapolis Diary: 1891 Box 1, Folder2

Olive Eddy Hasselman (Mrs. Otto H.), Indianapolis Diary: 1892. Box 1, Folder 2
Notation: Called at White House and visited Mrs. McKee, Feb. 10, 1892.

Olive Eddy Hasselman (Mrs. Otto H.), Indianapolis Diary: 1893 Box 1, Folder 3

Olive Eddy Hasselman (Mrs. Otto H.), Indianapolis Diary: 1894 Box 1, Folder 3

Olive Eddy Hasselman (Mrs. Otto H.), Indianapolis Diary: 1896	Box 1, Folder 4
Olive Eddy Hasselman (Mrs. Otto H.), Indianapolis Diary: 1897 Notation: Tea at home of Mrs. Theo. Steele, Jan. 7, 1897. Katherine Merrell Club meeting, Jan. 9, 1897.	Box 1, Folder 4
Olive Eddy Hasselman (Mrs. Otto H.), Indianapolis Diary: 1898	Box 1, Folder 5
Olive Eddy Hasselman, (Mrs. Otto H.). Record of trip to Europe, sailing June 17, 1885. Notebook.	Box 1, Folder 5
Lewis W. Hasselman, Diary, 17 year old young man, attending school [at Butler?] 1892.	Box 2, Folder 1
Anna W. Eddy (Mrs. Thomas M.) Diary, 1897, 1900 Resident of Evanston, Ill., visited her daughter, Mrs. Hasselman, in Indianapolis. Scattered entries.	Box 2, Folder 5

Series 3: Anna Hasselman Scrapbook, 1888–1958

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Scrapbook with articles pasted in and some materials laid in, 1888–1958	BV 1025
Girls Classical School: Class of 1890, Midsummer Nights Dream, p.3 Commencement Bulletin, May 22-June 8m [1894], 2 copies, p.83	BV 1025
Propylaeun: p. 4, 21, 65	BV 1025
Dramatic Club: p. 5, 9, 10, 27, 31, 37, 38, 39, 40, 59	BV 1025
Booth Tarkington: p. 9	BV 1025
Katherine Merrill Club: p. 13, and elsewhere	BV 1025
Flower Mission Magazine: article about, p. 23.	BV 1025
Wedding: Ella Laura Malott and Edgar H. Evans, p. 25, 27.	BV 1025

Mrs. Benjamin Harrison entertains: p. 31, 32	BV 1025
Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, first lady, and daughter Mrs. McKee, entertained, p. 51, 52, 54, 55, 56	BV 1025
Tudor Hall, new School for girls: 16 th and Meridian Streets, Miss Fredonia Allen Principal. May 1903, p. 34, 37	BV 1025
Wedding: Ruth Carey and John Morris Haines, p. 42	BV 1025
Sketch of Mrs. Elizabeth Eddy Somers, including relationships of Eddy family: p. 42, 53, 69	BV 1025
Dearborn Seminary Anniversary Exercises: June 28, 1866. Among graduates: Olive M Eddy (Chicago), p. 49	BV 1025
New Dennison Hotel: Jan. 1888, p. 57	BV 1025
Meridian Street Church events: p. 52, 53, 61	BV 1025
Mr. & Mrs. C.W. Fairbanks entertain: p. 54	BV 1025
Anna Hasselman: p. 61, p. 76 and elsewhere	BV 1025
[Indianapolis] School No. 2, room 4, Miss Halley, teacher. Christmas entertainment, Dec. 24, 1891: P. 65	BV 1025
Mrs. Augustus Eddy: age 94, Jan. 17, 1894, p. 67	BV 1025
Thomas M. Eddy: p. 71	BV 1025
Columbia Club: p. 74	BV 1025
Mrs. Olive Eddy Hasselman: obituary, p. 79	BV 1025
Mrs. A.W. Eddy, Chicago: writes entertainingly of Somerset, England, p. 80	BV 1025
Death of Francis H. Griggs: Davenport, Iowa. Mar. 10, 1918, p. 81	BV 1025
Spencer F. Eddy, diplomat: p. 86	BV 1025
John Herron Art Institute, Indianapolis Art Association, Portfolio Club: 1900–1958, n.d.	Box 2, Folder 7

Site for Indianapolis Athletic Club chosen, Feb 6, 1921, Francis Costigan, architect of notable old Indiana buildings, April 9, 1921 Indianapolis Athletic Club leases Fahnley property, Meridian and Vermont Streets, April 23, 1921	Box 2, Folder 8
Meridian St. Methodist Church fire, Nov. 18, 1904 Memories of an old neighborhood, June 1, 1920 Booth Tarkington's Aunt, Mrs. Daniel Stewart (Martha Tarkington), age 90 recalls memories, n.d.	Box 2, Folder 9
Acquaintances and relatives in the news: ca. 1890–1922	Box 2, Folder 10
Obituaries: Rev. Arthur M. Judy, Unitarian, Davenport, Iowa Augustus Eddy, father-in-law of Senator Albert J. Beveridge; Benjamin T. Thornton; F.H. Griggs Davenport, Iowa; Carl H. Lieber; Rose A. White Howe	Box 2, Folder 11

Series 4: Anna Hasselman Programs and Ephemera, 1892–1927

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Dramatic Club Programmes: Nov. 26, 1892 , Dec. 19, 1892, Feb 21, 1893, Dec. 27, 1893, May 10, 1895	Box 2, Folder 13
Flower Mission Festival of Operas. n.d. 1p. [Nov. 18, 1893]	Box 2, Folder 14
Universalist Church, March 18, 1892. Chorus, etc. 1p	Box 2, Folder 14
Universalist Church, March 31 st , 1892, "The Hoosier Poet," James Whitcomb Riley, assisted by the Franz Abt. Club. 4p	Box 2, Folder 14
Girls' Classical School, Shakespeare's As You Like It, Class of 1893, Feb. 25, 1893	Box 2, Folder 14
Festival Grand Concert, May 22, 1893.	Box 2, Folder 14

Closing Exercises, Girls' Classical School, Grand Opera House, June 7, 1893. [Part of p.3-4 cut away]	Box 2, Folder 14
Propylaeum. Complimentary benefit for the Katherine Home, Oct 13, 1898.	Box 2, Folder 14
Tomlinson Hall, Flower Mission, Festival of Operas, Nov. 14–18, 1893	Box 2, Folder 14
Ladies Matinee Musicale, Nov. 29, 1893. Violin recital by Miss Lili Schorer	Box 2, Folder 14
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Evanston Chamber Concerts,	Box 2, Folder 14
Various Programs, n.d.	Box 2, Folder 14
Clippings: not dated, of plays in Indianapolis, some in Philadelphia, Washington D.C., Chicago and Evanston, Ill., and New York	Box 2, Folder 14
Clippings: cast of characters, various plays	Box 2, Folder 15
Mt. Vernon Seminary class of 1892 graduation	Box 2, Folder 16
Art Association of Indianapolis Tenth Annual Exhibit	Box 2, Folder 16
High School of Indianapolis. 25 th Commencement, June 14, 1893	Box 2, Folder 16
United States National Lawn Tennis Association Annual Tournament...1893	Box 2, Folder 16
Girls Classical School: Commencement Bulletin Program. May 22–June 8 [1894]	Box 2, Folder 16
Indianapolis Coaching Club, A.S. Lockard, Secy. Will have its Second run Tuesday July 4 th to races & Broad Ripple	Box 2, Folder 16
Flower Mission Arabian Nights entertainment. Worker's ticket.	Box 2, Folder 16
Uliss Hasselman sketch with name	Box 2, Folder 16

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, M0135).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.