

Collection #
M 1452

**H.B. FATOUT CO. AND HERBERT BLOEMKER CO.
SURVEYOR NOTEBOOKS, 1880-1955**

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Processed by

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

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 5 manuscript boxes, 1 half size manuscript box

COLLECTION DATES: 1888-1955

PROVENANCE: Della M. Frazier, Indianapolis, IN., October 2016

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Joseph S. Allen Survey Booklet, SC1444; Jonathan Woodruff, Jr. Surveyor Notebooks, M1179; Letters received by the Surveyor General of the Territory Northwest of the River Ohio, (microfilm) F484.3.U54; Annual Report and Roster, Indiana State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, TA12.I54; A History of the Rectangular Survey System, TA521.W47 1983

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2016.0319

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Hervey B. Fatout (April 11, 1851-April 20, 1920) was the son of David B. and Mary Hosbrook Fatout. He was born in Indianapolis, Indiana and was one of four children. Fatout studied at Indiana Asbury University, graduating in 1871. He married Missouri Wright (1852-1906) in 1876, and the couple had one child, Pearl. After Missouri died in 1906, Fatout married her younger sister Rachel in 1908. Hervey followed in his uncle Daniel B. Hosbrook's footsteps, working as a surveyor for Marion County, beginning on February 5, 1875. He also owned his own civil engineering and surveying company, H.B. Fatout and Company.

Herbert H. Bloemker (1901-1955) was the son of Ernst and Emma Bloemker and brother to Albert and Edward. Bloemker attended Arsenal Technical High School in Indianapolis, Indiana and Purdue University, where he studied civil engineering. Bloemker joined the H.B. Fatout Co. of surveyors and civil engineers, becoming president of the company in 1926, offering Landscape Architecture, Civil and Consulting Engineering services. Bloemker ran the H.B. Fatout Company until sometime in 1931. In 1932, Bloemker began to work for the county government and served as the chief deputy surveyor for Marion County. From 1935-1938 Bloemker was elected to serve two terms as the Marion County surveyor. Around 1945, he began his own civil engineering firm, the Herbert Bloemker Company, which was located on South Delaware Street, Indianapolis. Bloemker was married, first to Helen Newman until her death in 1932, then to Mary Jane Huffman, and was the father of three daughters.

Sources:

Ancestry Library Edition

Sulgrove, Berry R., *History of Indianapolis and Marion County*. Philadelphia: L.H. Everts & Co., 1884. (accessed via Archive.org)

"Historical Marion County Surveyors." <https://www.indy.gov/activity/marion-county-surveyor-resources>

R.L. Polk & Co. *Indianapolis City Directory*. 1877, 1926, 1931, 1932, 1947.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains fifty-five surveyor notebooks from the H.B. Fatout Company and the Herbert Bloemker Company. Most books are not identified as to whom they belonged to within the companies, but some are marked as belonging to Fatout and Bloemker themselves, as well as J.W. Scatterday, Ernest Hamilton, and J.S. Hazelton. They have been arranged in the folders two at a time and have been kept in the numbering system they were assigned within the Fatout and Bloemker companies, which is loosely chronological. The earlier books, from 1880 to 1931 have an index in the back in which the surveyor details the information about each project- the neighborhood or parcel addition name, the specific township and section information, as well as the date in which the survey was done. After 1931, the notebooks were not published with an index in the back, so researchers will have to flip through the entirety of the notebook to see the different locations and projects. The contents for each project are lists of measures and numbers but also may contain sketches of a certain city block or parcel addition. Most of the sketches and measurements in the notebooks are for the Indianapolis area, but there are a few other towns in Indiana represented.

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