INDIANAPOLIS CITY CONTROLLERS PORTRAITS
CA. 1891–CA. 1963

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Processed by
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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 OVA box of photographs

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1891–ca. 1963

PROVENANCE: Unknown

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 0000.1225v0025

NOTES:
HISTORICAL SKETCH

Appointed by the Mayor of Indianapolis, the City Controller manages the city's finances, prepares the city's budget, controls all purchasing by city agencies, invests city funds, and compiles accounting data to prepare the annual financial reports. The position is part of the Office of Finance and Management.

Before the governments of Indianapolis and Marion County were consolidated in 1970 as what is known as "unigov," the Controller was considered the top assistant to the Mayor of Indianapolis, and by law, moved into that position if the Mayor left office before the end of his term for any reason.

William Wesley Woollen (1828–1902) was the first City Controller of Indianapolis, serving from 9 March 1891 until 31 August 1893. Opal Kremer appears to have been the first woman to serve as Controller (ca. 1967), and Alf Green was the first African American to serve in that position, appointed by Mayor Richard Lugar in 1973.

Sources:
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of twenty-seven black-and-white photographic portraits of most of Indianapolis's city controllers from the time period of 1891 to 1969. Most of the portraits have been identified; two are unidentified and are of men who likely served in the position briefly. The portraits are arranged alphabetically by last name. A chronological list may be of interest, with dates of service in the city controller position:

Chronological list of Indianapolis City Controllers through 1990:

William Wesley Woollen, 9 March 1891–31 August 1893
Preston C. Trusler, 1 September 1893–31 December 1894
Endoras M. Johnson, 1 January 1895–30 June 1901
George T. Breunig, ca. 1902–1903
Jacob Piatt Dunn, ca. 1904–1906
George T. Breunig, ca. 1907–1909
Howard Kimball, 3 January 1910–2 January 1911
Harry R. Wallace, 2 January 1911–28 November 1913
Fred B. Akin, 28 November 1913–5 January 1914
Jacob Piatt Dunn, ca. 1914–1916
Reginald H. Sullivan, 14 July 1916–7 January 1918
Robert H. Bryson, 7 January 1918–2 January 1922
Joseph L. Hogue, 2 January 1922–4 January 1926
William C. Buser, 4 January 1926–15 November 1927
Sterling R. Holt, 15 November 1927–11 March 1930
William L. Elder, 11 March 1930–2 June 1933
Evans Woollen, Jr., 2 June 1933–1 January 1935
Walter C. Boetcher, 1 January 1935–2 September 1937
H. Nathan Swaim, ca. 1937–1938
James E. Derry, ca. 1939–1942
Roy E. Hickman, 1 January 1943–2 April 1947
Phillip L. Bayt, ca. 1948–1949
Patrick J. Barton, ca. 1950–1951
John R. Barney, ca. 1952–1955
Charles Henry Boswell, ca. 1956–1958
Albert H. Losche, ca. 1959–August 1962
Carl C. Beck, ca. 1963–1965
*Don L. Robinson, ca. 1966
*Opal Kremer, ca. 1967
Not named in city directory, 1968
*William I. Spencer, ca. 1969
*Sam W. McWilliams, ca. 1970–1971
*Fred Armstrong, ca. 1972–1973
*Alf Green, ca. October 1973–1975
*Fred Armstrong, ca. 1976–1990

*Portraits not in the collection, or they are unidentified.
CONTENTS

Fred B. Akin, served 28 November 1913–5 January 1914
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 1

John R. Barney, served ca. 1952–1955
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 2

Patrick J. Barton, served ca. 1950–1951
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 3

Phillip L. Bayt, served ca. 1948–1949
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 4

Carl C. Beck, served ca. 1963–1965
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 5

Walter C. Boetcher, served 1 January 1935–2 September 1937
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 6

Charles Henry Boswell, served ca. 1956–1958
(photograph by Kindred)
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 7

George T. Breunig, served ca. 1902–1903, 1907–1909
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 8

Robert H. Bryson, served 7 January 1918–2 January 1922
(photograph by Bretzman, 1921)
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 9

William C. Buser, served 4 January 1926–15 November 1927
(photograph by Voorhis)
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 10

James E. Derry, served 1939–1942 (signed "James E. Derry / 1939–1942")
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 11

Jacob Piatt Dunn, served ca. 1904–1906, 1914–1916
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 12

William L. Elder, served 11 March 1930–2 June 1933
(photograph by Bretzman)
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 13

Roy E. Hickman, served 1 January 1943–2 April 1947
(signed "Roy E. Hickman / Jan 1, 1943 to April 2, 1947")
OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 14
**Joseph L. Hogue**, served 2 January 1922–4 January 1926 (photograph by Voorhis)

**Sterling R. Holt**, served 15 November 1927–11 March 1930

**Endoras M. Johnson**, served 1 January 1895–30 June 1901

**Howard Kimball**, served 3 January 1910–2 January 1911

**Albert H. Losche**, served ca. 1959–1961 (photograph by Bill Ehrics [?])

**Reginald H. Sullivan**, served 14 July 1916–7 January 1918

**H. [Hardses] Nathan Swaim**, served ca. 1937–1938

**Preston C. Trusler**, served 1 September 1893–31 December 1894

**Harry R. Wallace**, served 2 January 1911–28 November 1913 (photograph by Bretzman)

**Evans Woollen, Jr.**, served 2 June 1933–1 January 1935

**William Wesley Woollen**, served 9 March 1891–31 August 1893

**Unidentified** [older man with glasses] (photograph by Foster Photos, date stamped on back: Dec 15, 1947)

**Unidentified** [man with receded hairline] (photograph by Foster Photos, date stamped on back: Feb 22, 1955)