INDIANAPOLIS TRANSPORTATION PHOTOGRAPHS, 1908–1946

Collection Information
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Processed by
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July 2018

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

www.indianahistory.org
COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: Four photographs folders

COLLECTION DATES: 1908–1946

PROVENANCE: multiple

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Indianapolis Airport Authority materials, M 1080; Bus and rail transport materials, M 1245; Indianapolis Railways Photograph Album, P0522; American Transit Association Indianapolis Photograph Album P0601; Indianapolis Municipal Airport HE9797.5.162 I55 1931; Indiana Railroad: The Magic Interurban, TF724.16 B73 1991


NOTES:
HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Indianapolis Municipal Airport was completed in 1931, bringing commercial air transportation to Central Indiana for the first time in the history of air travel. Weir Cook, a World War I pilot, aided in scouting the location of the airport and designing its structures. The airport was named in his honor in 1944. It was renamed the Indianapolis International Airport in 1976.

After taking ownership and operations of the Indianapolis Street Railway Company and the Broad Ripple Traction Company, Indianapolis Railways, Inc. began operation on 1 June 1932. The company also acquired the stock of the Peoples Motor Coach Company. Trackless trolley service in Indianapolis began in December 1932 on the South Meridian line, replacing worn streetcar tracks.

The last full day of streetcar service in Indianapolis was 9 January 1953. With the abandonment of the rail lines in favor of the operation of trackless trolleys and buses, the name was changed to Indianapolis Transit System in April 1954. Trackless trolley operation was discontinued in March 1957, but bus service continues today as IndyGo Public Transportation.

Sources:

Quigley, Barbara. Indianapolis Railways Photograph Album, ca. 1930s, Indianapolis, IN. Indianapolis Historical Society. Archives.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This is an artificial collection made up of images related to transportation in Indianapolis. The collection includes fifteen photographs of busses and trolleys, two of the Indianapolis Municipal Airport, and one of Cortland Dairy Farm truck.

The first fold in the collection contains Bass Photo Company photographs related to photograph albums processed as collections P 0522 and P 0601.
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