

Collection #
P 0917

**JEFFREY L. BOSSAER'S FOUNTAIN COUNTY COLLECTION,
CA. 1860S-2019**

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Processed by

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10 December 2025

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 box of photographs, more than 3200 digital files, and 1 DVD and 4 folders of manuscripts and printed items included in the photograph box
COLLECTION DATES:	Ca. 1860s–2019
PROVENANCE:	Gifts from Jeffrey L. Bossaer of Attica, Indiana, 2014–2019
RESTRICTIONS:	None
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ALTERNATE FORMATS:	
RELATED HOLDINGS:	
ACCESSION NUMBERS:	2014.0082, 2014.0230, 2015.0057, 2016.0230, 2016.0342, 2016.0374, 2017.0040, 2018.0026, 2019.0241
NOTES:	

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Fountain County, Indiana, was created on the east side of the Wabash River from parts of Montgomery and Wabash counties on 30 December 1825. It officially became a county in 1826. Fountain County comprises eleven townships: Cain, Davis, Fulton, Jackson, Logan, Millcreek, Richland, Shawnee, Troy, Van Buren, and Wabash. The county seat is Covington, in Troy Township. The first Fountain County courthouse was constructed in Covington in 1827. The largest town in the county is Attica in Logan Township.

Attica was platted in 1825 along the Wabash River. There was an inn at the foot of Main Street, and the first general store and post office were in a building on the southeast corner of Perry and Mill streets. In 1835 a sawmill and gristmill were built. Manufacturing steadily increased for decades.

Digging for the Wabash and Erie Canal began in 1832, moving toward the southwest. It reached Lafayette by 1842 and Covington by 1846. The canal opened for traffic in 1847, resulting in an industrial boom for Attica. Attica was incorporated as a town in June 1849.

The arrival of the railroad in the 1850s created competition for shipping. The first railway line through Fountain County was the Toledo, Wabash, and Western Railway, later known as the Wabash Railroad. It reached Attica in 1856. The last canal boat passed through Covington in 1875.

The first schoolhouse in Fountain County had been erected in Shawnee Township in 1824. By 1912, there were about sixty-one schools in the county.

In 1861 a covered wagon bridge was built over the Wabash River followed by an iron bridge after the wooden bridge was destroyed in the cyclone of 1886.

The first Boy Scout troop in Attica was organized in 1910. It was said to be the eleventh troop in the United States.

Sources:

Items in the collection

Beckwith, H. W. *History of Fountain County*. Chicago: H. H. Hill and N. Iddings, Publishers, 1881. Reference Room Collection: F 532 .F77 B43 1970

History of Fountain County, Indiana, 1983. Published by Fountain County Historical Society. Reference Room Collection: F 532 .F77 H5 1983

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of images and some printed materials pertaining to Fountain County, Indiana, with a particular emphasis on the town of Attica. Except for some photographs of the town of Kingman, it is primarily the northern half of Fountain County that is represented in this collection. There are many copy photographs taken of older photographs, as well as more recent photographs taken by the donor of this collection. There are both printed photographs as well as digital photographs and two motion picture DVDs. Some of the digital images are of old newspaper clippings. There is some repetition of images.

The images depict historic buildings, industrial buildings, civic buildings, businesses, churches, schools, the railroad, bridges, parks, events, street scenes, bands, sports teams, quarries, agricultural scenes, and advertisements.

The collection is arranged into three series: 1) Printed Photographs; 2) Digital Photographs and Motion Pictures; and 3) Manuscripts and Printed Articles.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Printed Photographs

CONTENTS

CONTAINER

Bridges: Attica—Canada Street over Ravine Park; Paul Dresser Bridge over the Wabash River; 1925 flood of the Wabash. **Covington**—Wagon Bridge (ca. 1910); New Iron Bridge over Wabash (ca. 1916); preparing to build new U.S. 136 bridge with old iron bridge in background. **Hillsboro**—Highway 341 collapsed bridge (1972). **Independence**—Wabash River bridge and ferry (ca. 1905); people walking on Wabash River bridge; Wabash River bridge between Independence and Riverside (1971). **South of Williamsport**—three color photos of bridge.

Box 1, Folder 1

Businesses: Attica—Lithia Hotel, service stations, A&P grocery (1962). **Covington**—Lyric Theater and nearby businesses (2 photos). **Independence**—two photos of men with businesses in the background; service station next to burned down Munson store; Paul Waymire's barber shop (1941 and ca. 1960); three photos of McFerren's store (ca. 1925–1929). **Riverside**—Redman Lodge; old store on Second Street (1980); two photos of a Riverside Store (1967, n.d.). **Shawnee Township**—store at Aylsworth Corner on U.S. Highway 41. **Veedersburg**—Gross's Restaurant at U.S. 136 and U.S. 41); Sterling Motel on U.S. 41 north of U.S. 136. **Warren County**—Dog n Suds at U.S. 41 and State Road 28.

Box 1, Folder 2

Churches: Attica—Attica United Brethren Church (photo of news article about the church being bought by the Church of the Nazarene); Bethel Community Church (east of Attica); Free Methodist Church. **Davis Township**—Antioch Church; Roberts Chapel; Salem Church. **Riverside**—two photos.

Box 1, Folder 3

Industrial Buildings: Attica—Power Plant west of Market Street (1923); Poston-Herron Brick Company (late 1940s); Attica Grain Company (ca. 1960). **Covington**—Snoddy's Mill south of Covington. **Davis Township**—Flint Stone Mill; Wagner Sawmill (1980). **Riverside**—four photos of grain elevators (ca. 1900, 1914, 1980, on fire in September 2011).

Box 1, Folder 4

Quarries and Stonework: Attica—two color photos of 1862 stonework for a large house (2014). **Davis Township**—Rostone Quarry – two photographs (1980, n.d.). **Riverside**—men and women at quarry (before 1900); five color photos of quarry site west of Riverside (2014).

Box 1, Folder 5

Railroads: Attica—Chicago, Attica, & Southern Railroad depot (1922, 1924); Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad depot at 401 Union Street; Wabash Railroad depot at N. Perry Street crossing (ca. 1910, 1967); cyclone damage of train and railroad (1886); two photos of CA&S trains (after 1946); fifteen color photos of railroad tracks, bridge, and trains (2014); sign regarding Archer-Daniels-Midland Grain train cars spotted in Attica (2014). **Covington**—depot and railcars seen from a distance (1908); Big Four depot with horse-drawn carriages; Big Four Railroad bridge (two photos); train on track; photo of a 1965 news article about demolition of depot; photo of advertisement for a presentation about Fountain County Railroads, held in Covington (2017).

Box 1, Folder 6

Railroads: Davis Township—three photos of Norfolk Southern Railroad bridge over Grindstone Creek and over Turkey Run Creek (2014). **Kingman**—Chicago, Attica, & Southern Railway station; rails being laid for interurban (1909). **Logan Township**—two photos of Norfolk Southern Railroad Stone Cut Road crossing (2014); Norfolk Southern bridge over Olive Branch Creek; creek under Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks near 1300 N. and East River Road. **Mellott**—Depot (ca. 1912); numerous people posed in front of depot; Nickel Plate Railroad engine #759 (1969); street scene with railroad tracks (1978); street scene with railroad crossing (1980); two photos showing the removal of railroad tracks (1988). **Riverside**—Wabash Railroad depot. **Stone Bluff**—depot (last known as a Chicago, Attica, & Southern Railroad depot).

Box 1, Folder 7

Railroads: Veedersburg—aerial view of railyards (ca. 1912) (2 copies); Big Four depot and water tank (2 copies); Big Four depot; two photos of New York Central depot; Veedersburg Southern train that served the brickyard south of town; Coal Creek Bridge; five men on a handcar; Nickel Plate depot (1967); construction work near railroad tracks (ca. 1940s). **Yeddo**—two photos of Chicago, Attica, & Southern depot.

Box 1, Folder 7

Schools: Attica—front entrance of Attica High School; Attica High School gymnasium entrance on Washington Street, showing fire damage (burned on 31 December 1973). **Davis Township**—group portrait in front of first Antioch School (burned ca. 1910); second Antioch School (built 1910, burned 1923); Bethel Academy; Davis School (1980); group portrait at Hall School at 1400 N and 770 E; group portrait in front of Kerr School near 850 E and 1010 N; group portrait in front of Pyle School near 720 E and 950 N; Riverside School (1980); group portrait in front of Roberts School south of Roberts Corner; group portrait in front of Woodhook School southwest of Roberts Corner. **Independence**—School Hack Carrie Martin, mother of May Basey, shown by her horse-drawn carriage that served as a school bus; Independence School with eight boys (and possibly a teacher) identified as Dave Warren Benson, George Reynolds, Bill Wallace, Elmer Stetler, George Johnston, Francis Morgan, Ed Oswalt, Benny Pearson, and Luther Bowman (ca. 1930s); group portrait of students in Halloween costumes with school building in background (ca. 1950s). **Logan Township**—first Bethel School (built in 1850s, burned in 1916); second Bethel School (built in 1916, closed in 1926); group portrait outside of Fix School, northeast of Attica; Logan Township Grade School east of Attica (1926–1970); Nave School south of Attica, east of U.S. 41; Rupert School, two miles east of Attica (built in 1898, burned in early 1920s). **Richland Township**—Richland Township High School band in school gymnasium in Newtown. **Shawnee Township**—Portland Arch School. **Veedersburg**—grade school.

Box 1, Folder 8

Street Scenes and Miscellaneous: Attica—group portrait of first Boy Scout group in Attica, including Max Oakley, Herbert Potts, Maurice Clements, Philip Green, John Foster, Preston Bidwell, Earl Woodhall, Charles Crumbo, Laurence Crone, Anthony Mahoney, Harold Wilbur, Jacob Crane, Leonard Potts, Arthur Finney, William Mahoney, Frederick Colvert, and Marshall Clement (ca. 1910); people at Miami Beach summer resort (ca. 1920); photo of 1966 news clipping with undated photo of cattle drive on Perry Street; Christmas parade (1971); two photos of bison statue at Attica High School for Indiana Bicentennial / Attica Sesquicentennial (2017). **Covington**—east side of courthouse square (ca. 1951); blurry color photo of west side of courthouse square (n.d.).

Independence—people with a team of oxen on a street. **Newtown**—advertisement for Indiana’s Bicentennial celebration and the grand opening of the Quigle-Palin Community Center at the Newtown Bandstand (2016). **Veedersburg**—street scene showing Grab It Here store and a café (ca. 1950s).

Series 2: Digital Photographs and Motion Pictures

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CONTAINER

Attica Now 2016 (from flash drive): 309 images of Attica (2014–2016) including civic buildings, parks, historic buildings, public library, armory, businesses, Cottrell Village, downtown, industrial buildings, funeral homes, schools, churches, housing, trains, 2015 Heritage Festival, residences, bridges, Portland Arch Natural Preserve.

See digital file

Attica – Rural Area and More (from CD): 102 images including maps of Logan and Davis townships, Fountain County, Independence plat map, industrial buildings, businesses, railroad, Wabash River, quarries, schools, churches, Bethel Cemetery, residences, creeks, bridges, 1943 flood.

See digital file

Attica Yesteryear (from CD): 493 images, 1860s–2016, including tornado damage (1886), Civil War veterans reunion, sports teams, Wabash River, bridges, snow-covered street scenes (1929), historic buildings, advertisements, parks, Chautauqua gatherings, William Jennings Bryan at the 1909 Chautauqua, power plants, civic buildings, fire department, roadwork, schools, train depots, trains, industrial buildings, gravel pit, downtown (1872, 1939, 1950s, 1960s, n.d.), parades (1911, 1966, n.d.), businesses, aerial views, Mudlavia, Miami Beach on Pritscher Farm, maps, residences, agricultural scenes, churches, cemeteries, quarries.

See digital file

Attica Yesteryear (from flash drive): 592 images collected by the Attica Sesquicentennial History Committee for an event on 2 July 2016, including the 1886 cyclone (tornado) damage, parades, baseball teams, bridges, clubs, bands, businesses, street scenes, advertisements, parks, industrial buildings, civic buildings, firefighters, schools, aerial views, train depots, Miami Beach on Pritscher Farm, maps, residences, agricultural scenes, churches, hotels, stonework, and quarries.

See digital file

Attica Sesquicentennial Celebration DVD (12 minutes, 42 seconds): footage of the celebration's activities, including the mayor's luncheon with Mayor Duane Roderick, pet parade, Fire Department fish fry, 5-kilometer foot race, demonstrations of grain milling and brick making, Cottrell Village, Ravine Park, beard contest, pickleball tournament, 1966 time capsule unveiling, displays, Miss Attica queens Morgan Haddock and Gabby Story, live music, placement of new time capsule to be opened in 2066. (Narrator: Tilly Marlatt; edited and produced by Ray Stetler. Produced for The Attica Sesquicentennial Committee and The City of Attica, 2016).

See digital file

Sesquicentennial Events (from flash drive): 118 images from the Attica Sesquicentennial Celebration, July 1–3, 2016, at McDonald Park, including schedule of events, listing of committees and their members, Queens Morgan Haddock and Gabby Story, brief history of Attica, billboards and other signs announcing the celebration, the mayor’s luncheon and list of honorees, Bossaer Farm’s booth at celebration, displays, demonstrations, and events, time capsule.

See digital file

Attica Trains and Railroads Then and Now (from CD): 114 images including the Chicago, Attica, & Southern Railroad; the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railroad; and the Wabash Railroad. Images show bridges, depots, shops, trains, yards, tornado damage (1886), flooded tracks (1913), bridge collapse (1914), car mover, repair and maintenance work, Neal Gravel Company, derailment (2016), Wabash Cannonball (1971).

See digital file

Fountain County Trains and Railroads (from flash drive): 218 images including maps, bridges, depots, time table, streetcars, trains, 1938 CA&S list of employees, 1913 flood, train wrecks, derailments, bridge collapses, bridge repair, 1947 diesel train, Neal Gravel pit in Attica (1938–1940), Girl Scout Brownies going for a train ride in 1963, aerial views of Attica, 2016 first responders, maintenance equipment.

See digital file

Fountain County Bicentennial (from flash drive): 215 images including bridges, schools, parades, industrial buildings, county courthouses, murals, mural artists, Wabash River, businesses, Indiana Bicentennial celebration events (12 October 2016 in Covington) such as the torch relay and period reenactors, museums, memorials, Attica Sesquicentennial committees and events (2016), downtown Veedersburg, basketball games, Newtown Band (1926, 1929), Newtown Fair (1905), Newtown street scenes and businesses, Quigle-Palin Community Center, Newtown distillery, United States Bicentennial events (1976), churches, the Indiana Bicentennial Train, Indiana Historical Society in Indianapolis, Indiana State Library in Indianapolis, images of numerous printed articles.

See digital file

Fountain County (from CD dated 24 January 2018): 91 images including Attica, Riverside, Covington, Independence, Mellott, Veedersburg, Yeddo, Bruce Field, airport, eagle sculpture, quarry, bridges, schools, businesses, railroad, 1916 graduation program with list of students by township, map of “Original Trades & Skills in 1830s Attica,” Attica centennial celebration (1966).

See digital file

Fountain County additional photos (from CD dated 31 July 2019): 278 images including Attica, Rob Roy, Fountain, Portland Arch, Richland, Newtown, Mellott, Stone Bluff, Covington, Veedersburg, Independence, Kingman, Yeddo, Wallace, Hillsboro, Cates, Riverside, bands, advertisements, schools, businesses, churches, Indiana National Guard, sports teams, railroad, bridges, tornado damage, industrial buildings, national corn husking contest, Mudlavia Hotel, Kingman airport, coal mines, Mellott speedway, news articles.

See digital file

Display for Attica High School Alumni Banquet (from CD dated 29 July 2019): 300 images (depicting 1892–2019) including news clippings, class photos, sports teams, Cadet company (1919), bands, elementary schools, Lewis Bruce Field, Happy Walter Field, libraries, Devon Theater, Attica Post Office, newspaper office, Harrison Hills Country Club, cheerleaders, homecoming (1966, 1967), majorettes, advertisements, businesses, the Armory, city swimming pool, school staff (1968), 1969 list of prices, school clubs, yearbook pages, graduation programs, 1969 list of faculty, class of 1969 reunion in 2014, high school after a fire, school enrollment numbers (1970 or 1971), 2019 wrestling champions, McDonald Park, prom (1968, 1969), seniors (1969), class of 1969’s 25th reunion in 1994, Attica High School Alumni Banquet programs (2014, 2019), class of 1969 in 2019.

See digital file

The Attica Story (from CD): 383 images including illustrations of early buildings, photos of the city with an emphasis on Perry Street and nearby streets (1872, n.d.), businesses, Lithia Hotel, Sterling Remedy Company, parades, street scenes, aerial views, public library, aftermath of the December 1929 snow storm, nighttime street scenes (1952), early airplanes, trains, collapse of railroad bridge (1914), train wrecks, train depots, automobile with CA&S (Chicago, Attica & Southern Railroad) logo that could run on railroad tracks, people on a handcar, churches, 1913 flood, Wabash River, “Miami Beach” two miles north of Attica, schools, Ravine Park, portrait of Reuben Beamer, Chautauqua gatherings, May 1886 cyclone damage, bands, sports teams, industrial buildings, residences. There is also a typed list of these photographs with notes.

See digital file

The Attica Story DVD (approximately 45 minutes): shows the same images included on The Attica Story CD, but with some narration and music. Content Curators: Robert Shepherd and Jeffrey Bossaer. Narrator: Robert D. Maus. Music by Kevin MacLeod. Produced by Derek Marshall. Licensed under Creative Commons.

Box 1, Folder 10

Series 3: Manuscripts and Printed Articles

CONTENTS

Typed list of photographs from “The Attica Story” CD, with notes (16 pages, dated 15 June 2016).

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 11

Typed list of names of people included in some of the photographs included in “Attica Yesteryear,” “Attica Sesquicentennial Events,” and “Fountain County Bicentennial Events.” Compiled by Jeff Bossaer in 2017.

Box 1, Folder 12

Printed materials including map of “Original Trades & Skills in 1830s Attica”; copy of illustrated map of Attica in 1869; copy of 1916 program of “Common School Graduates of Fountain County,” listing graduates by township; “Attica Area Centennial Celebration” committees, officers, calendar of events for June 1966; copy of brochure for the “Cicott Trading Post Historical Park” in Independence; Attica Sesquicentennial Committees and Events (July 2016).

Box 1, Folder 13

Printed materials on railroads including “Railroad Bridge Over Grindstone Creek...” (from *History of Fountain County*, 1881); “Progress Checked on New Railroad Bridge” (1922); copy of map of railroads in Attica (1914); copy of drawing of aerial view of Attica and the Wabash River (probably before 1872).

Box 1, Folder 14