

Collection #  
F0562

**LAWRENCE B. CARTER  
NOTEBOOKS, N.D.**

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Processed by

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Indiana Historical Society  
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

[www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org)

## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: One reel of microfilm

COLLECTION DATES: Compiled over a period of time through 1978

PROVENANCE:

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT:

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Lawrence Belmont Carter. *The Voices*. Carthage, Ind. : Carthage Citizen Print, 1928. (Original notebooks at the Henry Henley Library in Carthage, Indiana.)

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1979.0731

NOTES:

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Lawrence Carter (1905–1992) grew up in Carthage, (Rush County) Indiana, the hometown of his mother. A teacher, he spent most of his career at schools in Indiana and Ohio. He is buried at Riverside Cemetery in Carthage. Throughout his life he gathered information about Beech Settlement with plans to write a history of the community in Rush County. Though he did not publish a history, his original notebooks are at the Henry Henley Public Library in Carthage. He gathered information from county histories and other books, newspapers, courthouse records, family memorabilia, cemetery tombstones, and numerous interviews with Beech Settlement descendants.

Sources:

Material in the collection

Vincent, Stephen A. *Southern Seed, Northern Soil: African-American Farm Communities in the Midwest, 1765–1900*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1999.

Find a Grave website

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=30429831>, accessed 12-7-2012.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Lawrence B. Carter's notebooks on microfilm cover the family names of many African American families that lived in Rush County. Some of the names include: Archey, Bass, Brooks, Brown, Freeman, Gilchrist, Hill, Jeffries, McDaniel, Moss, Newsom, Stewart, Watkins, Weaver, and Winslow. The notebooks will be useful for persons investigating the history of African Americans settling in Rush County, as well as those researchers seeking genealogical information. There is an alphabetical index for Beech Settlement residents. The Beech was an African American community settled in Ripley Township of Rush County by 1830. Blacks also settled in other areas of Rush County, most notably the city of Carthage.

The notebooks include over two hundred pages of typed and handwritten notes. They make several references to sources used for research including John Lyda's *The Negro in Indiana*; Rush County histories; and newspapers: *Carthage Record* and *Carthage Citizen*.

Some of the entries in the notebooks include:

A list of deaths of Rush Co. African American citizens, arranged by year from approx. 1820 thru 1953

Background of Quakers in Carthage

Background of first African Americans in Rush County

Short biographies including family members of prominent families

Dates of important occurrences (e.g. Carter indicates that residents chose the African Methodist Episcopal as their denomination in the Beech in 1832)

Historical descriptions (e.g. modes of transportation; also describes African Americans leaving Rush County and the founding of the Roberts Settlement in Hamilton County; recounts settlement of blacks at the Beech, Carthage, and Macedonia in Rush County; indicates nativity of first settlers—North Carolina, Virginia, then Ohio to Indiana; establishment of institutions—churches, library, and school)

## **CONTENTS**

### CONTENTS

Lawrence Carter notebooks regarding the history of the Beech Settlement, an African American community in Rush County, Indiana. Information compiled over time through 1978.

### CONTAINER

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## 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, F0562).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.