COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 15 boxes of 5x7 glass plate negatives

COLLECTION: Ca. 1911–1912
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Oliver Frank “Trixie” Kelly was a Methodist preacher who operated his own photographic gallery as a hobby on State Street in downtown South Whitley, Indiana from the 1890’s until the 1940’s. As a local photographer, Kelly did most of his own work in and around South Whitley and the nearby town of Collamer in Whitley County.

Kelly was born in Ohio in 1860. On January 13, 1885, he married Lorena Parks, also born in Ohio in 1865. Sometime during the 1890’s, they moved from Ohio to Indiana and settled in South Whitley where they spent the rest of their lives. Oliver Kelly died in February 1942, at the age of 88. He was survived by his wife, one daughter, Mrs. Emma M. Griley of Baltimore, Ohio, and one grandson, Richard F. Griley of Lancaster, Ohio.

The Kelly negatives were received as two separate acquisitions, the first being thirty 5” x 7”, two 3 ¼” x 5 ½”, and one 4” x 5” glass-plate negatives. The Indiana Historical Society purchased this set of thirty-three negatives from an antiques store in Pierceton, Indiana which bought them at auction at the Kosciusko County Fairgrounds in the fall of 1980.

The second acquisition was made in January, 1992. At that time, a librarian found 138 5” x 7” glass-plate negatives in a storage room of the South Whitley-Cleveland Township Public Library. Mr. Kelly gave these glass-plate negatives to the Norris Drugstore in the 1940s. Many years later, the Norris family in turn gave them to Henry Snyder, a South Whitley antique dealer. Mr. Snyder made contact prints from the glass-plate negatives and donated both the negatives and the prints to the library on July 28, 1975. The prints made from the glass-plate negatives have been retained by the South Whitley-Cleveland Township Public Library. Additional information suggests that other Kelly negatives may still be extant since a Columbia City man reportedly bought more Kelly glass-plate negatives from a South Whitley antique dealer.

Sources:
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection depicts life in Whitley County, Indiana in and around South Whitley and Collamer, ca. 1911–1912. Views within the collection range from street scenes, the 1911 street fair, area homes and businesses, street construction, the Eel River bridge, school classes, and individual people.

The collection is divided into three series: Series 1: South Whitley, Indiana; Series 2: Collamer, Indiana; and Series 3: Whitley County People and Views, most of these are unidentified. The glass negatives are stored in fifteen 5” x 7” archival boxes.

Kelly numbered some of his negatives. These numbered negatives could not serve as the basis of organization because many are missing and not all of the negatives in the collection are numbered. The glass plates with captions written on them are noted in the Contents descriptions with quotation marks. Some descriptions are from the envelopes that the negatives were stored in. The comments made by the processors are noted in square brackets.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: South Whitley, Indiana

CONTENTS

“Horse Show, So. Whitley, Ind., 1911, No. 15” 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 1, Envelope 1

“Horse Show, So. Whitley, Ind., 1911, No. 16” 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 1, Envelope 2

“So. Whitley, Ind.” [street scene, bandstand on left] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 1, Envelope 3

“So. Whitley, Ind. No. 13. Fair Day” [teams of horses parading down main street] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 1, Envelope 4

“Street Fair 1911, So. Whitley, Ind.” [table loaded with vegetables and sign: “Be a Booster for South Whitley All the Time”] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 1, Envelope 5

“St. Fair, So. Whitley, Ind., 1911, No. 20, Fruit Hall, 35” 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 1, Envelope 6
“Prize Babies, Street Fair, So. Whitley, Ind. 1911. No. 22.” [3 mothers and 1 father with babies]

5x7 Glass Plates: Box 1, Envelope 7

“Breaking the News’ No. 18. Street Fair Edition” [The Whitley County News, a man is holding the paper his face is peering through a hole cut in the page, Sept. 22, 1911, 2 plates]

5x7 Glass Plates: Box 1, Envelope 8

“School Fair, So. Whitley, Ind. 1911” [group of children and parents seated outside]

5x7 Glass Plates: Box 1, Envelope 10

“Pythian Sisters’ Joint Meeting, So. Whitley, Ind., June 19, 1912, So. Whitley, Columbia City, Churubusco.” [group of women and young girls in front of M.H. Maston’s Hardware store, (Marion H.) 2 plates]

5x7 Glass Plates: Box 2, Envelope 11

Box 2, Envelope 12

Snow View [iron bridge and stream below] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 2, Envelope 13

Scene from South Whitley Bridge [ice coats the bare tree branches] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 2, Envelope 14

“Eel River, So. Whitley, Ind.” [South Whitley bridge, spring time] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 2, Envelope 15

“Snow View Along Eel River, So. Whitley, Ind., 42.” [damaged negative] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 2, Envelope 16

Snow View 45 [damaged negative] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 2, Envelope 17

Bayman’s Orchard [family under tree, men picking apples] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 2, Envelope 18

Bayman’s Apple Tree [family under apple tree, man in tree picking apples] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 2, Envelope 19

Lew Bayman’s Wood Cutting [winter scene men of sawing logs in the field] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 2, Envelope 20

Horse Auction [in fenced pen of farm yard] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 3, Envelope 21

“Met’s Sale, South Whitley, Indiana, No. 19” [young horse & men in farm yard] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 3, Envelope 22

Box 3, Envelope 23

Caskey’s Team and Men [men & wagon hauling coal] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 3, Envelope 24

Hauling Coal 339 [Caskey’s team and men] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 14, Envelope 152

Glenn Norris [soldiers and horses in field] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 3, Envelope 25

Country Road [an empty envelope with caption
“Baron Che Road, east of South Whitley” was found
with negatives and may be the subject of this
negative] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 3, Envelope 26

Surveying Street [bricks stacked on sidewalk, posters
in pool room windows suggest photograph was made
August 1912] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 3, Envelope 27

Plowing Street [bricks stacked on sidewalk, crew of
African Americans preparing street for paving] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 3, Envelope 28
Box 3, Envelope 29

Paving Scene [African American and white workers
hauling dirt in wagons] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 3, Envelope 30

Laying Brick on State Street 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 3, Envelope 31

Curbing Gang [African American and white
workers] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 3, Envelope 32

Hauling on Street [road construction in front of “O.
Gandy & Co. Buggy Depository”] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 4, Envelope 33

“South Whitley, Indiana, No. 12 1911” [street scene
in front of ‘Judson West Co. Dry Goods’] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 4, Envelope 34
Box 4, Envelope 35

1911 street scene with band stand [bricks stacked on
sidewalk, Whitley Telephone Co. on right] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 4, Envelope 36

Street View, South Whitley, Indiana middle of town
[bashstand on right] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 4, Envelope 37

South Whitley, Indiana [paved brick street scene] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 4, Envelope 38

South Whitley, Indiana [paved brick street scene,
bank on corner and telephone company building] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 4, Envelope 39

“Bird’s-Eye View, South Whitley, Indiana”
[view of railroad station and tracks from rooftop] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 4, Envelope 40
Box 4, Envelope 41

“Looking South from State St. Bridge, South
Whitley” [signed] “Jewell 1913” [postcard of 1913
flood] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 4, Envelope 42

[exterior view, ‘Whitley County Land Investment 5x7 Glass Plates:
Co.’ and ‘Post Office,’ men with motor cycles, carriage and 2 automobiles

“Post Office, South Whitley, Indiana”

“Post Office, South Whitley, Indiana”
[exterior view of Post Office and Whitley County Land Investment Co.]

Water Tower
[3 ¼ x5 glass plate]

Water Tower
[3 ¼ x5 glass plate]

“Power House, South Whitley, Indiana, No. 5”

“Tower, South Whitley, Indiana, No. 9”
[Western Union Telegraph and RR Station Cable Office]

Nickle Plat[e] South Whitley Depot

“ ‘Van’ Depot, South Whitley, Indiana”
[group of townspeople gathered on tracks]

“A to Z Printing Plant, South Whitley, Indiana, No. 10”

[Northern Indiana Egg and Poultry Co. exterior views]

[Northern Indiana Egg and Poultry Co., men, women, and children on the loading dock]

“Plucking Chickens”
[Northern Indiana Egg and Poultry Co.]

“Gandy Elevator, South Whitley, Indiana”
[grain elevator by railroad tracks]

“Farmers’ Elevator, South Whitley, Indiana”

[South Whitley Mill]
“Edward’s Saw Mill, No. 7, South Whitley, Indiana” 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 6, Envelope 64

“Creamery, South Whitley, Indiana, No. 6” 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 6, Envelope 65

Remington and Co., South Whitley, Indiana [barber shop and cigar store] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 6, Envelope 66

M. H. Maston Hardware [K. P. No. 222 Building built 1907] [Marion H. Maston] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 6, Envelope 67

Variety Store [Bargain Counter] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 6, Envelope 68

Theo Essig’s Grocery [store and delivery wagon] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 7, Envelope 69

Reigels Shop [men’s tailor shop, Oct., 1911] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 7, Envelope 70

[Exterior view of barber shop and candy store] [October, 1911?] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 7, Envelope 71

“M. E. Church, South Whitley, Indiana, No. 1” 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 7, Envelope 72

“M. E. Parsoage” [Parsonage] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 7, Envelope 73

“U. B. Church, South Whitley, Indiana, No. 3” 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 7, Envelope 74

“Baptist Church, So. Whitley, Ind. No. 2” 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 7, Envelope 75

Fred Norris House 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 7, Envelope 76

School Children [on steps of school] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 7, Envelope 77
Box 7, Envelope 78

School Children [on steps of school] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 7, Envelope 79

School Children [on steps of school] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 8, Envelope 80

School Children [on steps of school] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 8, Envelope 81

School Children [on steps of school] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 8, Envelope 82

Miss Sadie’s Room [school children] 5x7 Glass Plates:
Mrs. Asbury’s Room [school children] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 8, Envelope 83

Mrs. Asbury’s Room [school children] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 8, Envelope 84

Mrs. Hughes’ Room [school children] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 8, Envelope 85

School Class / Effie Emerson 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 8, Envelope 86

School Class / Marie Calhoun 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 8, Envelope 87

Class Photograph [in school room] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 8, Envelope 88

Freshman Class, South Whitley, 03/27/1912 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 89

Sophomore Class 03/27/1912 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 90

Baseball Team [South Whitley High School] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 91

Basketball Team [South Whitley High School] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 92

“High School Building, So. Whitley, Ind.” 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 93

South Whitley School 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 94

[Large group of children and adults at train depot] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 95

Children at Depot 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 96

[Large group of children and adults at train depot] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 97

[Large group of children and adults at train depot] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 98

Children at Depot 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 99

[Large group of children and adults at train depot] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 100

Children at Depot 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 101

Baseball Game 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 9, Envelope 102
“Ball Grounds, So. Whitley, Ind., No. 17
[baseball game]
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 10, Envelope 103

Orchestra [South Whitley High School Orchestra]
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 15, Envelope 159

Snow view along Eel River
South Whitley, Ind.
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 15, Envelope 162

**Series 2: Collamer, Indiana**

**CONTENTS**

“Van” – R.R. Bridge, Collamer, Ind. No. 28
[woman standing on bridge]
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 10, Envelope 104

“Collamer Bridge, No. 24”
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 10, Envelope 105

Collamer Dam
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 10, Envelope 106

Collamer River
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 10, Envelope 107

Mishler Bridge [under construction]
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 11, Envelope 108

Mishler Bridge
[train crossing with workers seated on bridge]
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 11, Envelope 109

“Collamer Mill” [wagon and people at loading dock]
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 11, Envelope 110

“Collamer Mill No. 26 (Ind.)”
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 11, Envelope 111

“Christian Church, Collamer, Ind.”
[people in automobile parked in front]
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 11, Envelope 112

“Collamer School No. 30.”
[children and teachers out front of school]
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 11, Envelope 113

“General Store, Collamer, Ind. No. 24”
[people and carriage out front, 1911]
5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 11, Envelope 114

**Series 3: Whitley County Views and People**

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Family [same people in image 117]
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Box 11, Envelope 115
Family [same people in image 118] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 11, Envelope 116
Family Group [same people in image 115] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 11, Envelope 117
Family Group [same people in image 116] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 11, Envelope 118
[Baby] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 12, Envelope 119
[Toddler in sailor suit in rocking chair with toys] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 12, Envelope 120
[Young boy in suit and cap] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 12, Envelope 121 Box 12, Envelope 122
[Girl with baby doll in toy carriage] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 12, Envelope 123
[boy and girl sitting on porch] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 12, Envelope 124
[mother holding baby] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 12, Envelope 125 Box 12, Envelope 126
[older woman holding child] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 12, Envelope 127
[two older women and child by chair] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 12, Envelope 128
[woman sitting, same woman in images 125, 126] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 12, Envelope 129
[2 women seated in rocking chairs outside house] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 13, Envelope 130
[3 older women on porch] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 13, Envelope 131
Man and woman in yard 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 13, Envelope 132
[Young men and women in colonial costumes on stage, South Whitley High School group?] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 13, Envelope 133
[Young boy standing by fence coated with ice] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 13, Envelope 134
[2 elderly bearded men standing in yard] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 13, Envelope 135
Sam Morris
[house with man and woman on front porch] 5x7 Glass Plates: Box 13, Envelope 136
Jud Nest

[store interior with man seated in center, 2 women behind store counters]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 13, Envelope 137

Home [with 2 men and 2 boys out front]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 13, Envelope 138

Home

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 13, Envelope 139

Home [with man and woman at side yard]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 13, Envelope 140

Home [with large dog in front yard]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 13, Envelope 141

[Brick home]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 13, Envelope 142

[Brick apartment house]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 14, Envelope 143

[Small frame house, 2 views]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 13, Envelope 144
Box 14, Envelope 145

[Wood frame house, woman on porch]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 14, Envelope 146

[House with man and woman on porch]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 14, Envelope 147

[House with 2 women and man seated on front steps of porch]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 14, Envelope 148

[Unidentified church, M.E. Church?]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 14, Envelope 149

Odd Fellows Hall interior

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 14, Envelope 150

Threshing Time [Steam tractor pulling thresher]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 14, Envelope 151

Halloween [family group having a party]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 14, Envelope 153

[Train wreck and debris with onlookers]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 14, Envelope 154

[Country road with horse and buggy by roadside]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 14, Envelope 155

[Man shoeing horses in a field]

5x7 Glass Plates:
Box 15, Envelope 156
Woman with cow and 2 calves feeding from a bucket
[3x5 glass plate]

2 Calves Feeding from Bucket
[3x5 glass plate]

Moonlight on Eel River

View of river through the trees

[Family with father, mother, and children outside their house]

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, P0269).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.