

Collection #
M 1138

**ONE ROOM SCHOOLHOUSES IN INDIANA
RESEARCH COLLECTION, 1959–1987**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box, 5 photograph folders, 3 color photograph folders, 4 slide bins, 2 flat file folders

COLLECTION DATES: 1959–87

PROVENANCE: Sara Stoops Robbins, Nokomis, Florida

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2013.0318

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Forest Stoops (1915–2000) was born in Danville, Hendricks County. After completing four years of college, he began work as a schoolteacher. His career advanced rapidly, and he eventually became superintendent of Hamilton County schools. In 1956 Stoops was hired as superintendent of the newly formed Carmel Clay school district and oversaw the 1958 construction of Carmel High School. He retired from school administration in 1968 and joined the architectural firm of James Associates, which specialized in school structures, as a consultant.

H. Roll McLaughlin was born in Indianapolis and attended the John Herron Art Institute. After serving in the 108th Naval Construction Battalion in the Second World War, he joined James Associates as an architect. In addition to his architectural career, McLaughlin was involved with several national historic preservation efforts and organizations, including the Historic American Buildings Survey and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. He also engaged with the local Indianapolis historical community, serving on the boards of the Crown Hill Heritage Foundation, the Indiana Historical Society, and other institutions.

With an eye toward historic preservation, Stoops and McLaughlin gathered knowledge about and images of remaining one-room schoolhouses in Indiana. In the 1970s they explored the possibility of publishing a book on the subject, but there is no evidence that this occurred.

Sources:

Collection Materials

Garretson, James. "Dr. Robert Hartman: The man who made Carmel schools great." *Current in Carmel* 20 September 2012.

"Meet H. Roll McLaughlin." Indiana Historical Society website. Accessed 18 September 2014. <http://www.indianahistory.org/feature-details/meet-h.-roll-mclaughlin-well-you-probably-already-have#.VBSbifldXcg>

United States Census Records

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection comprises Forest Stoops and H. Roll McLaughlin's research materials on one-room schoolhouses in Indiana. It holds a great deal of information about the structure, locations, and history of rural schoolhouses. Much of the information is firsthand; aside from news clippings, few outside sources are mentioned.

The first series features miscellaneous papers, including presentation and research notes, correspondence, and news clippings not related to particular Indiana counties. Both the correspondence and the notes refer to historic preservation activities, schoolhouse locations, and possible publication of Stoops and McLaughlin's research. There is also an excerpt from a typewritten essay draft about Indiana schoolhouses, and a 1976 booklet titled "Rural One-Room Schools of Mid-America."

Series Two comprises individual files on fourteen Indiana counties, mostly in the central and northern parts of the state. Most of these files contain only a few news clippings, but some also contain notes on the history of local schoolhouses and those who used them.

The third series includes over 100 photographs of one-room Indiana schoolhouses, in print or slide form. The slides, which were originally kept in three boxes, have been left in their original order. While some of the schoolhouse images are labeled by county, few are identified by name or specific location. One folder contains images of a Marion County site being considered for the relocation of a restored schoolhouse.

In the fourth series are seven maps noting the locations of schoolhouses in Elkhart, Grant, Hamilton, Howard, Huntington, Miami, Montgomery, and Shelby counties. There are also four maps noting the locations of radio stations in Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Miscellaneous Papers

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
H. Roll McLaughlin and Forest Stoops Correspondence, 1970–82	Box 1, Folder 1
Presentation Notes, 1975–76 and not dated	Box 1, Folder 2
Publication Correspondence, 1975–76 and not dated	Box 1, Folder 3
Leslie C. Swanson, “Rural One-Room Schools of Mid-America,” 1976	Box 1, Folder 4
Miscellaneous News Clippings, 1976–79 and not dated	Box 1, Folder 5
Miscellaneous Photocopied Images, 1979 and not dated	Box 1, Folder 6
Essay Notes and Draft, not dated	Box 1, Folder 7
Indiana Schoolhouse Survey Responses, not dated	Box 1, Folder 8
Miscellaneous Notes, not dated	Box 1, Folder 9
Untitled Schoolhouse Memory Booklet, not dated	Box 1, Folder 10

Series 2: County Files

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Howard County Clippings, 1962–74	Box 1, Folder 11
Dubois County Notes and Clippings, 1963 and not dated	Box 1, Folder 12
Hamilton County Notes and Clippings, 1968–83	Box 1, Folder 13
Marion County Notes, 1969	Box 1, Folder 14
Rush County Clippings, 1974–75	Box 1, Folder 15
Boone County Clippings, 1975	Box 1, Folder 16

Madison County Notes and Clippings, 1975–76	Box 1, Folder 17
Monroe County Notes and Clippings, 1975–87 and not dated	Box 1, Folder 18
Bartholomew County Clippings, 1976	Box 1, Folder 19
Hancock County Clippings, 1976	Box 1, Folder 20
Hendricks County Clippings, 1976	Box 1, Folder 21
Allen County Notes and Clippings, 1976 and not dated	Box 1, Folder 22
Kosciusko County Notes and Clippings, 1976–82 and not dated	Box 1, Folder 23
Elkhart County Clippings, 1978	Box 1, Folder 24

Series 3: Photographs

CONTENTS

Hamilton County Schoolhouses, not dated
Howard County Schoolhouses, not dated
Indiana Schoolhouses, not dated (1 of 4)
Indiana Schoolhouses, not dated (2 of 4)
Indiana Schoolhouses, not dated (3 of 4)
Indiana Schoolhouses, not dated (4 of 4)
Kosciusko County Schoolhouses, not dated
Madison County Schoolhouses, not dated

CONTAINER

Photographs Folder 1 of 5
Photographs Folder 2 of 5
Slides Bin 1 of 4
Slides Bin 2 of 4
Slides Bin 3 of 4
Slides Bin 4 of 4
Color Photographs Folder 1 of 3
Photographs Folder 3 of 5

Marion County Photographs, not dated

Photographs
Folder 4 of 5

Monroe County Schoolhouses, not dated

Color Photographs
Folder 2 of 3

Unidentified Schoolhouses, not dated

Photographs
Folder 5 of 5

Unidentified Schoolhouses, not dated

Color Photographs
Folder 3 of 3

Series 4: Maps

CONTENTS

District Schoolhouses and Water Powered Mills in
Hamilton County Map, not dated

CONTAINER

FF 15d
Folder 1 of 2

School, Road, and Radio Station Maps (Marked), not
dated

FF 15d
Folder 2 of 2