ORNDORFF FAMILY
COLLECTION, CA. 1850S–1920S, 1932

Collection Information

Biographical Sketch

Scope and Content Note

Series Contents

Cataloging Information

Processed by
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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: | Visual Materials: 1 box of photographs, 2 boxes of cased images  
|                       | Manuscript Materials: 1 Bound Volume, 1 Oversize Manuscript Folder |
| COLLECTION DATES:     | Ca. 1850s–1920s, 1932 |
| PROVENANCE:           | Marguerite Orndorff bequest, 1963 |
| 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:     | |
| ACCESSION NUMBER:     | 1963.0901 |
| NOTES:                | |
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Orndorff family: According to census records James Henry Orndorff was born in Ohio about 1858. Called Harry by his family, he was married in June 1880 to Amelia Louise Tapking also from Ohio. The couple settled in Indianapolis soon after their marriage. The 1880 Census shows they were living at 423 Michigan Street and James was working at a railroad office. By 1900 the couple was living at 573 Liberty Street and had two surviving children, Bernice then thirteen and Marguerite aged seven. James listed his occupation as a book keeper and Amelia was a ceramics teacher.

Eventually the family moved to 1617 Central Avenue. Daughters Anna and Marguerite remained in the home with their parents. Both girls attended Chicago University and became school teachers. James died in 1925 and Amelia died in 1951.

Sources:
Ancestry.com
Materials in collection

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of studio portraits taken in Indianapolis and Cincinnati of the Orndorff and Tapking families. Almost half of the portraits are of James H. Orndorff, his wife Amelia Louise Tapking Orndorff, and their children–Bernice, David Henry, and Marguerite. The remaining portraits are of other Orndorff and Tapking family members and friends. Also included are two novelty tintypes of James Orndorff, an unidentified groundbreaking ceremony at which James is present, and a photograph of a primary school room with students and teacher ca. 1895.

There is also the marriage license of June 2, 1880 between James and Amelia and a scrapbook. The scrapbook was kept by someone in the family and includes programs and advertisements of Indianapolis theaters, news articles, Powell’s Dancing Academy, Indiana Medical College, graduation program 1878, Indianapolis Street Railway ticket, and some marriage, birth, and death records that are written and pasted in.
SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Cased Images, Tintypes, and Photographs, 1850s–1920s

CONTENTS

Mary Ann Nagel Bloor
James Bloor
grandparents of James Henry (Harry) Orndorff

[unidentified girl]

David Henry Orndorff, (about 1855) father of Harry
[two portraits]

Henry William Tapking,
Anna Louise Moerker Tapking,
daughters: Amelia Louise and Anna (baby)

[unidentified family of seven]
[image is extremely fragile and must be stored flat]

James Henry Orndorff, 1877–1909
[portraits of James, includes tintypes with James’ head
on a cartoon character body of a minstrel and a
speaker before a crowd]

Amelia L. Orndorff—ca. 1869 or 70
[young woman seated wearing striped dress]
Amelia Tapking Orndorff standing 18 yrs. of age
[with unidentified friend]
[Three portraits of Amelia Orndorff, 1877, 1884, 1909
two tintypes and one photograph]

Bernice Orndorff [4 photographs, 1 tintype, from
infant to young adult]

“David Henry, son of Amelia L. & J.H. Orndorff 1881
or 1882” [died 1884, date taken from BV829]

Marguerite Orndorff [from infant to toddler to young
adult, three photographs and 1 tintype]

CONTAINER

Cased Images:
Box 1, ID 42 & 43

Cased Images:
Box 1, ID 41

Cased Images:
Box 1, ID 39 & 40

Cased Images:
Box 1, ID 44

Cased Images:
Box 2, ID 273

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 3

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 4

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 5
[Charles Tapking son of Frederich and Wilhelmina Tapking]
[2 portraits of Emma Tapking]
[2 portraits of Laura Tapking]
[1 portrait of Dena Tapking]

Dena Tapking 1876 [1 tintype portrait]
“Emma Wuelfeck Huenke at 19 yrs 1877 cousin of Amelia” [2 portraits]
[portrait of Louis Huenke with handlebar mustache]

Fannie Iliff [tintype]
Mary Frances Iliff sister of seated Charles E. Iliff
[cabinet card]
Fannie Iliff [cabinet card]

Lillie Gerking (?) Albershardt ,
John Albershardt

Mrs. James H. Taylor and John [woman with glasses holding baby on her shoulder]
Alice Baird [woman wearing cross]
[unidentified portrait of young man]
[Alvina Moerker “cousin of Amelia L. Orndorff m.[married] Charles Wild, Fremont, Neb.”
[unidentified portrait of woman with braided hair]

[2 place cards, Harry Orndorff and Amelia Tapking]
[photograph of 3 adults and 3 children, Harry Orndorff in photo wearing dark pants]
[ground breaking ceremony, Harry Orndorff is standing to the left of the man with a shovel]

[elementary school room, ca. 1890s]

Series 2: Manuscript Materials, 1870s–1920s, 1932

CONTENTS

Numbered list of Orndorff and Tapking family members provided by donor

CONTAINER

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1
Marriage license of James H. Orndorff and Amelia L. Tapking, June 2, 1880, married at Zion Lutheran Church, Indianapolis, in German

Scrapbook of mostly entertainment advertisements and news articles, one page contains family information on births, marriages, and deaths, marked by a paper tag, 1870s–1920s, 1932
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, P 0014).

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