

Collection #
P 0496

**ROBERT B. ANNIS COLLECTION
1925–1976, BULK 1930S**

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Processed by

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19 November 2008

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	180 cans of 16mm film, 1 Photograph Box (includes manuscript material), 1 Box 35mm Negatives, 4 Boxes 3"x4" Glass Lantern Slides, two 8"x10" Glass Plate Negatives, seven 4"x5" acetate negatives, four 4"x5" polyester negatives, nine 120mm negatives, and one artifact
COLLECTION DATES:	1925–1976, bulk 1930s
PROVENANCE:	Donated by Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana, 8 November 2006. Collection was found in business/home of the R.B. Annis Co. that was at 11th and Delaware Streets.
RESTRICTIONS:	The moving image films in this collection are not available for viewing, but may be transferred to DVD upon request for a fee. Negatives and glass lantern slides may be viewed only with the assistance of staff.
COPYRIGHT:	
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.
ALTERNATE FORMATS:	
RELATED HOLDINGS:	See also: Olson, Gordon L., <i>Robert B. Annis: Man of Precision: A Biography</i> , Allendale, Mich.: Grand Valley State University, 2001, c1993 available in General Collection: HF3023.A56 O47 2001
ACCESSION NUMBER:	2006.0481
NOTES:	The R.B. Annis home on N. Delaware Street can be seen briefly in a 1997 taped tour with Indiana Historic Landmarks Foundation staff and P.E. MacAllister – see P 0492, <i>Indiana Historic [Landmarks] Foundation DVD</i> , Box 15 (chapter 9 on disc).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Robert B. Annis was born February 22, 1907 in Connersville, Indiana, to Elvin and Mable Annis. Before Robert was born, Mable was on the road with Elvin while he was selling stereoscopic viewing machines. After Robert's birth the family tried farming near Cambridge City, Indiana. When that did not work out they soon found themselves in Indianapolis, Indiana. Unable to find other work, Elvin was back on the road. Elvin and Mable divorced shortly after settling in Indianapolis; Robert stayed with his mother.

R.B. Annis began his education at William Bell Elementary School; he demonstrated a great deal of artistic ability. While a student at Colburn School he won a scholarship to the John Herron Art Institute. In 1921 Annis was a student at Shortridge High School; here he further explored his interests in both manual arts and fine arts. Also at Shortridge, Annis was first exposed to wireless radio. A school cloakroom had been converted to a wireless radio room; he was there whenever he had a chance.

After only one year at Shortridge, Annis had to leave high school and find a job. He had a series of jobs at American Fletcher National Bank, the Union Trust Company, and Herff-Jones jewelry manufacturing company.

Annis maintained his interest in science and radio. He joined the Indianapolis Radio Club in 1922; he later joined the Sciencetech Club which was founded in 1918 by D.J. Angus, Eli Lilly, and many other notable Indianapolis area men. D.J. Angus had taken note of Annis's ability to understand complicated scientific principles and recommended him for a job at Thomas and Skinner Steel Products Company. At this job Annis was able to expand his knowledge of technology, specifically magnets.

In 1927, while an employee at Thomas and Skinner, Annis went back to high school to get his diploma. He attended Arsenal Technical High School. During his spare time he maintained a small business making and selling radio equipment. In the mid-1920s, with several part-time employees, he opened Annis Electrical Apparatus Company at 1505 E. Michigan. Annis received his high school diploma in 1930.

Throughout the Depression demand for radio equipment from the Annis Company remained high. The U.S. Naval Reserve ordered continuous wave transmitters and receivers, the radio station WLAP in Louisville, Kentucky, ordered a completely new broadcasting station, and customers ordered amateur radio stations for their homes.

During the slow times Annis was able to explore another hobby: photography. Annis, and many of his friends, took trips throughout the western United States. They documented these trips in photographs and motion pictures. Annis used his knowledge of film making to produce public relations films for several Indianapolis area businesses. He worked with the Indianapolis Water Company, Bethlehem Steel Company, Indiana University, and he produced a film titled *Keeper of the Fires* for Citizens Gas and Coke Utility. Annis also

started renting films and equipment through a project he called the Hoosier Film Library. There were feature films, documentaries, comedies, and cartoons.

Employing his photography skills, Annis produced a series of aerial photographs for the Public Works Administration (PWA). The photographs demonstrate the progress of Indianapolis area PWA construction projects, specifically Lockefield Garden Apartments. Annis even built his own camera for the job.

By 1941 the R.B. Annis Company had expanded from its 1505 East Michigan Street location, into 1507, 1509, and 1511. The walls were knocked out to accommodate the growing business. When the rent was raised at this location Annis decided it was time to relocate. The company moved into a post-Civil War era mansion at 1101 N. Delaware Street, formerly the house of the Indianapolis Business and Professional Women's Club.

The end of the 1930s meant a production change for the R.B. Annis Company. The focus shifted from radio and photography equipment to magnetics and precision balancing equipment. In 1939 Annis was asked to build a balancing machine by the U.S. Machine Company. The Annis Company war-time production began with a Helmholtz coil with a dip-needle mechanism. This was ordered by Great Britain to test German magnetic mines. Annis also received a request for improved magnets, for locating and tracking enemy submarines, from the U.S. Navy's SCAT program.

Demand for Annis Company equipment remained high after the war. Companies continued to place orders for specially designed products. Annis designed a magnetic book theft detector system still used in libraries today. The company also completed orders for custom demagnetizers for companies like General Motors, General Electric, and the Bremen Bearing Company.

After the war, Annis's personal life changed greatly due to a dinner with fellow Sciencetech Club member Charlie Fay. Fay's daughter, Miriam, was home from her job in Oakland, California. She had recently been on a camping trip and had many slides to show. Annis was asked to bring his slide projector. The two bonded over their interest in the outdoors and continued to correspond after Miriam returned to California. Annis proposed to Miriam by mail and they were married in Indiana on July 3, 1949. For their honeymoon they went on a camping trip through the Southwest.

D.J. Angus, Annis's mentor and a Sciencetech Club founder, died in 1966. As a memorial, Annis founded the D.J. Angus Sciencetech Educational Foundation in 1968. Shortly before Angus died he gave his 50-foot yacht, named the *Angus*, to the Grand Valley State University's Water Resources Institute, now known as the Annis Water Resources Institute, located in Allendale, Michigan. For 25 years D.J. Angus, Robert Annis, and others spent many days touring the Great Lakes on the *Angus*.

The importance of community involvement may have been impressed upon Robert Annis by D.J. Angus. Annis continued his involvement in the Sciencetech Club until his death. In the 1960s he organized and judged the Marion County Science Fair. In 1968 he began

taking a group of science fair winners to the Water Resources Institute to teach them the importance of scientific research. He also served on the Indianapolis Board of Education and was a member of the Indianapolis Public Schools Vocational Advisory Committee. Annis was a “skipper” in the Hoosier Canoe club; he and Miriam organized the club’s bicentennial 300–mile canoe trip. In 1985 when Miriam Annis passed away, Robert Annis established the Miriam Fay Annis Memorial Scholarship for Continuing Education in Senior Girl Scouts within the Angus Sciencetech Educational Foundation.

It was through his community involvement that Annis met Elmira Vermillion. The two were members of the Benjamin Harrison Neighborhood Association. They both shared an interest in community service and working with young people. In 1988, Robert and Elmira were married.

Annis’s service and dedication to the community and youth did not go unnoticed. In 1976 Annis received a Community Service Award from the Indianapolis Scientific and Engineering Foundation. Governor Robert D. Orr honored Annis in 1987, naming him a Sagamore of the Wabash. In October of 1993, Grand Valley State University gave Annis an honorary Doctor of Science degree. And just before his death in 1999, Robert and Elmira Annis traveled to Boston where he received a nationally recognized award for informal science education from the National Science Teachers Association.

Annis had dreams of establishing a science institute, and over time this idea became the R.B. Annis Educational Foundation. The foundation was established in 1996 and it supports many of Annis’s interests. Not only does the foundation support education and science but also art, music, and historic preservation.

Robert B. Annis died on September 6, 1999. In the spring of 2001, Mike Scott, who had been an employee for eighteen years, took over the company. R.B. Annis Instruments, Incorporated currently operates out of Greencastle, Indiana.

Sources:

Olson, Gordon L. *Robert B. Annis: Man of Precision*. Allendale, Michigan: Grand Valley State University, 2001. General Collection: HF3023.A56 O47 2001.

R.B. Annis Instruments, Inc. (<http://www.rbannis.com>). Accessed 4 September 2008.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The R.B. Annis film collection consists of 180 reels of moving picture film. Additionally, there are manuscripts, photographs, negatives, lantern slides, and one artifact. The moving image films in this collection are not available for viewing, but may be transferred to DVD upon request for a fee. Negatives and glass lantern slides may be viewed only with the assistance of staff.

The motion pictures include feature films, documentaries, travelogues, Scientech Club movies, and films produced by R.B. Annis for Indianapolis area businesses. The feature films, documentaries, and travelogues may have belonged to the Hoosier Film Library, a film rental project Annis started in the 1930s. Many of the films are from trips taken with the Scientech Club, and also trips Annis took with his wife and friends. During the 1930s Annis produced films for the Indianapolis Water Company, Bethlehem Steel Company, and Indiana University. This collection includes cuts, scraps, and negatives for these films. Annis also produced a film titled *Keeper of the Fires* for Citizens Gas and Coke Utility. In this collection are ten of the original camera reels, five work prints, and a few negative reels used to make *Keeper of the Fires*. There is also a folder of printed frames from 16mm film; some of these prints are from *Keeper of the Fires*.

Two travel essays from Scientech Club camping trips are included; both are written by W.C. Mabee. They are about trips the group took to Muscle Shoals and various locations through the Smoky Mountains. The essays describe the daily activities, incidents encountered, and poetry Mabee composed. There are also photographs of the men and the sites.

There are many photographs of R.B. Annis Company products. This includes photographs of radio equipment, demagnetizers, and balancing machines. There are also 62 lantern slides about various balancing machines produced by the company.

Annis had a contract with the Public Works Administration (PWA) to take aerial progress photos of PWA construction projects. There are many aerial photographs and negatives of the Lockefield Garden Apartments through the stages of construction. There are also aerial prints and negatives of the Weir Cook Municipal Airport, Arsenal Technical High School, and possibly the 1937 flood. Annis built his own camera to finish the PWA job.

Other photographs and negatives in the collection are: glass plate negatives of group photographs of the 1925 Indianapolis Radio Club, a group of photographs from a trip to Colorado (possibly the R.B. and Miriam Annis honeymoon), prints and negatives of boating and canoeing trips, prints and negatives of the Great Lakes and the *Angus* (50 ft. yacht), and negatives of Annis and others meeting Governor Matthew E. Welsh.

The one artifact in the collection is a Bell and Howell Kodacolor projection lens with a magnifying lens.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: 16mm and 35mm Motion Pictures

CONTENTS

Canyon De Chelly, Rainbow Bridge, Grand Canyon, 1935. 5 small cans, "DJA" written on reels 2 and 3.

Mesa Verde – Zion/Bryce – Meteor Crater, 1932. 6 small cans.

- 1- "Spring Mill." "Western 1-4."
- 2- "DJA Mesa Verde 5-6-7-8." "Reel 2."
- 3- "DJA 9-10-11-12." "Reel 3."
- 4- "#4 13-14-15-16."
- 5- "#5 17-18-19-20."
- 6- "6."

Indiana 1934-1935, Cataract, Esterline, Angus Picnic; Mrs. Angus and Corbett at Indianapolis and Madison; 1937 Flood Ohio River. 1 small can.

Navy 1931. 1 small can.

Indiana Camping and MCLS 1936. 1 small can.

Radio Club 1933-1934; Trips to Fay Williams 1935; Grand Haven Trips 1934-1935. 1 small can.

South Indiana 1932; Bedford – Spring Mill – West Baden – Cataract. 1 small can.

CONTAINER

AF 001

Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – A

AF 002

Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – A

AF 003

Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – B

AF 004

Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – B

AF 005

Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – B

AF 006

Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – B

AF 007

Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – B

Hindenburg Explosion. Three copies in 3 small cans.

AF 008
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – B

Grand Canyon; Cobra Mongoose. 1 small can.

AF 009
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – B

Sea Animals; The Floor of the Atlantic. 1 small can.

AF 010
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – B

Tetons – Yellowstone Craters 1933. 7 small cans.

- 1- “1933 West 1.” “1-2-3-4.”
- 2- “1933 West 2.” “5-6-7-8.”
- 3- “1933 West 3.” “25-26.”
- 4- “Craters 7.” “Craters 1.” “21-22-23-24.” “DJA Craters.” “Western 2.”
- 5- “Tetons 4.”
- 6- “Yellowstone 5.” “5-6-7-8.”
- 7- “Yellowstone 6.” “13-14-15-16.”

AF 011
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – B

Water Co. Color Scraps. 9 small cans.

- 1- “W.C. Neg. 15.”
- 2- *No label.*
- 3- *No label.*
- 4- *No label.*
- 5- “Annis Color Cuts.”
- 6- *No label.*
- 7- “Industrial No. 1.”
- 8- “Old part of “Pony Express.”
- 9- “Smoky Mountains – Reelfoot.”

AF 012
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – C

Train to Mexico; Angus, Harrod, and Annis 1934-1935. 4 small cans.

- 1- “Mex. 1; Annis 9-10.”
- 2- “Mex. 2; Bullfight at start.”
- 3- “Mex. 3; Pyramids.”
- 4- “Mex. 4.” Original can had a metal tag reading “Esterline-Angus Co. Indpls, IN.”

AF 013
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – C

Yucatan. 6 small cans.

- 1- *No label.*
- 2- "Yucatan 1."
- 3- "Yucatan 2."
- 4- "Yucatan 3."
- 5- "Yucatan 4, Road and Village."
- 6- "Yucatan 5, Chicken."

AF 014
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – C

Yucatan 1938; Angus, Jacobson, Annis. 7 small cans.

- 1- "Yucatan 1."
- 2- "2."
- 3- "3."
- 4- "4. Yucatan going to Chechen."
- 5- "5."
- 6- "6."
- 7- "7."

AF 015
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – D

Grand Haven and Boat 1937-1941; Suriname. 6 small cans.

- 1- "1 Surinam; 1,3,4,6."
- 2- "2 Surinam; 7-9-10-11."
- 3- "3 Surinam; 13-14."
- 4- "1940-1941-1942."
- 5- "Indianapolis and Grand Haven 1937-1938."
- 6- "1939 Grand Haven and Yacht."

AF 016
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – D

Reelfoot Lake – Tennessee 1931; Cincinnati 1931; Dinah. 1 small can.

AF 017
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – E

Sciencetech Club Picnic on Tippecanoe River 1930; Smoky Mountain Trip, Sciencetech Club, October 1934. 1 small can.

AF 018
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – E

Sciencetech Smokies #1; Yellowstone Cuts; 1934 Sciencetech Smoky Mountains Trip #1. 1 small can.

AF 019
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – E

Scientech Smokies #2; 1934 Scientech Smoky Mountain Trip #2; Smoky Mountains Trip 1933. 1 small can.

AF 020
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – E

Wilson Dam – Scientech Trip October 1933. 1 small can.

AF 021
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – E

Cuts from Last IWC Film “Waterways to Health.” 8 small reels in 8 small cans. Not individually labeled, arbitrarily numbered. [Indianapolis Water Company]

AF 022
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 1 – E

Three Soundtracks. One small can. A note listed the content:

AF 023
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

1. *Mother’s voice answering question.*
2. *Sound track prints using RCA projector.*
3. *Music – mine(?) sequence.*

City of Wax. One small can.

AF 024
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

Mexico. The World Parade, Castle Films. One small can.

AF 025
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

The Screen Traveler. One small can.

AF 026
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

Bali Paradise Isle. The World Parade, Castle Films. One small can.

AF 027
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

“Waterways.” One small can.

AF 028
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

Broadcasting this Town. One small can.

AF 029
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

Thank You America. One small can.

AF 030
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

Personal. April-June 1946. One small can.

AF 031
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

Pictures of Yacht “Angus.” One small can.

AF 032
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

South America. Four reels in 4 small cans.

AF 033
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

Indianapolis Radio Club. One small can.

AF 034
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

I’m An American (Musical). One small can.

AF 035
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

The Family Shoe. One small can.

AF 036
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – A

<i>Farm Inconveniences #11.</i> Two small cans.	AF 037 Location: Cold Room 7B – 2 – A
<i>Aladdin's Lamp #46.</i> One small can.	AF 038 Location: Cold Room 7B – 2 – A
<i>Beyond the Rio Grande #52.</i> One small can.	AF 039 Location: Cold Room 7B – 2 – A
<i>Craters of the Moon #63.</i> One small can.	AF 040 Location: Cold Room 7B – 2 – A
<i>Netherlands America #91.</i> One small can.	AF 041 Location: Cold Room 7B – 2 – A
<i>Tiger Hunt in Bengal #117.</i> One small can.	AF 042 Location: Cold Room 7B – 2 – A
<i>Behind the Water Front Reel 1, #301.</i> Reel 1 of 2 in one small can.	AF 043 Location: Cold Room 7B – 2 – A
<i>Behind the Water Front Reel 2, #301.</i> Reel 2 of 2 in one small can.	AF 044 Location: Cold Room 7B – 2 – A
<i>Water at Home and Abroad Reel 1, #306.</i> One small can.	AF 045 Location: Cold Room 7B – 2 – A

Admiral Byrd #307. One small can.

AF 046
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Arctic Thrills #309. One small can.

AF 047
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Land of the Incas #335. One small can.

AF 048
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Lindbergh's Flight #336. One small can.

AF 049
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Mystic India #343. One small can.

AF 050
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Native Africa #344. One small can.

AF 051
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Sea Going Thrills #368. One small can.

AF 052
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Valley of 10,000 Smokes #373. One small can.

AF 053
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Whaling in the South Pacific #375. One small can.

AF 054
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Wild Elephant Roundup #371. One small can.

AF 055
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Fishing Thrills #380. One small can.

AF 056
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Pony Express. Two extra large cans.

AF 057
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Broadway to the Jungle. Two extra large cans.

AF 058
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Reconquering Antarctica. Two extra large cans.

AF 059
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Little Men. Two extra large cans.

AF 060
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Wagon Trails. Two extra large cans.

AF 061
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Cavalcade of Civilization. Two extra large cans.

AF 062
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – B

Adventure Bound - #1. One extra large can.

AF 063
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

At Your Service. R.B. Annis Co. Two medium cans.

AF 064
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Under Control. Pennzoil Co. film. Two large cans.

AF 065
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Woodworking. A film about making furniture and instruments from wood. One large can.

AF 066
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Regular Folks, Fall – 37. One extra large can.

AF 067
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Flying Red Horse Army. One extra large can.

AF 068
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

A Fresh Start. One extra large can.

AF 069
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

“Jake.” One small can. 3 strips of 16mm film, content unidentified. The original box was addressed to R.B. Annis, 1505 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis, IN.

AF 070
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

“Wes.” One small can. 4 strips of 16mm film, content unidentified. The original box was addressed to R.B. Annis, 1505 E. Michigan St., Indianapolis, IN.

AF 071
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

“Fire Film.” One small can.

AF 072
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

“Clif Meier.” Five reels, 5 small cans. Each reel has a different title:

1. No title, corresponding notes (dated notes) in Manuscripts.
2. “Indianapolis Reel 1.”
3. “Indianapolis Reel 2.”
4. “Calif.”
5. “Eastern.”

AF 073
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

“End Pos. Work Cuts.” *Cuts from Work Print.* One small can.

AF 074
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

C.S. Meier Local. One small can.

AF 075
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Sample Recordings. One small can. A note with the original can listed the content:

AF 076
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

1. Music – “Donkey Serenade,” “Celita.”
2. MBA voice in sound booth.
3. RBA voice in sound booth.
4. Little girl asking question.
5. Mother’s answer.
6. RBA asking chemist question.
7. Hamilton answering.
8. Music with sound of pusher.
9. Train – crickets – RBA speaking etc.
10. Birds.
11. Little boy crying.

Studio Recording, Yucatan Music, Country Sounds.
One small can. A note with the original can listed the content:

AF 077
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Start White Horse Inn Bird Songs.
R.B. Annis's voice (in projection room).
Yucatan Music.
Mothe Singers and country sparrows recording in projection room.
Banjo.
Blues "Sugar."

Soundtracks-Gas Co. One small can. Notes with the original can listed the content:

AF 078
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Old Sound Track (cut from 1st print "Keeper of the Fires.")
"Fires" Music and Sound Effects.

Positive and Negative Maps and Scenes Cut from Revised Film. One small can.

AF 079
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

RCA Sound Camera and other Prints. One small can.

AF 080
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Frequency Test "Mikes" Test. One small can. A note with the original can listed the content:

AF 081
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Test Reel.
Music.
Mother's voice sound.
R.B. Annis's voice.
Little girl.
Answer mothers – Best.
My [R.B. Annis] question.
Hamilton's answer – Best.
Sound effects (partly).
Music.

Gas Co. Sound Test. One small can. A note with the can listed the content:

AF 082
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Old Gas Co.
Sound Tracks.
Music with sound effects.

EWA Dog and Pups. One small can.
Accompanying the reel was a business card from the R.B. Annis Company with an address on the back:
Henry Des Jardins, 231 N. Cicott St., Logansport.

AF 083
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Scenes at E.C. Attains Co. One small can.

AF 084
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Street Railway Film. One small can.

AF 085
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Keeper of the Fires Original Camera Film. Ten small cans. Cans are arbitrarily numbered. Notes with the cans are below.

AF 086
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Can 1: 1. Lightning (tree on fire); 2. Caveman starting fire; 3 Indian starting fire; 4. Rockport – borrowing fire; 5. Pioneer starting fire; 6. Covered wagon.

Can 2: Mining scenes.

Can 3: Prospect St. Plant #1.

Can 4: Original Camera Film, Industrial. 1. Foundry; 2. Esterline Angus; 3. Glass Co.; 4. J.D. Adams; 5. Atkins, black and white/color; 6. Kroger's.

Can 5: Prospect Plant #3.

Can 6: 1. Trucks starting out, pipe laying, illustrative map; 2. Commercial Fertilizer "tag"; 3. Farming scenes; 4. View showing cans of tar; 5. Tarring roads; 6. Girls driving by in car.

Can 7: Physical lab scenes; Chemical lab; Masked shots.

Can 8: Gas Home Scenes.

Can 9: 1. Modern kitchen scenes, Mrs. Bornstein and Connie; 2. Scene of MBA turning on gas stove; 3. Kitchen at athletic club; 4. Modern bathroom scenes; 5. Pioneer kitchen, mother giving boy a bath.

Can 10: Prospect Plant #2.

Work Print, Fires. Five small cans.

AF 087
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Sound Negative Extra, Fires. One small can. A note with the original can listed the content:

AF 088
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – C

Sound effect fire and music.

Frogs and crickets music.

Repeats fires music.

Keeper of Fires.

Clips from "Keeper of the Fires." Produced by the R.B. Annis Co. One small can.

AF 089
Location:
Cold Room
7B - 2 - C

Center Lodge #23 Presents Sandy Claws. Produced by R.B. Annis. Reels 1-3 are positives. Reel 4 is a negative. Four Reels in 2 small cans.

AF 090
Location:
Cold Room
7B - 2 - D

"Keeper of the Fires" Negatives, Titles and Ending. One small can.

AF 091
Location:
Cold Room
7B - 2 - D

"Reversed Soundtrack." One small can. Content on reel unidentified.

AF 092
Location:
Cold Room
7B - 2 - D

Overexposed, Sound. One small can. Content on reel unidentified.

AF 093
Location:
Cold Room
7B - 2 - D

"Test Reel." One small can containing two small 8mm reels of film.

AF 094
Location:
Cold Room
7B - 2 - D

Marching Band, Parade. Footage of a marching band, possibly marching in a parade. One small can.

AF 095
Location:
Cold Room
7B - 2 - D

Kodacolor. An advertisement for the film. Footage of a woman on a boat with an umbrella. One small can.

AF 096
Location:
Cold Room
7B - 2 - D

"The End" R.B. Annis Film Library. One small can.

AF 097
Location:
Cold Room
7B - 2 - D

Color Clips. Possibly a film advertisement. One small can.

AF 098
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – D

Unidentified Sound. Three small reels in 1 large can. Content on reels unidentified.

AF 099
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – D

Two 16mm Negatives. Two small negative reels, possibly “home movies.” Shots of children and a small group of people. One small can.

AF 100
Location:
Cold Room
7B – 2 – D.

Series 2: Manuscript Material

CONTENTS

Muscle Shoals Inspected by a Group from the Sciencetech Club. By W.C. Mabee, October 25, 1933.

Related to reels:

- *Sciencetech Smokies #1; Yellowstone Cuts; 1934 Sciencetech Smoky Mountains Trip #1.*
- *Sciencetech Smokies #2; 1934 Sciencetech Smoky Mountain Trip #2; Smoky Mountains Trip 1933.*
- *Wilson Dam – Sciencetech Trip October 1933.*

Related to photographs:

- *Sciencetech Club Camping Trips.*

Through the Smoky Mountains with the Sciencetech Club, May 1934. By W.C. Mabee.

Related to reels:

- *Sciencetech Smokies #2; 1934 Sciencetech Smoky Mountain Trip #2; Smoky Mountains Trip 1933.*
- *Sciencetech Smokies #1; Yellowstone Cuts; 1934 Sciencetech Smoky Mountains Trip #1.*

Related to photographs:

- *Sciencetech Club Camping Trips.*

Notes for 16mm Reels. Notes from “*Cuts from last IWC Film “Waterways to Health” and “Clif Meier”*” Reel 1.

CONTAINER

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 1

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 2

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 3

Series 3: Photographs

CONTENTS

R.B. Annis Company Photographs. Photographs of the products, shop, and workers. One R.B. Annis Company business card.

Sciencetech Club Camping Trips. Photographs of Sciencetech Club members and the trip destinations.

Colorado. Photographs of Chasm Falls, the tombstone of Buffalo Bill, canyons, and the power dam in Nederland, CO. Also a photograph of an unidentified woman.

Great Lakes Area. Photographs of the *Angus* (yacht), and other vessels; Grand Haven, Michigan; Font Lake, and the people who went on the boating trips.

Postcards. Postcards from the Smoky Mountains, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Ohio, Maryland, Massachusetts, Arizona, Colorado, and two of the Transatlantic *SS Normandie*. Two of the postcards are addressed to Chas Fay.

Aerial Photography. Aerial photographs of various locations: Weir Cook Municipal Airport, Arsenal Technical High School, and two unidentified locations. Three of the photographs are from scanned nitrate negatives.

Lockefield Gardens Aerial Photographs. The photographs demonstrate the progress of the PWA Lockefield Garden Apartments construction project. Annis built his own aerial camera for the project. Fifteen of the prints are from scanned nitrate negatives.

16mm Film Enlargements. Some of the enlargements are from *Keeper of the Fires*, a film project produced by the R.B. Annis Co. for the Citizens Gas and Coke Utility of Indianapolis.

CONTAINER

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 4

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 5

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 6

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 7

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 8

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 9

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 10

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 11

Portraits and ARRL. Portraits of R.B. Annis and unidentified people. A group photograph from the Second Annual Hoosier ARRL (American Radio Relay League) Convention in 1925.

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 12

Hoosier Canoe Club, Bicentennial Canoe Cruise. Clipping of advertisement for Canadian canoe trips; photographs of logo and map.

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 13

Unidentified and other. Photographs from the Seaquarium in Miami, Florida; of a Cummins Diesel-Powered Automobile in Daytona Beach, Florida; a car accident; a square dance; and a negative labeled "Mr. Miller Hamilton Enlargement."

Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 14

Series 4: Negatives

CONTENTS

Two 8"x10" glass plate negatives labeled ARRL (American Radio Relay League) and IRC (Indianapolis Radio Club).

Four 4"x5" acetate negatives of Governor Matthew E. Welsh with R.B. Annis and unidentified men.

R.B. Annis, kneeling left; Miriam Fay Annis, kneeling right.

Portrait of R.B. Annis.

A group standing in front of boats and a body of water; R.B. Annis holds an accordion on the far right.

R.B. Annis stands middle left, next to an unidentified man.

A group standing on a dock next to boats; R.B. Annis stands on the right holding an accordion.

CONTAINER

8"x10" Glass Plate
Negatives (community
box)

4"x5" Acetate Negatives
(community box)

4"x5" Acetate Negatives
(community box)

4"x5" Acetate Negatives
(community box)

4"x5" Acetate Negatives
(community box)

4"x5" Polyester Negative
(community box)

4"x5" Polyester Negative
(community box)

Two boats at a dock, groups of men in uniforms are standing on aboard boats. 3 negatives.

4"x5" Polyester Negative
(community box)

The logo from the "Bicentennial Wabash Canoe Cruise 1976."

4"x5" Polyester Negative
(community box)

Two negatives of a Christmas tree and seven negatives of two different houses.

120mm Acetate Black and
White Negatives
(community box)

Series 5: 35mm Negatives

CONTENTS

Negatives of a boat during construction.

Negatives of the *Angus* and groups of people aboard the *Angus*. Negatives of birds flying above a body of water and eggs in a bird's nest (Folder 1). Some negatives are of groups of unidentified people, also of an unidentified boat that is possibly the *Angus*.

Negatives of R.B. Annis Company equipment, R.B. Annis portraits, the Esterline *Angus* water tower, the Jackson Iron Company, and "Boone No. 7."

Negatives of a trip to Florida and the Miami Seaquarium (Folder 1-5). An automobile race (Folder 6). A greeting card (Folder 7). And unidentified boat docks, boats, bridges, and groups of people (Folders 8-15).

Negatives mostly of unidentified people, boats, and locations. Negatives from Beaver Island in Lake Michigan (Folders 3-7).

CONTAINER

35mm Negative Box 1,
Bin 1

35mm Negative Box 1,
Bin 2

35mm Negative Box 1,
Bin 3

35mm Negative Box 1,
Bin 4

35mm Negative Box 1,
Bin 5

Series 6: Glass Lantern Slides

CONTENTS

Balancing Machine. Sixty-two 3"x4" glass lantern slides. Possibly from a lecture about the balancing machines made by the R.B. Annis Co.

CONTAINER

Glass Lantern Slides,
Boxes 1-4

Series 7: Artifact

CONTENTS

Kodacolor Projection Lens and Magnifying Lens.
Bell and Howell Company.

CONTAINER

Artifacts: 2006.0481

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 0496).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.