

Collection #
P 0566

**SHORTRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL VISUAL COLLECTION
1906–2007**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 OVC photograph, 1 poster, 3 folders of color photographs

COLLECTION DATES: 1906–2007

PROVENANCE: Multiple

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBERS: 0000.0489, 0000.1225, 2000.0250, 2000.1264X, 2014.0120

NOTES: *See also:* Shortridge High School Records (M0482); Shortridge High School Scrapbook, 1917 (M0533); Shortridge High School Class Reunion of 1931 (M1147); Shortridge High School Alumni Materials, ca. 1966 (SC3034); Shortridge High School History Project Steering Committee Records, 1983–1986 (M0474); Shortridge High School Annuals (LD7501.I4647 A5); *Graduates of Indianapolis High School, Shortridge High School, 1869–1910* (LD7501.I4647 D37 2001)

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Shortridge High School was the first public high school in Indianapolis. Originally named Indianapolis High School, its classes were first held in the old County Seminary building in University Square, after public funding for a high school became available in 1853. In the beginning there were approximately 150 students.

The school was closed in 1858 when the Indiana Supreme Court declared local taxation for schools to be unconstitutional. In 1863 Abram C. Shortridge became superintendent of schools in Indianapolis. In 1864 he proposed the organization of a high school for the city. Twenty-eight students, who were selected by examination, spent a year of preparation and then started actual high school-level work in the fall of 1865.

The school then grew steadily and moved into the former Baptist Female Seminary building at Michigan and Pennsylvania streets in the early 1870s. That building was razed, and the school was rebuilt at that site in 1885.

A second high school, known as Indianapolis Training High School, opened in 1895. In 1899 its name was changed to Manual Training High School. It had previously been decided that Indianapolis High School would be renamed in honor of Abram Shortridge, but the new name of Shortridge High School was not widely used until 1899.

Shortridge High School continued to grow rapidly. By 1904 the enrollment was 1,495 students. A new, larger building opened on 30 January 1905 on the east side of Pennsylvania Street between North and Michigan streets. In 1912 Arsenal Technical High School opened on the east side as Indianapolis's third high school.

By the early 1920s most students rode to Shortridge via streetcar. They came from various parts of the city. Black students constituted 10 to 15 percent of the enrollment. In 1922 Indianapolis annexed the town of Broad Ripple, and eventually Broad Ripple High School also became part of Indianapolis. Washington High School and the all-black Crispus Attucks High School both opened in the fall of 1927. Indianapolis now had six high schools. Shortridge High School moved to its present location at 34th and Meridian streets in 1928.

After the state legislature passed a law in 1949 to eliminate racial segregation in public education, Shortridge was gradually desegregated. By 1953 black students comprised 15 percent of the student body, almost the same percentage as had attended Shortridge before the all-black Crispus Attucks High School opened. In 1956 North Central High School was established in response to Washington Township's growing population. The enrollment of black students at Shortridge rose to 28% by 1957.

A school that strove for excellence since its founding, Shortridge was recognized in the fall of 1957 as one of the best high schools in the country. By the fall of 1964, the number of black students at Shortridge reached 60%. Many of these students had not been prepared to meet Shortridge's academic standards.

Beginning in the fall of 1966, an entrance examination was required for enrollment. In the 1966-67 school year only 272 freshmen enrolled, 46% of whom were black. Though efforts were made over the next four years to increase enrollment, they were not effective. By the 1970–71 school year, Shortridge was converted back from an "academic school" into a "comprehensive school."

After several years of experimentation in busing, Shortridge closed in 1981. It was reopened as Shortridge Middle School. After more than \$10 million in improvements to the school, Shortridge was rededicated with an open house on a Sunday afternoon, 20 October 1985. Visitors saw the restored planetarium, computer labs, a greenhouse, dance studio, and audiology center.

In 2009, Shortridge was converted back to high school status as a magnet program focusing on law and government studies. On 26 February 2014 Shortridge became an International Baccalaureate World School.

Sources:

Cierzniak, Libby. "Indianapolis Collected: The Shortridge Vision" (<http://historicindianapolis.com/indianapolis-collected-the-shortridge-vision/>). Accessed 30 March 2016.

Freeland, Sharon Butsch. "Historic Indianapolis Mailbag: Indianapolis' First Public Schools" (<http://historicindianapolis.com/hi-mailbag-indianapolis-first-public-schools/>). Accessed 30 March 2016.

Gaus, Laura Sheerin. *Shortridge High School 1864–1981: In Retrospect*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1985. General Collection: LD7501 .I4647 G38 1985

International Baccalaureate. "Shortridge High School" (<http://www.ibo.org/en/school/049776/>). Accessed 30 March 2016.

"Shortridge Rededication Scheduled." In *The Indianapolis Recorder*, 19 October 1985, p. 1, 20 (<https://newspapers.library.in.gov/cgi-bin/indiana?a=d&d=INR19851019-01.1.1>). Accessed 30 March 2016.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of visual representations of students and events relating to Shortridge High School in Indianapolis. The collection may be added to in the future, depending on new acquisitions.

Currently, the collection includes three series:

Series 1, Class Photographs: This series contains a composite photograph of the class of 1906 with students identified (with the aid of the 1906 *Shortridge Annual*).

Series 2, Rededication of Shortridge: This series is composed of one poster commemorating the rededication of the school on 20 October 1985.

Series 3, Class Reunions: This series contains photographs of class reunions and includes sports team reunions: the varsity basketball team of 1941–42 and its reunion in 1985; 1987 and 2007 reunions of the class of 1947; 2000 reunion of the class of 1950.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Class Photographs

CONTENTS

Composite of members of the graduating class of June **1906**. Shows 148 individual photographic portraits of 99 female and 49 male students. Twelve or thirteen students appear to be black; the rest appear to be white. Photography and design by Nicholson Bros., Indianapolis.

Female students: Clio Thomas, Adele Willis, Lanna D. Marshall, Lilian Martin, Creella Wakefield, Dove Barbour, Rose A. Henderson, Sallie Virginia Martin, Maude McVicker, Ursula Parker, Jessie Ragsdale, Helen M. Reed, Beatrice W. Quinn, Mary C. Minturn, Magenta Ryan, Eva Nelson, Florence L. Tait, Marguerite Power, Clara Alice Peggs, Gertrude M. Pruitt, Lillis Thompson, Louise Marguerite Allen, Mabel C. Boyd, Marian A. Freijs, Josephine Doelker, Clara Holladay, Hazel Shoptaugh, Florence Nicoli, Margaret L. Simpson, Muriel Field Poe, Charlotte Tyler Carter, Nellie V. Paul, Helen Gail Spain, Marie H. Stewart, Ruth Frances Geiger, Jeannette Harseim, Mary Elizabeth Fields (listed as Mary Elizabefh Fields in 1906 Annual), Hazel Hendrix, Barcus Tichenor, Mamie L. Taylor, Ida Mueller, Kate N. Thompson, Louise A. Wheeler, Brenta F. Webber, Verla Rollins (listed as Verla Rollings in 1906 Annual), Hazel Alice Murphy, Olive Moore, Caroline Miller, Pearl Lloyd, Edna Crouse, Susan D. Carter, Blanche Stillson, Mary V. Harrison, Louise L. Lingenfelter, Genevieve Marston, Elizabeth Roceil Elliott, A. Aileen Gibbs, Marie Belle Benton, Ethel Romine, Edna A. Trueblood, Lucia A. Ketcham, Rachel E. Wright, Ida Calvin, Edith G. Avery (listed as Edith J. Avery in 1906 Annual), Emily Duncan, Anna Mae Lenentine, Laura Agnes Potter, Mildred H. Rodebaugh, Ruth Frances Martin, Daisy C. Lanham, Helen Shepard, Marguerite L. Brundage, Frances E. Howe, Mary Ward Holton, Edith Keegan, Jennie B. Brewster.

CONTAINER

OVC Box 1

Female students, class of 1906, continued: Lilian DuVal Foor, Jessie Boyd Anderson, Louise Davis, Maud M. Russell, Bessie Louise Jackson, Irene Belle Newnam, Jessie Duckwall, Helen M. Brown, Lora Bond, Henrietta Kellenbach, Vida E. Ayres, Sara Boyer, Alice W. Avery, Daisy C. Shaffer (listed as Daisy C. Schaffer in 1906 Annual), Odessa Jackson, Mary Dyer Lemon, Ina M. Lemen, W. Corinne Welling, Anna Brown, Pearl Leone Mosier, Mary E. Harlan, Frieda Julia Miller, Helen Marie Fosdick.

OVC Box 1

Male students, class of 1906: Harry W. Jackson, James F. Myers, F.D. Johnston (not listed in 1906 Annual), Robert C. Lowry, Jerome Harvey, Merritt A. Potter, George S. Schwartz, Harold Smith, Louis Harold Segar, George Henry Miller, Arthur M. Collins, Gilbert B. Clippinger, John J. Morgan, John T. Fritsche, Joe Hawkins, Louis W. Zimmerman, Walter B. Tinsley, Donald Morrison, Eldo Wagner, David A. Allerdice, Chester E. Lawrence, Samuel D. Waldorf, Samuel L. Trotcky, Alex Vonnegut, Harvey S. Talbott, Donn W. Watson, Robert T. Hughes, Patrick Harity, Wylie Johnston Daniels, Paul Buchanan, Theodore B. Griffith, Oliver Copeland, M. Lewis (not listed in 1906 Annual), Robert Hamp, John Ford, Herbert R. Hyman, Harold Tolles, Clifford M. Sublette, Ray Bonsib, Carroll Davis, Julian Jacob Kiser, Horace B. Kerlin, Clyde Geisel, Will Millington, Morris Fishbein, Murat DeWees, Norman William Cook, Ernest LeRoy Copper, Edw. B. McLaughlin.

OVC Box 1

Series 2: Rededication of Shortridge

CONTENTS

Color poster with drawing of exterior of school and 25 small photos, commemorating the rededication of Shortridge on 20 October 1985.

CONTAINER

Flat File 5-d

Series 3: Class Reunions

CONTENTS

Black-and-white photo of the 1941–42 varsity basketball team. Left to right: Vic Cardarelli, Niles Foster, Bernard Casselman, Charles Hunt, Gene Ingle. Color photo of the same men 43 years later on 23 May 1985.

Class of 1947 reunions. Four color photos of **40th reunion** in June 1987, with some attendees identified (some appear in more than one photo): Buddy Crabb, Charlie Walker, Chas. Tompkins, Willie Leventhal, Jim Buck, D.J. Sullivan Kenzler, Pat Barton Dick, Pat Fricke Hull, Marge Iba Giles, Betty Ann Lewis Foxworthy, Jean Burton Delzell, Peggy Maloney Martin, Sharon Johnson Marsh, Caroline Hummel Mauck, Mary Massa Grinslade, Janice Foster Lawson, Luramay Linton Scott, Ruth Markey Kelley, Marian Collins Smith, Marge Hartley O'Laughlin, Nancy Boutwell Featherston, Marilyn Griffith Wichser, Nancy Catterton Fisher, Billie Carpenter Wood, Ann Rutledge Swope, Martha Wagner McKay, Janice Foster Lawson, Joanne Spitznagel Johnston, Barbara Mason Wright, Janet Mills Stuckman, Ann Zimmerman Bucey, Shirley Krueger Swingley, Howard Jansen, Chuck Marlowe.

One color photo of **60th reunion**, 13 October 2007, with more than 60 people, unidentified.

Class of 1950. One color photo of **50th reunion** on 10 June 2000, shows more than 100 unidentified people gathered in Lilly Hall of the Indiana Historical Society. (photo by B & L Photographers, Inc., of Indianapolis)

CONTAINER

Color Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 1

Color Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 2

Color Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 3