

Collection #  
P 0520

**SOUTHERN INDIANA CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS  
PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM  
CA. 1934–1936**

[Collection Information](#)

[Historical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Contents](#)

[Cataloging Information](#)

Processed by

Barbara Quigley  
12 August 2013

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

[www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org)

## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 album with 143 photographs on 47 pages, plus 7 loose photographs

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1934–1936

PROVENANCE: Gift from Ken Hixon of Los Angeles, California, July 2001, who bought the collection on eBay from a man in Margate, Florida in June 2001

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: 2001.1014

NOTES: See also: Newsletters of Company 1594 -- *Camp Little America, Camp Little America Flash, Little America Flash* -- General Collection: S900 .C3; newsletters of Company 1599 -- *Camp Clark Comet, Quarryings, Bedford Quarryings* -- General Collection: S900 .Q3.

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was created in 1933 to provide jobs for unemployed young men between the ages of 17 and 23 who were U.S. citizens. (This was modified to include older men, too.) They were paid a base salary of \$30 per month, most of which was sent home to their families. The men lived in work camps under the operation of the Department of War. Work that was done included reforestation, construction of fire observation towers, the laying of telephone lines, development of state parks, and the construction of dams, bridges, buildings, and roads. The men gained valuable job skills and were given the opportunity to receive their high school diplomas.

On 17 April 1933, the first CCC camp was established in Virginia. By 1 July there were 275,000 enrollees in 1300 camps across the country. The program was criticized by conservatives and liberals alike for various reasons, but President Franklin Roosevelt saw the CCC as a way to tap two wasted resources: young men and the land. During the Great Depression work and income were scarce, and the land had been impoverished as well by massive deforestation and erosion.

There were fifty-six CCC companies in the state of Indiana. Nearly 64,000 Indiana men were given employment in connection to the CCC, including junior enrollees, veterans, and camp personnel. At the beginning of 1934, there were 18 CCC camps in Indiana, engaged in a range of activities including gully-control work on private property, forest improvement and construction projects in state forests and game preserves as well as similar work in state parks.

Construction of a CCC camp (IN-SCS-8 [Soil Conservation Service]) 0.75 miles west of North Vernon, Indiana, in Jennings County began on 16 June 1933. Work was initially supervised by the Forest Service and staffed by CCC Company 1514. The camp was discontinued on 9 January 1936 but reoccupied on 15 March 1936 by Company 1599 from Bedford, Indiana. The camp was discontinued 14 October 1936.

There were three CCC companies in Indiana with the number 517, all of which were African American companies. The one represented in this collection began on 13 July 1933 in Brownstown in Jackson County, and was stationed at Camp S-55 (State Forest).

CCC Company 1536 was established 20 June 1933 in Lawrence County, three miles east of Mitchell at Camp Spring Mill (SP-1 [State Park]). The company made significant contributions to the creation of Spring Mill State Park.

Company 1594 was established a quarter of a mile northeast of Kurtz in Jackson County on 12 September 1935 as Camp Little America (F-7 [National Forest]).

The CCC program ended on 30 June 1942, after World War II had strengthened the U.S. economy. The CCC had employed more than three million men nationally, including almost 200,000 blacks and 80,000 Native Americans. Men in the program had built 3,470

fire towers and 97,000 miles of road. They had protected more than 20 million acres of land from erosion, and planted more than 2.3 billion trees. They had devoted more than four million man-days to fighting fires. The CCC was responsible for removing nearly 15 million families from welfare, and provided the Department of Conservation with labor that was badly needed at the time.

#### Sources:

Association of Retired Conservation Service Employees. "CCC Work in Indiana: North Vernon, IN - Camp IN-SCS-8" (<http://www.arscse.org/qCCCIN.htm>). Accessed 7 August 2013

Center for Democracy and Citizenship, Hubert H. Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs, University of Minnesota. "The Civilian Conservation Corps: Building a Legacy" (<http://www.publicwork.org/pdf/casestudies/CCCfgreen.pdf>). Accessed 20 July 2004.

Civilian Conservation Corps Legacy. "CCC Camps in Indiana" ([http://ccclegacy.org/CCC\\_Camps\\_Indiana.html](http://ccclegacy.org/CCC_Camps_Indiana.html)). Accessed 12 August 2013.

Civilian Conservation Corps Resource Page. "The C.C.C. State-by-State: Indiana" (Blog post of 13 May 2013) (<http://cccresources.blogspot.com/search/label/Indiana>). Accessed 7 August 2013.

Indiana Historical Bureau. "Indiana Heritage Research Grants abstracts 1993" (<http://www.statelib.lib.in.us/www/ihb/resources/ihr93.html>). Accessed 20 July 2004.

National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni. "Roosevelt's Tree Army: A Brief History of the Civilian Conservation Corps" (<http://www.cccalumni.org/history1.html>). Accessed 21 July 2004.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection consists of one photograph album with 143 photographs on 47 pages plus seven loose photos. Indiana Civilian Conservation Corps camps and workers are shown in Jackson, Jennings, Lawrence, and Orange counties from 1934 to 1936. Included are companies: 517 (Brownstown), 1514 (North Vernon), 1536 (Mitchell), 1594 (Kurtz), and 1599 (Bedford).

This album may have belonged to someone named David. Some of the photographs are stamped on the back with names of photo studios in Minneapolis. The initials D.W.T. appear numerous times to identify a man in some of the photographs and are written on the backs of others. Written on the back of one photograph is "To my best friend David...."

## CONTENTS

### CONTENTS

Page 1: Unidentified man "arrived June 9, 1934 at Co. 1514, N. Vernon." "Company Street." Two unidentified men. "517th Co., C.C.C. Camp Jackson, S-55. Brownstown, Indiana" (panoramic photograph by Spencer & Wyckoff of Detroit, 1934). [4 photos]

Pages 2, 3, and 4: Photos of men identified only by first names or by initials. [9 photos]

Page 5: "517th Co., C.C.C. Camp Jackson, S-55, Brownstown, Indiana" (panoramic photograph by Spencer & Wyckoff of Detroit, 1934). Aerial view of camp. Unidentified men [one in an army truck]. [4 photos]

Page 6: "Horseshoe Court" "Log Cabin." Administration Building. Other buildings. Men unidentified or identified only by first names. [5 photos]

Page 7: "517th Co., C.C.C. Camp Jackson, S-55, Brownstown, Indiana" (panoramic photo by Spencer & Wyckoff of Detroit, 1934). "'The Real Co. 1514' (July '34–May 12 '35)" shows men by a truck and a building. Unidentified men. [3 photos]

Page 8: Men identified by only first names or a nickname, also a Mr. **Milner** and a Mr. **Zimmerman**. "Mess Hall." [5 photos]

Page 9: Men identified by only first names. Scenes of the camp. [6 photos]

Page 10: Aerial views of the camp. Man in the woods "At Co. 1514." "The Bridge That Don Built." Unidentified man by buildings. [5 photos]

Page 11: Camp scenes. Ten men identified as: **Lashley**, Goon, Happy, **B. Deppe**, Neal, **Kniolesk[?]**, **Chesla**, **Meadows**, **Antosz**, and **Stephenson** -- some appear to be in baseball uniforms. [4 photos]

### CONTAINER

Album Storage, PAB

Album Storage, PAB

Album Storage, PAB

Album Storage, PAB

Album Storage, PAB

Album Storage, PAB

Album Storage, PAB

Album Storage, PAB

Album Storage, PAB

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Page 12: Men identified only by first names or nicknames. "Chow Hall." Camp scene. [5 photos]                                   | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 13: Camp scenes including men lined up for lunch outside the mess hall. [5 photos]   | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 14: Garage with space for ten vehicles. A dog named "Rags." Men doing construction work. [3 photos]                        | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 15: Camp scenes including inside of barracks. Unidentified men. [5 photos]   | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 16: Camps scenes. Company clerk identified only as "D.W.T." [5 photos]   | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 17: Camp scenes. "Reveille." [3 photos]  | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 18: "Recreation Hall / Co. 1514." Sign for C.C.C. Company 1514. Kitchen. Doc <b>Mellinger</b> in the infirmary. [5 photos] | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 19: Man by C.C.C. ambulance at Camp Clifty [near Madison, Indiana]. Unidentified men. Ambulance at Camp Clifty. [4 photos] | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 20: Flower garden at Company 1514. Tents of Company 1594, North Vernon. One photo missing. [3 photos]                      | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 21: Camp scenes including interiors of supply room, wash room, barracks, and recreation hall. Unidentified men. [8 photos] | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 22: Lieut. Keefe, Lieut. Ryan, Lieut. Staderman, Mr. Crider. [5x7 photograph]  | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 23: Group portrait of Company 1514. [5x7 photograph]   | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 24: Group portrait of Company 1514. [5x7 photograph]   | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 25: Buildings and grounds of Co. 1514 [5x7 photograph]   | Album Storage, PAB |

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Page 26: Group portrait of Company 1514 by a building labeled "First Section." [5x7 photograph]   | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 27: Group portrait of Company 1514. [5x7 photograph]   | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 28: Distant group portrait of Company 1514, North Vernon, 10 October 1934. "John H. Ryan, C.O." [commanding officer?] Photo by Post Exchange Studio of Ft. Des Moines, Iowa.                                     | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 29: Group portrait of Company 1514 by a building labeled "Third Section." [5x7 photograph]   | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 30: "'Kitchen Force' Co. 1514" -- nine men in white kitchen worker clothing posed outdoors. [5x7 photograph]   | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 31: "Mess Line" -- long line of men holding their empty dishes, waiting to get into the mess hall. [5x7 photograph]  | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 32: "Company Street of CCC Co. 1594 (while at Camp SCS-7)." Man identified as D.W.T. Photo missing of William H. Castle. Man identified as <b>Dalrymple</b> . [3 photos]   | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 33: Men in the kitchen. Flower gardens. "The Bunk" -- a bed in a corner of a room. [4 photos]  | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 34: "Roger and Model Farm." "Co. 1599 -- Bedford, Ind." Man identified as D.W.T. "Lehigh Cement Mill / Mitchell, Ind." "Country View." [6 photos]  | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 35: Bob <b>Morrow</b> and another man holding a line of fish by a tent in the woods at Yellowstone National Park. [4x6 photo]  | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 36: "John <b>Jones</b> " -- distant view of a man on a horse-drawn wagon. "Mitchell, Ind." [looks like the same place as the image of Lehigh Cement Mill]. "Orleans Depot." "Co. 1599, Bedford, Ind." [4 photos] | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 37: "Views of the Jenkins Trapshoot located North of Orleans, Ind. on State Road #37." [4 photos]  | Album Storage, PAB |

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Page 38: Unidentified man with a shovel. Men by a truck. [3 photos]  | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 39: Birdseye view of men, buildings, and vehicles of CCC Co. 1536 at Mitchell, Indiana. Photo by Hilderbrand.   | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 40: "Dam in Spring Mill State Park, Mitchell, Indiana." Photo by Hilderbrand.   | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 41: "Lake in Spring Mill State Park, Mitchell, Indiana." Photo by Hilderbrand.  | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 42: Scene showing gas station, church, and other buildings. Men on trucks. Stamped on the back of these is: Arrow Photo Service of Minneapolis, Minn. Written on the back are the initials D.W.T. and the date of 7 August 1936. [4 photos]                     | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 43: Unidentified man standing by building. Street scene with railroad tracks. Man by building. Stamped on the back of these is: Arrow Photo Service of Minneapolis, Minn. Written on the back are the initials D.W.T. and the date of 7 August 1936. [3 photos] | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 44: Man in truck. Stamped on the back is: Arrow Photo Service of Minneapolis, Minn. Written on the back are the initials D.W.T. and the date of 7 August 1936. [1 photo]  | Album Storage, PAB |
| Page 45: Hand-colored photo of unidentified woman. Stamped on the back is: Arrow Photo Service of Minneapolis, Minn. [1 photo]   | Album Storage, PAB |



Page 46: Office of Capt. F. R. Ryan, commander, and F. R. Davies, chaplain, Camp SP-1 [state park], Mitchell, Ind., 5 November 1936.\* Co. 1536, Mitchell, Ind., in the snow, 6 November 1936. Company 1536, Mitchell, Ind., street scene with old military truck, 6 November 1936. "Early stage of construction of the future 'University' of Co. 1536," 6 November 1936. Stamped on the back of these is: Arrow Photo Service of Minneapolis, Minn. Written on the back are the initials D.W.T. [4 photos]  
\*Ryan and Davies are mentioned in the July–November 1936 issues of The Little America Flash, newsletter of company 1594 (General Collection: S900 .C3).

Album Storage, PAB

Page 47: blank

Page 48: Recreation Hall, Co. 1536 -- room with tables and chairs and a fireplace. Stamped on back is: Ideal Studios / Minneapolis, Minn. [1 photo]

Album Storage, PAB

Loose photographs: Recreation Hall, Co. 1536 -- same image as on p. 48. Snow on lumber pile. "Custodian's Home at Spring Mill State Park. Mr. Caudell." Stamped on the back of each of these is: "Arrow Photo Service . . . Minneapolis, Minn." Written on the back of each of these are the initials D.W.T. and the date 6 November 1936. [3 photos]

Loose photographs: Damaged structures on the side of a road. Birdseye view of railroad tracks. Stamped on the back of each of these is: "Arrow Photo Service . . . Minneapolis, Minn." [2 photos]

Loose photographs: Young woman and man, written on back is: "To my best Friend David from Allen & Mary." Woman and man standing on a sidewalk. [2 photos]

## 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 0520).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.