SUBDIVISIONS OF EAST GARY COLLECTION, 1929

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: Three manuscript folders

COLLECTION DATES: 1929

PROVENANCE: Carol A. Werner, Winston-Salem, NC in memory of Adam Geringer, Jr.

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2016.0377

NOTES:
HISTORICAL SKETCH

East Gary was a small community in Northwest Indiana, located mere miles outside of Gary, Indiana. The city was founded as Lake Station in 1852, but changed its name in 1908 following the completed construction of the Gary Works steel mill. The name change was undertaken in a bid to entice US Steel into investing in the town, making it a suburban community for its employees. East Gary relied on the steel mills to drive its economy and many subdivisions were created to accommodate the influx of new residents in the area. Following the early wealth that came to steel workers, the town was able to invest in new facilities and amenities, including a library, public school system, interurban railway, and city hall.

In the 1970s, the fortunes of US Steel began to fade due to increased overseas competition in the steel industry. As a result, the mill began massive layoffs from its workforce that once boasted 30,000 employees. Gary also suffered as white affluent citizens left the inner city for suburban areas and an increase in crime. As the connection to Gary was no longer a positive association, East Gary returned to its original name of Lake Station.

Sources:

newspapers.com
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection pertains to the real estate documents for lots purchased by Adam Geringer, Jr. in East Gary in 1929. It includes a real estate warranty deed, an abstract of title, and a map of the first and second subdivisions of East Gary.
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