

Collection #
M 0712
OMB 0073

W. J. HOLLIDAY & CO. RECORDS, 1861–1955

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Processed by
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Indiana Historical Society
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Indianapolis, IN 46202–3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	4 manuscript boxes, 1 oversize box, 2 oversize folders, and 1 folder of visual material
COLLECTION DATES:	1861–1955
PROVENANCE:	Calvin Field, 11102 Timber Lane, Carmel, Indiana 46032, 25 August 1997

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: Latham and Walters Records (M 0555); *Iron, Steel, and Heavy Hardware* (TJ 1200.W5 I76 1920); *Iron and Steel Depot Catalog and Price List of W.J. Holliday & Co.* (TJ 1200.W5 I76 1920); *W.J. Holliday & Co.: Established 1856: Distributors of Mill, Mine and Factory Supplies, Contractor's Equipment, Iron and Steel, Heavy Hardware* (TJ 1200.W5 W44 1927).

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1997.0654

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

W.J. Holliday & Co. was founded by William Jaquelin Holliday (1829–1918) as a hardware store in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1856. Holliday, the son of William Duncan and Ariana (Smith) Holliday, was a native of Virginia. He eventually settled in Indianapolis and purchased Kellogg & Co., an iron store, which became known as W.J. Holliday & Co. Items sold at the store included carriage-maker and blacksmith supplies. William J. operated the store until his retirement in 1893.

At that time, his son, Jaquelin Smith Holliday (1867–1944) purchased his father's share of the company. The company was incorporated in 1900. Holliday & Co. had entered the auto accessory business by 1920, but this focus was dropped when the company began wholesaling mill, mine, and industrial supplies. W.J. Holliday & Co. eventually became one of the country's leading sources for such supplies. Jaquelin S. served as president until 1933, then as chairman of the board of directors until his death.

The company continued on into a third generation with Jaquelin's sons, William Jaquelin and Frederick Taylor. William J. (1895–1977) began work for the company in 1918. He was promoted through various departments, serving many years as vice-president. In 1930, he went to Chicago and built the company's plant in Hammond, Indiana (Lake County), where he served as manager until 1947. He served as chairman of the board for 23 years until his retirement in 1955.

Frederick T. (1897–1951) began at W.J. Holliday & Co. in 1920. He was made vice-president in 1930. In 1935, he, along with his brother, organized Monarch Steel Company, an affiliate of Holliday & Co. located in Hammond.

In 1954, W.J. Holliday & Co. was sold to Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation of Pittsburgh. At the time of the sale, the company employed 400 workers in Indianapolis and 400 in Hammond.

Sources: Indiana State Library Clippings File—Biography.
The Indianapolis Star (Dec. 28, 1952), section 6, p. 8.
The Indianapolis News (Dec. 22, 1954), p. 1.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of the business records (1861–1955) of W.J. Holliday & Co., a wholesaler of mill, mine, and industrial supplies located in Indianapolis, Indiana. Included are tax records (1909–54); stock records (1909–27); legal records (1924–28); property records, including correspondence, deeds, and maps concerning the company's plant in Hammond, Indiana (1903–52); and other business and financial records (1884–1955). Also present are three catalogs (1861, ca. 1922, ca. 1927) and stock lists (1942–50).

The material is arranged according to format, then chronologically. It was filed in labeled envelopes prior to acquisition; these labels have been maintained (as folder titles) for the most part.

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Big Four Side Railroad Track, July 1912

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Hammond (Indiana) Property, 1930

Map of the Calumet region (1925); plat of survey for Illinois Car and Manufacturing Company (1928); “Panoramic View and Plat of Green Engineering Company Plant” (ca. 1930)

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OMB 0073, stored in Flat File: FF 20-b

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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://157.91.92.2/>
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, M 0712).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.