

Collection #
P 0002

**PAUL E. WILSON
AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS, 1931–CA. 1955**

[Collection Information](#)

[Biographical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Contents](#)

[Cataloging Information](#)

Processed by

Stephen J. Fletcher
February 1996

Reprocessed by

Dorothy Nicholson and Emily Comstock
5 October 2005

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

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 1 box of photographs

COLLECTION
DATES: 1931–ca. 1955

PROVENANCE:	Jerald Wilson, son of Paul E. Wilson
RESTRICTIONS:	None
COPYRIGHT:	
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.
ALTERNATE FORMATS:	None
RELATED HOLDINGS:	None
ACCESSION NUMBER:	1982.0409
NOTES:	

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Census records indicate that Paul E. Wilson was born in Indianapolis, Indiana on 2 July 1915. His father Orville Wilson was a millwright, and the family resided at 4922 University Avenue. Wilson enlisted in the National Guard as a private in the 113th Observation Squadron, a unit based in Indianapolis, Indiana. This unit was also known as the 113th Photo Section and was the first National Guard air unit of any state. Wilson first enlisted on 19 September 1932 and served until 18 September 1935. He re-enlisted five days later on 23 September 1935, serving until 6 April 1936, when he was discharged for reasons of business interference. Wilson re-enlisted on 1 June 1936 and was discharged a final time for business necessity on 1 February 1938. The 1936 city directory lists him as a musician, and then from 1937 to 1942 he is listed as working for the Indianapolis Power & Light Company.

Sources:

Adjutant Generals Records, Indiana State Archives.

United States Census, 1920.

Polk's Indianapolis City Directory. F534.I55 A18

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists almost entirely of aerial photographs. The exception is found in Folder 1 with a group portrait of the 113th Observation Squadron, taken at Fort Knox, Kentucky. The remainder of the collection of aerial photographs includes: one photograph of Warren Central High School in Folder 2. This predates Wilson's duty with the 113th Observation Squadron. His name and the date 9 April 1931 are on the verso. Three photographs in Folder 3 are views of New Albany, Jeffersonville, and Louisville during the 1937 flood of the Ohio River. Seven photographs in Folder 4 show aerial views of Clarksville, Ferdinand, Tell City, and Louisville ca. 1955. One of the Ferdinand photographs focuses on the Convent of the Immaculate Conception. The remaining unidentified photographs in Folder 5 show what appears to be a Catholic hospital or school, and industrial sites, including a lumberyard, a brickyard, and

a limestone mining pit.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS

113th Observation Squadron, Fort Knox, Kentucky

Warren Central High School, Indianapolis, Indiana,
9 April 1931

Aerial photographs of New Albany, Jeffersonville,
and Louisville during 1937 flood

Aerial photographs of Clarksville, Ferdinand, Tell
City, Louisville, ca. 1950–1955

Unidentified aerial photographs: Catholic hospital and
industrial sites

CONTAINER

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 3

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 4

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 5

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 Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, P 0002)..
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.