# INDIANAPOLIS FIRE STATION PHOTOGRAPHS, CA. 1901–1929

**Collection Information** 

**Historical Sketch** 

**Scope and Content Note** 

Contents

**Cataloging Information** 

Processed by

Pamela Tranfield December 1996

Revised by Dorothy Nicholson September 2007

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 1 OVA box of photographs, 1 OVB box of photographs

COLLECTION:

COLLECTION

Ca. 1901–1929

DATES:

PROVENANCE: Dorothy Neuman, Cincinnati, Ohio, June 1986

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE None

FORMATS:

RELATED None

**HOLDINGS**:

ACCESSION 1987.0396

NUMBER:

NOTES:

#### HISTORICAL SKETCH

An ordinance in November 1859 established the Indianapolis Fire Department, with full-time firemen paid \$300 per year. Men required to only attend fires received \$25 per year. In 1894 firemen were on call seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day, but were permitted to sleep at home one night per week. Holidays consisted of one full week, with pay. By 1909 the department employed 264 men. Equipment included twelve fire engines, twenty-seven hose-reel wagons, four chemical engines, ten hook-and-ladder companies, and 121 horses.

A shift from horses to motor vehicles began in 1908 with the purchase of a Marion roadster for the fire chief. In 1921 the department became fully motorized, but it retained a small number of horses until 1928.

#### Sources:

Bodenhamer, David J., and Robert G. Barrows. *Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1994.

Polk's Indianapolis Directory, 1901. Indianapolis: R. L. Polk and Company, 1901

Polk's Indianapolis Directory, 1904. Indianapolis: R. L. Polk and Company, 1904

Polk's Indianapolis Directory, 1908. Indianapolis: R. L. Polk and Company, 1908

Polk's Indianapolis Directory, 1911. Indianapolis: R. L. Polk and Company, 1911

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains twenty-four photographs of Indianapolis fire stations and their crews. Twenty images show firefighters posing in front of firehouses and equipment, ca. 1901–ca. 1911. Most firefighters are identified on the verso and recto of the images. Three of the OVB photographs were identified by their Bass number. Other photographs, likely from the 1920s, show firefighters posed on a truck outside Firehouse 13, and members of Hose and Ladder Company No. 3 and Hose Company No. 18 (Hook and Ladder No. 5). The collection also includes a scene from the 1929 Freed Radio Popularity Contest Banquet. The banquet honored Indianapolis fireman Clarence Taylor and policeman Red Haugh. Kirkpatrick of Indianapolis made this photograph.

The processor assigned approximate dates to the photographs by determining the year or years in which all or most

identified individuals in a particular crew worked as firefighters. This was achieved by locating the names of those individuals in city directories and noting their occupations as listed in a given year. If all or most members of the crew worked as firefighters that year, the processor assigned that date to the photograph.

Not all individuals in the photographs are identified. The folder contents provide the firehouses and names of individuals who are identified in the photographs. The list shows the spellings of firemen's names, as annotated on the photographs. Variant spellings of those names, as drawn from *Polk's Indianapolis Directory*, are in brackets []. A single individual may be identified by different names on the front and back of a photograph. Names separated by a semi-colon (e.g., P. Hartne; Peter Hartout) refer to such individuals.

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Engine Company No. 1, 441 Indiana Avenue [ca. 1904]: P. Husey [Peter Hussey], J. Borlan, J. Gorge [Capt. James O. George], Wachestes [Henry G. Wachsetter], P. Hartne; Peter Hartout [Edward L. Hartnett], T. Doyle; Tom Doyle, Unknown

[Engine Company No. 2] 1531 Roosevelt Avenue [ca. 1908]: J. Miller [John M. Miller], Capt. Childress [Stephen L. Childers], Ed Seach, Jim Pease [James L. Pease], Bud M\_\_, R. W.\_\_\_

Engine Company No. 3, 1136 Prospect Street [ca. 1904]: J. Barrett [John M. Barrett, Cpt.], L. Gass [?]; L. Gass, S. Bratten; S. Brattan, Clem Davis [Charles C. Davis], Dick Brown; D. Brown [Richard H. Brown], Sam Null [Samuel W. Null]

**Engine Company No. 3**, 1136 Prospect Street, John M. Barrett, Captain, 1911 [Bass # 26550]

Engine Company No. 5, 120 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street [ca. 1901]: Cullins; Jim Cullins [James J. Cullins], Russe, Quinn [Thomas F. Quinn], Mumford; Geo. Mumford [George F. Mumford], Morrison, Schuch; Schov [George or Charles Schuch], Montgomery [Frank Montgomery], Woodfuff; J. Woodruff [John Q. Woodruff], Hoyle; S. Hoyle [Simeon C. Hoyle], Sulgrove [Norman R. Sulgrove], Duncan; F. Duncan [Frank E. Duncan], Brenan; J. Brennan [John Brennan], Hurley; J. Hurley [John E. Hurley], Monaghan [John Monaghan], Gresh; Al Gresh [David A. Gresh]

Engine Company no. 6, 533 West Washington Street, [ca. 1901]: Gus Schaffer [Augustus H. Schafer], Wm. Grady; Grady [William H. Grady], John Stake; Stake [John W. Stake], Capt. Johnson; Johnson [James H. Johnson], H. Pruitt; Pruitt [Hallack K. Pruitt], Bert Swigett; B. Swiggett [Bert

CONTAINER

OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 1

OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2

OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 3

OVB Photographs: Box 1, Folder 1

OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 4

OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 5

Swiggett], O. Hupp; Hupp [Oscar L. Hupp]	
Engine Company No. 7, Headquarters, Herbert Fulmer, Captain, ca. 1912 [Bass Photo]	OVB Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
[ <b>Engine Company No. 10</b> ], 601 Russell Avenue [ca. 1908]	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 6
Engine Company No. 11 (Station 11 on back of photo), 1028 East Washington Street [ca. 1904]: Gerard; Dr. Jacrod [?] [David M. Gerard], Miller [John J. Miller], Patterson; J. Patterson [Joseph M. Patterson], Reasner; N. Reasner [Fredrick W. Reasener], Davis, Loucks; J. Lauchs [John C. Loucks, Captain]	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 7
[Hose Company No. 13], Kentucky and Maryland [ca. 1920s]	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 8
Hook and Ladder Company No. 2, 227 East South Street [ca. 1904]: G. Newlin; George Newland [George Newland], M. Murphy [Michael M. Murphy], M. Haley [Maurice Haley], L. Saylor; Lew Saylors [Louis S. Saylor], J. White; John White [John F. White]	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 9
<b>Hook and Ladder Company No. 3</b> , 120 West 15 <sup>th</sup> Avenue [ca. 1920s]	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 10
Hose Company No. 12, Beville Avenue [ca. 1901]: J. Allen; John Allen [Charles W. Allen], Wm. Cochran; Crochan [William T. Cochrane], S. James; Sam James [Charles S. James], T. Lanahan; Tony Lenahan [Harry Lanahan]	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 11
Hose Company No. 12, Virginia Avenue [ca. 1904]: Bollinger [Harry Bollinger], Schichendanz [George Schickentanz], Art Lee [Arthur P. Lee]	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 12
Hose Company No. 14, 30 <sup>th</sup> and Kenwood Avenue [ca. 1908]: Arch Williams [Archie C. Williams], J. Withers, J. Fannig [Patrick E. Fanning], Capt. Olschleiger; Olsliger [Capt. Oehlschlager]	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 13
<b>Hose Company No. 16</b> , 16 <sup>th</sup> Street and Ashland [ca. 1901]: Taylor, Smith, Capt. Howard; T. Howard [Thomas Howard]	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 14
Hose Company No. 17, Morris and West Streets [ca. 1904]: Russell; J. Russell [John C. Russell], Ryan; J. Ryan [John Ryan]	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 15
<b>Hose Company No. 17</b> , [Corner Madison Ave and Morris; John M. Miller, Captain, ca. 1911]	OVB Photographs: Box 1, Folder 3

**Hose no. 18 and Hook & Ladder No. 5**, 1915 West
Washington [ca. 1920s]

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 16

Hose Company No. 19, Morris and Harding Streets
[ca. 1901]: Capt. Campbell; J. Campbell [James M. Box 1, Folder 17
Campbell], J. Chisman [James M. Chisman],
A. Schinn [Alver O. Shinn]

**Hose Company No. 21** (Brightwood Station), Olney and Roosevelt [ca. 1908] OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 18

Hose Company No. 23 (Engine House no. 9 until OVA Photographs: ca. 1904), Udell and Rader Streets [ca. 1904]: John Bellis [John R. Bellis], T. Stringer; Tom Stringer [Thomas D. Stringer], D. Travis; Traverse [Dennis

**Hose Company No. 23**, Corner Udell and Rader; OVB Photographs: James Brannon, Captain, 1911 [Bass # 26553] Box 1, Folder 4

"Freed Radio Popularity Contest Banquet, won by
Clarence Taylor, Fireman and Red Haugh,
policeman, Nov. 15, 1929"

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 20

## **CATALOGING INFORMATION**

Travers], Bud Rice [James W. Rice]

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

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- 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 0359).
- 5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.