

Collection #  
P 0565

## ZENT BROS. FORD PHOTOGRAPHS, 1910–1950

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 2 folders, 1 panoramic photograph

COLLECTION DATES: 1910–1950

PROVENANCE: Don P. Zent, Kokomo, Indiana, January, 2015

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Panoramic Photograph Collection (P 0062); Samuel Zent Papers (M 1022)

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2015.0009

NOTES:

## **HISTORICAL SKETCH**

In 1910 brothers J. Elmer. and Jesse Zent opened a livery stable and auto business on E. 2nd Street in Roanoke, Huntington County, Indiana. Five years later, the business was a Ford dealership. This arrangement was continued until 1925 when the brothers switched to selling "Star" trucks and "Jewitt" auto, but this connection only lasted two years when the Zents obtained a Chrysler dealership. The partnership between Jesse and J. E. Zent was dissolved on 1 January 1928 with Jesse taking ownership of another business and the automobile dealership being renamed J. E. Zent and Sons with Robert James and Dwight becoming co-owners. In 1930 the business was remodeled with the dealership being moved back and a drive in service station added. The dealership changed back to handling Ford cars and trucks in 1935 and did not change again. Elmer Zent died in 1947 and the operation continued under the name Zent Bros. until they retired and closed the dealership in 1973.

Sources:

Information in Collection.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The collection consists of sixteen photographs of the Zent's auto business industry in Roanoke, Indiana, 1910–1950. Included are early shots of the livery and auto operation, a shot of the first Model T sold by Zents in 1915, interior and exterior shots of the business, and commemoration of special occasions such as Ford Appreciation Day in Roanoke, 1915, Ford Tractors dealers meeting in Indianapolis, 1940, and the Huntington, Indiana Centennial Celebration, 1950.

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### CONTENTS

Zent Dealership Photographs, 1910–1930

Zent Dealership Photographs, 1940–1950

Ford Appreciation Day, Roanoke, Indiana, 1915

### CONTAINER

Box 1 , Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2

Panoramic Photo  
Collection (P 0062) PAN  
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