

Collection #  
M 1188  
OMB 0158

## **BLACK AND CAYLOR FAMILY PAPERS, 1837-1984**

[Collection Information](#)

[Biographical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Series Contents](#)

Processed by

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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

**VOLUME OF COLLECTION:** 7 manuscript boxes, 4 boxes photographs, 1 half-size box color photographs, 1 box OVA photographs, 1 box 4x5 acetate negatives, 1 folder OVA graphics, 1 folder OVB Photographs, 1 OMB box, 2 photo albums, 32 tintypes, 1 artifact

**COLLECTION DATES:** 1837-1984

**PROVENANCE:** Suzanne Black Caylor; Indianapolis, IN

**RESTRICTIONS:** None

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**ALTERNATE FORMATS:**

**RELATED HOLDINGS:**

**ACCESSION NUMBER:** 1997.0032; 1997.0149

**NOTES:**

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

This collection documents the lives of the Black, Caylor, Nelson and Magill families of Huntington, Wells and Putnam counties, respectively. The families are all related by marriage.

The Black Family was headed by Thomas Reed (1851-1926) and Sarah Smith Black (1857-1934) of Huntington County, Indiana. The family owned land and Thomas participated in oil production and real estate. In addition, Thomas was a Mason at King's Lodge and Sarah was a member of the local Chautauqua club. The Blacks had three children, Claude, Inez and Lola, all of whom graduated from Warren High School. Lola Black King, the youngest, married Frank King, a packing house manager, and was tragically killed along with her husband in the Kingsland railway wreck on September 22, 1910. Inez Black Wilson, the middle child, worked as a librarian in Warren and was married to George Wilson. Claude Black (1880-1956), the oldest child, went on to attend medical school and became a prominent physician in Warren and in the state of Indiana. He served as president of the Indiana State Medical Association from 1949-1950. He married Hallye Nelson (1888-1958) of Clinton, Putnam County, Indiana in 1910. Hallye (also called Hadde) Nelson Black was a graduate of DePauw University and the daughter of James and Elizabeth Magill Nelson, who were farmers. She was active in civic groups including Tri Kappa and the DAR. Claude and Hallye had one child, Suzanne.

Suzanne Black Caylor (May 9, 1922-November 22, 1996) was born to Dr. Claude and Hallye Nelson Black of Warren, Indiana. Caylor attended Warren public schools and graduated from the Salamonie School in 1940. Caylor then went on to attend Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri, where she earned an Associate's degree in 1942. From there she completed a Bachelor's degree at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana and went on to work in the administration offices for United Airlines. However, shortly after, Caylor's career turned more to the path of education. She spent a year in Bushy Park, England at the United States Department of Defense Dependents School, supervising a dormitory of girls. She went on to teach secretarial courses in Warren Schools and also at Indianapolis Public Schools. Black married an old family friend, Truman E. Caylor on April 19, 1980 in Putnam County, Indiana.

The Caylor Family of Bluffton, Wells County, Indiana was headed by Charles E. (1870-1944) and Bessie Ferree Caylor (1876-1957). Charles worked as a physician and opened a hospital in Bluffton. The Caylors had two sons, Harold (1894-1986) and Truman (1900-1988), both of whom also became physicians. Truman Caylor married Julia Gettle (1902-1960), and they had three children, Carolyn, Connie Jo and Charles "Chad". Later on, as a widower, Truman married Suzanne Black. The Caylor family were friends with the Black family through their professional connections in the medical field, so the couple had known each other for many years.

Sources: Materials in the collection.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection is divided into five series by individuals/families. Within each series, the manuscripts and photographs are arranged chronologically.

Series 1 contains materials belonging to or generated by Suzanne Black Caylor, including correspondence, photographs, clippings, and ephemera from her travels.

Series 2 contains materials from all members of the Black Family- Thomas, Sarah, Claude, Hallye, Inez and Lola, including diplomas, autograph books, photographs, correspondence, medical journals and architectural plans.

Series 3 contains materials from the Nelson and Magill families and is mostly made up of photographs and negatives.

Series 4 contains materials from the Caylor family, specifically Truman and Julia Gettle Caylor and their three children.

Series 5 contains miscellaneous items that didn't fit within the other series and includes negatives that show images of the 1913 Flood, most likely in Warren, as well as many unidentified portraits and snapshots of persons who were likely relatives or friends of these families.

## **SERIES CONTENTS**

### **Series 1: Suzanne Black Caylor**

#### CONTENTS

Correspondence, n.d.

Membership and Business Cards, n.d.

Snapshots, Infant and Toddlerhood, ca. 1920s (1 of 2)

Snapshots, Infant and Toddlerhood, ca. 1920s (2 of 2)

Baby Book, 1922

Infant Suzanne, 1922 (1 of 2)

Infant Suzanne, 1922 (2 of 2)

Portraits, ca. 1922-1960s

Portraits, ca. 1922-1980s

Recital Programs, 1928-1939

Report Cards, 1928-1940

Correspondence, 1929-1940

Class Photos, ca. 1930-1968

Diary, 1935

Theatre Programs, 1937-1959

Latin Second Year by Berry-Lee, 1939

Exams and Answer Keys, Indiana University  
Extension Division Latin Contest, 1939-1940

#### CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2

Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 1

Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 3

4x5 Acetate Negatives  
Box 1, Envelope 64

4x5 Acetate Negatives  
Box 1, Envelope 65

Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 3

Color Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Box 1, Folder 6

Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 7

Box 1, Folder 8

Box 7, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 9

Pledge Book, Pi Beta Phi, ca. 1940	Box 1, Folder 10
Airshow Scenes, ca. 1940s	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 5
Cruises, ca. 1940s (1 of 12)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 80
Cruises, ca. 1940s (2 of 12)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 81
Cruises, ca. 1940s (3 of 12)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 82
Cruises, ca. 1940s (4 of 12)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 83
Cruises, ca. 1940s (5 of 12)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 84
Cruises, ca. 1940s (6 of 12)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 85
Cruises, ca. 1940s (7 of 12)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 86
Cruises, ca. 1940s (8 of 12)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 87
Cruises, ca. 1940s (9 of 12)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 88
Cruises, ca. 1940s (10 of 12)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 89
Cruises, ca. 1940s (11 of 12)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 90
Cruises, ca. 1940s (12 of 12)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 91
Dinner Party, ca. 1940s	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 92
Portraits, ca. 1940s	OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 3

[Sorority House and Football Game], ca. 1940s (1 of 4)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 93
[Sorority House and Football Game], ca. 1940s (2 of 4)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 94
[Sorority House and Football Game], ca. 1940s (3 of 4)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 95
[Sorority House and Football Game], ca. 1940s (4 of 4)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 96
Snapshots, Suzanne and Friends at lake house, ca. 1940s	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 6
Souvenir Photo from De Olde Cellar Chicago, ca. 1940s	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 7
Snapshots, ca. 1940s-1959	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 2
Snapshots, 1940s-1960s	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 8
Conventions and Other Gatherings, ca. 1940s-1973	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 9
Congressman Harkness with Warren High School Senior Class in Washington D.C., 1940	OVB Photographs, Folder 1 of 1
Wendell Willkie Convention Materials, 1940	Box 1, Folder 11
Progress Reports, Stephens College, 1940-1942	Box 1, Folder 12
Concert Programs, Stephens College, 1941-1942	Box 1, Folder 13
Dance Programs, Stephens College, 1941-1942	Box 1, Folder 14
Correspondence, 1941-1953	Box 1, Folder 15
Commencement Program, 1942	Box 1, Folder 16
Diary, 1942	Box 1, Folder 17
[Stephen's College Commencement], 1942	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 10

[DePauw Pi Beta Phi], 1943-1944	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 11
Correspondence, United Airlines, 1944-1948	Box 1, Folder 18
Essay, "Take the High Road!", 1945	Box 1, Folder 19
United Airlines Employment, ca. 1945-1947	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 12
United Airlines Planes, ca. 1945-1947	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 97
Business Cards from Panama, 1947	Box 2, Folder 1
Panama Cruise, 1947	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 13
Program, Finocchio's Club, 1947	Box 2, Folder 2
Notebook, 1947-1954 (1 of 2)	Box 2, Folder 3
Notebook, 1947-1954 (2 of 2)	Box 2, Folder 4
Northwestern University, 1948	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 14
Group in Chicago under an El Stop, ca. 1950s	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 15
Souvenir Book, Queen Elizabeth & Queen Mary, Cunard Line, ca. 1950s	Box 2, Folder 5
Suzanne and Unidentified Friend in Dayton, OH, Hills and Dales Metro Park, ca. 1951-1954	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 16
Suzanne and Dayton Students, 1951	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 17
Suzanne and Dayton Students, 1951 (1 of 2)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 99
Suzanne and Dayton Students, 1951 (2 of 2)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 100
Suzanne and Unidentified Friend at Dayton, 1951 (1 of 2)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 101



Suzanne and Unidentified Friend at Dayton, 1951 (2 of 2)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 102
Tickets, Republican National Convention, 1952	Box 2, Folder 6
First Day of Issue Envelopes and Stamps, 1952-1953	Box 2, Folder 7
Bermuda, St. George, 1953 (1 of 2)	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 18
Bermuda, St. George, 1953 (2 of 2)	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 19
Correspondence, 1954 (1 of 2)	Box 2, Folder 8
Correspondence, 1954 (2 of 2)	Box 2, Folder 9
“Liberte” French Line Souvenirs, 1954	Box 2, Folder 10
Brochures, Passes and Maps from England, 1954-1955	Box 2, Folder 11
London Pocket Maps, 1954-1955	Box 2, Folder 12
Scenes from Bushy Park, 1954-1955	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 20
Scenes from Bushy Park, 1954-1955 (1 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 103
Scenes from Bushy Park, 1954-1955 (2 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 104
Scenes from Bushy Park, 1954-1955 (3 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 105
Scenes from Bushy Park, 1954-1955 (4 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 106
Scenes from Bushy Park, 1954-1955 (5 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 107
Scenes from Bushy Park, 1954-1955 (6 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 108
Scenes from Bushy Park, 1954-1955 (7 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 109

Travel Guides, Edinburgh, 1954-1955	Box 2, Folder 13
Travel Guides, England, 1954-1955 (1 of 3)	Box 2, Folder 14
Travel Guides, England, 1954-1955 (2 of 3)	Box 2, Folder 15
Travel Guides, England, 1954-1955 (3 of 3)	Box 2, Folder 16
Autobiography, 1955	Box 2, Folder 17
Brochures and Stickers from Spain, Italy and Germany, 1955	Box 2, Folder 18
Correspondence, 1955 (1 of 2)	Box 3, Folder 1
Correspondence, 1955 (2 of 2)	Box 3, Folder 2
European Travels, 1955	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 3
Travel Journal, 1955	Box 3, Folder 3
Correspondence, 1958-1969	Box 3, Folder 4
Suzanne Black outside her home, 1959	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 21
Certificates of Appointment and Appreciation, 1959-1978	Box 3, Folder 5
<i>Kim ved Vibeke Malthe-Bruun</i> , 1961	Box 3, Folder 6
Program, Scandinavian-American Summer University, 1961	Box 3, Folder 7
Aboard the S.S. Ariadne, 1967	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 4
Correspondence, 1970	Box 3, Folder 8
Correspondence, 1971	Box 3, Folder 9
“Ghost Towns of Huntington County”, 1971	Box 3, Folder 10
Correspondence, 1972	Box 3, Folder 11
Correspondence, 1973	Box 3, Folder 12

<i>6,000 Most Used Century 21 Shorthand Outlines</i> , 1974	Box 4, Folder 1
Correspondence, 1974	Box 4, Folder 2
Correspondence, 1975-1976	Box 4, Folder 3
Correspondence, 1977	Box 4, Folder 4
Correspondence, 1978	Box 4, Folder 5
Correspondence, 1979	Box 4, Folder 6
Suzanne and Truman Caylor in Budapest, ca. 1980s	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 22
Correspondence, 1980-1984	Box 4, Folder 7
Souvenirs from Danube River Cruise, 1982	Box 4, Folder 8

## **Series 2: Black Family**

### CONTENTS

Address Books, Claude Black, n.d.

Interiors & Exteriors, Claude Black Home and Office, n.d.

Portrait, Inez Black Wilson, n.d.

“The Name and Family of Black,” n.d.

Exteriors, Claude Black Home and Office, n.d.

[Hickersons], n.d. (1 of 10)

[Hickersons], n.d. (2 of 10)

[Hickersons], n.d. (3 of 10)

[Hickersons], n.d. (4 of 10)

### CONTAINER

Box 4, Folder 9

Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 23

Color Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 5

Box 4, Folder 10

4x5 Acetate Negatives  
Box 1, Envelope 1

4x5 Acetate Negatives  
Box 1, Envelope 2

4x5 Acetate Negatives  
Box 1, Envelope 3

4x5 Acetate Negatives  
Box 1, Envelope 4

4x5 Acetate Negatives  
Box 1, Envelope 5

[Hickersons], n.d. (5 of 10)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 6
[Hickersons], n.d. (6 of 10)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 7
[Hickersons], n.d. (7 of 10)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 8
[Hickersons], n.d. (8 of 10)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 9
[Hickersons], n.d. (9 of 10)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 10
[Hickersons], n.d. (10 of 10)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 11
Interiors, Lola Black King Residence, n.d. (1 of 6)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 12
Interiors, Lola Black King Residence, n.d. (2 of 6)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 13
Interiors, Lola Black King Residence, n.d. (3 of 6)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 14
Interiors, Lola Black King Residence, n.d. (4 of 6)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 15
Interiors, Lola Black King Residence, n.d. (5 of 6)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 16
Interiors, Lola Black King Residence, n.d. (6 of 6)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 17
Portrait, [Rev. Daniel Smith], n.d.	Tintypes
Portrait, William Black, n.d.	Tintypes
[Pulleys], n.d.	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Folder 19
Portrait, Sarah Smith Black, ca. 1860	Tintypes
Portrait, Thomas R. Black, ca. 1860	Tintypes

Portraits, Smith Family, ca. 1860s	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 24
Portraits, Thomas R. Black, 1860s-1870s	Tintypes
Portrait Album, [Black Family], ca. 1860s-1870s	PAA Album Storage
Black Family outside their home in Kelso, Indiana, ca. 1870s	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 25
Group Portraits, Thomas R. Black, ca. 1870s	Tintypes
Portrait, Martha Banyan Black, ca. 1870s	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 26
Portraits, Sarah Smith Black and Thomas Black, ca. 1870s	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 27
Group Portraits, Sarah Smith Black, ca. 1870s	Tintypes
Portraits, Black Family, ca. 1870s-1890s (1 of 2)	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 28
Portraits, Black Family, ca. 1870s-1890s (2 of 2)	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 29
Portrait, Thomas R. and Sarah Smith Black, ca. 1879	Tintypes
Autograph Book, Sarah Black, 1879-1880	Box 4, Folder 11
Portrait, Claude Black, ca. 1880s	Tintypes
Portraits, Claude Black, ca. 1880s-1950s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 1
Autograph Book, 1886-1889	Box 4, Folder 12
Portraits, Hallye Nelson Black, ca. 1888-1900s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 2
The Chautauquan Ghosts, ca. 1890s	Box 4, Folder 13
Report Cards, Claude Black, 1892-1895	Box 5, Folder 1
Autograph Book, Lola Black, 1893	Box 5, Folder 2
Autograph Book, Lola Black, 1893	Box 5, Folder 3

Autograph Book, Inez Black, 1893	Box 5, Folder 4
Autograph Book, Inez Black, 1893-1896	Box 5, Folder 5
Autograph Book, Claude Black, 1893-1897	Box 5, Folder 6
Diploma, Warren High School, Claude Black, 1894	Box 5, Folder 7
Correspondence, Claude Black, 1894-1946	Box 5, Folder 8
Diploma, Indiana Common Schools, Inez Black, 1897	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 4
Diploma, Warren High School, Claude Black, 1897	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 8
Warren Graduating Class, Claude Black, 1898	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 3
[A Midsummer Afternoon's Drive, Inez Black and George Wilson], ca. 1900s	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 21
Album, 'Photographic Art Studies', Inez Black, ca. 1900s	PAA Album Storage
Composite, Phi Chi Fraternity, Claude Black, ca. 1900s	OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder
Group Portrait, Hallye Nelson Black, ca. 1900s	Tintypes
Group Portrait, Inez Black, ca. 1900s	Tintypes
Sarah and Thomas Black, ca. 1900s	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 20
Snapshots, Claude Black, ca. 1900s-1910s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 4
Snapshots, Hallye Nelson Black, ca. 1900s-1910s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 5
Portraits, Hallye Nelson Black, ca. 1900s-1920s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 6
Snapshots, Inez Black Wilson, ca. 1900s-1920s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 7

Snapshots, Thomas R. Black Family, ca. 1900s-1920s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 8
Constitution and By-laws, Huntington County Medical Society, 1901	Box 7, Folder 10
Diploma, Warren High School, Inez Black, 1901	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 5
Graduation Program, Inez Black, 1901	Box 5, Folder 9
King Lodge (Masonic) History, Thomas Black, 1901-1921	Box 5, Folder 10
Correspondence, Inez Black Wilson, 1901-1973	Box 5, Folder 11
Diploma, Warren High School, Lola Black, 1903	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 5
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (1 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 21
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (2 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 22
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (3 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 23
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (4 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 24
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (5 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 25
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (6 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 26
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (7 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 27
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (8 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 28
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (9 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 29
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (10 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 30

[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (11 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 31
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (12 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 32
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (13 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 33
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (14 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 34
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (15 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 35
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (16 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 36
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (17 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 37
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (18 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 38
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (19 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 39
[Logansport], Hallye Nelson Black, 1905 (20 of 20)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 40
Physician License, Claude Black, 1905	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 1
Clippings, Third Most Beautiful Woman in Indiana, Hallye Nelson Black, 1907	Box 5, Folder 12
Portrait, Hallye Nelson Black, 1907	OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 7
Clippings, Kingsland Railway Crash, Lola Black King, 1910	Box 5, Folder 13
Black and Nelson Families outside Claude Black's Home and Office, ca. 1910s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 9
Lake Wawasee, Nelsons, Graystons, Claudes, ca. 1910s (1 of 2)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 41



Lake Wawasee, Nelsons, Graystons, Claudes, ca. 1910s (2 of 2)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 42
[Markley and Mossburg], ca. 1910s (1 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 43
[Markley and Mossburg], ca. 1910s (2 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 44
[Markley and Mossburg], ca. 1910s (3 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 45
[Markley and Mossburg], ca. 1910s (4 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 46
[Markley and Mossburg], ca. 1910s (5 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 47
[Markley and Mossburg], ca. 1910s (6 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 48
[Markley and Mossburg], ca. 1910s (7 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 49
Sarah Smith Black, Chautauqua Club, ca. 1910s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 10
Snapshots, Claude and Hallye Nelson Black, ca. 1910s-1920s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 11
Marriage Certificate, Hallye and Claude Black, 1910	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 4
Wedding Invitation, Hallye and Claude Black, 1910	Box 5, Folder 14
Thomas R. Black Home, ca. 1911	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 12
[Bunch of Girls], Hallye Nelson Black, ca. 1912 (1 of 2)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 50
[Bunch of Girls], Hallye Nelson Black, ca. 1912 (1 of 2)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 51
Membership Dismissals, Order Eastern Star, 1912	Box 5, Folder 15
[Girls Trip to Indianapolis], 1913 (1 of 3)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 61

[Girls Trip to Indianapolis], 1913 (2 of 3)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 62
[Girls Trip to Indianapolis], 1913 (3 of 3)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 63
Schedule of Courses, New York Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital, 1915	Box 5, Folder 16
Plans, Dr. Claude Black Home Office, 1917	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 11
Correspondence, Hallye Nelson Black, DAR Application, 1917-1920	Box 5, Folder 17
Claude Black in Military Uniform, ca. 1918	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 13
Davis, White and Black Families, 1918	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 14
Indianapolis Medical Journal, 1919	Box 5, Folder 18
Hallye Black with Steele Children, ca. 1920s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 15
Sigma Phi Reunion, Claude Black, ca. 1920s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 16
Certificate, Daughters of the American Revolution, Hallye Nelson Black, 1920	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 5
Correspondence, Thomas R. Black, 1925	Box 5, Folder 19
Resolution of Respect, King Lodge, Thomas R. Black, 1926	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 4
Memorial Cards and Funeral Guestbook, ca. 1926- 1942	Box 5, Folder 20
25 <sup>th</sup> Reunion, Class of 1905, Claude Black, 1930	OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 4
Snapshots, Claude and Hallye Black, ca. 1930s- 1950s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 17
Chautauqua Club, 1937	Photographs, Box 3, Folder 1

Correspondence, Hallye Nelson Black, ca. 1938-1955	Box 5, Folder 21
Black Family and James Nelson, ca. 1940s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 18
Black Family Trip to Miami, ca. 1940s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 19
Black Family Trip to Miami, ca. 1940s (1 of 4)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 76
Black Family Trip to Miami, ca. 1940s (2 of 4)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 77
Black Family Trip to Miami, ca. 1940s (3 of 4)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 78
Black Family Trip to Miami, ca. 1940s (4 of 4)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 79
Portraits, Claude and Hallye Nelson Black, ca. 1940s	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 6
Portrait, Claude and Hallye Nelson Black, French Lick Hotel, ca. 1940s	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 20
Snapshots, Claude Black Family, ca. 1940s-1956	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 7
Selective Service System Recognition/Appreciation, 1941-1946	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 7
Honorary Member, Starr Commonwealth for Boys, Claude Black, 1944	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 6
Diploma, Indiana Board of General Practice of Medicine, Claude Black, 1946	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 6
Lecture on Visiting Mexico, Hallye Nelson Black, 1946	Box 5, Folder 22
Black Family Trip, 1947	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 8
Black Family at Indiana State Medical Association 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 1949	Photographs, Box 2, Folder 21

Installation of Chase S. Osborn Historical Marker, Claude Black, 1949	Photographs, Box 3, Folder 2
Articles for President's Page, Indiana State Medical Association, Claude Black, 1949-1950	Box 5, Folder 23
President's Page, Indiana State Medical Association, Claude Black, 1949-1950	Box 5, Folder 24
Snapshots, Black and Nelson Family, ca. 1949-1952	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 9
Correspondence, Claude Black, 1949-1956	Box 5, Folder 25
Black Family Trip West- California and Arizona, 1950	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 22
Claude and Hallye Nelson Black Visiting Monticello, ca. 1950s	Photographs, Box 3, Folder 3
Hallye Nelson Black, Tri Kappa Event, ca. 1950s	Photographs, Box 3, Folder 4
Indiana State Medical Association Events, ca. 1950s	Photographs, Box 3, Folder 5
Snapshots, Claude Black, ca. 1950s	Photographs, Box 3, Folder 6
Easter Sunday, Black and Nelson Family, 1951	Photographs, Box 3, Folder 7
Claude and Hallye with Norman and Dale Beeson, ca. 1955	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 10
50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a Medical Doctor, Claude Black, 1955	Box 6, Folder 1
[Eulogy for Claude Black], 1956	Box 6, Folder 2
Sympathy Notes, Claude Black, 1956	Box 6, Folder 3
Bed Records for Hallye Nelson Black, 1958 (1 of 2)	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 2
Bed Records for Hallye Nelson Black, 1958 (2 of 2)	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 3

### **Series 3: Nelson and Magill Family**

#### CONTENTS

Biographical Information, John Magill, n.d.

Correspondence, James Nelson, n.d.

Family Genealogy, n.d.

Portrait, James Nelson, n.d.

Portraits, Elizabeth Nelson, ca. 1870s

Portrait, Nelson and Magill Family, ca. 1890s

Portraits, Nelson Family, ca. 1900s

Magill Relatives, 1903

Claude and Hallye Nelson Black with the Nelson Family, ca. 1910s

Portrait, James Nelson, 1912

Portrait, Elizabeth Magill Nelson, 1914

Black, Nelson and Magill Families, ca. 1910s-1920s

Magill Family, ca. 1910s-1920s

Snapshots, Nelson Family, ca. 1920s

Clippings, ca. 1923-1959

Portraits, James and Elizabeth Nelson, ca. 1936

#### CONTAINER

Box 6, Folder 4

Box 7, Folder 11

Box 6, Folder 5

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 8

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 9

OVA Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 5

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 10

OVA Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 9

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 11

OVA Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 6

OVA Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 10

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 12

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 13

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 14

Box 6, Folder 6

Color Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 11

James Nelson, ca. 1950s

4x5 Acetate Negatives  
Box 1, Envelope 98

#### **Series 4: Caylor Family**

##### CONTENTS

Dr. Charles Caylor Home, n.d.

Travel Notes, Rotary Club, Truman Caylor, n.d.

Portraits, Charles E. and Bessie Ferree Caylor, ca.  
1890s-1939

Portraits, Truman Caylor, ca. 1900-1960s

Correspondence, Caylor Family Genealogy, 1903-  
1976 (1 of 2)

Correspondence, Caylor Family Genealogy, 1903-  
1976 (2 of 2)

Caylor Family Papers, ca. 1919-1974

Portraits, Bluffton Rotary Club Members, 1919 (1 of  
2)

Portraits, Bluffton Rotary Club Members, 1919 (2 of  
2)

Portrait, Julia Gettle Caylor, ca. 1920s

Snapshots, Julia Gettle Caylor, ca. 1920s-1947

Portraits, Julia Gettle Caylor, ca. 1920s-1950s

Portraits, Carolyn Caylor, ca. 1920s-1965

Unidentified Portraits, ca. 1927-1967

##### CONTAINER

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 15

Box 6, Folder 7

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 16

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 17

Box 6, Folder 8

Box 6, Folder 9

Box 6, Folder 10

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 18

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 19

Color Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 12

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 20

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 21

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 22

Photographs,  
Box 3, Folder 23

Julia Gettle Caylor, ca. 1930s	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 66
Portraits, Caylor Children- Connie, Carolyn, Chad, ca. 1930	Photographs, Box 3, Folder 24
Portraits, Connie Jo Caylor, ca. 1930s-1960s	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 13
Report Cards, Carolyn Caylor, 1931-1941	Box 6, Folder 11
Report Cards, Charles "Chad" Caylor, 1932-1942	Box 6, Folder 12
Trip to Texas, Mexico and Florida, 1934	Photographs, Box 3, Folder 25
Report Cards, Connie Jo Caylor, 1935-1943	Box 6, Folder 13
Snapshots, Connie Jo Caylor, 1937-1939	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 1
Caylor Family at Lake Wawasee, ca. 1938	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 2
Caylor Family at Lake Wawasee, ca. 1938 (1 of 9)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 67
Caylor Family at Lake Wawasee, ca. 1938 (2 of 9)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 68
Caylor Family at Lake Wawasee, ca. 1938 (3 of 9)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 69
Caylor Family at Lake Wawasee, ca. 1938 (4 of 9)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 70
Caylor Family at Lake Wawasee, ca. 1938 (5 of 9)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 71
Caylor Family at Lake Wawasee, ca. 1938 (6 of 9)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 72
Caylor Family at Lake Wawasee, ca. 1938 (7 of 9)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 73
Caylor Family at Lake Wawasee, ca. 1938 (8 of 9)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 74

Caylor Family at Lake Wawasee, ca. 1938 (9 of 9)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 75
Charles "Chad" Caylor, ca. 1938-1940	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 3
Portrait, Connie Jo Caylor, ca. 1940s	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 4
Plans, Dr. and Mrs. Truman Caylor Home, 1948 (1 of 2)	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 12
Plans, Dr. and Mrs. Truman Caylor Home, 1948 (2 of 2)	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 13
Portraits, Caylor Grandchildren, ca. 1960s-1970s	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 14
Bluffton Rotary Club Golden Anniversary, 1969	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 5
Harold and Truman Caylor Receiving Sagamore of the Wabash, 1974	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 6

**Series 5: Miscellaneous**

CONTENTS

Autographed Portraits, n.d.

Autographed Portraits, n.d.

"Memorable Addresses by American Patriots", n.d.

"Nature Lyrics for Children" by N.C. Schneider, n.d.

"The Old Curiosity Shop", n.d.

Unidentified Children, n.d.

Unidentified Homes, Exteriors, [Warren?], n.d.

Unidentified Homes, Interiors, [Warren?], n.d.

CONTAINER

Photographs,  
Box 4, Folder 7

Color Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 15

Box 7, Folder 2

Box 6, Folder 14

Box 7, Folder 3

Tintypes

Photographs,  
Box 4, Folder 8

Photographs,  
Box 4, Folder 9



Unidentified Portraits, n.d.	OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 11
Unidentified Portraits, n.d.	Tintypes
Warren Methodist Church, Reverend Work, n.d.	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 10
[Jones Headstone/Monument], n.d.	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 18
Land Grants, 1837-1925	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 10
Miscellaneous Identified Portraits, ca. 1860s-1958	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 11
Unidentified Portraits, 1864-ca. 1950s	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 12
Huntington Herald Newspaper, 1868	OMB 0158 Box 1, Folder 9
Unidentified Composite, ca. 1870s	OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 1
Miscellaneous Lease and Mortgage Documents, 1896-1927	Box 7, Folder 7
Snapshots, Unidentified Men, ca. 1900s-1960	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 13
Snapshots, [Persons Identified], ca. 1910s-1960s	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 14
Unidentified Groups, ca. 1910s-1960s	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 15
[Junior Hop Class of 1911]	OVA Photographs, Box 1, Folder 2
Clover Leaf Train Wreck, 1913 (1 of 2)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 52
Clover Leaf Train Wreck, 1913 (2 of 2)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 53

Flood, 1913 (1 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 54
Flood, 1913 (2 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 55
Flood, 1913 (3 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 56
Flood, 1913 (4 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 57
Flood, 1913 (5 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 58
Flood, 1913 (6 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 59
Flood, 1913 (7 of 7)	4x5 Acetate Negatives Box 1, Envelope 60
Honorable Discharge, Olin Clark, 1919	Box 7, Folder 8
Menu, Great Eastern Hotel Shanghai, 1919	Box 7, Folder 9
Unidentified Snapshots, ca. 1920s-1930s	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 16
Snapshots, Unidentified Babies and Children, ca. 1920s-1950s	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 17
Snapshots, Unidentified Women, ca. 1920s-1950s	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 18
“Kit Carson” by Francis T. Cheetham, 1926	Box 6, Folder 15
[Men dressed in drag at Warren High School], ca. 1930s	Photographs, Box 4, Folder 19
“Forty Stephen Foster Songs”, 1934	Box 6, Folder 16
Unidentified Portraits, ca. 1940s	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 16
U.S. Military Academy, Bugle Notes, 1944	Box 7, Folder 4
Unidentified Snapshots, 1951-1962	Color Photographs, Box 1, Folder 17

Jessie G. Johnson Receiving Walter J. Conrath  
Memorial Award from American Air Mail Society,  
1953

Photographs,  
Box 4, Folder 20

“The English Picturesque: Villa and Cottage, 1760-  
1860”, 1973

Box 7, Folder 5

“Bright Star That Lingers” by Lloyd Bolton Mann Jr.,  
1977

Box 7, Folder 6

Indiana State Medical Association Plaque, C. S.  
Black, 1945–1950

Artifacts: 1997.0149

