

Collection #  
P 0532

## INDIANA HOSPITALS POSTCARDS CA. PRE-1907–1970S

[Collection Information](#)

[Historical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Series Contents](#)

[Cataloging Information](#)

Processed by

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Indiana Historical Society  
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

[www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org)

## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF  
COLLECTION: 1 box of 272 postcards

COLLECTION  
DATES: Ca. pre-1907–1970s

PROVENANCE: Gift from Nancy K. Smith of Greenwich, CT, in January 2009

RESTRICTIONS: None

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RELATED  
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ACCESSION  
NUMBER: 2009.0011

NOTES:

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

The first hospital in the United States was the Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia, founded by Benjamin Franklin and Dr. Thomas Bond on 11 May 1751.

City Hospital in Indianapolis was among the first general hospitals in Indiana. It opened its doors in 1859 at what is now 10th Street and Indiana Avenue. In the 1880s, under the administration of Dr. William N. Wishard, City Hospital constructed new state-of-the-art facilities. In the 1940s and 1950s the name was changed first to Indianapolis General Hospital and then Marion County General Hospital. In 1975 the name changed to Wishard Memorial Hospital. New facilities were constructed again, and the renamed Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Hospital opened on 7 December 2013.

Before City Hospital, the Indiana Hospital for the Insane opened in Indianapolis in 1848. Its name changed in 1889 to Central Indiana Hospital and in 1929 to Central State Hospital. To serve other regions of the state, more such institutions were opened, including: at Logansport (Longcliff State Hospital / Northern Indiana Hospital for the Insane) in 1888, in Richmond (Eastern Indiana Hospital for Insane / East Haven Hospital) in 1890, in Evansville (Woodmere / Southern Indiana Hospital for the Insane) in 1890, and in Madison (Southeastern Hospital for the Insane / Cragmont) in 1910.

Some of the other hospitals represented in this collection include the following. The U.S. Marine Hospital in Evansville opened in 1856. In 1870 it was sold to the Sisters of Charity and became the first St. Mary's Hospital in Evansville. The Robert Long Hospital opened in 1914 on what had been swampland considered to be the most unhealthy part of Indianapolis. Wells County Hospital in Bluffton was built around 1917. Bedford's City Hospital began in 1908 and after additions became Dunn Memorial Hospital in 1924. The James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children opened in 1924 as the state's only children's hospital. Clay County Hospital in Brazil admitted its first patient in 1928. Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie was completed in 1929, the first major project of the Ball Brothers Foundation.

### Sources:

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St. Vincent Dunn. "How We Came to be St. Vincent Dunn" (<http://www.stvincent.org/St-Vincent-Dunn/About-Us/Our-History.aspx>). Accessed 31 March 2014.

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## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection is comprised of 272 postcards depicting Indiana hospitals and sanatoriums and a few of other types of institutions such as an old people's home in Anderson, a school for "feeble minded children" in Fort Wayne, a home for epileptics in New Castle, a nursing school in South Bend, and the Indiana State Board of Health building and the Institute for the Blind in Indianapolis. Some of the sanatoriums and hospitals are specialized, for example, for tuberculosis patients, for the "insane," or children. Some include a residence for nurses or other company buildings such as the Gospel Trumpet Office and Old Peoples' Home in Anderson and the Illinois Steel Co.'s offices and hospital in Gary.

For some hospitals and sanatoriums there is more than one view. Some postcards are in color and some are black-and-white. There is one real photo postcard (of the Kneipp Sanitarium in Rome City). Some postcards have messages that were mailed; others are unused. Many are addressed to a Walter Stiles in New Hampshire, evidently a postcard collector, as well as to other postcard collectors, based on the messages written.

The postcards are arranged alphabetically by the name of the town, and then alphabetically by name of the institution within each town. Some institutions were known by more than one name and are grouped together.

All dates should be considered approximate. Some were taken from postmarks, others were taken from Web site guides about specific postcard publishers, such as the Curt Teich Company ([http://www.lcfpd.org/docs/teich\\_guide\\_dating.pdf](http://www.lcfpd.org/docs/teich_guide_dating.pdf)) and the Wayne Paper Box & Printing Company ([http://www.dejean.com/salem/1930s/wayneboxcards\\_becker.html](http://www.dejean.com/salem/1930s/wayneboxcards_becker.html)).

## CONTENTS

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
<b>Anderson</b> -- Community Hospital, Gospel Trumpet Office and Old Peoples' [sic] Home (Trumpethome), St. John's Hospital, St. John's Hickey Memorial Hospital. (10 postcards, ca. 1912–1960s)	Box 1
<b>Bedford</b> -- Dunn Memorial Hospital. (1 postcard, ca. 1947)	Box 1
<b>Bluffton</b> -- Wells County Hospital. (2 postcards, ca. 1920s and n.d.)	Box 1
<b>Brazil</b> -- Clay County Hospital. (1 postcard, n.d.)	Box 1
<b>Clinton</b> -- Vermillion County Hospital. (1 postcard, 1938)	Box 1
<b>Columbus</b> -- Columbus Sanitarium. (1 postcard, 1912)	Box 1
<b>Crawfordsville</b> -- Culver Hospital and Laboratories, Culver Union Hospital. (2 postcards, 1944, n.d.)	Box 1
<b>Decatur</b> -- Adams County Memorial Hospital. (2 postcards, ca. 1965, n.d.)	Box 1
<b>Dillsboro</b> -- Dillsboro Sanitarium. (1 postcard, 1927)	Box 1
<b>East Chicago</b> -- St. Catherine Hospital. (1 postcard, 1943)	Box 1
<b>Elkhart</b> -- Clarke Hospital, General Hospital, Elkhart General Hospital and Nurses' Home. (5 postcards, 1908–1940)	Box 1
<b>Elwood</b> -- Mercy Hospital. (2 postcards, ca. 1937, 1940)	Box 1
<b>Evansville</b> -- Marine Hospital, Protestant Deaconess Hospital and Nurses' Home, St. Mary's Hospital, Woodmere - Southern Indiana Hospital for the Insane. (11 postcards, 1908–1945)	Box 1

- Fort Wayne** -- Irene Byron Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Hope Hospital, Hope Methodist Hospital, Indiana School for Feeble Minded Children, Lutheran Hospital, Parkview Memorial Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital. (28 postcards, 1909–1970s) Box 1
- Garrett** -- Sacred Heart Hospital. (2 postcards, ca. 1940) Box 1
- Gary** -- Illinois Steel Co.'s Offices and Hospital, Mercy Hospital, Methodist Episcopal Hospital. (6 postcards, 1915–1941) Box 1
- Goshen** -- Goshen Hospital. (1 postcard, 1923) Box 1
- Hammond** -- St. Margaret's Hospital. (3 postcards, ca. 1920s, 1938) Box 1
- Indianapolis** -- Central Indiana Hospital for the Insane (Central State Hospital), City Hospital, Community Hospital (East), Hospital at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana State Board of Health Building, Institute for the Blind, Robert W. Long Hospital (and Indiana University School of Medicine), Methodist Episcopal Hospital (Methodist Hospital), Protestant Deaconess Hospital, James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children, U.S. Veterans Hospital, St. Vincent's Hospital (the location at South and Delaware streets [postmarked 1909] and the location at Fall Creek Parkway). (48 postcards, 1 before 1907, 1909–1960s). Box 1
- Jeffersonville** -- Clark County Memorial Hospital. (2 postcards, 1941) Box 1
- Kendallville** -- (McCroy [sic]) McCray Memorial Hospital. (1 postcard, ca. 1940s) Box 1
- Kokomo**-- Good Samaritan Hospital, St. Joseph Memorial Hospital. (5 postcards, 1939–1948, n.d.) Box 1
- Kramer** -- Mudlavia. (1 postcard, ca. 1910s) Box 1
- Lafayette** -- Home Hospital, William Ross Sanatorium, St. Elizabeth Hospital, Wabash Valley Sanitarium. (14 postcards, ca. 1909–1939) Box 1

<b>Lagrange</b> -- Lagrange County Hospital. (1 postcard, ca. 1960s)	Box 1
<b>La Porte</b> -- Holy Family Hospital. (2 postcards, 1912, n.d.)	Box 1
<b>Lebanon</b> -- Witham Memorial Hospital and Nurses Home. (1 postcard, n.d.)	Box 1
<b>Logansport</b> -- Cass County Hospital, Longcliff State Hospital / Northern Indiana Hospital for the Insane, St. Joseph Hospital. (8 postcards, 1910–1938, n.d.)	Box 1
<b>Madison</b> -- Kings Daughters Hospital, South Eastern Insane Hospital. (2 postcards, ca. 1910s, n.d.)	Box 1
<b>Marion</b> -- General Hospital / Grant County Hospital, Hospital at Soldiers' Home, Soldiers Home / Marion National Sanitarium / Veterans' Administration Hospital. (10 postcards, ca. 1907–1960s)	Box 1
<b>Martinsville</b> -- Cohn-Barnard Sanitarium, Colonial Sanatorium, Martinsville Sanitarium / Martinsville Mineral Springs, New Highland Mineral Springs Sanitarium, Whiting Mineral Springs Sanitarium and Baths. (12 postcards, 1916–1954)	Box 1
<b>Michigan City</b> -- St. Anthony Hospital. (4 postcards, ca. 1909–1920, n.d.)	Box 1
<b>Muncie</b> -- Ball Memorial Hospital. (3 postcards, ca. 1930s–1960s)	Box 1
<b>New Albany</b> -- Silvercrest Hospital. (2 postcards, [published in 1942] mailed 1943, 1948)	Box 1
<b>New Castle</b> -- Henry County Hospital, Indiana Village for Epileptics. (5 postcards, ca. 1937–1943)	Box 1
<b>Peru</b> -- Duke's Memorial Hospital / Miami County Duke's Memorial Hospital and Nurses' Home / Duke Hospital, Wabash Hospital / Wabash Railway Hospital. (11 postcards, ca. 1908–1943)	Box 1
<b>Princeton</b> -- Sanatorium / Sanitarium. (2 postcards, 1908)	Box 1

<b>Rensselaer</b> – Jasper County Hospital. (2 postcards, ca. 1940s–1950s)	Box 1
<b>Richmond</b> – Eastern Indiana Hospital for Insane / East Haven Hospital, Reid Memorial Hospital, Smith Esteb Memorial Hospital. (16 postcards, ca. 1908–1946)	Box 1
<b>Rochester</b> – Woodlawn Hospital. (1 postcard, n.d.)	Box 1
<b>Rome City</b> – Kneipp Sanitarium. (5 postcards, 1908–1912, n.d.)	Box 1
<b>South Bend</b> – Holy Cross Central School of Nursing, Memorial Hospital, Osteopathic Hospital, St. Joseph Hospital. (9 postcards, 1908–1960s)	Box 1
<b>Sullivan</b> – Mary Sherman Hospital. (1 postcard, n.d.)	Box 1
<b>Terre Haute</b> – St. Anthony’s Hospital, Union Hospital. (15 postcards, pre-1907–1970s)	Box 1
<b>Valparaiso</b> – Porter County Memorial Hospital. (1 postcard, n.d.)	Box 1
<b>Vincennes</b> – Samaritan Hospital. (1 postcard, 1915)	Box 1
<b>Wabash</b> – City Hospital / Park Hospital, Wabash County Hospital. (7 postcards, n.d.–1946)	Box 1

## 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 (in this case, P 0532).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.