MONROE COUNTY HISTORY CENTER
RESEARCH LIBRARY

Guide to the Vera and Bill Nicholson Collection

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Repository: Monroe County History Center
Research Library
202 East Sixth Street, Bloomington, IN 47408
Phone: 812-332-2517
URL: http://monroehistory.org/about-the-library.php
Finding aid prepared by Randi Beem and Nicole Bieganski, 2014

Creator: Vera and Bill Nicholson
Title: Vera and Bill Nicolson Collection
Dates: ca. 1968-1978 (some materials photocopies of earlier documents)
Quantity: 1 Box, 12 folders, and one book
Abstract: The Vera and Bill Nicholson Collection contains some of the correspondence, memorabilia, photographs, and newspaper clippings that Vera and Bill Nicholson received during their active time in local and state politics in Bloomington, Indiana. Both were natives of the Monroe County area, participated in community affairs, and sold mobile homes in the area.
Identification:
Languages: English

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

PREFERRED CITATION

Vera and Bill Nicholson Collection, Monroe County History Center Research Library, Box #, Folder #.

RESTRICTIONS

RESTRICTIONS ON ACCESS & USE

Monroe County History Center and Research Library staff may determine use restrictions dependent on the physical condition of manuscript materials. Restrictions may exist on reproduction, quotation or publication. Contact Monroe County History Center Research Library for more information.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Vera and Bill Nicholson were both lifelong residents of Monroe County. Vera graduated from Smithville High School and Bill attended Bloomington High School. They were married in 1953 and Bill was drafted into the Korean War. During this time, they became acquainted with mobile home living and decided to start selling mobile homes after Bill's time in the Army. After two years of service, they returned to Bloomington where Bill started selling campers and then expanded into large mobile homes. Vera and Bill also started a mobile home park in 1971 which Vera ran until 2002. During this time, both were active in many

community affairs and politics. Bill served on the Monroe County School Board and was a Precinct Committeeman while Vera worked in the Clerk's Office on Election Day and was active in her Sorority and the Extension Club. Bill passed away in 1992 from a heart attack. Vera passed away in 2014 from ALS.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

ARRANGEMENT

The Vera and Bill Nicholson Collection is arranged into 8 series by historical subject, as follows:

OUTLINE OF SERIES ARRANGEMENT

SERIES 1: 1969 GUBERNATORIAL INAUGURATION – 2 FOLDERS (BOX 1)
SERIES 2: 1973 GUBERNATORIAL INAUGURATION – 1 FOLDER (BOX 1)
SERIES 3: 1969 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION – 3 FOLDERS (BOX 1)
SERIES 4: 1973 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION – 2 FOLDERS AND ONE BOOK (BOX 1)
SERIES 5: CORRESPONDENCE, 1969-1975 – 1 FOLDER (BOX 1)
SERIES 6: MEMORABILIA, 1972-1978 – 1 FOLDER (BOX 1)
SERIES 7: PHOTOGRAPHS – 1 FOLDER (BOX 1)
SERIES 8: REPUBLICAN CONVENTION – 1 FOLDER (BOX 1)

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

SERIES 1 – 1969 Gubernatorial Inauguration. The first series contains memorabilia and newspaper clippings from the 1969 Inauguration of Edgar D. Whitcommb as Governor of the State of Indiana.
SERIES 2 – 1973 Gubernatorial Inauguration. The second series contains Vera and Bill Nicholson's invitations to the Inaugural Ball and Inauguration of Otis R. Bowen as governor of the State of Indiana.
SERIES 3 – 1969 Presidential Inauguration. This series contains correspondence, newspaper clippings, and memorabilia from the Inauguration of Richard Milhous Nixon as President of the United States.
SERIES 4 –1973 Presidential Inauguration. This series contains correspondence and memorabilia from the Inauguration of Richard Milhous Nixon as a second-term President of the United States. Note: This series also contains a book entitled *The Inaugural Book 1973* that covers the activities of President Nixon's first term as well as a reflection on the national bicentennial of 1976. Book is kept in the front of the box.
SERIES 5 – Correspondence, 1969-1975. This series contains correspondence from Richard Lugar during his time as Indianapolis mayor, Christmas cards from President Ford, Governor Otis Bowen, and Congressman John Myers.
SERIES 6 – Memorabilia, 1972-1978. The sixth series contains a Republican National Convention coin commemorating the nomination of President Richard Milhous Nixon as nominee for the 1972 National Election and visitor passes to the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate Chamber.
SERIES 7– Photographs, Undated. The seventh series of this collection contains undated photographs from family functions Vera and Bill Nicholson hosted and a collection of shots from a parade that Bill Nicholson participated in.
SERIES 8 – Republican Convention. This series contains a newspaper clipping from Bill Richardson's time as a delegate for the State Republican Convention and the certificate of election for the State Convention.

ALTERNATE FORMS AVAILABLE

View selections from the collection in digital format at:

Contents of this collection are not available in this format at this time.

ACQUISITION INFO

Donor is Jessica Kelwaski, granddaughter of Vera and Bill Nicholson. Originally belonged to Vera and Bill Nicholson.

PREFERRED CITATION

Vera and Bill Nicholson Collection, Monroe County History Center Research Library, Box #, Folder #.

PROCESSING INFO

Processed by Randi Beem, 2014.

RELATED MATERIAL

For additional publications about Vera and Bill Nicholson and, please search the following collections at the Monroe County History Center Research Library:

Family files:

http://monroehistory.org/sg_userfiles/familyfiles.pdf

Vertical files:

See Family Files -- Nicholson
City Directories – Nicholson Mobile Homes
http://monroehistory.org/sg_userfiles/Vertical_File_Index_1.pdf

INVENTORY

BOX 1 – 12 Folders and One Book

SUBJECT TERMS

PERSONAL NAMES: Nicholson, Bill
Nicholson, Vera
Nixon, Richard M. (Richard Milhous), 1913-1994
Whitcomb, Edgar D. (1917-)
Bowen, Otis R. (1918-2013)

Lugar, Richard (1932-)

ORGANIZATIONS: Monroe County Historical Society (Ind.); Republican Party (U.S.: 1854-); Inaugural Committee (U.S.: 1973); Republican Party (Ind.); Herald Times (Bloomington, Ind.)

GEOGRAPHIC NAMES: Bloomington (Ind.); Monroe County (Ind.)

SUBJECTS: Correspondence, Presidential Inaugurations—Washington D.C.—1960-1970; Presidential Inaugurations – Washington, D.C.—1970-1980; Governors; Parades; Republican National Convention; Inauguration Day

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BOX / FOLDER LIST

BOX 1

SERIES 1: 1969 GUBERNATORIAL INAUGURATION
- **FOLDER 1:** MEMORABILIA
- **FOLDER 2:** NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

SERIES 2: 1973 GUBERNATORIAL INAUGURATION
- **FOLDER 3**: 1973 GUBERNATORIAL INAUGURATION

SERIES 3: 1969 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION
- **FOLDER 4:** CORRESPONDENCE
- **FOLDER 5:** NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS
- **FOLDER 6:** MEMORABILIA

SERIES 4: 1973 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION
- **FOLDER 7:** CORRESPONDENCE
- **FOLDER 8:** MEMORABILIA
- **BOOK:** *THE INAUGURAL BOOK 1973* (LOCATED IN THE FRONT OF THE BOX)

SERIES 5: CORRESPONDENCE
- **FOLDER 9:** CORRESPONDENCE, 1969-1975

SERIES 6: MEMORABILIA
- **FOLDER 10:** MEMORABILIA, 1972-1978

SERIES 7: PHOTOGRAPHS
- **FOLDER 11:** PHOTOGRAPHS

SERIES 8: REPUBLICAN CONVENTION
- **FOLDER 12:** REPUBLICAN CONVENTION