

**Shilling Local History Collection
Decatur Public Library
Decatur, IL 62523**

**INVENTORY
2014.69**

Hibbs Personal Papers. .5 linear feet
Dates: 1912, 1915, 1916-1919, 1927, n.d.

Biography

William Henry Hibbs was born in Petersburg, IL on August 16, 1852. Through his first wife, Anna Missouri Moody, he had two sons: John Franklin Hibbs and Henry Peyton Hibbs. Anne died in January 1912, and William married Martha Anne Holbrook a short time after. He was a carpenter by trade, but retired 3 years before his death. William suffered from complications from a stroke he had two years before he died. He died from paralysis due to a second stroke on January 4, 1928.

John Franklin Hibbs was born in Athens, IL on March 1, 1890 to William Henry Hibbs and Anna Missouri Moody. He served as a Private in the Second Army Artillery Headquarters Troop during World War I, and was inducted on February 18, 1918. He was honorably discharged on February 7, 1919 with his brother. He married Ethel Grace Coay (d. 1946) on September 12, 1923, and together, he and Grace had 3 children: John Henry Hibbs, Amanda Marie Cowger, and Alice June Crawley. John Franklin died on April 16, 1961, and was buried in Boiling Springs Cemetery.

Henry Peyton Hibbs was born in Louisville, IL on June 19, 1892 to William Henry Hibbs and Anna Missouri Moody. He served as a Private in the Second Army Artillery Headquarters Troop during World War I. He enlisted on April 1, 1918 at Oakley, IL, and was discharged on February 7, 1919. During the war, he spent some time stationed in Brest, France. He returned home, and became a carpenter like his father. He lived in Decatur for several years, and then moved to Blue Mound. He died on February 7, 1966 in the VA hospital in Danville, IL, and is buried in Boiling Springs Cemetery.

Scope and Content

This collection deals with the personal papers of Henry, John, and William Hibbs. The collection is .5 linear feet, and includes biographical materials, documents, correspondence, photographs, newspaper clippings, and ephemera.

The collection was originally received in a large manila envelope. There was no discernable original organization to the collection. The collection was organized with the researcher's use in mind.

Series Description

Biographical Information - contains information pertaining to the life of the individual, including birth records.

Documents – contains documents pertaining to and signed by the individual mentioned. This includes but is not limited to World War I service records.

Correspondence – contains postcards ranging from 1916-1919.

Photographs – contains photographs of possible family members. Some are dated. Most are not.

Newspaper Clippings – contains undated clippings from the newspaper. Includes obituaries and marriage announcements.

Ephemera – contains a framed photo of a child and a metal tag with the name Grace Hibbs written on it.

Content List

I. Biographical Information:

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Henry Hibbs – Biographical information	Box 1	ff. 1
John F. Hibbs – Biographical information		ff. 2
William H. Hibbs – Biographical information		ff. 3

II. Documents

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Henry Hibbs – WWI and military documents		ff. 4
John F. Hibbs – WWI and military documents		ff. 5
John F. Hibbs – Boiling Springs cemetery plot deed		ff. 6
William H. Hibbs – Miscellaneous documents		ff. 7
Miscellaneous documents		ff. 8

III. Correspondence

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Postcards		ff. 9

IV. Photographs

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Photographs		ff. 10
Negatives – August 30, 1927		ff. 11

V. Newspaper Clippings

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
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Newspaper clippings		ff. 12
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VI. **Ephemera**

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Ephemera		ff. 13