

## Christian Schrader collection

L573, OBE10

1842-1987

2 mss boxes, 11 oversize boxes; 1 oversize folder; 9.6 cubic feet

Manuscripts & Rare Books Division  
Indiana State Library

Processed by: Bethany Fiechter, June 2013

### Biographical Note:

Christian Schrader was born in Indiana on January 6, 1842, to John and Johanna Schrader. As a child, Schrader dreamed of making a living as an artist. During the 1850s and 1860s, he learned the importance of history and technique of art with a group of men, including prominent portrait and landscape artist, Jacob Cox and Henry Waugh. Schrader predominately sketched in pencil using people, buildings and landscapes to record early Indianapolis.

Never identifying himself as a professional artist, Schrader decided on a mercantile career during the 1850s. By 1854, he was a clerk at George G. Homan's dry goods store located in the Odd Fellows Building. During the 1860s and early 1870s, Schrader worked as a clerk at John Woodbridge & Company, a china and glassware shop on West Washington Street. In 1872, he opened his own store on 116 East Washington Street, known for exquisite china, glassware, queensware, and statuary.

Schrader retired from his business in 1909 and moved to Denver, Colorado to live with his daughter Lotta. Around 1911, he moved to Madison, Indiana to live with his daughter Louise. After retirement, Schrader began pencil drawing once more, renewing his interest in early art sketches he created during the mid to late 1800s.

Schrader is well-known for sketching Indianapolis street by street and block by block, accounting for over 170 buildings total. He relied on his early sketches to record Indianapolis as well as from his memory and the memories of others.

Christian Schrader died of a stroke on February 20, 1920 in Madison, Indiana.

#### Source:

*Indianapolis Remembered: Christian Schrader's Sketches of Early Indianapolis.* Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau, 1987.

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### Scope and Content:

Given to the Indiana State Library in 1930, the Christian Schrader collection includes correspondence, drawings, negatives, and family photographs ranging from circa 1842-

1987, regarding Schrader's family, friends, and early Indianapolis and its surrounding cities. Negatives are available for most of the collection but not all of the drawings. In 1962, Robert A. Twente created 8 inch x 10 inch glossy photographic prints of Schrader's drawings, courtesy of Mr. Eli Lilly. These photographic prints are selected drawings, reproduced in color.

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### **Collection Inventory Box and Folder Listing:**

#### Box 1. *Subject files, circa 1850-1987*

1. *Indianapolis Remembered: Christian Schrader's Sketches of Early Indianapolis.* Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau, 1987.
2. "Christian A. Schrader Day" proclamation, 1987/05/01
3. "A little history started but discontinued" journal entry and transcription, 1913/08/01
4. Merchants National Bank, Christian Schrader and Brothers account book, 1944-1945
5. Drawing notes and correspondence, circa 1850-1920
6. Drawing notes and correspondence, 1890-1936
7. Newspaper clippings, circa 1900-1920
8. Louise Schrader Graham and Christian Schrader family photographs, circa 1850-1920

#### Box 2. *Photograph negatives, circa 1962*

#### Box 3. *Artwork, circa 1842-1920*

1. *James Blake's Barn and Farm Residence at North Street, circa 1840s-1850s*
2. *Robert Underhill's Foundry at the Southeast Corner of Vermont and Pennsylvania Streets, circa 1840-1920*
3. *Robert Underhill's Foundry at the Northwest Corner of Vermont and Pennsylvania Streets, circa 1840-1920*
4. *Fall Creek Swimming Hole at New York Street looking South, circa 1842-1920*
5. *Fall Creek Swimming Hole at New York Street looking North, circa 1842-1920*
6. *Military Park looking West on New York Street from West Street, circa 1842-1920*
7. *Canal Bridge at New York Street, circa 1840s*

8. *Canal Bridge at New York Street, circa 1840s*
9. *Judge William W. Wick Residence, Indiana Avenue and New York Street, circa 1842-1920*
10. *Judge William W. Wick Residence, Indiana Avenue and New York Street, circa 1842-1920*
11. *William Y. Wiley Residence, North Side of New York Street between Pennsylvania and Delaware Streets, circa 1842-1920*
12. *West Side of Delaware Street from New York to Vermont Streets, circa 1842-1920*
13. *Barnett Cabin, Massachusetts Avenue and Delaware Streets, circa 1842-1920*
14. *William F. Clem and Brothers Grocery, Massachusetts Avenue and Delaware Street, circa 1842-1920*
15. *North Side of New York Street from Delaware to Alabama, circa 1842-1920*
16. *Thorp Residence, South Side of Market Street between Pennsylvania and Delaware Streets, circa 1842-1920*
17. *First Insane Asylum near the Northeast Corner of New York and Alabama Streets, circa 1842-1920*
18. *"The Tumbles," back of Military Park, circa 1842-1920*
19. *Schrader Homestead, West Side of Mississippi (Senate) Street between Ohio and New York Streets, circa 1842-1920*
20. *West Market Residence facing Ohio Street between Mississippi (Senate) and Tennessee (Capitol) Streets, circa 1840s-1860s*

Box 4. *Artwork, circa 1842-1920*

1. *Horace Bassett Residence, Northwest Corner of Ohio and Pennsylvania Streets, circa 1842-1920*
2. *William Sheets Residence, Southeast Corner of Ohio and Pennsylvania Streets, circa 1842-1920*
3. *John Coburn Residence, Northeast Corner of Ohio and Delaware Streets, circa 1842-1920*
4. *Sheets Paper Mill, Market Street at the Canal, circa 1842-1920*
5. *Canal Lock and Sheets Paper Mill on Market Street, circa 1842-1920*
6. *Cooper Shop, Northwest Corner of Market and Mississippi (Senate) Streets, circa 1842-1920*
7. *Old State Residence North Entrance on Market Street, circa 1842-1920*
8. *Old State Residence North Entrance with the Cartridge Factory, circa 1842-1920*
9. *Old State Residence North Entrance on Market Street, circa 1842-1920*
10. *State Residence Dome, circa 1842-1920*
11. *Old State Residence Rotunda Stairway, circa 1842-1920*
12. *Old State Residence Interior, circa 1842-1920*
13. *Old State Residence Rotunda Interior, 1865 Apr.*
14. *President Abraham Lincoln lying in the Old State Residence Rotunda, 1865 Apr.*
15. *Caleb Scudder and Douglass Maguire Residences, North Side of Market Street from Tennessee (Capitol) Street East to the Alley, circa 1842-1920*
16. *Governor's Mansion, Northwest Corner of Market and Illinois Street, circa 1842-1920*
17. *George Norwood Residence, Southwest Corner of Market and Illinois Street,*

- circa 1842-1920
18. *Humphrey Griffith Residence, West Side of Illinois Street, North of the Alley between Market and Ohio Streets, circa 1842-1920*

Box 5. *Artwork, circa 1842-1920*

1. *East Side of Illinois Street from Market to Ohio Streets, circa 1842-1920*
2. *"The Circle" looking East on Market Street from Illinois Street, circa 1842-1920*
3. *Northeast Quadrant of the Circle, Looking West from Market Street, circa 1842-1920*
4. *Marion Fire Engine Residence, circa 1842-1920*
5. *"The Circle" looking West from Market and Pennsylvania Streets, circa 1842-1920*
6. *Alexander Morrison Residence, Northwest Corner of Market and Pennsylvania Streets, circa 1842-1920*
7. *East Market Residence, Facing Market Street between Delaware and Alabama Streets, circa 1842-1920*
8. *The First Marion County Jail, Court Residence Square near the Southeast Corner of Market and Delaware Streets, circa 1842-1920*
9. *The Second Marion County Jail, Court Residence Square facing Alabama Street, circa 1842-1920*
10. *The Second Marion County Jail, Court Residence Square facing Alabama Street, circa 1842-1920*
11. *The Third Marion County Jail, Court Residence Square, Southwest Corner of Market and Alabama Streets, circa 1842-1920*
12. *Third Marion County Jail Interior, circa 1842-1920*
13. *East Side of Alabama Street from Market to Washington Street, circa 1842-1920*
14. *Tom Smith Residence, Northeast Corner of Alabama and Washington Streets, circa 1842-1920*
15. *Harvey Bates Residence, Northwest Corner of Market and New Jersey Street, circa 1842-1920*
16. *Patterson's Mill, Geisendorff's Woolen Mill, National Road Bridge, circa 1842-1920*
17. *National Road Bridge over White River at Washington Street and Geisendorff Woolen Mill, circa 1842-1920*

Box 6. *Artwork, circa 1842-1920*

1. *National Road Bridge over the White River at Washington Street, circa 1842-1920*
2. *National Road Bridge over the White River at Washington Street, circa 1842-1920*
4. *Washington Street Bridge over the Canal from the South Basin, circa 1842-1920*
5. *Washington Street Bridge over the Canal from the South Basin, circa 1842-1920*
6. *Washington Street Bridge over the Canal with a Canal Boat, circa 1842-1920*
7. *Washington Street Bridge over the Canal with a Canal Boat, circa 1842-1920*
8. *Mississippi (Senate) and Washington Streets, circa 1842-1920*

*Professor Peter Roebuck Pearsall and W. O. Rockwood Residences, West Side of Tennessee (Capitol from the Alley South to Maryland Street; Augustus Turner Residence, South East Corner of Tennessee and Georgia Streets, circa 1842-1920*

9. *State Treasurer and Auditor's Office, Southwest Corner of Washington and Tennessee (Capitol) Streets, circa 1842-1920*
10. *South Side of Washington Street from the Alley East to Tennessee (Capitol) Street, circa 1842-1920*
11. *South Side of Washington Street from Tennessee (Capitol) to Kentucky Avenue, circa 1842-1920*
12. *Levy's Blacksmith Shop and Buck Tavern, North Side of Washington Street from Tennessee (Capitol) East to the Alley, circa 1842-1920*
13. *Levy's Blacksmith Shop and Buck Tavern, North Side of Washington Street from Tennessee (Capitol) East to the Alley, circa 1842-1920*
14. *North Side of Washington Street from the Alley East to Illinois Street, circa 1842-1920*
15. *Ed Gaston's Carriage Shop and Blacksmith Shop, Northwest Corner of Washington and Illinois Streets, circa 1842-1920*
16. *Norwood Block, Northeast Corner of Washington and Illinois Streets, circa 1842-1920*
17. *East Side of Meridian Street from Washington to Maryland Streets, circa 1842-1920*

Box 7. *Artwork, circa 1842-1920*

1. *Nicholas McCarty's Store, Southwest Corner of Washington and Pennsylvania Streets; McCarty's Farm, West of White River, circa 1842-1920*
2. *The First Court Residence, Court Residence Square facing Washington Street between Delaware and Alabama Streets, circa 1842-1920*
3. *Washington Street looking East from the Court Residence toward Folk's Pottery and Little's Hotel during the Freshet of 1847, circa 1842-1920*
4. *Folk's Pottery and Residence near the Northwest Corner of Washington and New Jersey Streets, circa 1842-1920*
5. *National Road High Bridge over Pogue's Run at Noble Street (College Avenue), circa 1842-1920*
6. *J. P. Meikel's Residence and Brewery, South side of Maryland Street just West of the Canal, circa 1842-1920*
7. *J. P. Meikel's Residence and Brewery, South side of Maryland Street just West of the Canal, circa 1842-1920*
8. *Professor Peter Roebuck Pearsall and W. O. Rockwood Residences, West Side of Tennessee (Capitol from the Alley South to Maryland Street; Augustus Turner Residence, South East Corner of Tennessee and Georgia Streets, circa 1842-1920*
9. *Ed Gaston Residence, Point in Kentucky Avenue at Maryland Street, circa 1842-1920*

Box 8. *Artwork, circa 1842-1920*

1. *Early Railroad, circa 1842-1920*
2. *Blacksmiths, circa 1842-1920*

3. *Farm Scene*, circa 1842-1920
4. *Family Moving Down River*, circa 1842-1920
5. *Bayona Horse*, circa 1842-1920
6. *Farmer and Wife Picking Corn*, circa 1842-1920
7. *Plowing Field*, circa 1842-1920
8. *Farmer Pumping Water for Animals*, circa 1842-1920
9. *Cows Wading*, circa 1842-1920
10. *Cows Eating Hay*, circa 1842-1920
11. *Wild Deer*, circa 1842-1920
12. *Mrs. Anna C. Baggs*, circa 1842-1920
13. *Pork Residence in Madison, Indiana*, circa 1842-1920
14. *Todd Residence in Madison, Indiana*, circa 1842-1920
15. *Early Downtown Map*, circa 1842-1920

Box 9. *Photograph prints*, circa 1962

Box 10. *Photograph prints*, circa 1962

Box 11. *Photograph prints*, circa 1962

Box 12. *Photograph prints*, circa 1962

Box 13. *Photograph prints*, circa 1962

OBE10. *Oversize drawings*, circa 1842-1920

1. *Old State Residence, Independence Day*, circa 1842-1920
2. *Neighborhood scenes*, circa 1842-1920
3. *Neighborhood scenes*, circa 1842-1920
4. *Neighborhood scenes*, circa 1842-1920
5. *Neighborhood scenes*, circa 1842-1920

### Collection Information:

Size of Collection:	13 boxes total; 1 oversize folder
Collection Dates:	Circa 1842-1987
Provenance:	December 1930; 1962; 1987
Access:	The Collection is Open for Research Use
Restrictions:	None
Reproduction Rights:	Permission to reproduce, exhibit, or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Manuscripts and Rare Books Division, Indiana State Library.
Language:	Materials are entirely in English
Alternate Formats:	None
Related Holdings:	None

Collection Notes:

Schrader's daughters donated his paintings and drawings to the Indiana State Library in December 1930. Twelve paintings, donated along with the drawings, were transferred to the Indiana State Museum.