

Collection Summary

ID Number: CS 390

Title: Matthews, IN

Extent: 1 Folder(s)

Span Dates: 1970

Language: English

Geographic Location: Grant County, Indiana

Abstract: This collection consists of a paper written about the community.

Historical Notes: Matthews, Indiana was founded in 1895 named in honor of then Indiana Governor Claude Matthews. Matthews is in Southern Grant County in Jefferson Township. In the 2010, the population was 596. In 1902, at the height of the natural gas boom, Matthews, was home to fifteen glass factories, four churches, four drug stores, seven restaurants, two newspapers, two banks, seven blacksmiths, one dentist, four doctors, twenty-four general stores, two laundries, one bakery, two furniture stores, two morticians, two real estate agencies, two insurance men, three barbers, three attorneys, one jeweler, one photographer, one telegraph office, two ladies hat shops, three hardware stores, two candy stores, four sawmills, six livery stables, twenty-two saloons, and a justice of the peace. Anyone who has been to Matthews would find it hard to believe that Matthews had the world's largest natural gas wells as well as being seriously considered in the running for the capital of Indiana, both of which are true. That may be why Matthews is best known as the Wonder City. After the gas failed, most businesses and residents moved away, and Matthews had to start rebuilding itself. **Sources:** [Matthews, Indiana](#)

Selected Search Terms

Subjects: Gas fields—Indiana; Historic sites--Indiana--Grant County; Gas industry--Indiana--History

Administrative Information

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Contents	Date	Container	Folder	Location
Cole, Jack. "Matthews: A Forgotten City." Masters' Thesis Paper, Ball State University, Muncie, IN.	1970	Filing Cabinet	Folder 1	Filing Cabinet 15-B