

## Collection Summary

**ID Number:** CS 059

**Title:** Bishop Hill

**Extent:** 18 Folder(s)

**Span Dates:** 1885-2013

**Language:** English, German (maybe Swedish?)

**Geographic Location:** Bishop Hill, Illinois

**Abstract:** This collection consists of newsletters and announcements from the community. It includes articles, informational booklets produced by the community, and conference presentation papers as well as guides and maps with historic information. Photographs of the community can be found at:

<http://digitalarchives.usi.edu/digital/collection/CSIC/search/searchterm/Bishop%20Hill>

## Selected Search Terms

**Subjects:** Communal living; Collective settlements; Housing, Cooperative; Collective farms; Commune; Bishop Hill (Ill.)

**Historical Notes:** In 1846, a group of Swedish immigrants seeking religious freedom left their native land under the guidance of their charismatic spiritual leader, Erik Jansson. The site for their new utopia, later called Bishop Hill, was described to them as a "land of plenty, brimming with milk and honey," and they struggled to make it so. These Janssonists built a successful communal society based on economic and religious principles. Many of the structures erected during this building campaign still exist. The colony grew and flourished for fifteen years before disbanding in 1861." "Bishop Hill, Illinois's first commune, was under Jansson's direct control until he was murdered in 1850 by John Root, his cousin's husband. Soon thereafter a seven-member board of trustees (elected for life terms), headed by Jonas Olson, was selected to make decisions for the community, which was incorporated in 1853. Economic problems and internal dissension caused the collapse of communal life, and the property was divided among the settlers in 1861. Many residents left the community, and the remainder became members of other churches.

<http://www.britannica.com/place/Bishop-Hill-State-Historic-Site#ref274113> and

<http://www.bishophill.com/>

## Administrative Information

**Copyright Status:** Digital Image Copyright ©2016 University of Southern Indiana Library. All Rights Reserved. Personnel, student records, and other personal information in the records are restricted. All other material is open to the public without restrictions. Copyright laws of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) govern the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

**Access:** Personnel and students records and other personal information in these records are restricted. All other material is open to the public without restrictions. Copyright laws of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) govern the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Container</b>	<b>Location</b>
Tour/Historic Guides, maps, postcards, and events	1984-2010	Folder 1	Filing Cabinet 11-D

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Container</b>	<b>Location</b>
Newsletters: The Utopian	1988; 1992	Folder 2	Filing Cabinet 11-D
Newsletter: Bishop Hill Heritage Association	1975-1993	Folder 3	Filing Cabinet 11-D
Newsletter: Bishop Hill Heritage News	1979, 1981	Folder 4	Filing Cabinet 11-D
Newsletter: Bishop Hill Heritage Association Newsbulletin	1990-2016	Folder 5	Filing Cabinet 11-D
Clippings and articles	1970-1979	Folder 6	Filing Cabinet 11-D
Clippings and articles	1981-1995	Folder 7	Filing Cabinet 11-D
"The Bishop Hill Colony: A Religious Communistic Settlement in Henry County, Illinois." Michael A. Mikkelsen, John Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science	1892	Folder 8	Filing Cabinet 11-D
"Eric Janson and the Bishop Hill Colony." Sivert Erdahl, Illinois State Historical Society Journal	1925	Folder 9	Filing Cabinet 11-D
"Bibliography of Midwestern Experimental Communities: Illinois." E. Cheryl Schnirring	n.d.	Folder 10	Filing Cabinet 11-D
"English Settlements in Illinois." Rich Burkhardt (in 5 chapters: 1-Introduction and Biography, 2-Why Emigrate?, 3-Frontier Problems, 4-Troubles, At Home and Abroad, 5-They Gave to America, and Bibliography of the English Settlement in Edwards County	1939	Folder 11	Filing Cabinet 11-D
"A Farewell Address from Eric Jansson" Translation and Swedish? German?	1845	Folder 12	Filing Cabinet 11-D
"The Charter of the Bishop Hill Colony."	n.d.	Folder 13	Filing Cabinet 11-D
"The Janssonists Meet America: Culture, Thought and Living at Swedish Bishop Hill, Il." John E. Norton, presented at the International Communal Studies Conference, New Harmony, IN.	1993	Folder 14	Filing Cabinet 11-D
"The Janssonist Faith, from Biskopskulla to Bishop Hill." John E. Norton, Communal Studies Conference, Nauvoo, IL.	1992	Folder 15	Filing Cabinet 11-D
"The Janssonist Faith." John E. Norton	1972	Folder 16	Filing Cabinet 11-D
"The History of the Bishop Hill Colony." Eric Johnson	1880	Folder 17	Filing Cabinet 11-D
Swank, George. <i>Bishop Hill: Swedish-American Showcase</i> . 1987	1987	Folder 17	Filing Cabinet 11-D
Pinzke, Nancy Lindberg. <i>Faces of Utopia: A Bishop Hill Family Album</i> . Chicago. 1982	1982	Folder 17	Filing Cabinet 11-D
Wagner, Jon. "The making and Breaking of an Utopia." <i>The Prairie Journal</i> . (Winter 1984-85): 14-23	1984-1985	Folder 17	Filing Cabinet 11-D
Miscellaneous: news releases, correspondence	1972-1984	Folder 18	Filing Cabinet 11-D