Lafayette City Directories Tippecanoe County Rural Directories

Most Lafayette city directories contain: (1) an alphabetical list of people and businesses, with addresses, (2) a classified list of businesses and (3) advertising for businesses. (Similar to the white pages and yellow pages of a modern telephone book.) Nineteenth century and early twentieth century directories generally included text about, and a few pictures of the civic, educational, fraternal, governmental and religious organizations in the city. Early directories may include information about an individual's occupation and place of employment. Some city directories also provided information about surrounding **Tippecanoe County** towns, the county's rural residents and business directories of nearby towns. As Lafayette's population and the size of the directory grew, these features were reduced or dropped and new features, such as telephone numbers, and crisscross directories were added. A crisscross directory is organized first by street address, then by name of occupant. Separate **Tippecanoe County** rural directories were published on an irregular basis.

Users of Lafayette directories should give careful attention to the organization of each one as they do not follow a consistent pattern. One cannot assume that all residents or businesses for the geographic areas of coverage are together in one listing. While later directories integrate the personal and business listings for the cities of Lafayette and West Lafayette, listings for the surrounding towns and rural areas are generally separate. The criteria used for including businesses and individuals in areas outside of Lafayette and West Lafayette also vary.

Abbreviations used in the tables below:

Att = Attica, Fountain County

Bus Dir = business directory

Bus Men = business men

Cha = Chauncey, now West Lafayette

Cra = Crawfordsville, Montgomery County

Criss Cross = crisscross directory

Day = Dayton, Tippecanoe County

Del = Delphi, Carroll County

Els = Elston, south suburb, now in Lafayette

Fra = Frankfort, Clinton County

Laf.= Lafayette

Lin = Linnwood, north suburb, now in Lafayette

LO = land owners

Log = Logansport, Cass County

Per = Peru, Miami County

RR = rural routes

Tax = rural taxpayers

Tipp. Co. = Tippecanoe County

V = villages

W. Laf. = West Lafayette

Wil = Williamsport, Warren County

X = geographic area in directory

The following tables summarize the geographic coverage and contents of the directories (paper copies) available in the TCHA Library, Reading Room.

1858- 1910

Date	Laf.	W. Laf.	Tipp. Co.	Criss Cross	Numerical phone	Other
1858-59	X					
1860-61	X					
1862-63	X					
1865-66	X					
1867	X					
1869	X					
1871-72	X					Bus Dir: Cra, Del, Fra, Att
1871 & 1876	Bus Dir only					Bus Dir: Att, Log, Per, Wil
1872	Bus Men only					
1873-74	X					
1874	X					
1875-76	X					
1878-79	X					
1879-80	X, Lin	Cha				
1881	X, Lin	Cha				
1883-84	X, Lin, Els	Cha				
1885-86	X, Lin	Cha	X			
1889	X, Lin	X	X			
1891	X	X	X			
1893	X	X	X			
1894	X	X	X			
1896-97	X	X	LO, V			
1898	X	X	Bus Men, LO			
1901-02	X	X	LO, RR, V			
1903-04	X	X	LO, RR			
1907	X	X	X			
1909-10	X	X	LO, RR			

1911-1950

Date	Laf.	W. Laf.	Tipp. Co.	Criss Cros	Numerical phone	Other
1911-12	X	X	X			
1913-14	X	X	X			
1915-16	X	X	X			
1918	X	X	X			
1920	X	X	X			
1921	X	X	X			
1922			X			
1923	X	X	X			
1924	X	X	X			
1926-27	X	X	Bus, RR			
1927			X, except Laf. & W. Laf.			
1927-28	X	X	X	X		
1929-30	X	X	X	X		
1931-32	X	X	X	X		Tax
1933	X	X	X	X		
1935	X	X	X	X		Tax
1937	X	X	X	X		Tax
1939	X	X	X			
1941	X	X		X	X	
1943	X	X		X	X	
1945	X	X		X	X	
1948	X	X		X	X	
1950	X	X		X	X	

1951-1970

Date	Laf.	W. Laf.	Tipp. Co.	Criss Cross	Numerical phone	Other
1953	X	X		X	X	
1954			RR			
1955	X	X		X	X	
1957	X	X		X	X	
1957			RR			
1958	X	X		X	X	
1959	X	X		X	X	
1960	X	X		X	X	
1961	X	X		X	X	
1961			RR			
1962	X	X		X	X	
1963	X	X		X	X	
1964	X	X		X	X	
1965	X	X		X	X	
1965			X	X	X	
1966	X	X		X	X	
1967	X	X		X	X	
1968	X	X		X	X	
1968			X			
1969	X	X			X	
1969			X			
1970	X	X			X	
1971	X	X		X	X	
1971	X	X		X	X	
1973	X	X		X	X	
1974	X	X		X	X	
1975	X	X		X	X	
1976			X			
1977	X	X		X	X	1
1978	X	X		X	X	
1979	X	X		X	X	

1980-1998

Date	Laf.	W. Laf.	Tipp. Co.	Criss Cross	Numerical phone	Other
1980	X	X		X	X	
1981	X	X		X	X	
1982	X	X		X	X	
1983	X	X		X	X	
1984	X	X		X	X	
1985	X	X		X	X	
1986	X	X		X	X	
1987	X	X		X	X	
1988	X	X		X	X	
1989-90	X	X		X	X	
1991	X	X		X	X	
1992	X	X		X	X	
1993	X	X		X	X	
1994	X	X		X	X	
1996	X	X		X	X	
1997	X	X		X	X	
1998	X	X	X	X	X	

2000-2007

Date	Laf.	W. Laf.	Tipp. Co.	Criss Cross	Numerical phone	Other
2000	X	X		X	X	
2001	X	X		X	X	
2002	X	X		X	X	
2003	X	X		X	X	
2004	X	X		X	X	
2005	X	X		X	X	
2006	X	X		X	X	
2007	X	X		X	X	
	More need to bring up to date					

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