

Collection #
P 0579

**M. E. AND DORA G. MILLER FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS
CA. 1880S – 1907, N.D.**

[Collection Information](#)

[Biographical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Series Contents](#)

Processed by

Barbara Quigley
25 April 2017

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 15 mounted black-and-white photographs in 1 half-document case and 1 half-OVA box

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1880s–1907, n.d.

PROVENANCE: Purchased from Heritage Photo Services in Indianapolis, in 2000

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT:

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBERS: 2000.0516, 2000.1233

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Marion Elmer Miller was born 9 February 1864 in Indiana, most likely in Clinton County. He married Dora G. Hillis on 21 December 1885 in Clinton County. She had been born in April 1864 in Indiana. They had a son, Erick Elmer Miller, who was born 15 March 1888 in Clinton County.

At the time of the 1870 and 1880 censuses, M.E. Miller lived in Warren Township in Clinton County with his farming parents, Windle and Sarah Miller (who were farming there at the time of the 1860 census, four years before M. E. was born). By the 1900 census he lived in Michigantown, Indiana, with his wife Dora and son Erick, and he worked as a druggist. A 1905 Frankfort, Indiana, city directory lists his business as "M.E. Miller -- drugs, paints and oils." The 1910 census lists his occupation as a cashier at a bank. The 1920 census lists "no occupation" for him. Dora died in 1928. In the 1930 census, M. E. is listed as a bank president in Michigantown. M.E. died 7 January 1934 in Anderson, Indiana (where his son lived), and was buried by Dora in Whiteman Cemetery in Michigantown.

Erick E. Miller married Alma Ivonne Downard. According to one online (ancestry.com) family tree, the marriage took place on 21 February 1910, but no documentation was found for this. In 1917 it was noted on Erick's World War I draft registration card that he was a draftsman in LaPorte, Indiana. The 1920 census shows Erick and Alma living in Norfolk, Nebraska, where he was working as a mechanical draughtsman. In the 1930 and 1940 censuses Erick is listed as being a factory draftsman for an automobile manufacturing company in Anderson, Indiana. On his World War II draft registration card in 1942, he is noted as being unemployed and living in Anderson. In a 1943 city directory Erick and Alma are listed as residents of Anderson. They are listed in the 1945 Florida state census in Pinellas County; they are both noted as having a college education, with him being retired and her being a homemaker. They are listed as being residents of Michigantown, Indiana, in city directories from 1946 and 1957. His occupation on his death certificate was listed as farmer and pharmacist, despite all the mentions of him being a draftsman. Erick E. Miller died 14 July 1969 in Frankfort. Alma I. Miller, who had been born 27 September 1887, died in Carlin Park Nursing Home in Angola, Indiana, on 17 June 1975. Erick and Alma are also buried in Whiteman Cemetery in Michigantown.

Sources:

Florida State Census, 1945 (<http://www.ancestrylibrary.com>). Accessed 24 April 2017.

Indiana Death Certificates, 1899–2011 (<http://www.ancestrylibrary.com>). Accessed 24 April 2017.

Indiana Marriage Index, 1800–1941 (<http://www.ancestrylibrary.com>). Accessed 24 April 2017.

U.S. Census, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940
(<http://www.ancestrylibrary.com>). Accessed 24 April 2017.

U.S. Find A Grave Index, 1600s–Current (<http://www.ancestrylibrary.com>). Accessed 24 April 2017.

U.S. City Directories, 1822–1995 (<http://www.ancestrylibrary.com>). Accessed 24 April 2017.

World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917 (<http://www.ancestrylibrary.com>). Accessed 24 April 2017.

World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942 (<http://www.ancestrylibrary.com>). Accessed 24 April 2017.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection is composed of fifteen mounted black-and-white photographs pertaining to the family of Marion Elmer Miller, his wife Dora G. Hillis Miller, and their son, Erick Elmer Miller. Although most of the photographs do not include dates, they appear to have been taken during the period from the 1880s to about 1907, during which time the family lived in Clinton County, Indiana. Some photographs include unidentified people. The photographs are arranged into three series, as follows:

Series 1: Portraits of M. E., Dora G., and Erick E. Miller -- This series includes six photographs (1 duplicate), of the family of three, of the husband and wife, of the son individually, and of Dora with another woman [possibly her mother?].

Series 2: Drug Stores and Pharmacy College -- This series consists of three photographs, two of which depict the family's drug store businesses [probably in Michigantown] and one that shows Erick Miller and others in a classroom/lab at Winona College of Pharmacy.

Series 3: Other Group Portraits -- This series is composed of six photographs of family groups and other groups, most of which are unidentified. One is identified as being of a picnic with Knights of Pythias lodge members.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Portraits of M. E., Dora G., and Erick Miller

CONTENTS

Carte-de-visite portrait of M. E. and Dora G. Miller, [ca. mid-1880s] (photo by Heichert of Frankfort, Ind.).

Cabinet card portrait of Erick E. Miller, [ca.1894–95] (photo by Van De Grift Bros.).

Mounted strip of five portraits of Dora G. Hillis Miller as a young woman with an older woman in five different poses [ca. early 1880s].

Imperial card portrait of Erick E., M. E., and Dora G. Miller (2 copies), [ca. 1894], (photo by Gilbert of Frankfort, Ind.).

Mounted portrait of Erick E. Miller [ca. 1905], (photo by Hardy of Frankfort, Ind.).

CONTAINER

Photographs Box 1,
Folder 1

Photographs Box 1,
Folder 1

Photographs Box 1,
Folder 1

Photographs Box 1,
Folder 1

Photographs Box 1,
Folder 1

Series 2: Drug Stores and Pharmacy College

CONTENTS

Exterior of store with "M. E. Miller / Druggist" sign. Two men are standing on the porch; the one on the right with mustache appears to be M. E. Miller, n.d.

Twelve people in classroom/lab at Winona College of Pharmacy. Erick Miller identified as fourth from right, 7 May 1907.

Exterior of store with "M. E. Miller & Son -- Drugs" sign. Three men are standing out front: on left appears to be M. E. Miller, and man on the right could be Erick E. Miller, n.d.

CONTAINER

Photographs Box 1,
Folder 2

Photographs Box 1,
Folder 2

Photographs Box 1,
Folder 2

Series 3: Other Group Portraits

CONTENTS

Parlor or living room with two women seated by a table and a man standing holding a baby. The woman on the left is possibly Dora G. Miller, and she appears to be looking at a book. The woman on the right appears to be looking at stereograph cards through a view finder. The man and baby are out of focus, n.d.

Girl and boy standing on a porch; the boy is possibly Erick E. Miller, n.d.

Group of 31 children of various ages under a sign that says "Thanks / Giving," n.d.

Three men and a toddler. This appears to be a 4-generation portrait, with an old man, middle-aged man, young man, and a toddler in a studio setting, n.d.

Group posed outside of a house, includes two older men, a young woman, and sixteen children [third from left standing in back is possibly Erick E. Miller], n.d.

Knights of Pythias lodge picnic. Twelve men, four women, and three children having a picnic by some trees. Erick Miller's name is written on back, n.d.

CONTAINER

Photographs Box 1,
Folder 3

Photographs Box 1,
Folder 3

Photographs Box 1,
Folder 3

OVA Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 1

OVA Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 2

OVA Photographs, Box 1,
Folder 3