

Collection #
M 0986

**ROBERT R. MORRISON
PAPERS, 1917–1924**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 1 box

COLLECTION
DATES: 1917–1924

PROVENANCE: Charles Apfelbaum, Watchung, New Jersey, March 2010

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE
FORMATS:

RELATED
HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION
NUMBER: 2010.0073

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Robert R. Morrison was born in Shelby County, Indiana in April 1899. In May 1917 he enlisted in the United States Army and served in Battery E of the 52nd Coast Artillery which was part of the 4th Division. His unit saw action on the Champagne front and he was promoted to corporal in the fall of 1918. Morrison was discharged in January 1919 and returned to his home in Shelbyville where he possibly was employed as a machinist.

Sources:

Information in collection.

Ancestry, Library Edition. <http://www.ancestrylibrary.com/default.aspx>, Searched 13 May 2010.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The bulk of this collection consists of letters written by Robert R. Morrison to his parents and family in Shelbyville, Indiana while serving in the Army during World War I, May 1917–January 1919. The letters begin with Morrison writing from training in Ft. Washington, Maryland and conclude with his serving in France as a member of the Battery E of the 52nd Coast Artillery (4th Division). Letters from Ft. Washington (May–July 1917) contain descriptions of daily activities and questions and comments about news from home. There are also several letters written during his period of transport from the United States to France (July–September 1917) describing the ocean voyage. Letters from France begin in October 1917 and talk about artillery training and being on guard duty. He repeatedly tells his family that he is in good health and safe. Because of censorship, there is no discussion of his involvement in battle but he does refer to headlines in papers where his battery supported the French advancement. He also relays that he has many stories to tell that could be turned into a book.

The collection also contains several letters from other soldiers to his mother and presumably other family members, 1918–1919. In addition, there is general printed information retained by Morrison. Among the items are general orders, 1918–1919, and veteran's information such as pensions, insurance, finding employment, and obtaining his Victory Medal, 1919–1924.

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CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:
<http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0986).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.