

Collection #
P 0263

**WALTER J. LONG
NEGATIVES, CA. 1920**

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Processed by

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August 1994

Revised by Dorothy Nicholson
15 March 2004,
September 2016

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Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 7 5x7 glass plate negatives, 8 modern contact prints, 8 copy negatives

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1920

PROVENANCE: Joan E. Hostetler, Indianapolis, Ind., 1987
I.H.S. Collections reproduction photos, 1994

RESTRICTIONS: Researchers may view negatives with the assistance of the Coordinator of Visual Reference Services or Library Staff.

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1988.0038, 1994.1156X

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL SKETCH

These negatives are thought to depict Pierceton (Kosciusko County), Indiana, family groups and scenes.

A branch of Reid-Murdock & Co., a Chicago-based pickle, sauerkraut, and ketchup manufacturer, operated on the west edge of Pierceton, ca. 1900–56. The company was named Reid, Murdock & Fisher until about 1919, when it was renamed Reid-Murdock & Co. Although Consolidated Food Processors, Inc. purchased the company in 1926, the factory was known as Reid-Murdock & Co. until it closed in July 1956.

Walter Johnson Long (1881–ca. 1960) was born in Leesburg, Indiana, and served in the Spanish-American War and World War I. He was a mail carrier in Pierceton, Indiana, and lived at Barbee Lake, north of Pierceton.

Sources:

"Reid-Murdock Played Important Role in History of Pierceton," *The Pierceton Press*, 15 June, 1966, Section 5, 1.

"Old Photographers Plates Found," *The Pierceton Press*, 6 July 1966, 6.

Royse, Hon. L. W. *A Standard History of Kosciusko Co., Indiana*. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1919, 339-40.

Standard Atlas of Kosciusko County, Indiana; ... Chicago: George A. Ogle and Co., 1914, 86.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains eight views of Pierceton, Indiana, ca. 1920. The collection was originally comprised of eight 5" x 7" dry-plate glass negatives. Eight modern contact prints were made from the glass negatives, and eight 4" x 5" copy negatives were made from the contact prints. Due to the severely flaking emulsion on Negative 7, it was discarded after making the contact print and copy negative.

Four images are of a family group, possibly a family reunion, posing in a living room. The March 1920 date is based on a wall calendar visible in one of the images. Another scene depicts a group picnic near a lake, possibly the same family. A farm scene shows farmers mowing and stacking hay. The discarded glass plate was a photograph of a dog. One image depicts the storage yard and stacked crates of tomatoes at Reid-Murdock & Co., Pierceton, Indiana.

The donor found the eight glass negatives in the basement of the Pierceton–Washington Township Public Library. A rubber band around the box of negatives held a piece of paper marked "Ducky Long." A 1966 newspaper article states that the negatives were found in the possession of Walter Long and that "it was believed that a traveling photographer took the pictures." Beulah Brygider, the Pierceton librarian, stated that the negatives were probably donated by Long for the Pierceton history museum that was planned for the library during the 1960s. Although several people donated items for the museum, it never materialized.

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Contact Prints

[Family group in living room] March 1920

[Family group in living room] March 1920

[Four-generation family group in living room]
March 1920

[Family group in living room] March 1920

[Family picnic near lake, ca. 1920]

[Farm scene, mowing and stacking hay, ca. 1920]

[Dog, glass negative was discarded]

[Reid-Murdock & Co. storage yard, Pierceton,
Indiana, ca. 1920]

CONTAINER

Photographs:
Folder 1

5 x 7
Glass Plate Negatives,
Box 1, Image 1,
[C3120]

5 x 7
Glass Plate Negatives,
Box 1, Image 2,
[C3121]

5 x 7
Glass Plate Negatives,
Box 1, Image 3,
[C3122]

5 x 7
Glass Plate Negatives,
Box 1, Image 4,
[C3123]

5 x 7
Glass Plate Negatives,
Box 1, Image 5,
[C3124]

5 x 7
Glass Plate Negatives,
Box 1, Image 6,
[C3125]

Image 7, [C3126]

5 x 7
Glass Plate Negatives,
Box 1, Image 8,
[C3127]

