

Collection #
SC 3494

**HIGHLAND VICINITY NEIGHBORHOOD
COLLECTION, 1929–2004**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: **Manuscript Materials:** 4 manuscript folders
Visual Materials: 1 photograph folder, 1 cold storage color folder, 1 cold storage OVB photograph box

COLLECTION DATES: 1929–2004

PROVENANCE: Tonya M. Ford-Elliott, January 2016

RESTRICTIONS: Items listed as being in cold storage need at least four hours to acclimate, so patrons are advised to call ahead of their visit if they wish to view those items to allow for thawing time.

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2015.0409

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Highland Vicinity is an Indianapolis neighborhood with the following boundaries: north at 30th Street, south at Fall Creek Parkway, east at Meridian Street and west at Interstate 65. It is part of a collection of six surrounding neighborhoods—Crown Hill, Highland Vicinity, Historic Meridian Park, Mapleton-Fall Creek, Meridian Highland and Watson-McCord—known as Mid-North. Highland Vicinity is also part of a larger collection of 17 neighborhoods known as Midtown Indianapolis (both "Mid-North" and "Midtown" refer to the fact that all of these neighborhoods are geographically located in the middle of Indianapolis).¹

The Highland Vicinity Neighborhood Association represents the neighborhood's residents at Mid-North and Midtown meetings. This association was formed by Hilda LaLand, who was born 15 December 1930 to James and Annie Miller in Aurora, North Carolina. She married Rudolph LaLand (1930–2009) on 18 September 1954, and the couple had five children: Hilmer, Kevin, Lance, Trent and Dalphia.

The LaLand's Highland Vicinity home was at 2531 Boulevard Place. In the early 1980s, Hilda formed the Highland Vicinity Neighborhood Association as a way to provide the best possible quality of life for her family and neighbors. Under her leadership, the organization established housing improvement programs, beautification projects and crime watch block clubs. Hilda served as the organization's president from its inception until her death on 27 December 2004. Her work continues under the association's current president James Whitfield.

Another long-term resident of the neighborhood was the Miller family. Matriarch Sarah Hines was born 3 March 1884 to James and Catherine Boner in Marcellus, Kentucky. On 11 September 1902, she married Gilbert Miller. The couple had eight children: Helen (1895–1988), Gertrude (1904–2009), Beatrice (1905–1994), Susie (1907–1957), Gladys (1909–2001), Grace (1911–2002), Margaret (1918–?) and Gilbert Jr. (1920–1981).

Gilbert Miller Sr. died 25 February 1927. Around 1930, the family moved to Highland Vicinity. According to the 1930 Census, Sarah, Beatrice, Susie, Grace, Margaret and Gilbert Jr. lived at 2838 Highland Place. By 1940, Sarah had moved to 2519 Boulevard Place where she lived with Susie, Grace, and Gilbert Jr.

In February 1943, Sarah married her second husband Rev. Harry B. Hines. Harry died ten years later on 23 July 1953. Sarah died at the age of 89 on 15 April 1973.

After spending several years in Highland Vicinity, a few of Sarah's children purchased their own homes in the neighborhood. On 23 October 1935, Gladys Miller married Hugh Riddle (1897–1983), the personal valet of Josiah Kirby (J.K.) Lilly Jr. and Josiah Kirby (J.K.) Lilly III. They lived at 2549 Boulevard Place.

¹ Midtown Indianapolis includes the neighborhoods of Broad Ripple, Butler-Tarkington, Canterbury, Clifton on the River, Crown Hill, Forest Hills, Golden Hill, Highland Vicinity, Historic Meridian Park, Historic Watson Park [Watson-McCord], Keystone-Monon, Mapleton-Fall Creek, Meridian Highland, Meridian-Kessler, Meridian Street Historic District, Rocky Ripple and Warfleigh.

On 9 September 1965, Grace Miller married Theodore McClerkin (1905–1989). The couple lived at 3148 Graceland Avenue. After her husband's death, Grace moved in with her sister Gertrude who lived at 2511 Boulevard Place. Gertrude remained at her residence until her passing in 2009.

Sources:

Materials in collection.

"About Midtown Indy." Midtown Indy. Accessed 22 August 2018.

<http://midtownindy.org/about/>

"Live in Midtown." Midtown Indy. Accessed 22 August 2018.

<http://midtownindy.org/live/>

"Our Neighborhoods." Mid-North Quality of Life Plan. Accessed 22 August 2018.

https://www.midnorthplan.org/?page_id=1261

1930 United States Federal Census, Ancestry Library edition, accessed 22 August 2018.

1940 United States Federal Census, Ancestry Library edition, accessed 22 August 2018.

California, Death Index, 1940-1997, Ancestry Library edition, accessed 22 August 2018.

Indiana, Birth Certificates, 1907–1940, Ancestry Library edition, accessed 22 August 2018.

Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899–2011, Ancestry Library edition, accessed 22 August 2018.

Indiana, Marriages, 1810–2001, Ancestry Library edition, accessed 22 August 2018.

Kentucky, Birth Index, 1911-1999, Ancestry Library edition, accessed 22 August 2018.

Kentucky, County Marriage Records, 1783-1965, Ancestry Library edition, accessed 22 August 2018.

Marion County, Indiana, Marriage Index, 1925-2012, Ancestry Library edition, accessed 22 August 2018.

North Carolina, Death Certificates, 1909-1976, Ancestry Library edition, accessed 22 August 2018.

U.S. Public Records Index, 1950-1993, Volume I, Ancestry Library edition, accessed 22 August 2018.

U.S. Social Security and Death Index, 1935-2014, Ancestry Library edition, accessed 22 August 2018.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains materials about two Highland Vicinity residents—the LaLand family and the Miller family. It includes report cards for Gilbert Miller Jr. from IPS School #87, a marriage certificate and license for Sarah and Harry Hines, and obituaries for Sarah Hines, Hugh Riddle, Gladys Riddle, Grace McClerkin, and Hilda LaLand. There is also a collection of signatures from Melvin McClerkin's (Grace's stepson) 1953 Shortridge Yearbook and several photographs related to the LaLand and Miller families.

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Gilbert Miller Jr.'s Report Cards from IPS School #87,
1929–30

CONTAINER

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Marriage Certificate and License for Sarah Miller and
Harry H. Hines, February 1944

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Signatures from Melvin McClerkin's *The 1953 Annual*
(Shortridge High School Yearbook)

Folder 3 of 4

Obituaries for Sarah Hines, Hugh Riddle, Gladys
Riddle, Grace McClerkin and Hilda LaLand, 1973,
1983, 2001–02, 2004

Folder 4 of 4

Portrait of Elizabeth Riddle, n.d.

Cold Storage
Color OVB Photographs,
Box 1 of 1

Group Photos, including of Miller Family, n.d.

Cold Storage
Color Photographs,
Folder 1 of 1

Unidentified Individual and Property, n.d.

Photographs,
Folder 1 of 1