

Collection #
M 1401

**ALICE THEODORA MERTEN RECHLIN
DISSERTATION AND RESEARCH, 1946–1989**

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Processed by

Courtney Rookard
June 2018

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

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript half box
1 flat file folder
10 printed items

COLLECTION DATES: 1946–1989

PROVENANCE: Donald W. Perkins, Alexandria, Virginia

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: *The Amish Community in Daviess County, Indiana*, Bill Whorrall, 2003 (F532.D17 W56 2003)
The Amish–Mennonites in Daviess County, Indiana, Joseph Stoll, 1959 (Pam F532.D17 S86 1959)
Indiana Amish Directory: Elkhart and LaGrange Counties, 1970 (BX8117.I6 G5 1970)
Shipshewana: An Indiana Amish community, Dorothy Pratt, 2004 (F534.S52 P73 2004)
The Swiss of Adams and Wells Counties, Indiana: 1838–1862, 2002 (F532.A2 H32 2002)

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2009.0183

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICALSKETCH

Alice Theodora Merten was born in Teaneck, New Jersey. She received a bachelor's degree in 1953 from Valparaiso University in Indiana. In 1955, Alice received a master's degree in geography from Northwestern University and married Frederick Rechlin. They had three children. During this time, she was a professor—and then chairman—of the Department of Geography at Valparaiso University. In 1971, she earned a geography doctorate from the University of Michigan. Her dissertation was titled “Spatial Behavior of the Old Order Amish in Nappanee, Indiana,” and the research was funded by Valparaiso University.

In 1986 she moved to the Washington, D.C. area and joined the National Geographic Society as an academic. In 1994, she became the first female geographer for the society.

Her husband Frederick died in 1993 and Alice Rechlin married Donald Perkins in 1997, the same year she retired from the National Geographic Society. Throughout this time she served on the governing boards of the Association of American Geographers, the American Geographical Society, the National Council for Geographic Education, and as president of the geographical honor society Gamma Theta Upsilon. In 2000, she was awarded the Certificate of Distinction by the Association of College Honor Societies.

Alice Theodora Merten Rechlin Perkins died on 1 June 2002 in Alexandria, Virginia.

Sources:

Material in collection

“Alice Rechlin Perkins, National Geographic Map Researcher, Dies.” *The Washington Post*, 5 June 2002. Accessed 22 June 2018.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/local/2002/06/05/alice-rechlin-perkins-national-geographic-map-researcher-dies/0686e03d-6dde-40f3-a3e9-0f63c7decadd/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.7fae774f1f5d

“Memorials (M–Z) Paid Obituary Announcements: Alice Theodora Merten Rechlin–Perkins.” *The Times*, 5 June 2002. Accessed 22 June 2018.

https://www.nwitimes.com/uncategorized/memorials-m—z/article_bd65e2f4-9a0f-5531-b897-4eb5109944c5.html

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection includes pamphlets and books used for research on the Old Order Amish, and copies of the dissertation. The printed items are housed in the library's general collection.

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“Amish Ideology and the Cultural Landscape” John B. Garver, 19 January 1966

Amish–Mennonite Directory, Nappanee, Indiana, Volume One, March 1968

Amish pamphlets, ca. 1964

Amish pamphlets, 1964, 1977

The Amish People, Elmer Lewis Smith, 1958

Amish religion pamphlets, 1962–1968

Amish youth pamphlets, 1964–1965

Annotated Bibliography on the Amish, John A. Hostetler, 1951

Children in Amish Society—Socialization and Community Education, John A. Hostetler, 1971

Community Conflict, Public Opinion and the Law: The Amish Dispute in Iowa, Harrell R. Rodgers, Jr., 1969

Compulsory Education and the Amish: The Right Not to be Modern, ed. Albert N. Keim, 1975

“Indiana Amish Directory, Adams County and Vicinity”, 1968

Mennonite Yearbook and Directory, Volume 59, ed. Ellrose D. Zook, 1968

Plain and Simple: A Woman’s Journey to the Amish, Sue Bender, 1989

Research, ca. 1962

Spatial Behavior of the Old Order Amish of Nappanee, Indiana, Alice Theodora Merten Rechlin, 1976 (2 copies)

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

Print Collection
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Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

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“A Survey of Land Ownership Trends Among Amish and Mennonites in the Mennonite Community East of Goshen, Indiana From the Years 1913–1915 to 1937”
Richard J. Yordy, 19 March 1946

Box 1, Folder 8

Topographical maps of Amish country, ca. 1960

FF 16–L

Township maps, 1966

Box 1, Folder 9