

Collection #  
P 0671

**BESSIE W. BRENDEL FAMILY  
PHOTOGRAPHS, CA. 1880–1955**

Collection Information	1
Biographical Sketch	2
Scope and Content Note	3
Contents	4

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

**VOLUME OF COLLECTION:** 1 half-size photograph box, 1 color photograph folder

**COLLECTION DATES:** Ca. 1880-1955

**PROVENANCE:** Unknown

**RESTRICTIONS:** Color photographs must be requested 4 hours in advance and may be viewed by appointment only and with the assistance of library staff.

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**ALTERNATE FORMATS:**

**RELATED HOLDINGS:**

**ACCESSION NUMBER:** 1993.0761X

**NOTES:**

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Bessie Winnifred Johnson Brendel was born in March 1875 in Hamilton County, Indiana to Theodore and Alpha Johnson. Bessie studied music at DePauw University Seminary and was later employed as a real estate agent. She married Wallace Wilson Brendel (born 1870) in 1895. Wallace was a blacksmith. The couple had two daughters, DeEtte and Eleanor Brendel. DeEtte Brendel Vankoeving was born in 1897, but died at the relatively young age of 28 years old in 1925. Bessie outlived her first child, dying on 29 December 1955.

Eleanor Brendel was born on 18 November 1905. She attended Purdue University and worked as an interior decorator. On 17 April 1927, Eleanor married Herschel E. Miller (born 1902). Herschel attended Butler University and was an engineer. The couple had one child, Donald Haydon Miller (born 20 December 1935). Eleanor passed away 11 August 1972.

Sources:

Ancestry.com

Materials in Collection

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This family collection contains photographs, mainly black and white, of the Brendel, Johnson, and Miller families. The majority of photographs are portraits of individuals. There is also a laminated memorial obituary for Bessie Brendel.

## CONTENTS

### CONTENTS

Dorothea Johnson, Theodore Johnson, and Alpha Johnson, n.d.

Bessie and Wallace Brendel, ca. 1880-1920s

David J. Miller, 1903-1905

DeEtte Brendel and Eleanor Brendel Miller, ca. 1904-1925

Herschel E. Miller, ca. 1907-1920

Unidentified Men, 1917 and n.d

Eleanor Brendel Miller, ca. 1920s

Bessie W. Brendel, Eleanor Brendel Miller, and Donald Miller, ca. 1930s

Donald H. Miller, ca. 1937-1943

Bessie Brendel, Memorial Obituary, 1955

### CONTAINER

Photograph,  
Box 1, Folder 1

Photograph,  
Box 1, Folder 2

Photograph,  
Box 1, Folder 3

Photograph,  
Box 1, Folder 4

Photograph,  
Box 1, Folder 5

Photograph,  
Box 1, Folder 6

Photograph,  
Box 1, Folder 7

Cold Storage:  
Color Photograph,  
Folder 1

Photograph,  
Box 1, Folder 8

Photograph,  
Box 1, Folder 9