CAMPBELL-MCFARLAND-ACHENBACH FAMILY COLLECTION, CA. 1900–1920S

Collection Information

Biographical Sketch

Scope and Content Note

Series Contents

Processed by

Barbara Quigley
23 February 2015

Revised 15 November 2017

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org
COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 4 photographs folders, 1 Cirkut photograph

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1900–1920s

PROVENANCE: Gifts from Laura A. Warner, March 2005 and August 2011

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT:

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:


NOTES:
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Isaiah Campbell was born in Indiana in April 1847 to parents from North Carolina. At the time of the 1880 census he was a farmer in the Prairie Township of Tipton County, living with his wife Lizzie (b. ca. 1852) and four children, including Anne Pearl Campbell (b. January 1879; d. 1968). By 1900 he was widowed and worked as a day laborer, living in the Owen Township of Clinton County with his 9-year-old son Alfred S. (b. August 1890). Isaiah died in 1931 and is buried in the Cheney Cemetery in Moran, Clinton County.

Anne Pearl Campbell, also known as Pearl Anna or Anna Pearl, married Marion T. McFarland (b. 14 July 1873; d. 1940). In 1900 they lived in Prairie Township of Tipton County, where Marion was a farmer. Anna Pearl's 12-year-old brother, John Harold Campbell lived with them and attended school. At the time of the 1910 census, Marion and Anna lived in Jefferson Township in Tipton County with their four children, including May Anna, and his widowed mother, Tobitha McFarland (b. ca. 1847). In 1918 he was a farmer in Tipton.

John Harold Campbell was born 1 October 1887 in Tipton County in the area of Normanda and Goldsmith. In 1917 he had his own farm in Irons, Lake County, Michigan. His World War I draft registration card that year mentions that he had "heart trouble." He entered the Army on 29 March 1918 at Baldwin, Michigan, and received training at Camp Custer, Michigan, at Camp Gordon, Georgia, and at Camp McClellan, Alabama. He sailed from Newport News, Virginia, in June 1918. While serving with Company M, 113th Infantry, he was killed in action in France on 10 October 1918 and was buried there in Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery.

May Anna McFarland, also known as Anna May, was born 11 May 1901. She attended the Indiana State Normal School Eastern Division (now known as Ball State University), which opened in 1918 to meet Indiana’s need for more and better teachers. It appears that she attended the college for about a year, and although she did not graduate, she received a permit to teach. At the time of the 1920 census, she was a public school teacher, living with her parents and six younger siblings, still in the Jefferson Township of Tipton County.

On 3 March 1930 Anna May McFarland married Irvin Hoy Achenbach (b. 22 December 1894; d. 29 March 1957). In 1900 he lived with his parents, John M. (b. March 1856) and Margaret A. (b. July 1869) Achenbach, and a younger brother and sister in Cicero, where his father was farming. At the time of the 1910 census Irvin had four younger siblings and the family was living in Jackson Township in Hamilton County, where John was farming. Around 1917 Irvin appeared to be farming in Baudette, Minnesota. He served in the Army during World War I. By 1920 he was working as a farmer back home in Hamilton County, living with his widowed mother and five younger siblings.

At the time of the 1940 census, Irvin Hoy and Anna May Achenbach lived on a farm in Jackson Township, Hamilton County, with their daughter, Laura Ann, the donor of this
collection. Anna May Achenbach died 18 November 1998 and was buried by her husband in Union Cemetery in Atlanta, Hamilton County.

Sources:

Items in the collection.
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of ten photographs plus photocopies of three letters pertaining to Anna May McFarland; her maternal grandfather, Isaiah Campbell; her uncle, John Harold Campbell; and her husband, Irvin Hoy Achenbach. Five of the photographs are group portraits that were taken at schools in Tipton and Howard counties. Two of the photographs and the letters pertain to soldiers in World War I. The collection is arranged into four series as follows:

Series 1, Isaiah Campbell: This series contains one photograph that shows Isaiah Campbell and five other men by a small train engine that appears to be hauling bins of clay at the brickyard at Kokomo. Date is uncertain; ca. 1900.

Series 2, John Harold Campbell: This series includes one photograph of John Harold Campbell [ca. 1901–1903?] and photocopies of three letters that he wrote from Army training camps in Michigan and Georgia in 1918. The photocopies of the letters are as they were received by IHS; some have two pages copied on one photocopy page. The pages are not all presented in the correct order; some pages may be missing. Some of the photocopies are not very clear. Each of the letters has the greeting "Dear Annie." These appear to be addressed to his 17-year-old niece, Anna May McFarland, rather than to his sister, Anna Pearl Campbell McFarland.

Series 3, Anna May McFarland (Achenbach): This series is composed of five group portraits taken at schools. Two were taken in front of Alto School in Howard County where Anna May McFarland was a student [ca. 1907–1908]. The other three were taken at Goldsmith School in Tipton County where she was a teacher [ca. 1920s].

Series 4, Irvin Hoy Achenbach: This series has four photographs. One is a group portrait taken at Ekin School in Tipton County where Irvin Hoy Achenbach was a student during the 1910–1911 school year. Two are studio portraits of him [ca. 1913; 1917 or 1918]; in one he is wearing his WWI Army uniform. The fourth is a panoramic group portrait of his Army training unit [1917 or 1918].
Series 1: Isaiah Campbell

Contents

Mounted photograph of six men and a horse by a small train engine that appears to be hauling bins of clay. Isaiah Campbell is fourth from left with dark shirt and white beard. Taken at brickyard at Kokomo. Date written on back says 1860, but donor has acknowledged that has to be a mistake. It has to be much later than that because Isaiah Campbell would have been about 13 years old in 1860, but he appears in this photo as a man with a white beard. [ca. 1900?]

Series 2: John Harold Campbell

Contents

Mounted cabinet card photograph of John Harold Campbell posing with a bicycle [ca. 1901–1903?]. Photocopy of letter dated 2 April 1918 from Camp Custer, Michigan, with greeting "Dear Annie." He writes of camp life and what he was doing just before entering the Army. He refers to Irons [Michigan] where he had a farm. He asks if his suitcase arrived to her address and says, "Tell your mamma that the key for the trunk is in one of the pockets of my trousers. Tell [her] to open the trunk and see the picture that is in it. If there is anything in the trunk that she can use tell her to take and use it. It will be a long time before I get back to Indiana." Also, "If I get through the war all right, I will come to Goldsmith [Tipton County] the first place. I do not care much about going back to try to farm my place [Irons, Michigan] very soon, because I would be all alone. It is not very pleasant for one person alone to try to run a farm there is so much to do." He mentions a measles quarantine and refers to Lake County [Michigan] boys who arrived to the camp the same time he did.
Photocopy of letter dated 25 April 1918 from Camp Custer, Michigan, with greeting "Dear Annie." He writes that he would like to visit family in Indiana but cannot get furlough at this time. He writes that the measles quarantine will soon be lifted. He has plenty to read. He writes of the low pay for Infantry soldiers.

Photocopy of letter dated 17 May 1918 from Camp Gordon, Georgia, with greeting "Dear Annie." He writes, "When I went into the army I did not leave a sweetheart behind, so if I do not get back alive there will be no disappointment in that respect." Also, "We have an officer with us here who came from France. He belongs to the English Army. He tells us what to do to get along when we get in the trenches 'Over there.'"

**Series 3: Anna May McFarland (Achenbach)**

**CONTENTS**

Real photo postcard of students and teachers of Alto School in Howard County [ca. 1907]. Photo taken outdoors, but school is not shown. Written on back: "Alto School -- My first year."

Real photo postcard of students and teachers standing in front of Alto School in Howard County [ca. 1908]. Also shown is the horse-drawn carriage and driver who delivered students to school. Written on back by Anna May McFarland: "I attended school here for my first two years. My teacher was Miss Carr. I rode in this school hack, benches up and down the sides. Horse blankets were carried as lap robes in cold weather. The floor was very cold." Another note indicates that Alto School was also Joe's first school. [Anna May had a brother Joe born in 1903.]

Teacher Anna May McFarland with her class of approximately 45 students of various ages. Goldsmith School, Tipton County, ca. 1920s.
Teacher Anna May McFarland with five other women and two men at Goldsmith School, Tipton County, ca. 1920s. She appears to be wearing the same clothing as in the photo above, so probably taken on the same day.

Teacher Anna May McFarland (wearing glasses) with 27 students at Goldsmith School, Tipton County, ca. 1920s.

Series 4: Irvin Hoy Achenbach

CONTENTS

Group portrait of students and teacher Grover C. Miller at Ekin School in Tipton County. Irvin Hoy Achenbach is at the center of the doorway, just in front of the teacher, 1910–1911.

Studio portrait of Irwin Hoy Achenbach, standing dressed in suit with hat in hand. Photo by Mendenhall of Tipton, Ind., [ca. 1913].

Real photo postcard portrait of Irwin Hoy Achenbach in Army uniform [1917 or 1918].

Panoramic photograph of approximately 223 men in uniform during WWI. Co. G Infantry Replacement and Training Troop, Lt. T.W. Myrick, commanding. Photo by Rockford Illustrating Co. Irvin Hoy Achenbach is in the front row, second from right. [Photo possibly taken at Camp Grant, which was on the outskirts of Rockford, Illinois, where the photographer was located. 1917 or 1918]