

Collection #  
P 0390

**GIEZENDANNER-BERNLOEHR FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS  
CA. 1870S–CA. 1900**

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 folder of photographs

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1870s–ca. 1900

PROVENANCE: Gifts from Leslie E. Giezendanner of Indianapolis, May 1993 and September 1995

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBERS: 1993.0431, 1995.0782

NOTES: *See also:* Indiana Schools Photograph Collection (P 0567), which includes class group photos from Indianapolis Public School #41, the George W. Sloan School. Irvin and Leslie E. Giezendanner appear in these 1920s group photographs, but it is not designated which students are them.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The Giezendanner family immigrated from Switzerland ca. 1861 and settled in Indianapolis. Several members of the family became bakers. It appears that there were six brothers whose parents were John Giezendanner and Anna Mettler (or Midler): John (b. ca. 1830), Nicholas (ca. 1835–1909), Henry (b. ca. 1838), Rudolph (b. ca. 1838), Joseph (b. ca. 1842), and William (1845–1925). The William Giezendanner Building, which housed his bakery as well as the Lewis Meier store and on the top floor an Odd Fellows lodge, was located on Vermont Street at the northeast intersection with Senate and Indiana avenues.

Anna Barbara Giezendanner (June 1871–1956) was born to Nicholas Giezendanner and Louisa Steiner Giezendanner. Anna married John A. Bernloehr on 28 April 1897.

John A. Bernloehr (10 March 1874–23 August 1933) was born in Indianapolis to German immigrants John and Lena Hanly Bernloehr (1844–1913). He worked as a bookkeeper as a young man and later became a jeweler. By 1910 the Bernloehr family had moved into their home at 2237 N. Alabama Street. By 1918, he was missing his left leg below the knee, according to his draft registration card.

Anna and John Bernloehr had twin sons born on 14 January 1898 – Milton C. and Wilmer Edwin. Milton died in 1902. Wilmer became an optometrist; he died in Brazil, Indiana, on 5 May 1963 and was buried in Highland Lawn Cemetery in Terre Haute.

Anna and John Bernloehr had three more children: Lenora G. (24 June 1900–11 January 1980), who became a fashion artist for the *Indianapolis News* and married Wilson S. Daily; Evelynne (8 January 1903–9 January 2003), also an artist, who married artist George Jo Mess on 28 April 1925 and later married Edward R. Daily; and John C. (15 September 1913–31 December 2008), who as an adult lived in Battle Creek, Michigan.

John George Giezendanner was a cousin of Anna Barbara Giezendanner Bernloehr. He was born in Indianapolis on 3 December 1868 to William (1845–1925) and Margaret Hoffman (1846–1911) Giezendanner. He worked as a bookkeeper and was a member of the Knights of Pythias. He married Cora M. Tolley (10 December 1867–10 August 1891) on 3 June 1891, but she died two months later. He married Lydia Clara Rieman (15 October 1869–20 March 1950) on 8 February 1893 in Indianapolis. They had three sons and a daughter: William Earl, Myrtle Lucille, George Irvin, and Leslie Everett. John George Giezendanner hanged himself in his garage and died on 24 April 1935. He was buried in Crown Hill Cemetery.

Katherine “Katie” Hannah Vollmer was a cousin of John George Giezendanner; their mothers were sisters. Katie (6 July 1872–15 September 1935) was the daughter of Daniel G. Vollmer and Hannah Rosa Hoffman Vollmer (also known as Johanna R. Hoffman). Katie married William Thomas Morgan (1880–1914) on 1 October 1907 and married Charley I. Clemens (b. 1870) on 7 June 1914, both in Marion County.

Sources:

Items in the collection

Ancestry <ancestrylibrary.com>. Accessed 16 July 2019:

Find a Grave

Indiana Death Certificates, 1899–2011

Indiana Marriage Index, 1800–1941

Indiana Select Marriages Index, 1748–1993

Michigan Death Records, 1867–1952

U.S. City Directories, 1822–1995

United States Federal Census, 1870–1940

U.S. World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection consists of eight photographs pertaining to the Giezendanner extended family of Indianapolis, including the Bernloehr family. There is also a portrait of a cousin, Katherine “Katie” Hannah Vollmer. A cabinet card photograph of the William Giezendanner building on Vermont Street, which housed the family bakery, is included.

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William Giezendanner Building on Vermont Street at the northeast intersection with Senate and Indiana avenues. It housed William Giezendanner's bakery and confectionery as well as the Lewis Meier dry goods store; the top (third) floor was home to an Odd Fellows lodge. Nine men are standing in front of the building and a horse is in the street; two people can be seen in a window on the second floor. Cabinet card photo [ca. 1870s].

John George Giezendanner standing with sword and dressed in Knights of Pythias regalia. Cabinet card portrait by Marceau & Power of Indianapolis [ca. 1890s].

Anna Barbara Giezendanner (Bernloehr). Cabinet card portrait by Judd & McNealey [Indianapolis, ca. early 1890s].

Anna Barbara Giezendanner (Bernloehr). Cabinet card portrait by Marceau & Power of Indianapolis [ca. 1890s].

John A. Bernloehr and Anna Barbara Giezendanner Bernloehr. Mounted portrait [ca. 1897].

Milton and Wilmer Bernloehr as babies. Mounted portrait [ca. 1898].

Wilmer and Milton Bernloehr at ten months old. Small mounted portrait [ca. November 1898].

Katherine "Katie" Hannah Vollmer. Cabinet card portrait by J. P. Keeter of Indianapolis [ca. 1900].

### CONTAINER

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