

Collection #
P 0890

**MILFORD, INDIANA PHOTOGRAPHS,
CA. LATE 1910S**

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Processed by

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

www.indianahistory.org

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

**VOLUME OF
COLLECTION:** 1 folder of photographs

**COLLECTION
DATES:** Ca. late 1910s

PROVENANCE: Unknown

RESTRICTIONS: None

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NUMBER:** 0000.1225v0069

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The town of Milford, in Kosciusko County, Indiana, was platted on 10 April 1836 by Judge Aaron M. Perine. The area, once called Pucker Huddle, was named Milford, or Mill-on-the-Ford, for a mill located near the ford across Turkey Creek on the south edge of the village. Perine named four streets after his children: Catherine, Emeline, Henry, and James. He encouraged settlement of the town by opening his home as a hotel. A post office was established there on 21 March 1837.

The Cincinnati, Wabash and Michigan (later the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis, also known as the Big Four) railroad came to Milford in 1870, running north and south. In 1874, the Baltimore and Ohio railroad was built running east and west. Their junction was a short distance north of Milford, where a small community sprang up known as Shakespeare, which was later renamed Milford Junction.

The Winona Interurban line, an electrified trolley car, began running in 1903. It originally operated between Warsaw and Winona Lake; by 1910 the route extended north to Goshen and south to Peru, running through Milford. It made traveling from one town to another a convenient everyday occurrence. Interurban cars were powered by overhead electric lines, had a single light in front, and generally traveled at 20 to 40 miles per hour. Interurbans were known to blow their whistles to celebrate important occasions. Milford residents heard the whistle blowing continuously as the trolley ran through town when World War I came to an end on 11 November 1918. Passenger service on the Winona line was available until 1938; by then it had lost ridership to automobiles. The Winona line continued to provide freight service until 1952.

The Turkey Creek Bridge pictured in this collection is believed to have been the bridge that was built in the 1890s to carry Main Street (old State Road 15) over the creek on the south side of Milford. It was replaced in 1980.

Sources:

Baker, Ronald L. *From Needmore to Prosperity: Hoosier Place Names in Folklore and History*. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1995, p. 220. Reference Room Collection: F524 .B33 1995

“Bridge Locator,” Historic Bridges.org
https://historicbridges.org/b_h_fipsm.php?bsearch=18085 Accessed 28 August 2024.

“Riding the Winona Interurban” in *Kosciusko County: An Oral and Pictorial History*, by Daniel L. Coplen. Published by the Kosciusko County Historical Society, 1997, p. 111–112, 118. General Collection: F532 .K8 C7 1997

“Wagons, Trains and the Interurban” in *Moments in Time: Events in the History of Kosciusko County, Indiana*, by Daniel L. Coplen. Published by the Kosciusko County Historical Society, 2000, p. 141. General Collection: F532 .K8 C83 2000

“Van Buren Township–Milford” in *Kosciusko County, Indiana, 1836–1986*. Published by the Kosciusko County Historical Society, 1986, p. 17. Reference Room Collection: F532 .K8 B66 1986

“Winona Railroad Bridge Across Turkey Creek in Milford, Indiana.” Grace College & Theological Seminary, Morgan Library [Winona Railroad Bridge Across Turkey Creek in Milford, Indiana - Grace College - Winona Railroad Collection - PALNI Digital Library Collections \(oclc.org\)](#) Accessed 29 August 2024

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of four black-and-white real photo postcards of Milford, Kosciusko County, Indiana, that are mounted on one board. They show the Big Four Railroad depot, an interurban car near the Winona Interurban Railway bridge over Turkey Creek, trees along Turkey Creek, and a bridge over Turkey Creek. It is believed that the photographs were taken in the late 1910s.

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