

Collection #
P 0926

**MONA LOCEY'S PIKE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL #10 COLLECTION,
CA. 1900-1972**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 1 folder

COLLECTION
DATES: Ca. 1900–1972

PROVENANCE: Gift from Mona J. Locey, 2026

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ACCESSION
NUMBER: 2026.0044

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL / HISTORICAL SKETCH

Mona Locey was an elementary school teacher who conducted research on the history of Pike Township School number 10, which was built in 1879 in Indianapolis. She examined records of ownership of the land on which the school was erected as well as of the building itself. In June 1972 she interviewed Clyde Meyers (1892–1980), who had attended the school as a child and described the daily life of the school from a student’s perspective. Mona also interviewed Don DeCallier and his wife, Maxine. Don DeCallier and his previous wife, Velma, bought the former school building on Reed Road in 1948 and remodeled it for their home. Don and Maxine were living there at the time of Mona’s interview in July 1972.

The first school in Pike Township, in the northwest corner of Marion County, was conducted in a cabin on the west bank of Eagle Creek in 1822, the same year that the county was organized. Additional schools began in cabins around the township from the 1820s through the 1840s, but no official school system was in place until the township was settled with enough population to establish one. In 1853, the township was divided into a dozen school districts. By 1889, twelve schools – most of them one-room or two-room frame structures – were operating in Pike Township. According to notes in the collection, School number 10 was closed in 1902 due to decreased enrollment, with some of the remaining students being transferred to School number 11 and others to Clermont.

Mona Jean Wolfe was born in Indianapolis to Russell and Ruth Wolfe in December 1937. She received her education from Ben Davis High School and Butler University and taught elementary school for 32 years in Pike, Western Boone, Thorntown, and Lebanon school districts. In 1957, Mona married Gerald Locey and they had two children, Bryan and Carla.

Sources:

Items in the collection

Ancestrylibrary.com (Accessed 26 May 2026):

- Find a Grave
- Marion County, Indiana, U.S., Marriage Index, 1925–2012
- United States Federal Census, 1900–1950
- U.S., School Yearbooks, 1900–2016

Freeland, Sharon Butsch. “HI Mailbag: Former Locations of Pike High School”
<https://historicindianapolis.com/hi-mailbag-former-locations-of-pike-high-school/>
Accessed 26 May 2026.

Locey, Bryan. Personal communication, April 2026.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection is composed of three photographs and fourteen pages of handwritten notes pertaining to Pike Township School number 10 in Marion County, Indiana. The photographs are more recent reproductions of the originals and show groups of students with their teacher(s) in ca. 1900 and in 1902, and a portion of the brick building ca. 1940s before it was remodeled by a family who lived there after the building was no longer a school. The 1902 group portrait shows an integrated class of Black and white students. The handwritten notes, on nine sheets of paper, were made by Mona J. Locey, an elementary school teacher who researched the history of this school.

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CONTAINER

Photograph of Pike Township School #10 shows the brick building before it was renovated after being bought for use as a home in 1948 [ca. 1940s] (2 copies).

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Photograph of nineteen people – children and adults – posed outside the brick schoolhouse, n.d. [ca. 1900]

Folder 1 of 1

Photograph of students and teacher posed outside of Pike Township School #10 in 1902. The people are identified as:

Folder 1 of 1

Front row: Clyde Meyers, Jess Watkins, Clyde Pierce, Bill Watkins, Mattie Watkins, Rufus Hollingsworth (teacher), Pearl Stelton, Willis Duncan, Ollie Myers, Herman Reed, Stella Pierce.

Back row: Clarence Macaliving [?], unidentified girl, Raymond Wagner, Nora Wilson, _____ Dugan, Chester Pruitt, Chalmer Dick, Grace Calvin, Lottie Meyers, Maude Calvin, Katie Dugan, Grace Duncan (2 copies).

Nine sheets of handwritten notes made by Mona Locey [1972], with some sheets having writing on both sides. Her notes provide some history of Pike Township School number 10; descriptions of the school building and how school was conducted, as well as names of people associated with the school, based on her interview with Clyde Meyers; information on the renovations made to the school building after it was a privately-owned home; and names of people who held deeds to the land on which the school was later built, beginning in 1830.

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