

Gettysburg College
Musselman
Library
special collections

Guide to MS-243:
Emma Guffey Miller Photo Albums



Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections and College Archives

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June 2019

MS-243: Emma Guffey Miller Photo Albums

Processed by Katie Amtower, Class of 2019, Smith Project Intern
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Size

1 box, 0.5 cubic feet

Location

Special Collections

Dates

Inclusive: 1899-1907

Bulk: 1904

Provenance

Purchased from Between the Covers, May of 2017.

Biographical Note

Emma Guffey was born on July 6, 1874 in Guffey Station, Pennsylvania, to John Guffey and Barbaretta Hough. After getting education in public schools in Greensburg Pennsylvania and later Alinda Academy in Pittsburgh, she went on to study at Bryn Mawr College. After graduating from Bryn Mawr in 1899, she taught in Pittsburgh and Allegheny, Pennsylvania for three years. Whilst on a trip to Japan, she met her husband, Carroll Miller, and they married in 1902. Because of Carroll's job as an engineer, the couple lived in Osaka until 1907. They had four sons. For a brief time, Guffey Miller taught in Japan. ¹

Once back in Pennsylvania, Guffey Miller became involved in public service and politics, becoming an avid suffragist in 1910. In the early 1920s, she focused most of her time on the League of Women Voters until she felt that it was ineffective, so she began to focus and devote her time and energy to the Democratic Party. She attended every party convention from 1924 to 1968 and served as a Pennsylvania national committeewoman from 1932 until her death. In 1924, she was the first woman to receive a courtesy nomination for president after expressing her support for the Catholic candidate Alfred E. Smith and rejecting the existence of the Ku Klux Klan, as well as fighting for the repeal of the Prohibition Amendment.²

Guffey Miller then became a devout supporter of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, which later led to her husband Carroll becoming the chair of the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC), which he chaired

¹ Martha H. Swain, "Miller, Emma Guffey (1874-1970), Democratic party activist and feminist, " American National Biography. Accessed 10 Jun. 2019. <https://www.anb.org/view/10.1093/anb/9780198606697.001.0001/anb-9780198606697-e-0700203>

² Swain, "Miller, Emma Guffey (1874-1970)."

until his death in 1949. While he was working for the ICC, Guffey Miller spent most of her time, and half of her life, fighting for the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), which never passed. She served as the chair of the National Women's Party from 1960 to 1965 and was life president from 1965 until her death. She spoke with presidents, spoke at the Democratic National Conventions, and continued fighting until her death in 1970.

On top of her roles in the Democratic Party, Guffey Miller also served on the Pennsylvania State Council of Education, the State Welfare Commission, the National Youth Administration, and the Governor's Defense Commission for Pennsylvania.³

Historical Note

When Guffey Miller went to and lived in Japan, it was during the later years of the Meiji Period. This period lasted from 1868 to 1912. After the fall of the Tokugawa Shogunate, the political power was restored back to the crown. Emperor Meiji, who was only 16 at the time, took note of the unequal treaties the American and Europeans were settling with the countries of East Asia, and stated that Japan would not fall prey to the Western nations and their imperialistic goals.

This started a rapid and intensive modernization, and in turn, westernization process, which included the breakdown of the feudal and class systems, religious freedom, educational reform, military growth and reform, and a shift from a primarily agrarian economy to a more industrial one. The Bank of Japan was established in 1882, and a European style constitution was adopted in 1889. Many Japanese scholars were sent abroad to study Western sciences and languages, while foreigners were invited to live in Japan and teach there- much like Guffey Miller did herself for a brief period in time. This was later known as the Meiji Restoration.⁴

The shifting of this period created a juxtaposition and hybrid of the traditional and western, seen in places such as architecture and clothing.

A big event that appears in Guffey Miller's photographs is the World's Fair of 1904 in St. Louis, MO. Officially called the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, it was constructed to celebrate the centennial of the Louisiana Purchase. 1500 buildings were constructed across 1200 acres of land, including exhibitions and pavilions. The fair had exhibits from 50 different countries around the world as well as exhibits from 43 out of the 45 different states at the time. The popular spot to be was the Pike, which acted as the carnival side of the fair; there were different games and entertainment for fairgoers. The Observation Wheel, or the Ferris Wheel, was also popular for its spectacular views.

The opening day brought in 200,000 people, and at the end of the seven months it was open, about 20 million people had visited.⁵

³ Swain, "Miller, Emma Guffey (1874-1970.)"

⁴ Meiji Period (1868 - 1912)." Japanese History: Meiji Period. Accessed June 11, 2019. <https://www.japan-guide.com/e/e2130.html>.

⁵ "Overview of the Fair." 1904 World's Fair: Looking Back at Looking Forward. Accessed June 11, 2019. <https://mohistory.org/exhibitsLegacy/Fair/WF/HTML/Overview/>.

Scope and Content Note

This collection includes three different albums. Two of them are bound in traditional Japanese binding with rice paper; the other may have been constructed to imitate the Japanese bound ones. These albums include Emma Guffey's travels, from traveling around Japan and returning home periodically. They also include photographs of her time living in Japan. The photographs in this album include many small panorama photographs of nature and architecture, and there is a possibility that these albums include a few early colored photographs.

The first album, labeled "1901-1904," begins with a few photos of her final year at Bryn Mawr. It includes some photographs from her initial trip to Japan. Guffey Miller also includes photographs of her family and pictures of her trips back home to the United States while she lived in Japan, as well as a few returning to Japan. There are some colored photos on an island on the way back to Japan. Also included are photos of Osaka from when she lived there and Yokohama. Two major travels she has photographs of in this album are her travels to the Canadian Rockies and the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904.

The second album, labeled "1904," is the one that looks like it imitates the Japanese binding of the others. There are some repeated photographs from the first, but there are more photos included in this album of the World's Fair and her Canada trip. The main focus at the end of this album is her trips around the Kansai and southern Chubu regions of Japan. This includes places like Kyoto, Kizugawa, Yoshida, and Gotemba. These travels all lead up to pictures of Mt. Fuji and Lake Shoji, as well as a village in the surrounding area. There is a photograph of Guffey Miller taking a photo of Mt. Fuji on one of the pages, and on the next is the very picture that she had taken.

The third album, labeled "Japan and Trip home via Suez," focuses on her travel returning home to the United States. As the title states, Guffey Miller and her family decided to travel through Central Asia, the Suez Canal, and Europe before reaching America. There are some photos in Japan at the beginning, but the majority of her photos are dedicated to these trips. Some notable locations are India, Port Said at the Suez Canal, Italy, Germany, France, and the United Kingdom. There is one photo at the beginning of the album that is colored from a trip to Java, Indonesia as well. Many of the photos are of famous sites as well as the people of the countries she visited.

Guffey Miller has captions on most of her photos that include places names and dates, which makes it easy to pinpoint her journeys.

Subjects

Japan—Description and Travel

- 1901-1945

Japan—History

- Meiji Period, 1868-1912

Louisiana Purchase Exposition (1904: Saint Louis, Mo.)

Traveling—Voyages and Travels

Traveling—Travel Photography

- Photography

- Outdoor Photography

Series Description

This collection is comprised of one series, containing all three photograph albums. **Series I: Photograph Albums.**

Box 1

Series 1: Photograph Albums

Album 1, traditional Japanese binding, labeled 1901-1904

Highlights based off of some of Emma Guffey Miller's captions:

- O Hail Bryn Mawr: 1899
- Denbigh in basketball season
- The family 1901
- 1901 Yokohama
- Scranton 1902
- Cousin John
- September 1903
- Roland Park September 1903
- The Richmond market
- Down the James River
- January 1904
- San Francisco
- San Francisco Bay
- View from roof of Moana [Hotel]
- On board the P.M.S.S. Siberia
- Osaka 1904 Nippon Hotel
- With Sueho [sic]
- Nakanoshima Osaka
- Japan Bank and Public Library
- Looking down the Kizugawa
- Osaka
- Yokohama Harbor
- In the Canadian Rockies
- The Three Sisters
- The Kicking Horse
- June 1904 Pittsburgh
- World's Fair St. Louis 1904
- 33 Kawaguchi Osaka 1904 July
- August
- The race at Bata August 1904
- Lake Biwa
- The Great Pine at Otsu
- Temple near Bata

- In the temple yard
- Looking toward the canal
- Between the tunnels
- Kyoto from Miyako
- Between Osaka and Kyoto in the temple yard
- Temple court Yokohama

Album 2, potential imitation Japanese binding, labeled 1904

Highlights based off of some of Emma Guffey Miller's captions:

- Nakanoshima Temple Yard from the Osaka Hotel February 1904
- With Mrs. Fukushima
- Where a Canal meets the Kizugawa River Osaka
- Looking Down the Kizugawa
- The Harbor at Yokohama
- Among the Canadian Rockies
- The Three Sisters
- In Kicking Horse Valley
- In the burned trunks district
- Lakes in Central Canada
- St. Louis Exposition
- 33 Kawaguchi Osaka
- August 1904
- Near Bata
- The Great Pine at Otsu
- The beginning of the canal from Biwa to Kyoto
- Coming down the rapids at Kameoka September
- October The lane from Gotemba to Yoshida
- Subashiri
- A mill in Yoshida
- Shoji—"Ko"
- Taking a picture of Fuji
- Fuji from Shoji
- Lake Shoji
- A village near Shoji
- On a mountain path
- Coming down from Shoji

Album 3, traditional Japanese binding, labeled "Japan and Trip home via Suez"

Highlights based off of Emma Guffey Miller's captions:

- Servants at 27 Kawaguchi
- Fishman
- Hong Kong

- In Java
- Jaipur
- Man with caste mark
- The Taj at Agra
- Wedding
- French India- Pondicherry
- Islands in the Red Sea
- First station in Suez Canal
- Turkish boat in Canal
- Port Said
- Mosque at Port Said
- Naples and Pompeii
- Rome
- Spanish Steps
- Modern Rome near the forum
- New Palace of Justice
- Baths of Caracalla
- The forum
- On the Palatine Hill
- Colosseum
- Inside the Colosseum
- Santa Arce
- Venice
- Feeding the pigeons
- The Palace of the Doge's
- The Grand Canal
- The Bridge of Sighs
- Milan Cathedral
- Arch of Triumph
- Lake Geneva
- Castle of Chillon
- Near Lausanne
- Paris Champs Elysees
- Versailles
- Berlin
- Cathedral
- London: The House Guard
- Passing St. Paul
- Richmond
- Church Tower and Courtyard
- Oxford- Christ College
- Golf Club

Additional Information

Harvard University Radcliffe Institute: The Papers of Emma Guffey Miller, 1833-1975 (inclusive), 1884-1972 (bulk) - <https://hollisarchives.lib.harvard.edu/repositories/8/resources/5519>

Slippery Rock University Special Collections: Emma Guffey Miller Collection -

<https://www.sru.edu/academics/bailey-library/archives-and-special-collections/special-collections>

Contact Information

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