

Isaac Clarence Kulp photo collection

Hist.Mss.436.4

Finding aid prepared by Forrest L. Moyer.

Last updated on October 27, 2014.

Mennonite Heritage Center

2008

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Summary Information

Repository	Mennonite Heritage Center
Creator	Kulp, Isaac Clarence, 1938-2007
Title	Isaac Clarence Kulp photo collection
Call number	Hist.Mss.436.4
Date [bulk]	1900-2000
Date [inclusive]	1865-2006
Extent	5 linear feet ((8 boxes))
Language	English
Abstract	<p>Isaac Clarence Kulp (1938-2007) was an historian, antiquarian, and folk artist of Vernfield, Montgomery Co., Pennsylvania. In the 1960s he was one of the pioneers of Pennsylvania German folk culture research in the Goschenhoppen region of Montgomery County and surrounding areas. His collection of folklore notes, tape recordings, books, paintings, photographs and other manuscripts has been preserved at the Mennonite Heritage Center. The I. C. Kulp Photo Collection: Mr. Kulp amassed an important collection of over 3,200 photographic images (an item-level inventory is available at http://www.mhep.org/files/inventories/HM436photoinventorydetailed.pdf). Many of the photos are local, including groups from the Kulp, Gottshall, Cassel, Foutz, Harley, Custer, Kriebel, and Metzger families. The most notable part of the collection is a unique group of 35 glass negatives from young photographer Jonas H. Nyce in the years 1900-1910. These are original images that give a</p>

rare view into life on the Indian Creek in central Montgomery County,
Pennsylvania at the turn of the twentieth century.

Administrative Information

Mennonite Heritage Center

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Finding aid prepared by Forrest L. Moyer.

Sponsor

Processing of the Isaac Clarence Kulp Collection was supported by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Controlled Access Headings

Family Name(s)

- Cassel
- Custer
- Foutz
- Gottshall
- Harley
- Kulp

Form/Genre(s)

- Glass negatives
- Photographs

Personal Name(s)

- Cassel, Abraham Harley, 1820-1908
- Metzger, Allen G., 1865-1946
- Nyce, Jonas H., 1884-1948

Series A. Personal and family photos

Collection Inventory

Series A. Personal and family photos.

Subseries A1. Personal interest photos.

	Box	Folder
Apple Butter Frolic, Harleysville, PA--4 photos, 1985-2002.	39	1
Artifacts--89 photos.	39	2
Delp's Meetinghouse (Herrehaus), Harleysville--49 photos, 1900-2000 (Bulk, 1957-2000) .	39	3
Donald Shelley--5 photos, 1997.	39	4
Frick's Meetinghouse, Hatfield, PA--3 photos, 1985-1990.	39	5
<i>Gemeinschaft 1723</i> (play)--8 photos, 1973.	39	6
Goschenhoppen Historians--35 photos, 1964-1993 (Bulk, 1964-1975) .	39	7
Goschenhoppen Sing-Gemeinde/Sing-Schieler--4 photos, 1977-1997.	39	8
Heckler Plains, Harleysville--16 photos, 1976-1980.	39	9
Isaac Clarence Kulp artwork--24 photos, 1972-1998 (Bulk, 1992-1995) .	39	10
Klein's Meetinghouse and Harley Burial Ground, Harleysville--37 photos, 1956-2006.	39	11
Kolb-Kulp-Culp Reunion--24 photos, 1919-1982 (Bulk, 1966-1973) .	39	12

Subseries A2. Family photos

Kutztown (PA) Pennsylvania German Festival--14 photos, 1959-1970.	39	13
Methacton Cemetery, Fairview Village, PA--5 photos, 1992-1995.	39	14
Rudy's Country Kitchen Restaurant, Harleysville--11 photos, circa 1995.	39	15
Schaefferstown, PA--60 photos, 1963-1982.	39	16
William Kulp (1811-1880) clock--3 photos, 1979.	39	17
The "Wisdom Table", Energy Station Restaurant, Vernfield, PA--15 photos, 1992-1999.	39	18

Subseries A2. Family photos, 1890-2003.**Scope and Contents note**

Over 600 photos from I. C. Kulp's immediate and extended Kulp and Gottshall families, including the photo collection of his grandmother Elizabeth Garges Gottshall (numerous cabinet cards, circa 1890).

	Box	Folder
Family photos.	39	19-22
Family photos.	40	1-6

Series B. Acquired photo collections.

Subseries B1. Benner, Joseph D. and Sallie Landis--69 photos, 1890-1970.	Box	Folder
Biographical/Historical note	40	7-10

Joseph D. (1882-1946) and Sallie Landis Benner (1883-1974) lived in Souderton, PA and are buried in Souderton Mennonite Cemetery. These

Subseries B2. Cassel, Abraham H. and Elizabeth Rhoads--52 photos

photos are mostly identified, and include a collection from Sallie's mother, Elizabeth Price Landis.

Subseries B2. Cassel, Abraham H. and Elizabeth Rhoads--52 photos, 1870-1932.**Biographical/Historical note**

Abraham H. Cassel (1820-1908) was a well-known Brethren antiquarian and book collector. He and his wife Elizabeth Rhoads Cassel (1823-1898) lived near the Indian Creek Church of the Brethren, Vernfield, PA, where they were members. This album contains photos of their family.

Subseries B3. Foutz, Rebecca--294 photos, 1880-1955.

Box

Folder

Biographical/Historical note

40

11-18

Rebecca Foutz (1885-1955) was a Brethren woman, originally of Waynesboro, PA and later of Philadelphia, PA. She never married, and her extensive collection of photographs came to I. C. Kulp through Lincoln G. Nyce. These are photos of Ms. Foutz's family and friends, and are nearly all identified.

Subseries B4. Grater, Elias T. and Sarah Bergey--4 photos, 1900-1910.

Box

Folder

Biographical/Historical note

40

19

Elias T. (1858-1939) and Sarah Bergey Grater (1861-1955) lived in Perkiomen Township, Montgomery County, PA and are buried in Lower Skippack Mennonite Cemetery.

Subseries B5. Harley, Elizabeth--86 photos, 1865-1930.

Box

Folder

Biographical/Historical note

40

20-21

Elizabeth Harley was historian of the Harley Family Association. She gave these photos to I. C. Kulp. Most are of descendants of Jacob S. (1801-1882) and Sarah Price Harley (1804-1882), including a multi-generational collection from the family of national Women's Rights leader Flora Harley Britten (b. 1864).

Subseries B6. Johnson, Ralph W. and Ella Custer--34 photos

Subseries B6. Johnson, Ralph W. and Ella Custer--34 photos, 1885-1935.	Box	Folder
Biographical/Historical note	40	22-24

Ralph W. (1898-1981) and Ella Custer Johnson (1902-1977) lived in Creamery, Montgomery County, PA and are buried in Lower Skippack Mennonite Cemetery. These are mostly photos from the Custer family, and most are identified.

Subseries B7. Metzger, Howard K.--186 photos, 1890-1925.	Box	Folder
Scope and Contents note	40	26-29

Most of these photos are from the studio of Howard Metzger's father, photographer Allen G. Metzger (1865-1946) of Harleysville, PA. Many tintypes, including an album from the Kriebel-Metzger family.

Subseries B8. Nyce, William G. photos, 1890-1955.**Biographical/Historical note**

William G. Nyce (1888-1958) was founder of Nyce Printing Company and a member of Hatfield (PA) Church of the Brethren. This collection includes many glass negatives and prints of local photography by Jonas H. Nyce of Vernfield and Souderton, circa 1900-1910. For additional Jonas Nyce photography, see folders 41-14 and 46-3.

	Box	Folder
William G. Nyce photos--44 photos, 1890-1955.	41	1
Jonas H. Nyce photograpy (prints)--89 photos, 1900-1910.	41	2-3
Jonas H. Nyce photography (glass negatives)--35 negatives, 1900-1910.		42-43

Subseries B9. Shup, John and Sarah Bealer--8 photos

Subseries B9. Shup, John and Sarah Bealer--8 photos, 1865-1900.

Box

Folder

Biographical/Historical note

41

5

John (1832-1907) and Sarah Bealer Shup (1838-1924) lived in Milford Township, Bucks County, PA. These are unidentified photos from their family Bible.

Subseries B10. Sundry local photos.

Box

Folder

Local photos--646 photos, 1880-1995.

41

7-14

Local glass negatives--37 negatives.

44-45

Scope and Contents note

Images of Sumneytown, Green Lane and Ridge Valley, circa 1900, photographer unknown.

Subseries B11. Unidentified photos (481 photos).

Box

Folder

41

15-22

Subseries B12. Copy prints.

Box

Folder

Published in *Heckler Plains* (1977)--16 photos, circa 1976.

46

1

Published in *Pennsylvania Folklife* 12:2 (1961)--8 photos of local meetinghouses by Peter Macinskas, circa 1961.

46

2

Reprints of historic Brethren images--58 photos.

46

3

Subseries B13. Oversize and framed photos (38 photos), 1880-2005 (Bulk, 1880-1930) .

Box

47-48