

**Finding aid to the Christian William (Bill) Miller photographs and papers,
1886-1989 Coll2012-003**

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Contributing Institution: ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, USC Libraries, University of Southern California

Title: Christian William (Bill) Miller photographs and papers

creator: Miller, Christian William (Bill)

Identifier/Call Number: Coll2012-003

Physical Description: 49.2 Linear Feet 30 photograph binder boxes + 9 flat archive boxes + 6 records boxes + 3 archive cartons + 1 mapcase drawer.

Date (inclusive): 1886-1989

Abstract: The collection comprises the photographs, papers, and artwork created, inspired, or collected by Christian William Miller, 1886-1989. As an avid photographer and model, Miller moved through the New York gay social scene of the 1940s and 1950s, interacting with noted gay artists. The bulk of the collection consists of photographs documenting this social life as well as his travels, activities, family, and friends.

Scope and Contents

The collection comprises the photographs, papers, and artwork created, inspired, or otherwise collected by Christian William Miller, 1886-1989. The photographs document his travels in Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean; his beach and social life, especially in and around Fire Island, New York; the Sunstone estate in Reading, Vermont; and St. Croix; nudes of Miller and others; and general images of friends and family. Images include those of Gore Vidal, Monroe Wheeler, Glenway Wescott, and Somerset Maugham. Formats include photographic prints, negatives, contact strips and sheets, and 35mm slides.

The papers consist of Miller's correspondence and personal papers. The bulk of the letters are between Miller and his mother, but also comprise letters to friends and lovers, including correspondence with George Hoyningen-Huene, W.H. Auden, Glenway Wescott, Paul Cadmus, Noel Coward, and George Galloway. The personal papers contain various documents pertaining to his family, work, military service, modeling, education, and travel. The artwork consists primarily of Miller's drawings and sketches, but also comprises pieces done with Miller as the subject, including a sculpture of his head.

Biography

Christian William Miller was born William Henry Miller on August 7, 1921, in Newark, New Jersey. Miller attended the Franklin School of Professional Arts in New York City from 1938-1941, majoring in advertising design. From 1939-1941 he began his career in design with stints at Datzenbach & Warren, Bruntschwig & Fils, and Lord & Taylor. During the years 1942-1946, Miller was enlisted in the United States Maritime Service Coast Guard Reserve. He was assigned to a research project in 1942 by the Air-Sea Agency, helping to design a device to make sea water drinkable. Miller also designed an inflatable chair that is now in the collection of the Museum of Modern Art, New York. In May 1951, Miller officially changed his name to Christian William Miller.

Miller was known in the 1940's New York gay social scene as being one of the most beautiful men in the world. This status made him the acquaintance, companion, and occasional model and muse of such luminaries as George Platt Lynes, Paul Cadmus, W. H. Auden, Somerset Maugham, Alfred Kinsey, Glenway Wescott, Monroe Wheeler, Noel Coward, Philip Wheelwright, and George Hoyningen-Huene. As an avid photographer himself, he extensively documented his social life and travels around the world. Miller died on July 5, 1995.

Separated materials

Separated to the ONE Archives journal and pamphlet collections: *Athletic Model Guild*, Bulletin 50 (February 1, 1956); *Colt* catalog no. 4; and *Lover Boy*, Issue 1.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in the following series:

[Series 1. Photographs and film, 1886-1981](#)

[Series 2. Papers, 1904-1989](#)

[Series 3. Graphic arts, film, and three-dimensional objects, circa 1920-1960, undated](#)

Related Archival Materials

Christian William Miller Papers. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Preferred Citation

Box #, folder #, Christian William (Bill) Miller photographs and papers, Coll2012-003, ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives, Los Angeles, California

Access

The collection is open to researchers. There are no access restrictions.

Publication Rights

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Processing Information

Processing this collection has been funded by a generous grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Collection processed by Phillip Garcia and Kyle Morgan, January 2012.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Gay men -- New York (State) -- New York

Male models

Gay artists

Gays -- Travel

Miller, Christian William (Bill)

Photographs Series 1. 1886-1981 

Physical Description: 37.3 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents

The series comprises the photographs taken by and of Christian William Miller, his friends, and family, 1886-1981. The photographs arranged by format include 2.25 x 2.5 inch prints and negatives, negative and contact strips, 35mm slides, color prints and negatives, glass negatives, and cased photographs. The photographs arranged by geographic region and topic are primarily black and white prints, but also include negatives, contact strips and sheets, and color photographs. The photograph albums and books mostly contain photographic prints, but also include correspondence, clippings, diary entries, and other sundry documents. The photograph descriptions comprise the original information included with the boxes, photograph rolls, negatives sleeves, and individual photographs that previously housed and/or were separated from the photographs listed in this series.

The photographs include images of Miller's relatives dating back to 1886; his infancy, childhood, and teenage years; his military service, design work, and modeling career; his travels around the world; gatherings of friends and families; nudes; and his artwork and the artwork of others. Included are images of Gore Vidal, Monroe Wheeler, Glenway Wescott, Somerset Maugham, and Alfred Kinsey's house.

Arrangement

The photographs are arranged in the following subseries:

[Subseries 1.1. Photographs by format, 1886-1981](#)

[Subseries 1.2. Photographs by geographic region, 1944-1966](#)

[Subseries 1.3. Photographs by topic, 1907-1972](#)

[Subseries 1.4. Photograph albums and books, circa 1890-1977](#)

[Subseries 1.5. Photograph descriptions, 1944-1969, undated](#)

Photographs by format Subseries 1.1. 1886-1981

Physical Description: 14.2 Linear Feet[2.25 x 2.5 inch prints and negatives, negative and contact strips, 35mm slides, and color prints and negatives.]

Scope and Contents

The subseries comprises the format arranged files of Christian William Miller's collection, 1886-1981. The photographs consists of 2.25 x 2.5 inch prints and negatives, negative and contact strips, 35mm slides, color prints and negatives, glass negatives, and cased photographs. The images document William Christian Miller, his friends, and family; Miller's overseas travel in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Caribbean; Miller's local travel around residences in Stoneblossom (unidentified location), Sunstone (Reading, Vermont), New York City, Fire Island, and St. Croix; and gatherings of friends and others at unidentified residences and beaches. Note that although most of the photographs are organized by roll, not all rolls are complete.

Arrangement

Photographs are arranged in the following subseries:

[Subseries 1.1.1. 2.25 x 2.5 inch prints and negatives, 1944-1960](#)

[Subseries 1.1.2. Negative and contact strips, 1944-1968](#)

[Subseries 1.1.3. 35mm slides, 1953-1969](#)

[Subseries 1.1.4. Color prints and negatives, 1950-1981](#)

[Subseries 1.1.5. Glass negatives and cased photographs, 1886-1947](#)

2.25 x 2.5 inch prints and negatives Subseries 1.1.1. 1944-1960

Physical Description: 2 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents

The subseries consists of black and white 2.25 x 2.5 inch prints and negatives from New York City, Cherry Grove, Sunstone, Fire Island, Long Beach, St. Croix, Hawaii, and China. Includes images of Miller, friends, and family at unidentified beaches and other locales. The materials also include Jacob Reis photographs, images of plastilene sculptured heads, and photographs of "geobiles" created by Miller. Titles and numbering have been pulled directly from descriptions included with the rolls. Rolls of unidentified content are labeled as "unknown."

Arrangement

The rolls have been arranged in numerical order with unnumbered and/or unidentified rolls and negatives listed at the end.

Box 1

Rollei 1-2, New York City circa January-February 1948**Scope and Contents**

Rolleiflex camera

Box 1

Rollei 2-43, Hawaii February-September 1948

Box 1

Rollei 44-53, China September-October 1948

Box 1

Rollei 54, unknown circa 1952**Scope and Contents**

Berlin Rollei

Box 1

Rollei 55-57, Cherry Grove August 1952

Box 1

Rollei 58-59, plastilene heads undated

Box 1

Rollei 60-64, Long Beach, unknown beach August-September 1953

Box 1

Rollei 65-75, unknown September-October 1953

Physical Description: [few negatives]

Box 1

Rollei 76, Jacob Reis photographs of Miller and Tom Young October 3, 1953

Box 1

Rollei 77-80, unknown October 1953

Physical Description: [few negatives]

- Box 1 **Rollei 86, unknown undated**
 Physical Description: [no negatives]
- Box 1 **Super XX 87, MV headshots April 19, 1954**
 Box 1 **Super XX 88-90, geobiles July 1954**
 Box 1 **Super XX or Plus X 91-92, Jim Malinowsky March 1955**
 Box 1 **Gutachrome? 92A, 92B, unknown June-September 1955**
 Box 1 **Plus-X 93-94, beach, patio party, house model September-October 1955**
 Box 1 **Rolls 95-96, house model, house interior, unknown person undated**
 Box 2 **Super-XX 97-99, unknown November 26, 1955**
 Physical Description: [no negatives]
- Box 2 **Rolls 100-106, unnumbered rolls, Fire Island July-September 1956**
 Box 2 **R-I to R-II, dilapidated beach house August-September 1944**
 Scope and Contents
 Rollei camera series
- Box 2 **R-III to R-VI, Vermont, Sunstone September-October 1944, August 1945**
 Box 2 **R-VII, [New York City?] Summer 1946**
 Box 2 **Unnumbered rolls, Fire Island, house fire, sunken forest September-October 1956**
 Physical Description: [5 rolls]
- Box 2 **Unnumbered rolls, St. Croix, labeled A to H December 1957 - January 1958**
 Physical Description: [8 rolls]
- Box 2 **Unnumbered rolls, Fire Island, 864 studio, Stoneblossom March-May 1960**
 Physical Description: [5 rolls]
- Box 2 **Unnumbered, loose negatives undated**
 Box 2 **Unidentified rolls, self-photographs, waves on rocks, patio, modeling, travel undated**
 Physical Description: [3 rolls]

Negative and contact strips Subseries 1.1.2. **1944-1968****Physical Description:** 5.2 Linear Feet**Scope and Contents**

The subseries consist of black and white negative and contact strips of travel in Southeast Asia, Europe, Africa, West Indies, and Cuba; visits to residences in New York City, Reading, Vermont (Sunstone), Fire Island, and St. Croix; and unidentified social events and beach gatherings of Miller, friends, and family, 1944-1968. The materials also include Sam Wagstaff images, images of ceramics and sculptures, nudes, and an image of Gore Vidal. Not all rolls are complete. The subseries primarily consists of negatives with a few contact strips as noted. Titles and numbering have been pulled directly from descriptions included with the negatives and contact strips. Unidentified content is labeled as such.

Arrangement

The rolls have been arranged in numerical order with unnumbered and/or unidentified rolls, negatives, and contact strips listed at the end.

- Box 3 **Leica rolls 1-9, 13-17, 28-29, 31-35, 38-39, Southeast Asia trip November 1948 - March 1949**
 Box 3 **Rolls 40-62, India, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy March-April 1949**
 Box 3 **Rolls 63-69, 71-99, Europe May 1949 - September 1950**
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- Box 4 **Rolls 100-110, Europe September-December 1950**
- Box 4 **Rolls 111-128, Africa December 1950 - February 1951**
- Box 4 **Rolls 129-132, Mediterranean February-April 1951**
- Box 4 **Rolls 133-134, Stoneblossom, New York City April 1951**
- Box 4 **Rolls 135-138, 140-141, 143-155, Vermont, New York Spring 1951 - April 1952**
- Scope and Contents**
- Includes images from Sunstone and other Vermont locations, Fire Island, Oyster Bay, Radio City and other New York City locations, Ocean Grove, Stoneblossom, "MV," and Bloomington. Roll 136 also includes images of the end of a South American trip. Includes contact strips for rolls 141, 143-144.
- Box 5 **Rolls 156-159, Vermont, New York April 1952**
- Box 5 **Rolls 160-163, 166-168, Europe 1952**
- Scope and Contents**
- Includes contact strips for rolls 160-162.
- Box 5 **Rolls 168-176, assorted locations Fall 1952 - October 1953**
- Scope and Contents**
- Includes images from New Rochelle, St. Thomas, Cherry Grove, Long Beach. Includes "Sam Wagstaff series" in roll 175. Includes contact strips for rolls 168 and 169.
- Box 5 **Rolls 177-180 Cuba, Miami December 1953 - January 1954**
- Box 5 **Rolls 181-184, nudes, sculpture, Sam Wagstaff images February 1954**
- Box 5 **Rolls 186-192, 194-196, ceramics, sculpture, and assorted locations July 1954 - February 1955**
- Scope and Contents**
- Includes images from Oak Beach, Cherry Grove, Fire Island, New York City, Cannes, Paris, and Jamaica. Includes contact strips for rolls 187, 191, and 192.
- Box 5 **Rolls 197-205, Cherry Grove, West Indies, assorted beaches July 1955 - February 1956**
- Scope and Contents**
- Includes contact strips for rolls 201, 204, and 205.
- Box 5 **Unidentified negatives and contact strips undated**
- Scope and Contents**
- Loose negatives and contact strips presumably separated from rolls 1-205.
- Box 5 **Unnumbered negatives, Bali undated**
- Physical Description:** [10 rolls]
- Box 5 **Unnumbered negative and contact strips, Fire Island, St. Croix Fall 1956-September 1957**
- Physical Description:** [6 rolls]
- Box 5 **Unnumbered and/or unidentified negative and contact strips, unspecified peace march, Puerto Rico, and other trips 1959, 1964-1968**
- Physical Description:** [5 rolls]
- Scope and Contents**
- Includes roll #2637.
- Box 5 **Unidentified negatives, contact strips and contact strip cutouts undated**
- Physical Description:** [found loose] [3 pages]
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- Box 6 **Rolls 1-15, 17-35, 42, 44-45, 47-48 November 1944 - June 1947**
 Physical Description: Slight vinegar syndrome
 Scope and Contents
 Includes images of Sunstone, Reading, Stoneblossom, Stowe, South Orange, Dover, Hanover, Saltaire (Fire Island), holiday get-togethers, Ocean Beach and other beaches, and locations around Vermont. Includes an image of Gore Vidal (roll 42) among others.
- Box 7 **Contact strips, rolls 1-4, 6-34, 41-48 November 1944 - June 1947**
 Physical Description: Slight vinegar syndrome
 Scope and Contents
 Contact strips to previously listed negatives.
- Box 48 **Rolls 36-41, 43, 46 1946-1947**
 Physical Description: Separated because of pervasive vinegar syndrome.
- Box 48, Folder 1 **Contact strips, rolls 37-40 1946-1947**
 Physical Description: Separated because of pervasive vinegar syndrome.
- Box 6 **Unnumbered negatives December 1946, undated**
 Physical Description: Slight vinegar syndrome
 Physical Description: [4 rolls]
 General
 Designated as A, B, C, and D to differentiate rolls.
- Box 7 **Contact strips A-F and K 1943-1945**
 Physical Description: Slight vinegar syndrome
 Scope and Contents
 Includes images of the Sunstone estate in Reading, Vermont; Fort Lauderdale, Florida; New York, New York; and Virginia Beach, Virginia among other places. Rolls have no relation to previously listed negatives.
- Box 6 **Unidentified negatives undated**
 Physical Description: Negatives are damaged and fused with sleeves.
 Physical Description: [5 rolls]
- Box 6 **Unidentified negatives undated**
 Physical Description: Slight vinegar syndrome
 Physical Description: [found loose]
- Box 7 **Unidentified contact strips undated**
 Physical Description: Slight vinegar syndrome
 Physical Description: [found loose]

35mm slides Subseries 1.1.3. **1953-1969****Physical Description:** 5 Linear Feet**Scope and Contents**

The subseries consists of 35mm slides documenting William Christian Miller's, friends', and/or family's travel in the United States, Italy, and the Caribbean, 1953-1969. The materials also include Robert Osborn slides, Spectrum Films Company images, and erotic drawings, as well as images of Noel Coward, Monroe Wheeler, and of Alfred Kinsey's home. Most rolls are not complete. Titles and numbering have been pulled from descriptions included on or with the slides although these headings are not inclusive of all materials in that section. Unidentified content is labeled as such.

Arrangement

The rolls are arranged by date, with photographs taken by others, topically-arranged slides, and unidentified slides listed at the end.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Box 8 | <p>Roll 20 Ex #1: Northeast United States, Indiana 1953</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Includes an image of Kinsey's home.</p> |
| Box 8
Box 8 | <p>Rolls 36x-I, II, III: Fire Island 1953</p> <p>Rolls I, II, III, IV, V, VII, VIII: Italy undated</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Includes note referring to photographs of Tom Tryon and Noel Coward.</p> |
| Box 9
Box 9
Box 10
Box 11 | <p>Rolls I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII: Fire Island, Water Carnival July-October 1955</p> <p>Rolls 200-I, II, 205-I: Caribbean February-March 1956</p> <p>Rolls 7-19: Fire Island March-July 1956</p> <p>Unnumbered rolls, Fire Island 1957</p> <p>Physical Description: [10 rolls]</p> |
| Box 11
Box 11 | <p>Rolls I, II, III, IV, V: St. Croix 1957</p> <p>Unnumbered rolls, St. Croix December 1957 - January 1958</p> <p>Physical Description: [2 rolls]</p> |
| Box 11 | <p>Caribbean, Puerto Rico? Summer 1969 - December 1969</p> <p>Physical Description: [4 pages]</p> |
| Box 12
Box 12 | <p>Rolls I, II, III, IV, V: Mauritius undated</p> <p>Portsmouth, New Hampshire; Cantel Bay, St. Johns; Salem, Massachusetts et al. undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [5 pages of green bordered slides]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Includes images of Monroe Wheeler.</p> |
| Box 12 | <p>Robert Osborn slides 1962-1964</p> <p>Physical Description: [2 pages]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Content appears to be of family.</p> |
| Box 12 | <p>Unidentified undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [5 pages of red bordered slides]</p> |
| Box 12 | <p>Spectrum Films Company, male figures 1956</p> <p>Physical Description: [5 slides]</p> |
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Box 12 **Drawings: male nude, erotic undated**

Physical Description: [11 slides]

Box 12 **Beach slides undated**

Physical Description: [1 roll of 2.5 inch slides]

Color prints and negatives Subseries 1.1.4. **1950-1981**

Physical Description: 1.5 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents

The subseries consists of color images from the Sunstone estate in Reading, Vermont; Fire Island, New York; unidentified beaches; and assorted travel locations, 1950-1981. The subseries includes images of William Christian Miller, friends, and jewelry.

Box 27 **1950-1965, undated**

Physical Description: [assorted prints no bigger than 2.5 x 3.5 inches, 37 pages]

Scope and Contents

Consists of images from Sunstone (Reading, Vermont), Fire Island, unidentified beaches, and assorted travel locations. Includes images of Miller, family, and friends.

Box 27 **1957-1981**

Physical Description: [prints and negatives, 43 pages]

Scope and Contents

Consists of images of Fire Island, unidentified beaches, travel, and jewelry. Includes images of Miller, family, and friends.

Box 28 **1957-1981**

Physical Description: [prints and negatives, 18 pages]

Scope and Contents

Consists of images of Fire Island, unidentified beaches, travel, and jewelry. Includes images of Miller, family, and friends.

Glass negatives and cased photographs Subseries 1.1.5. **1886-1947**

Physical Description: 0.5 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents

The subseries consists of two glass negatives of Miller and three cased photographs from 1886.

Box 38, Item 5 **Portrait of Bill Miller by Ed Powers December 1947**

Physical Description: [glass negative]

Box 38, Item 1 **Portrait of Bill Miller wearing a suit, photographer unknown undated**

Physical Description: [glass negative]

Box 38, Item 2 **Portrait of a man March 1886**

Physical Description: [glass-encased photograph]

Box 38, Item 3 **Portrait of a woman March 1886**

Physical Description: [glass-encased photograph]

Box 38, Item 4 **Portrait of a boy March 1886**

Physical Description: [glass-encased photograph]

Photographs by geographic region Subseries 1.2. 1944-1966

Physical Description: 7.2 Linear Feet[mostly black and white prints, but also negatives, contact strips and sheets, and color photographs]

Scope and Contents

The subseries comprises the geographically arranged files of Christian William Miller's collection, 1907-1972. Photographs include those of the people and buildings at his personal, family's, or friend's residences at the Stoneblossom estate (unknown location), Sunstone estate (Reading, Vermont), Fire Island, and St. Croix. Photographs also document his travels through Asia, Africa, and Europe. Images include those of Monroe Wheeler, Glenway Wescott, and Somerset Maugham.

Arrangement

The photographs are arranged in the following order: 1) Stoneblossom, 2) Sunstone, 3) Fire Island, 4) West Indies, 5) China, 6) Africa, 7) Southeast Asia, 8) Europe and Egypt, and 9) assorted travel.

Box 13

Stoneblossom, unidentified 1945-1947

Physical Description: [mostly black and white prints, but also some negatives, 82 pages]

Scope and Contents

Primarily consists of images taken at Stoneblossom estate, but also includes unidentified images within the date range 1945-1947. Photographs of Miller, including nudes, comprise the bulk of the materials. Photographs of family, friends, and general travel are included as are images of Monroe Wheeler, Glenway Wescott, and Somerset Maugham.

Box 13

Sunstone; Reading, Vermont 1944-1952

Physical Description: [black and white prints, 18 pages]

Scope and Contents

Consists of images of people and property around the Sunstone estate.

Box 14

Sunstone; Reading, Vermont 1944-1952

Physical Description: [mostly black and white prints, but also some contact strips and color photographs, 41 pages]

Scope and Contents

Consists of images of people and property around the Sunstone estate.

Box 31, Folder 1

Sunstone and Fire island undated

Physical Description: [oversized black and white prints, 5 photographs]

Scope and Contents

Consists of images of the properties at Sunstone and Fire Island.

Box 14

Fire Island 1955-1965

Physical Description: [primarily 2.25 inch black and white prints, but also black and white prints of other sizes, negatives, contact pages, and two color photographs, 53 pages]

Scope and Contents

Consists of images of a house under construction, the surrounding property, the house after a fire, and friends at the house and on the beach. See the Beach subsection of the "By topic" section for more Fire Island photographs.

Box 15

St. Croix 1944-1956, undated

Physical Description: [black and white prints, contact pages, negatives, and one roll of color photographs, 52 pages]

Scope and Contents

Includes images of a house and property, friends at the house and on the beach, and local residents. See Beach subsection under the "By topic" section for more St. Croix photographs.

Box 31, Folder 2

St. Croix February-March 1956

Physical Description: [oversized black and white prints, 12 photographs]

Scope and Contents

Includes images of the local area and residents.

Box 15

China, Forbidden City, Shanghai undated

Physical Description: [black and white prints, 15 pages]

Box 15

Africa undated

Physical Description: [black and white prints, 13 pages]

Box 16

India, Indonesia (Bali), Thailand, and unidentified Southeast Asia January-February circa 1949

Physical Description: [black and white prints, 100 pages]

Scope and Contents

The bulk of the photographs are undated.

Box 17

India, Indonesia (Bali), and unidentified Southeast Asia 1946, circa 1949, undated

Physical Description: [black and white prints: 1st group, 57 pages; 2nd group, 29 pages]

Scope and Contents

The bulk of the photographs are undated. Reflecting their original order, the photographs are separated into two sections one at the beginning of the box, one at the end.

Box 31, Folder 3-8

Southeast Asia, rolls 44-49, 51, unnumbered undated

Physical Description: [6 folders, oversized black and white prints, 82 pages]

Box 17

France, Egypt, Greece undated

Physical Description: [black and white prints, 9 pages]

Scope and Contents

The photographs are collocated in the middle of the box.

Box 18

Norway 1951-1952, undated

Physical Description: [black and white prints, 4 pages]

Box 18

Greece undated

Physical Description: [black and white prints, 4 pages]

Box 18

Barcelona, Spain undated

Physical Description: [black and white prints, 5 pages]

Box 18

Brussels, Belgium undated

Physical Description: [black and white prints, 5 pages]

Box 18

Paris, France 1946, 1956, undated

Physical Description: [black and white prints, 8 pages]

Scope and Contents

The bulk of the photographs are undated.

Box 18

Pisa, Italy 1950, undated

Physical Description: [black and white prints, 3 pages]

Scope and Contents

The bulk of the photographs are undated.

Box 18	<p>Rome, Italy 1956, undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [black and white prints, 7 pages]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>The bulk of the photographs are undated.</p>
Box 18	<p>St. Tropez, St. Paul du Vence, and Cote d'Azur 1955</p> <p>Physical Description: [black and white prints, 4 pages]</p>
Box 18	<p>Europe 1952, 1959</p> <p>Physical Description: [black and white prints, but also one page of negatives, 8 pages]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>The bulk of the photographs are undated.</p>
Box 31, Folder 9	<p>Europe 1952, undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [oversized black and white prints, 6 photographs]</p>
Box 18	<p>Egypt undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [black and white prints, 16 pages]</p>
Box 19	<p>Assorted travel 1948-1966, undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [black and white prints, 74 pages]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>The bulk of the photographs are undated.</p>

Photographs by topic Subseries 1.3. 1907-1972

Physical Description: 9.7 Linear Feet [mostly black and white prints, but also negatives, contact prints and sheets, and color prints]

Scope and Contents

The photographs comprise the topically arranged files of Christian William Miller's collection, 1907-1972. Photographs include those of himself and his circle of friends and family, the beach, artworks, and nudes.

Arrangement

The photographs are arranged in the following order: 1) Beach; 2) Christian William Miller; 3) People not Christian William Miller; 6) People, places, and social events (arranged by date); 7) Artworks; and 9) Nudes.

Box 20	<p>Beach 1946-1959, undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [black and white prints, 65 pages]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>The bulk of the images are of Miller, although some are of his friends. May include images from Fire Island and/or St. Croix. The bulk of the photographs are undated.</p>
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- Box 21 **Beach, including nudes 1946-1959, undated**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints, 61 pages]
 Scope and Contents
 The bulk of the images are of Miller and his friends. May include images from Fire Island and/or St. Croix. The bulk of the photographs are undated.
- Box 31, Folder 10 **Beach, including nudes undated**
 Physical Description: [oversized black and white prints, 17 photographs]
 Scope and Contents
 The bulk of the images are of Miller and his friends. May include images from Fire Island and/or St. Croix.
- Box 22 **Christian William Miller 1940-1966, undated**
 Physical Description: [mostly black and white prints, but also negatives and contact sheets, 99 pages]
 Scope and Contents
 Consists of photographs of Miller, mostly professional. Images will overlap with Beach and Geographic region sections. Includes Miller photographs by Jonathan Tichenor and George Platt Lynes. The bulk of the photographs are undated.
- Box 31, Folder 11 **Christian William Miller, *Life* magazine 1951**
 Physical Description: [oversized black and white prints, 2 photographs]
 Scope and Contents
 Photographs from a *Life* magazine shoot.
- Box 31, Folder 12 **Christian William Miller and friends Summer 1955, undated**
 Physical Description: [oversized black and white prints, 28 photographs]
 Scope and Contents
 Consists of photograph portraits of Miller and friends as well as images of a social gathering, possibly in St. Croix.
- Box 31, Folder 13 **Photographs by Romeo Valente 1963, 1967, undated**
 Physical Description: [oversized black and white prints, 13 photographs]
 Scope and Contents
 Consists of images of an unknown man at a residence, some with dogs.
- Box 23 **Land Miller 1936-1956, undated**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints, 23 pages]
 Scope and Contents
 Consists of photographs taken of Land Miller. The bulk of the photographs are undated.
- Box 23 **People not Christian William or Land Miller 1943-1961, undated**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints, 69 pages]
 Scope and Contents
 Includes publicity photographs, signed photographs, and photographs with descriptive notes.
- Box 24 **People not Christian William or Land Miller 1943-1961, undated**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints, 20 pages]
 Scope and Contents
 Includes publicity photographs, signed photographs, and photographs with descriptive notes. Photographs with correspondence on the back are listed at the end.
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- Box 24 **Pre-1945: people, places, and events 1907-1944, undated**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints and negatives, 68 pages]
 Scope and Contents
 Includes images of Miller before and during his service in World War II. Also includes images of friends and family during this era.
- Box 25 **1945 and after: people, places, and events 1945-1972**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints and negatives, 62 pages]
 Scope and Contents
 Consists of photograph rolls and unattributed images of mixed topics. The bulk of the images are of Miller and his friends and family. Photographs of unattributed houses and rooms are listed at the end.
- Box 25 **Window displays 1941**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints, 17 pages]
 Scope and Contents
 Consists of Lord and Taylor window displays, New York.
- Box 25 **Three-dimensional art, assorted 1945-1950, undated**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints, 33 pages]
 Scope and Contents
 Includes images of a chair designed by Miller. Also includes a desk, architectural models, and abstract sculptures. The bulk of the images are of three-dimensional geometric designs presumably created by Miller called geobiles. The bulk of the photographs are undated.
- Box 31, Folder 14 **Three-dimensional art and sculpture 1944, undated**
 Physical Description: [oversized black and white prints, 10 photographs]
 Scope and Contents
 Includes images of sculptures (mostly the making of them), three-dimensional geometric artworks, and a George Platt Lynes image presumably of a Miller-designed boat from April 5, 1944. The bulk of the images are undated.
- Box 26 **Pottery and sculpture 1956-1957, undated**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints, 65 pages]
 Scope and Contents
 The bulk of the images are undated.
- Box 26 **Paintings and drawings 1950-1951, undated**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints and one color print, 10 pages]
 Scope and Contents
 The bulk of the images are undated.
- Box 28 **Nudes, male 1946-1970, undated**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints, 44 pages]
 Scope and Contents
 The bulk of the images are undated.
- Box 29 **Nudes, male 1946-1970, undated**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints, 60 pages]
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- Box 30 **Nudes, male 1946-1970, undated**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints, 35 pages]
- Box 30 **Nudes, male 1964, undated**
 Physical Description: [contact prints and negatives, 12 pages]
- Box 31, Folder 15 **Nudes, male undated**
 Physical Description: [oversized black and white prints, 24 photographs]
- Box 30 **Nudes, female undated**
 Physical Description: [black and white prints, 5 pages]
- Box 30 **Nudes, male: drawings, paintings, and sculpture 1954, undated**
 Physical Description: [mostly black and white prints, but also contact prints and color prints, 13 pages]
 Scope and Contents
 The bulk of the images are undated.

Photograph albums and books Subseries 1.4. circa 1890-1977

Physical Description: 5 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents

The materials comprise four photograph albums, one baby book, one diary/photograph album, and one birthday/anniversary book maintained by Christian William Miller that documents his life, family, and friends, circa 1890-1977. The contents include photographic prints, correspondence, clippings, diary entries, and other sundry documents.

- Box 32 **Europe 1950**
 Scope and Contents
 The album consists of photographic prints, postcards, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and collected ephemera documenting Christian William Miller's 1950 European trip.

- Box 33 **Bill Miller, family, and friends 1920-1948**
 Scope and Contents
 The album consists of photographs of "Bud" Christian William Miller's life, family, and friends from before his birth to age twenty-seven. The images document Miller's infancy, childhood, teenage, Coast Guard, and post-Coast Guard years. The photographs of Miller as an adult include him, his family, and/or his friends at the Sunstone estate in Reading, Vermont, and on vacation across the Pacific and in Southeast Asia. The album also includes childhood sketches, magazine/newspaper clippings including advertisements with Miller as a model, and correspondence.

Box 34

Bill Miller, family, and friends 1921-1977**Scope and Contents**

The album consists of photographs of "Bud" Christian William Miller's life, family, and friends from infancy to age thirty, but mostly represent Miller while in his twenties. Photographic prints and newspaper clippings document his two major inventions, a futuristic chair and a sunstill (an invention for making salt water drinkable). The photographs also document Miller, family, and/or friends at Sunstone in Reading, Vermont, and on vacation in Southeast Asia, Europe and Africa. The album also includes a sketch portrait of Miller, magazine/newspaper clippings including an advertisement with Miller as a model, and correspondence.

The front of the album contain two large panoramic photographs of Miller's school class and one 11x14-inch mounted photograph presumably of Miller as a teenager.

Box 35

Italian trip 1933**Scope and Contents**

The album consists of photographs, newspaper/magazine clippings, correspondence, and collected ephemera regarding an apparent family trip to Italy in 1933. Uncertain if any images include Christian William Miller.

Box 39, Item 3

Longfellow Birthday Book circa 1890-1963**Scope and Contents**

The Miller family calendar book of birthdays and anniversaries. Includes newspapers clippings, invites, photographs, and other supplementary papers.

Box 39, Item 4

The Scribble-in Book, Bud Miller, Camp Ranger 1934**Scope and Contents**

Miller's diary and photograph book while at camp.

Box 39, Item 5

Baby's Book 1921**Scope and Contents**

Miller's baby book

Photograph descriptions Subseries 1.5. 1944-1969, undated

Physical Description: 1.2 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents

The photograph descriptions include the original descriptions included with the boxes, film rolls, negative sleeves, and individual photographs that previously housed and/or were separated from the photographs listed in the rest of the series, 1944-1969, undated.

Box 47, Folder 3

Photograph descriptions, individual images and rolls 1944-1969

Box 40

Photograph descriptions, negative sleeves circa 1944-1968**Processing Information**

The negative strip sleeves that contained written descriptions have been copied and included in the clamshell boxes with the negatives they housed. These originals have been kept in case of illegibility of or damage to the copies.

Box 47, Folder 4

Photograph descriptions, collections of rolls 1945-1957

Box 47, Folder 5

Photograph descriptions, boxes undated

Papers Series 2. 1904-1989**Physical Description:** 4.6 Linear Feet**Scope and Contents**

The series comprises the textual records created or collected by Christian William Miller, 1904-1989. Materials include correspondence such as those of George Hoyningen-Huene, W.H. Auden, Paul Cadmus, Noel Coward, and Glenway Wescott, as well as his military, educational, family, property, work, modeling, and other personal papers. Also included are Miller's contacts and party guest lists.

Arrangement

The materials are arranged in the following subseries:

[Subseries 2.1. Correspondence, 1904-1983](#)

[Subseries 2.2. Personal papers, 1918-1989](#)

Correspondence Subseries 2.1. 1904-1983**Physical Description:** 2.8 Linear Feet**Scope and Contents**

The series comprises the correspondence written to and by Christian William Miller, 1904-1983. The files also contain occasional materials that was sent with the correspondence, such as photographs or clippings, or contextual material relevant to the correspondence. Correspondents include George Hoyningen-Huene, W.H. Auden, Paul Cadmus, Noel Coward, and Glenway Wescott.

Arrangement

Files are arranged in alphabetical order by the last name of the correspondent. Unarranged letters and postards are listed at the end.

Box 42, Folder 1
Box 42, Folder 2
Box 42, Folder 3
Box 42, Folder 4
Box 42, Folder 5
Box 42, Folder 6
Box 42,
Folder 7-12

Auden, W. H. 1947-1948**Aunt Mame and Uncle Will 1945-1951****Cadmus, Paul 1944****Christie's Auction House 1969-1972****Coward, Noel 1956****Finne, Ferdinand undated****Gallowhur, George 1942-1954, undated****Physical Description:** [6 folders]

Box 42,
Folder 13-14

Gilbertson, Charlotte 1951-1963, undated**Physical Description:** [2 folders]

Box 42, Folder 15
Box 42, Folder 16
Box 42,
Folder 17-29

Hoyningen-Huene, George 1964-1966**Laidlaw, Robert 1954-1965****Lanier, Nan 1943-1978, undated****Physical Description:** [13 folders]

Box 42, Folder 30
Box 42, Folder 31
Box 42,
Folder 32-39

Ludington, Wright 1958-1961, undated**Pavani, Ceasare 1951-1960****Miller, Franklena 1904-1931****Physical Description:** [8 folders]

Box 43,
Folder 1-39

Miller, Franklena 1932-1982, undated**Physical Description:** [39 folders]**Scope and Contents**

Folder 33 (1956-1957) materials were originally housed in a binder and include correspondence to "Maria" and "Gioia."

Box 44, Folder 1-2	Miller, Franklena undated Physical Description: [2 folders]
Box 44, Folder 3 Box 44, Folder 4-8	Miller, Land 1958-1961 Montgomery, George 1947-1955, undated Physical Description: [5 folders]
Box 44, Folder 9-10	Noyes, Tom 1960-1969, undated Physical Description: [2 folders]
Box 44, Folder 11 Box 44, Folder 12 Box 44, Folder 13 Box 44, Folder 15 Box 44, Folder 16-17	Parks, Ross 1968-1969 Pernas, Frances 1948 Petertje 1960 Potts, Lucile 1961-1963 Rackerby, Donald 1966-1968, undated Physical Description: [2 folders]
Box 44, Folder 18-20	Royal, Tom 1961-1979, undated Physical Description: [3 folders]
Box 44, Folder 21 Box 44, Folder 22 Box 44, Folder 23 Box 44, Folder 24 Box 44, Folder 25 Box 44, Folder 26 Box 44, Folder 27-32	Ruiz, Jose 1971 Wescott, Glenway 1944-1963 Wheelwright, Philip 1961-1964 Vanderhoof, Millie 1961-1976 Vaughan, Richard B. 1970-1974 de Vaulchier, Dorothy 1944-1956 Letters, unarranged 1945-1983 Physical Description: [6 folders]
Box 44, Folder 14	Postcards, unarranged 1951-1981

Personal papers Subseries 2.2. 1918-1989**Physical Description:** 1.8 Linear Feet**Scope and Contents**

The documents comprise the personal papers of Christian William Miller, not including his correspondence, 1918-1989. Materials include family papers; educational files; writings; contracts; contacts and party guest lists; modeling records; military records; identification cards; moving and travel papers; financial records; work records; property files; clippings including those for a scrapbook; collected newspapers, pamphlets, and periodicals; and assorted dictations.

Arrangement

Files are arranged in alphabetical order.

Box 44, Folder 33 Box 44, Folder 34 Box 44, Folder 36-39	Advertising designs, Skol and Skat 1944-1946 Bank statements 1943-1947 Contacts undated Physical Description: [4 folders] Scope and Contents Includes addressed envelopes, address books, and address labels.
Box 44, Folder 40-41	Dictations 1980, 1984 Physical Description: [2 folders]

Box 45, Folder 1-2	<p>Family documents, Franklena Miller 1950-1970</p> <p>Physical Description: [2 folders]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Includes her correspondence with others, marriage certificate, and passport.</p>
Box 45, Folder 3	Family documents, genealogy circa 1940-1960
Box 45, Folder 4	Family documents, Grace May Wilson 1970-1972
Box 45, Folder 5-6	Family documents, William Henry Miller 1918-1963
Box 45, Folder 7	Gallowhur Chemical Corporation 1943-1948
Box 45, Folder 8	Identification cards: passport, military, and other 1942-1957
Box 44, Folder 35	<p>Miscellaneous 1957-1988, undated</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Includes subscriptions to white/Christian supremacist publications.</p>
Box 45, Folder 9	Military documents 1942-1947
Box 45, Folder 10	<p>Modeling documents 1952-1954</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Consists of materials from "Horst test shots."</p>
Box 45, Folder 11-13	<p>Moving documents 1945-1969</p> <p>Physical Description: [3 folders]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Documents Miller's various moves including management company records, warehouse information, lists of possessions, and directions.</p>
Box 45, Folder 14-16	<p>Newspapers, clippings 1936-1986</p> <p>Physical Description: [3 folders]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Contents were described as "Willie clippings."</p>
Box 45, Folder 17	Newspapers, white/Christian supremacism 1980-1982, undated
Box 45, Folder 18	Party guest lists 1945-1960
Box 45, Folder 19-20	<p>Pamphlets and periodicals, anti-Semitism 1970-1989, undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [2 folders]</p>
Box 45, Folder 21	Pamphlets and periodicals, clippings 1957-1983
Box 45, Folder 22	Pamphlets and periodicals, exhibition galleries 1958-1971, undated
Box 45, Folder 23	Pamphlets and periodicals, white/Christian supremacism 1988-1989, undated
Box 45, Folder 24	Personal data 1920-1959
Box 45, Folder 25	Postcards, blank undated
Box 45, Folder 26-28	<p>Property, Fire Island 1956-1965</p> <p>Physical Description: [3 folders]</p>
Box 46, Folder 1-2	<p>Property, Puerto Rico circa 1970</p> <p>Physical Description: [2 folders]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Includes materials on Santurce, Puerto Rico; Stella Dallas property; and Stella Maris property.</p>
Box 46, Folder 3	Property, Sunstone 1949-1954
Box 46, Folder 4-5	<p>Receipts 1940-1970</p> <p>Physical Description: [2 folders]</p>
Box 46, Folder 6	Scrapbook circa 1950

Box 46, Folder 7 Box 46, Folder 8-9	<p>School, class notes 1950 School, Dartmouth notebook 1949 Physical Description: [2 folders]</p>
Box 46, Folder 10 Box 46, Folder 11 Box 46, Folder 12 Box 46, Folder 13 Box 46, Folder 14	<p>School, diploma from School of Professional Arts 1941 School, Fulbright scholarship 1949-1951 School, New School for Social Research 1947-1949 School, resume and transcripts 1938-1947 Travel documents 1954 Scope and Contents Most are from European trip, August-November 1954.</p>
Box 46, Folder 15 Box 46, Folder 16	<p>Writings, erotic undated Writings, miscellaneous 1937-1959 Graphic arts, film, and three-dimensional objects Series 3. circa 1920-1960, undated Physical Description: 7.3 Linear Feet Scope and Contents The series primarily comprises drawings and paintings created by Christian William Miller, circa 1920-1960, undated. The series also includes Miller's more technical drawings such as architectural, boat, and other art designs. The series also includes a few works of Miller by other artists, a collection of Cocteau reproductions, a life-sized bust of Miller, four 8mm films, and collected trinkets. Arrangement Materials are arranged in alphabetical order by type of artwork. Personal objects are listed at the end.</p>
Map-case 13:4:3	<p>Architectural drawings 1937, undated Physical Description: Some mold contamination. Use caution in accessing. Physical Description: [oversized] Scope and Contents Most of the nine drawings are undated.</p>
Box 37, Folder 3	<p>Architectural sketches, with reference drawings undated Physical Description: [oversized] Scope and Contents Includes six architectural/geometric sketches, three architectural sketches, and reference drawings of Greek/Roman columns.</p>
Box 46, Folder 17 Box 46, Folder 18 Box 46, Folder 19-28	<p>Art designs undated Color swatches circa 1945 Drawings circa 1920-1960, undated Physical Description: [10 folders] Scope and Contents The 1920s folder includes a child's notebook and crayon and pencil drawings. The 1955-1960 folder includes measurements, sketches, and drawings of the Fire Island beach house.</p>
Box 37, Folder 1	<p>Drawings, boats and horses circa 1930-1944, undated Physical Description: [oversized] Scope and Contents Includes four boat design drawings presumably created by Miller in 1944 and two horse drawings from the 1930s (separated from box 46, folder 23).</p>
Box 47, Folder 1	<p>Drawings, Cocteau reproductions undated</p>

Box 37, Folder 3	<p>Drawings, Cocteau reproductions undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [oversized]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>The set of reproductions contains one non-Cocteau print.</p>
Box 47, Folder 2	<p>Drawings, sketches undated</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Contains some Miller portraits and reproductions of portraits.</p>
Box 48, Folder 2	<p>Drawings, unidentified (of similar style to Quaintance)</p> <p>Physical Description: Separated because of pervasive vinegar syndrome.</p> <p>Physical Description: [10 black and white drawings]</p>
Map-case 13:4:1	<p>Drawings and paintings, people (cataloged) 1940, undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [oversized]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Includes catalog numbers ART2692 (Dick Boyd, January 31, 1940; and Irving G. Goodman, March 6, 1940), ART2691 (Katherine Gilmartin), ART2690, ART2689, ART2688 (Renee Forsythe, February 7, 1940), ART2687, ART2686 (Dick Boyd, January 17, 1940), ART2685, ART2684, ART2683, and ART2682.</p>
Map-case 13:4:2	<p>Drawings and paintings, people (not cataloged) 1941-1954, undated</p> <p>Physical Description: Some mold contamination. Use caution in accessing.</p> <p>Physical Description: [oversized]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Consists of six male model sketches, circa 1953-1954; a woman's portrait sketch (on both sides of paper); male nude sketches (on both sides of paper); a drawing of man with geometric shapes; a painting of a teenage Miller; and a David Payne drawing of Miller, June 16, 1941.</p>
Box 37, Folder 2	<p>Drawings and paintings, people 1939-1944, undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [oversized]</p> <p>Scope and Contents</p> <p>Consists of four portrait sketches of Miller, three portrait sketches of an unidentified women, one painting of Nathaniel P. Hood and his wife, and one painting of Miller.</p>
Box 38, Item 6	<p>Film, unidentified undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [4 rolls of 8mm film]</p>
Box 36	<p>Painting, portrait of a woman, arms crossed: no painter identified undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [Framed, 12x16 inches]</p>
Box 41	<p>Sculpture, bust of Bill Miller undated</p> <p>Physical Description: [unknown material]</p> <p>Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements</p> <p>The crumbling blank wood block used to mount the sculpture was removed.</p>
Box 39, Item 1 Box 39, Item 2	<p>Tin case with lock of hair undated</p> <p>"W.S." monographed leather case with metal frame undated</p>