Elinor S. Miller Paper Doll Collection

NMAH.AC.1110

by Kiley Orchard (intern); supervised by Vanessa Broussard Simmons, archivist

2008

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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Creators: Miller, Elinor S.  
Salak, Dorothy E.  
Ware, Dorothy
Title: Elinor S. Miller Paper Doll Collection
Dates: circa 1909-1940
Quantity: 0.03 cubic feet, 1 box
Abstract: This collection consists of paper dolls, cut figures from magazines, and magazines belonging to Elinor S. Miller and Dorothy Ware from circa 1909-1940.
Language: Collection text is in English.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information
This collection was donated by Dorothy E. Salak in 2007.

Related Material
Materials in the Archives Center
Kitty Cucumber Collection (AC0276)
Carolyn and Donald Grepke Collection of Paper Dolls (AC0752)
Beatrice Litzinger Postcard Collection (AC0530)

Processing Information
Processed by Kiley Orchard (intern); supervised by Vanessa Broussard Simmons, archivist

Preferred Citation
Elinor S. Miller Paper Doll Collection, Archives Center, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution

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Biographical Note

The collection consists of paper dolls and figures cut out from magazines that belonged to Dorothy E. Salak’s mother, Elinor S. Miller and grandmother, Dorothy Ware. Ware was born circa 1902 and grew up in rural Georgia. She died in 1944. Miller, was born in 1931 and grew up in Chicago. She earned a Ph.D in French Literature from the University of Chicago. All three women played with the paper dolls.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of magazine cut-outs, tabbed paper dolls, and various outfits for the dolls, circa 1909-1910 and beginning again circa 1934-1938. Some of the figures cut from magazines are colored with crayon or colored pencil. It is arranged according owner of the paper dolls. The magazines in which the dolls were held can be found in the smaller, letter-sized folders. In Pineview Public Schools, Ware documented the name and age she of each doll and how many “outfits” belonged to each doll. Researchers interested in fashion for men, women, and children during these time periods will find the collection of use.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in two series.

Series 1: Paper Dolls, Ware, circa 1909-1910

Series 2: Paper Dolls, Miller, circa 1934-1938

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Children
Dolls
Paper dolls
## Container Listing

Series 1: Paper Dolls, Ware, circa 1909-1910

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1</th>
<th>Pineview Public Schools, 1909-1910</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 2</td>
<td>Pineview Public Schools, 1909-1910</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Series 2: Paper Dolls, Miller, circa 1934-1938

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1</td>
<td>Adult Student</td>
<td>1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2</td>
<td>Adult Student</td>
<td>1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1</td>
<td>Child Welfare</td>
<td>1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2</td>
<td>Child Welfare</td>
<td>1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1</td>
<td>Adult Student</td>
<td>1935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 2</td>
<td>Adult Student</td>
<td>1935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1</td>
<td>Child Life</td>
<td>1938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Box 2</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>1938</td>
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</tbody>
</table>