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Overview of Archives & Special Collections

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- Website: http://www.bsu.edu/libraries/archives
Conducting Research

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Collection Areas: Stoeckel Archives of Local History

http://www.bsu.edu/library/collections/archives/stoeckel/
Collection Areas: Stoeckel Archives of Local History

- Established in 1979.
- Named in honor of Althea Stoeckel, BSU Professor of History.
- Contains a wealth of materials concerning Muncie, Delaware County and East Central Indiana.
- Includes records of business and industry; churches; clubs and organizations; education; government; social and political; oral histories and photographs.
Collection Areas: Middletown Studies Collections
Middletown Studies Collection

- Origin of Middletown
  - Robert S. Lynd and Helen Merrell Lynd
    - Middletown (1929)
    - Middletown in Transition (1937)
  - “…the aim of the field of investigation recorded in the following pages was to study the interwoven trends that are the life of a small American city.”
Middletown Studies Collection

- Preserve and make available the records of the Center for Middletown Studies in the University Archives. These document the activities of the Center and the Middletown research that is promotes.

- Collect, preserve, and make available the research of Muncie as Middletown, one of the most studied cities in the country.
Middletown Studies Collection

- Copies of the original books published by Helen Lynd.
- Photographs by Margaret Bourke-White
- Middletown Articles
- Middletown III Surveys
- Middletown Film Series
- Access to online resources
Middletown Studies Collection: Margaret Bourke-White Photographs

Margaret Bourke-White

Time Magazine, May 10, 1937
Middletown Studies Collection: Margaret Bourke-White Photographs
Muncie, Ind. is the great U.S. "Middletown".

And this is the first picture essay of what it looks like.

Muncie is the most interesting small town in the U.S. "Middletown" is a word coined by the sociologists who study American life. It is the name given to a complex of small towns which are alike in their economic, social, and cultural structure. Muncie is a typical example of this type of town.

The town is a small city of about 40,000 people located in the eastern part of Indiana. It is a manufacturing center with a diversified economy. The town is surrounded by farmland and has a mild climate.

The town has a number of interesting features. It has a university, a hospital, and a variety of industries. The town is also known for its public art projects and its annual arts festival.

The residents of Muncie are a mix of students, workers, and retirees. The town has a strong sense of community and is known for its friendly atmosphere.

In conclusion, Muncie is a typical "Middletown" town. Its characteristics are similar to those of many other small towns across the United States. This essay provides a glimpse into the life and culture of Muncie and its residents.
Middletown Studies Collection: Margaret Bourke-White Photographs
Middletown Studies Collection: Margaret Bourke-White Photographs
Middletown Studies Collection: Margaret Bourke-White Photographs
Middletown Studies Collection: Articles

We collect any articles, working papers, dissertations, theses, and other writings that cite the Middletown books and more recent research. We have copies of these articles in Archives & Special Collections and a database that organizes them by author, title, and subject.
The Middletown III Project (1970s) was the first major study to replicate the Lynd studies. They used the same categories as the Lynd study with the addition of Black Middletown.

We have the original surveys done in this project, survey notes, working papers, computer tapes, and other materials that resulted from the project.

- Middletown Families, 1982
- All the Faithful People, 1983
GETTING A LIVING IN MIDDLETOWN

The purpose of this questionnaire is to determine how men in Middletown do about the task of "getting a living." It is divided into three sections. Section I asks for social background information which is used in analyzing the results. For example, the feelings and experiences of married men can be compared to those of single men, or the answers of blue-collar workers can be contrasted to white-collar workers. Section II concerns the work situation and asks how men feel about their job. Section III is for those men who are married and deals with how their job and their wife's job, if she works, affects their family life.

Would you please fill out Sections I and II and Section III if you are married.

Most questions can be answered by circling or checking one answer, so please don't mark more than one answer unless the instructions ask for more than one. If you wish to explain an answer or offer a comment, use the space or attach an additional sheet. Remember that your answers are confidential and will be used only as data in the research report.

Thank you.
2. ARE YOU PRESENTLY EMPLOYED?

Yes
No

If No: When did you stop?

Please go ahead and answer the following questions describing your most recent job:

3. WHAT KIND OF WORK ARE YOU DOING?

Electrical

(Examples: Engineer, assembler, mechanic, secretary)

4. WHAT IS YOUR MOST IMPORTANT ACTIVITY OR DUTY?

Installation and Repair

(Examples: Designing bridges, fastening batter plates, turning on, testing)

5. WHAT KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY IS IT?

Batt Appliance

(Examples: Manufacturing, engineering, construction, independent general store)

6. ARE YOU:

1. An employee of a private company, business or individual for wages, salary, or commission?
2. A government employee?
   a. Federal
   b. State
   c. Local
3. Self-employed in own business, professional practice, or farm?
   a. Own business incorporated
   b. Own business unincorporated
4. Working without pat in a family business or farm?

7. HOW MUCH INCOME DID YOU EARN AT YOUR JOB LAST YEAR (BEFORE TAXES)?

   1. Under $1,000
   2. $1,000 to $4,999
   3. $5,000 to $14,999
   4. $15,000 to $24,999
   5. $25,000 to $34,999
   6. $35,000 to $44,999
   7. $45,000 to $54,999
   8. $55,000 to $64,999
   9. $65,000 to $74,999
   10. $75,000 to $84,999
   11. $85,000 to $94,999
   12. $95,000 to $104,999
   13. $105,000 to $114,999
   14. $115,000 to $124,999
   15. $125,000 to $134,999
   16. $135,000 to $144,999
   17. $145,000 to $154,999
   18. $155,000 to $164,999
   19. $165,000 to $174,999
   20. $175,000 to $184,999
   21. Over $185,000

8. WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST FULL-TIME JOB BEFORE THIS ONE?

Stock Clerk

9. WHAT KIND OF WORK DID YOU DO?

Variety Store

10. AS EVERYONE ELSE, HOW DO YOU TAKE A LONGER RECOVERY THAN OTHERS? CONSIDERING YOUR MOST PARTICULAR JOB, DO YOU WORK:

1. Work to the limit of your energy most of the time
2. Alternate periods of hard work and of taking it easy on the job
3. Take it easy on the job most of the time

11. HOW MANY TIMES DURING THE PAST MONTH DID YOU MISS WORK, COME IN LATE, OR LEAVE EARLY BECAUSE OF PERSONAL REASONS?

1. Missed work
2. Came late
3. Left early

12. HOW MANY TIMES DURING THE PAST MONTH DID YOU WORK SIX DAYS OR MORE OR BECAUSE OF PERSONAL REASONS?

1. Missed work
2. Came late
3. Left early

13. THERE OF THE LAST 28 DAYS, HOW LONG WERE YOU AT YOUR PLACE OF WORK

   a. 8 hours and 30 minutes

14. STILL THINKING OF THESE SAME 28 DAYS, HOW MUCH OF YOUR TIME DID YOU

   a. Work very hard
   b. Work moderately hard
   c. Take it easy

15. IF YOU ARE ABLE TO TAKE IT EASY ON THE JOB, WHAT DO YOU DO WITH YOUR TIME

   a. Read

16. WHAT OTHER THINGS DO PEOPLE IN YOUR PLACE OF WORK DO WHEN THEY HAVE FREE TIME

   a. Read
Middletown Studies Collection:
Middletown Film Series

- Middletown Film Series
- The film series is aired on PBS in 1982. It included “vignettes” of contemporary Muncie life:
  - The Campaign – an account of the 1979 mayoral election
  - Family Business – showed a family struggling to operate a pizza franchise
  - The Big Game – Looked at high school basketball in Muncie through the eyes of one black and one white player
  - Community of Praise – showed a family searching for religious meaning in Pentecostal experience
Middletown Studies Collection:  
Middletown Film Series

- **Second Time Around** – showed a couple about to be married, each partner for the second time.
- **Seventeen** – Followed students at South Side High School. It was criticized for showing students doing drugs and using sexually explicit language.
Middletown Studies Collection:
Other Books on Middletown

- Middletown Families, 1982
- All the Faithful People, 1983
- Middletown Jews edited by Dan Rottenberg, 1997
- Dick Green’s Neighborhood by John Straw, 2000
- Other Side of Middletown, 2003
Middletown Digital Archives

- Digitized materials available through Ball State University Libraries’ Digital Media Repository ([http://libx.bsu.edu](http://libx.bsu.edu)):
  - Oral histories
  - Photographs
  - Maps
  - Documents
  - Films – The Man Haters