

Collection #
P 0836

**E. T. PARTLOW PHOTOGRAPHS
CA. 1900-CA. 1910S**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 half-size photograph box

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1900-ca. 1910s

PROVENANCE: Purchased from Heritage Photo Services, Indianapolis, February 2002

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2002.0330

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Elmer Theodore Partlow was born in Hamilton County, Indiana, on 14 December 1881 or 1882 to James Partlow and Lodaska Anna Horton Partlow. As an adult he lived primarily in Frankfort, Clinton County, Indiana. He performed various kinds of work in his life, but it appears that at some point he had a photography business.

The photographs in this collection were taken by E.T. Partlow of Frankfort, Indiana. A search of census records, city directories, and newspapers has revealed only one Partlow in Frankfort with the initials E.T., and that is Elmer Theodore Partlow. No record was found, other than these photographs, to indicate that his occupation was photographer. These photographs, though undated, appear to have been taken during the first two decades of the twentieth century.

In 1910 Elmer was living in Jackson Township, Clinton County, with his first wife, Zelma Ostler Partlow (1887–1958), and working as a farmer. By 1920 the couple had moved to Michigan, where he was still farming. Elmer and Zelma divorced in Michigan.

By 1930, Elmer had returned to Indiana, and was living at 556 N. Clay Street in Frankfort with his second wife, Roxie Edna Allen Campbell Partlow (1885–1971). A 1930 city directory lists him as a contractor; the 1930 census lists him as a painter. By 1940, the census lists him as manager of an apartment house. A 1944 city directory lists him as a paint manufacturer, but also lists Partlow Apartments at 556 N. Clay Street. The 1950 census indicates that he is caretaker of an apartment house. He and Roxie were still living at 556 N. Clay Street.

Roxie Partlow died on 16 April 1971. Elmer died on 30 April 1975. They are buried together in Oak Hill Cemetery in Lebanon, Indiana.

Sources:

Ancestrylibrary.com (Accessed 27 July 2022):

- Find a Grave
- Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899–2011
- Michigan, U.S., Divorce Records, 1897–1952
- Michigan, U.S., Marriage Records, 1867–1952
- United States Federal Census, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940, 1950
- U.S., City Directories, 1822-1995
- U.S., Social Security Death Index, 1935–2014
- U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918
- U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of seventeen mounted black-and-white photographs taken by E.T. Partlow of Frankfort, Clinton County, Indiana, or presumed to have been taken by him. There are three photographs of houses; the rest are group portraits. There is one group portrait that was taken indoors with a plain background; the rest of the group portraits were taken outdoors in a yard and/or by a house. The people and locations are unidentified. No dates are indicated, but these photographs appear to have been taken approximately between 1900 and sometime in the 1910s.

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CONTENTS

Group portrait of twenty-six people standing outside a house by peony bushes. Stamped on the back is an advertisement for photograph enlargement and a chance to win a cash prize of \$35, courtesy of E.T. Partlow, Photographer.

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

Group portrait of twenty-five people with trees and a house in the background. Embossed in the lower right-hand corner of the mat is "E.T. Partlow / Frankfort, Ind."

Box 1, Folder 1

Eight people and a dog posed with a house, barn, and another building in the background. Written on back: "E.T. Partlow / maker of fine / Poto (sic) and Enlarging / Frankfort / Ind."

Box 1, Folder 1

Eight people seated on or in front of a porch; one man is sitting on a hammock. Embossed in the lower right-hand corner of the mat is "E.T. Partlow / Frankfort, Ind."

Box 1, Folder 1

Two photos of groups of people posed outside of the same house: one photo shows eleven people posing, the other shows twenty-two people; some of the same people are in both photographs.

Box 1, Folder 2

Two copies of a group portrait of twenty-six people posed in a yard with a tree and a corner of a house visible. One copy is printed lighter than the other. The lighter copy has embossed in the lower right-hand corner of the mat "E.T. Partlow / Frankfort, Ind."

Box 1, Folder 3

Twenty-seven people posed on the side of a dirt hill

Box 1, Folder 4

Two men seated, one holding a dog, and two women standing next to a house

Box 1, Folder 4

Three men, a woman, and two children posed with trees in the background

Box 1, Folder 4

Thirteen people posed between two trees, with a house in the background

Box 1, Folder 4

Twenty-two people, all men and children, posed with a house in the background	Box 1, Folder 4
Indoor portrait of two women and four men [possibly parents and four adult children]	Box 1, Folder 4
Dirt road leading to a two-story house in the distance Embossed in the lower right-hand corner of the mat is "E.T. Partlow / Frankfort, Ind." Written on back: "E.T. Partlow / maker of fine / Poto (sic) and Enlarging / RR4 / Frankfort / Ind."	Box 1, Folder 5
House with small balcony in front of dormer window. House number appears to be 701. Embossed in the lower left-hand corner of the mat is "E.T. Partlow / Frankfort, Ind."	Box 1, Folder 5
House on a corner with a porch swing and rocking chairs on the front porch. House number appears to be 503.	Box 1, Folder 5