Robert F. Boerstler Collection, Manuscript Group 29
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Special Collections and University Archives
6 boxes; 6 linear feet

Biographical Note
A native of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, Robert F. Boerstler (February 9, 1929-February 19, 1987) graduated from Indiana State Teachers College (later became IUP) in 1950 with a BS in Education. He was the son of George and Olga Boerstler (-1955). In 1978, Robert F. Boerstler was teaching in the Ferndale Area School District in Johnstown. He passed away in Windber, Somerset County, Pennsylvania.

Scope and Content
The Robert F. Boerstler collection is housed in three archival boxes. The collection contains three scrapbooks from 1946-1950 and a freshman dink from Boerstler’s years at Indiana State Teachers College (ISTC), and an IUP Centennial Anniversary Plate from 1975. The collection also contains limited edition pewter figurines, lantern slides, Bicentennial memorabilia from the U.S. Historical Society, and a Civil War era cavalry sword.

Provenance
Unknown.

Restrictions
None.

Processor
Spring 2001; records rearranged and inventory rewritten by Special Collections Staff.

Container List
Box 1 (3 scrapbooks)
1-3. Scrapbooks that contain information about Robert Boerstler’s life, 1940s

Box 2 (4 items)
1. ISTC Freshman dink (maroon felt cap), circa 1946-1947
2. "The People of Colonial America" pewter
3. The Franklin Mint pewter figurines Reference Guide
4. IUP Centennial Plate (pewter), circa 1975 (on display)

Box 3 (1 item)
1. Wooden box that contains Franklin Mint pewter figurines, there is a reference guide identifying the figurines in Box 2, Item 3: The Franklin Mint pewter figurines Reference Guide

Box 4 (Glass Lantern Slides, circa 1900s-1940s) (above Photograph Storage Cabinet)
1. Songs: Sing Song Slide Company
   a. Holy Holy Holy
   b. The First Nowell
c. Holy Spirit, Truth Divine  
d. Hark, the Herald Angels Sing  
e. It Came Upon the Midnight Clear  
f. Thanksgiving Prayer  
g. Consider and Hear Me (2 Slides)  
h. Send Out Thy Light (3 Slides)  
i. Hear Our Prayer (2 Slides)  
j. Oh Come, All Ye Faithful  
k. Palm Branches  
l. America the Beautiful  
m. Hear My Cry Oh Lord! (2 Slides)  
n. Star Spangled Banner (2 Slides)  
o. Onward Christian Soldiers (2 Slides)  
p. Fight Song by Hal Thomas  
q. Fight Song: Indiana’s Glory (2 Slides)  

2. Images: Soule Art Publishing Company (Boston, Massachusetts) (4 Slides)  

**Box 5 U. S. Historical Society Bicentennial Collection (5 items)**  
1. Documentation of the Lord Cornwallis Sword, the Sword of Napoleon, and the George Washington Presentation Dagger created by the U. S. Historical Society in Richmond, Virginia, 1976  
2. Replica Bronze Medallions from 18th and 19th century United States of America:  
   a. George Washington  
   b. Horatio Gates  
   c. Daniel Morgan  
   d. Nathaniel Green  
   e. George Washington mounted equestrian  
   f. John Paul Jones  
   g. Anthony Wayne  
   h. King George II  
   i. U. S. Grant, 1871  
   j. Rutherford B. Hayes  
   k. Major General Andrew Jackson  
   l. Major General William Henry Harrison  
3. Replica of a forged steel tomahawk from the American Revolution  
4. Replica of Wooden Cup and Gall Game from the American Revolution  
5. Replica of a Native American peace pipe (no identification)  

**Box 6 Swords (2 items)**  
1. 1976 “The Sword of Napoleon,” recreated by the U. S. Historical Society in Richmond, Virginia, for the American Bicentennial, 1976  
2. Civil War era Model 1860 Cavalry Saber (light cavalry saber) made by Emerson and Silver in Trenton, New Jersey. Stamped on the pommel cap is C. E. W. (Charles E. Wilson), the inspector who accepted the saber for the federal government. Possibly dating from 1864 (verified as authentic in 2014)