

### COLLECTION SUMMARY

**Collection title:** Shinneman Collection

**Dates:** 1870s-1920s

**Size:** 2 boxes

**Shelf location:** **Oversized Storage**

**Creator/Collector:** Vern & Florence Shinneman

**Acquisition info.:** Unknown

**Accruals:** None

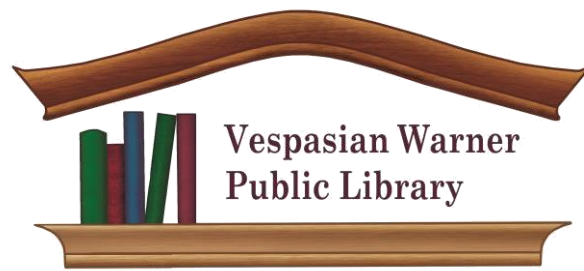
**Custodial history:** Passed to Barbara Dick, Vern & Florence Shinneman's granddaughter.

**Language(s):** English

**Repository:** Vespasian Warner Public Library District

**Processed by:** Bobbi Perryman, 2023

**Conservation notes:** None



## **RIGHTS AND ACCESS**

### **Access restrictions**

Collection is open for research. The collection or parts of the collection may not leave the library building.

### **Physical access restrictions**

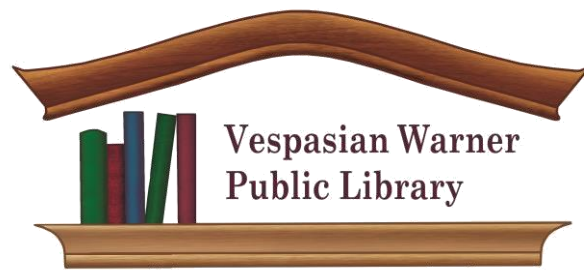
None

### **Technical access restrictions**

None

### **Publication rights**

The Vespasian Warner Public Library does not establish copyright for items.



## INFORMATION FOR RESEARCHERS

### **Preferred citation**

[item identification], Shinneman Collection, Vespasian Warner Public Library District, Clinton, Illinois

### **Related collections**

None

### **Separated material**

Framed photograph of Vern Shinneman as an infant

### **Published descriptions**

Not applicable

### **Location of originals**

Not applicable

### **Location of copies**

Not applicable

### **Publication note**

Not applicable

### **Subject headings**

Automotive industry – Biography  
DeWitt County (Ill.) – Biography  
Weldon (Ill.) – Biography  
World War, 1914-1918 – Biography

## SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Collection of textiles and clothing accessories from the Shinneman family.

## **BIOGRAPHY**

Vern Lawrence Shinneman was born July 10, 1899, in Weldon, Illinois, the son of Milo and Martha Shinneman. Vern served in the United States Army during World War I. After the war, he married Florence Mae McKown on February 9, 1922.

Vern started his career working for the Reo Motor Car Company. He would deliver cars to customers' homes and spend a week with the customer to teach them how to drive the car. He would later own Shinneman Garage in Weldon and was appointed Weldon's postmaster in 1928. Later in life, he would organize the Weldon State Bank and operated an insurance agency in Weldon until his retirement in 1968.

Vern was active in various community groups including a Weldon Basketball Association, the Weldon United Methodist Church, the American Legion, the Weldon Lions Club, and the Bloomington Consistory. He also served on various boards, including the Weldon village, parks, and cemetery boards, the DeWitt County School Board, and as president of Nixon Township High School.

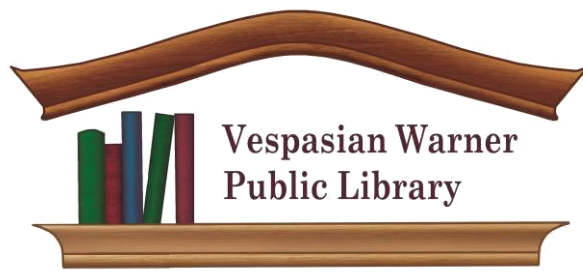
Vern died July 11, 1989, and was interred at the Nixon Township Cemetery near Weldon.

Florence McKown Shinneman was born May 22, 1902, in Frankfort, Indiana, the daughter of Harry C. and Hannah E. McKown. Florence worked as an assistant cashier at the Weldon State Bank. She was also active in Weldon community groups, including the Women's Christian Temperance Union and the Weldon United Methodist Church where she served as a youth leader, youth choir director, and Sunday school teacher. Florence died January 2, 1996, and was interred at the Nixon Township Cemetery near Weldon.

Vern and Florence had two children, S'Moone Joey and Gretchen Elzina.

-Biography by the Shinneman's granddaughter, Barbara Dick.

Mary Emma Swisher Wickersham (1860-1941) was Florence Shinneman's grandmother and the creator of some items in the collection. One of Wickersham's daughters was left disabled due to an illness when she was 12 years old. Wickersham took care of her daughter at home and sewed to pass the time.



<b>Shinneman Collection Inventory</b>	<b><u>Box Number</u></b>	<b><u>Folder Number</u></b>
Photograph of Vern and Florence Shinneman, 1922 (copy)	1	1
Photograph of Vern and Florence Shinneman, 1972 (copy)	1	2
Biography of Vern and Florence Shinneman by Barbara Dick, 2023	1	3
Embroidered table runner with label "For Miss Catherine from Miss Richardson, 1930"	1	4
Peach-colored bloomers, early 1900s	1	5
White infant dress, made by Florence Shinneman for S'Moone Shinneman, 1924	1	6
White linen split drawers, ca. 19 <sup>th</sup> century	1	7
White infant dress with blue, green, and pink embroidered collar and pink-trimmed sleeves, made by Florence Shinneman for S'Moone Shinneman, ca. 1924	1	8
White infant dress with blue, green, and pink embroidered collar and sleeves, made by Florence Shinneman for Gretchen Shinneman, ca. 1933	1	9
Linen scrap with red horse embroidery made by Florence Shinneman, 1912	1	10
Black wool and leather spats	1	11
Pair of white crochet stockings, made by Florence Shinneman, ca. 1916	1	12
White Lion Brand collar, 10.5 inches	1	13
White cotton slip. Label reads "Slip of Grandma Shinneman"	1	14
Plaid ribbons which belonged to Florence Shinneman, ca. 1915	1	15
Knitted wool blanket made for S'Monne Shinneman by Florence Shinneman, 1924	1	16
Woman's white leather boots, ca 1924.	1	17
White cotton slip with lace trim, ca. 1916	1	18

Beaded purse, ca. 1920	1	19
Green bead and sequin headband, ca. 1924	1	20
Woman's black cotton stockings, ca. 1916-1920	1	21
White linen mobcap, ca. 1930	1	22
Black mourning veil worn by Martha Shinneman at her husband's funeral in 1928.	1	23
Woman's white linen blouse, ca. 1916-1920	1	24
White wool knitted baby carriage stole, 1924	1	25
White man's car coat and hat, ca. 1910	1	26
White wool knitted infant sweater, 1924	1	27
White linen and lace petticoat made by Emma Wickersham, ca. 1919	1	28
White linen doll's slip, ca. 1908	1	29
16-inch men's collars (2)	1	30
Red Cross patch from World War I, ca. 1916-1918	1	31
Baby stockings (2 pairs), ca. 1924	1	32
Chamois for fingernails with pink crochet trim, ca. 1900	1	33
Metal purse that belonged to Hannah Elgin McKown, ca. 1920s	1	34
Brown fabric swatch from Emma Wickersham's wedding dress, 1873	1	35
Cream linen girl's dress with green, blue, and orange embroidery made by Florence Shinneman, 1924	1	36
White petticoat made by Emma Wickersham, ca. 1919	1	37
White knitted christening booties. Label says "of Annette's Parrish"	2	1
Black petticoat	2	2
Black ostrich plume hat decoration, 1908	2	3
Black skirt made by Emma Wickersham	2	4

Knotted white women's collar with black trim	2	5
Blue shawl with bronze tassels	2	6
White long underwear	2	7
White linen skirt	2	8
Pink toddler shirt and bloomers, made by Florence Shinneman, ca. 1925	2	9
White embroidered table runner	2	10
Off-white crochet piano runner made by Florence Shinneman, 1929	2	11
Cream-colored knitted wool infant scarf, made by Florence Shinneman, ca. 1924 (2)	2	12
Tin horn	2	13
Green net wedding veil, worn by Florence Shinneman, 1922	2	14
Boy's white collar	2	15
Off-white knitted infant socks, made by Florence Shinneman, 1924	2	16
White infant scarf, ca. 1902	2	17
White camisole with crochet trim, ca. 1920s	2	18
Green embroidered "Good Luck" decorative textile, made by Emma Wickersham, ca. 1890	2	19
Cream-colored linen placemat	2	20
White pillow sham, made by Florence Shinneman, ca. 1920	2	21
White flannel infant petticoat with blue embroidery, made by Florence Shinneman, ca. 1924	2	22
Boy's cream-colored, clip-on tie	2	23
White silk negligee, 1948	2	24
White linen doily with green and red embroidery, made by Emma Wickersham, ca. 1900	2	25
White canvas engineer's cap, worn by an Illinois Central Railroad engineer	2	26
Cream colored, knitted wool diaper cover, made by Florence Shinneman, ca. 1924	2	27

White infant shirt, ca. 1920s	2	28
White lace jabot, ca. 1890	2	29
White infant mittens, made by Polly Smeltzer, ca. 1902	2	30
White linen picnic cover with red embroidery, made by Emma Wickersham, ca. 1900	2	31
White knitted infant sweater, made by Florence Shinneman, ca. 1924	2	32
White infant slip, made by Florence Shinneman, with tatted trim made by LouLowe Cobb, ca. 1924	2	33
White petticoat	2	34
Black "Lexington Centennial" clip-on bowtie	2	35
Quilted prize ribbons, 1 <sup>st</sup> (2); 2 <sup>nd</sup> (1) labeled "Lexington, 1976 H.E.A. Arts & Crafts, 1976	2	36
Vern Shinneman portrait, ca. 1899	Framed	