

# Joaquin Miller papers, 1868-1960

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Creator</b>	Miller, Joaquin, 1837-1913Miller, Pherne
<b>Title</b>	Joaquin Miller papers
<b>Dates</b>	1868-1960 (inclusive) 1868 1960
<b>Quantity</b>	5.0 linear feet, (5 containers)
<b>Collection Number</b>	Ax 864
<b>Summary</b>	Joaquin Miller (1837-1913) was the pen name of Cincinnatus Hiner Miller, a Northwest writer, newspaper publisher, and poet. The collection (1868-1960) contains correspondence and published works by Miller, and also material collected by Pherne Miller regarding her Uncle Joaquin, including photographs, as well as her personal papers.
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">University of Oregon Libraries, Special Collections and University Archives.</a> UO Libraries--SPC, 1299 University of Oregon Eugene OR 97403-1299 Telephone: 541-346-3068 Fax: 541-346-3485 <a href="mailto:spcarref@uoregon.edu">spcarref@uoregon.edu</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Collection is open to the public.  Collection must be used in Special Collections & University Archives Reading Room.
<b>Additional Reference Guides</b>	Paper finding aid with additional information is available in Special Collections & University Archives.
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Sponsor</b>	Funding for production of this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

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## Historical Note

Joaquin Miller (1837-1913) was the pen name of writer Cincinnatus Hiner Miller, born on September 8, 1837, to Quaker parents. In 1852, the family moved to Oregon, traveling overland on a three thousand mile trip that took over seven months. They settled near Eugene, Oregon where they established a home and farm. Miller later married the Oregon poet Therese Dyer.

"Miller attended Columbia College in (what was then) Eugene City from 1857 to 1858. He taught school, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1861. From 1861 to 1862 Miller rode pony express from Walla Walla to Idaho mines but he soon returned to Eugene City to become a newspaper editor. In his newspaper, *The Eugene City Democratic Register*, he pleaded for an end to the Civil War. The

editorials were suppressed as pro-Southern in sympathy and Miller sold out, moving briefly to Port Orford on Oregon's southern coast."

"In 1864 he drove a herd of cattle across the Cascade Mountains to Canyon City where he planted the region's first orchard and served as Grant County Judge until 1870."

"Miller's work *Songs of the Sierras* was published in Great Britain during a visit in 1870-1871. Among his other works of poetry and prose were *My Life Among the Modocs*, *Unwritten History*, *In Classic Shades*, and *A Royal Highway of the World*."

[Source: Oregon Blue Book online]

## Content Description

The collection contains material collected by Pherne Miller on her uncle, Joaquin Miller, including clippings and tear sheets, scrapbooks, photographs, and other memorabilia. The collection also includes outgoing correspondence by Joaquin Miller, and published works by him. Also available are the Pherne Miller personal papers that include correspondence, notebooks, and clippings of lectures.

Material by Joaquin Miller:

Outgoing correspondence written by Joaquin Miller (1868-1909) consists of letters to family and friends, including his sister Ella Luckey, brothers James H. Miller and George Miller, and Pherne Miller, his niece.

There are also copies of Joaquin Miller's published works, and some titles include multiple copies with different bindings. Works include *Speciments*; *Pacific Poems*; *Songs of the Sierras*; *Songs of the Sun-Lands*; *Life amongst the Modocs*; *Unwritten History*, among many others

Pherne Miller Material:

Pherne Miller correspondence is separated into outgoing (1935; 1960) and incoming letters, which are arranged alphabetically.

Other Pherne Miller material includes newsclippings, mementos, notebooks, broadside, and clippings regarding lectures by Pherne Miller on Joaquin Miller.

Material about Joaquin Miller and the Miller Family:

Material concerning Joaquin Miller that was collected by Pherne Miller includes newsclippings about his life and family, obituaries, tearsheets and clippings of articles by and about Joaquin Miller, a card index bibliography to works by and about Miller, and also a scrapbook containing sheet music and newsclippings about Miller and his daughter Juanita.

There are also published works about Joaquin Miller by authors Merritt Parmelle Allen; O. W. Forst; Hamlin Garland; Elbert Hubbard; Frank Klinge; Alfred Kreyborg; M.M. Marberry; Martin Severin Peterson; and Harr Wagner.

The collection also contains photographs of Pherne Miller, Joaquin Miller, and his parents and brothers including framed portraits, an ambrotype photograph in a gutta-perche case, tintype in velvet and leather case, and loose photographs. Photographs have been separated from the rest of the collection for preservation reasons and are stored under the call number PH030.

# Use of the Collection

## Restrictions on Use

Property rights reside with Special Collections & University Archives, University of Oregon Libraries. Copyright resides with the creators of the documents or their heirs. All requests for permission to publish collection materials must be submitted to Special Collections & University Archives. The reader must also obtain permission of the copyright holder.

Archival material may contain materials with sensitive or confidential information that is protected under federal and/or state right to privacy laws and other regulations.

Researchers are advised that the disclosure of certain information pertaining to identifiable living individuals represented in this collection without the consent of those individuals may have legal ramifications (e.g. a cause of action for invasion of privacy may arise if facts concerning an individual's private life are published that would be deemed highly offensive to a reasonable person) for which the University of Oregon assumes no responsibility.

If a researcher finds sensitive personal information in a collection, please bring it to the attention of the reading room staff.

## Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Joaquin Miller papers, Ax 864, Special Collections & University Archives, University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, Oregon.

# Administrative Information

## Arrangement

Material within this collection may have little to no intellectual or physical arrangement. Any arrangement may have derived from the records' creators or custodians. It may be necessary to look in multiple places for the same types of materials.

## Processing Note

Collection processed by staff, 1971-1979; and Tanya Parlet, 2013.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

This collection received a basic level of processing including minimal organization and rehousing.

Description information is drawn in part from information supplied with the collection and initial surveys of the contents.

## Related Materials

Other collections relating to Joaquin Miller at Special Collections and University Archives include:

## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Papers, circa 1839-1913

Box1-2

1.0 linear feet

Miller, Joaquin, 1837-1913

### Photographs (PH030), 1870-1912

0.75 linear feet

Miller, Joaquin, 1837-1913

Container(s)	Description	Dates
<hr/>		
Box		
<hr/>		
1	PH030_001: [Margaret Miller, mother of Joaquin Miller. Ambrotype in Crutchfield union case.] 1.0 negative 3 x 3.25 inches	1860 circa
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1	PH030_002: Grandpa and Grandma Miller [Margaret Witt Miller and husband Hulings or Hulen Miller (1812-1883), parents of Joaquin Miller. Son George M. Miller (1853-?) stands behind them. Tinted tintype in velvet-lined case.] 1.0 photographic print 3.75 x 4.75 inches	1870 circa
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1	PH030_003: Truly, Joaquin Miller. To Harrison Kincaid with affectionate regards...." [Portrait of Joaquin Miller] 1.0 unknown Missing 3.5 x 4.25 inches Sarony, Napoleon of New York (1821 – 1896)	1872 circa
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1	PH030_004: "Time for the Truth, Joaquin Miller" [Autographed portrait] 1.0 photographic print 2.5 x 4.25 inches Knecht, R. of Easton, PA	1871 circa
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1	PH030_005: [Portrait of Joaquin Miller, as tipped into "Songs of the Sierra" English edition]	1874

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	1.0 unknown 2 x 3.75 inches Missing	
2	PH030_006: Joaquin Miller, Washington, DC, 1885, at the time he built the cabin here. [Framed image] 1.0 unknown 10.5 x 13.5 inches Missing	1874
1	PH030_007: My dear Powerly with love to you & yours, Joaquin Miller, 12-1-07 [Framed image with autograph] 1.0 unknown 5.5 x 8.75 inches Missing	1907 Decirca
1	PH030_008: [Portrait of Miller family posed in front of small house] 1.0 photographic print 3.75 x 4.75 inches	1890s circa
1	PH030_009: [Joaquin Miller and friends or family gathered in front of Miller house, "The Abbey"] 1.0 photographic print 3.75 x 4.75 inches	1890s circa
1	PH030_010: [Bronze plaque with wreath, probably from Joaquin Miller property in Oakland, CA] 1.0 photographic print 1.75 x 2.5 inches	1890s circa
1	PH030_011: Missus Miller [?] Going up the path, The Hights. Given to me by Cousin Elsie Mitchell, May 1928 [View from back of elderly woman on Joaquin Miller property] 1.0 photographic print 2.5 x 3.5 inches	1890s circa
1	PH030_012: [Domestic interior with animal hides on bed. Probably interior of Joaquin Miller's home.] 1.0 photographic print 4 x 5 inches	1890s circa
1	PH030_013: Taken August 16, 1919. [Young man with teacup by campfire] 1.0 photographic print 3.2.5 x 4.25 inches	1919

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1	PH030_014: [Family portrait of Witt men at Ross' birthday party. Witt was maiden name of Joaquin Miller's mother. Andrew Jr., Andrew Sr., Frank, Ross, Alonzo and Mort, with relationships] 1.0 photographic print 2.75 x 4.5 inches	1928 Jul 15
1	PH030_015: [People posed in front of large house. Possibly a Witt residence, relatives of Miller family] 1.0 photographic print 3.25 x 5 inches	1920s circa
1	PH030_016: [Portrait of James Miller. Notes on back may relate to sculpting of Joaquin Miller portrait bust] 1.0 photographic print 3.25 x 3.25 inches	1908 circa
1	PH030_017: [George Melvin Miller, James Miller, and Joaquin Miller pose by rhododendrons. Probably first Florence Festival, 1908] 1.0 photographic print 3.25 x 5.5 inches	1908 circa
1	PH030_018: Joaquin Miller on floating dais with attendants, holding branch with first queen of Rhododendron Festival, Laura Inez Johnson (who later married his nephew, Melvin George Miller) 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1908 May
1	PH030_019: [Joaquin Miller, cropped portrait in old age as printed in magazine] 1.0 sheet 3.5 x 5 inches	1890s circa
1	PH030_020: [Joaquin Miller on floating dais with attendants and first queen of Rhododendron Festival, Laura Inez Johnson. Dais is floating in river] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1908 May
1	PH030_021: Joaquin Miller's Chapel [Stalactite formation in cave] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches Waco Real Photo	1910 circa

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1	PH030_022: [Short High School, M.E. Church, street scene, and plaque honoring Joaquin Miller as native son of Liberty, Indiana] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1920 circa
1	PH030_023: Airplane view, Oakland, California. [Aerial photo with Miller property, "The Hights," and Oakland City Hall marked] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches Pacific Novelty Co. of San Francisco (pub)	1930s circa
1	PH030_024: From "The Hights" [Colored artwork with short poem by Juanita Miller, daughter of Joaquin] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1920 circa
1	PH030_025: Joaquin Miller, wife and daughter, 1912. [Miller and family in garden of The Hights. Copyright Juanita Miller] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1912
1	PH030_026: The Hights, Oakland, California, Joaquin Miller's home [View of Miller house with inset portrait drawn by Juanita Miller, with poem] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches Pacific Novelty Co. of San Francisco (pub)	1912
1	PH030_027: Joaquin Miller, fixing a pond. [Miller working in garden of The Hights. Copyright Juanita Miller] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1912 circa
1	PH030_028: Joaquin Miller, riding "Chief" on The Hights, 1889 [Miller on horseback. Copyright Juanita Miller] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1889
1	PH030_029: [Strip of five move frames showing Joaquin Miller in the woods] 1.0 film reel 1.5 x 3.75 inches	1889
1	PH030_030: [Joaquin Miller in garden of The Hights]	1913 circa

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	1.0 photographic print 4.5 x 7 inches	
1	PH030_031: [Joaquin Miller in garden of The Hights] 1.0 photographic print 4.5 x 7 inches	1913 circa
1	PH030_032: [Joaquin Miller at entrance to house in The Hights. White dog on doorstep.] 1.0 photographic print 4.5 x 7 inches	1912 circa
1	PH030_033: [Joaquin Miller and workers in garden of The Hights] 1.0 photographic print 4.5 x 7 inches	1912 circa
1	PH030_034: [Joaquin Miller shaking hand of sailor. Maybe same young man as PH030_013. In garden of The Hights] 1.0 photographic print 4.5 x 7 inches	1912 circa
1	PH030_035: [Joaquin Miller seated by bridge in garden of The Hights.] 1.0 photographic print 4.5 x 7 inches	1912 circa
1	PH030_036: [Joaquin Miller and another man hold9ing very long-stemmed calla lilies.] 1.0 photographic print 4.5 x 7 inches	1912 circa
1	PH030_037: Sanctuary to memory. Erected by Juanita Miller, "The Hights" [Sketch of Joaquin Miller chapel with short poem by Juanita] 1.0 photographic print 3.5 x 5.5 inches	1913 circa
1	PH030_038: [Invitation to tea with Omicron Epsilon Pi of American University, announcing dedication of their first book to Joaquin Miller] 1.0 sheet 3.5 x 5.5 inches	unknown
1	PH030_039: The Lyceum Magazine, Mar. 1, 1929 [Printed portrait of Joaquin Miller with handwritten annotation]	1913 circa



Container(s)	Description	Dates
	1.0 sheet 5.5 x 6.5 inches	
1	PH030_040: [Bust of Joaquin Miller by Lorado Taft, 1906, on fieldstone plinth in corner of log and mortar building. "Ambition" hanging on one wall, curtains on other wall have inked decoration. Note on back re colors] 1.0 photographic print 8 x 10 inches	1930 circa
1	PH030_041: Joaquin Miller [Photostat negative image of engraving from a frontespiece, Miller middle-aged, in suit] 1.0 photographic print 6.75 x 9 inches	not yet assigned
1	PH030_043: Saved by the Pony Express [Photostat negative image of engraving from p. 569 of a book] 1.0 photographic print 6.75 x 9 inches	not yet assigned

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

Poetry--Authorship

Poets, American--Oregon

Poets, American--Oregon--Correspondence

### Personal Names :

Miller, Joaquin, 1837-1913

Miller, Pherne--Correspondence

### Form or Genre Terms :

Ambrotypes

Correspondence

Negatives

Portrait photographs

Finding aid prepared by Tanya Parlet.  
2013



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