



Cadet Dress Uniform Coat, Millersburg Military Institute, ca. 1918

George M. Chinn (1902-1987) wore this cadet coat as a student at the Millersburg Military Institute (MMI), which was founded by Colonel C. M. Best in 1893. MMI survived longer than any other Kentucky military institute. Its closure in 2006 marked the end of the state's rich history of such institutions. A distinguished MMI graduate, Chinn became the nation's leading authority on automatic weapons. Through his WWII and the Korean War service in the Marine Corps, Chinn observed combat use of weapons. His findings led him to author the Navy-sponsored, five-volume series on the evolution of automatic weapons.

Kentucky Historical Society Collections, 2006.23.6

War is not just a compilation of dates that represent a series of battles. "[Kentucky Military Treasures](#)," an online exhibition that illustrates the personal stories of bravery, innovation, heartache and perseverance, provides evidence of the people and artifacts history books often neglect. To learn more about this item and others in the military collections of the Kentucky Historical Society, visit "[Kentucky Military Treasures](#)."