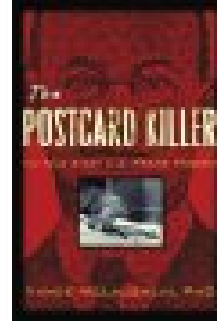


## J. Frank Hickey



Information researched and summarized by

*Lauren Melichar*

*Jamie Gibb*

*Jared Anderson*

Department of Psychology

Radford University

Radford, VA 24142-6946

Date	Age	Life Event
06/15/1854		Michael J. Hickey and Mary Ann Magrath are married in Lowell, Mass.
1856		Ist sibling, James H. Hickey born in Norwich, Conn.
11/22/1859		2 <sup>nd</sup> sibling born and died shortly after without being named
10/29/1865		J. Frank Hickey born
1869	4	Mother dies of Carditis(inflammation of the heart, caused by infection)
12/28/1870	5	Father Michael remarries
04/16/1877	12	Father dies of tuberculosis
1880	15	Hickey and his brother move to Lowell with their stepmother
1880	15	Convicted of petit larceny
		Years later, Hickey confessed to psychiatrist Dr. James W. Putnam that right before his father died his older brother made a murderous attack on him. He would have been around 11 at that time.
1880	15	Expelled from Lowell High School during freshman year for the stealing charges that occurred listed above.
09/01/1883	18	Date of first killing. Hickey contacted police and notified them that he had found coworker, Edwin W. Morey dead at the drugstore where he worked. Cause of death is poison. Police have no suspicion that Hickey was involved in Morey's death.
1887	22	Hired as Assistant Secretary for the YMCA; significant because having this job put him near the type of victims he preferred; he was later fired from this job due to monetary improprieties
04/30/1890	24	Hickey married Edith W. Lees
03/09/1891	25	Son Harold P. Hickey born
1893	27	Hickey and Edith divorce

12/10/1902	36	Hickey murders Michael Kruck in Central Park
1910	44	Once in May and once in December, Hickey stayed at Keswick Colony, a religious retreat in hopes to cure his alcoholism
12/14/1911	45	Returned to Keswick Colony; stayed for 3 ½ months. Left April 1, 1912
08/05/1912	46	In a drunken rage, Hickey was caught strangling a young boy in front of a train; he was apprehended and soon questioned by police and charges were eventually dropped and was only fined for the assault
10/11/1912	46	Hickey murders Joey Joseph in Lackawanna and put his remains down a latrine
October 11- November 11, 1912	46	Numerous postcards are sent to Chief Gilson and one to the father of Joey Joseph giving the police hints of where they could find the body and describing the crime in detail
11/11/1912	46	Hickey left again for Keswick Colony
11/18/1912	46	Police show up to Keswick Colony and his interrogation begins
11/26/1912	46	Hickey's hearing begins.
11/27/1912	46	Hickey is taken to jail.
11/29/1912	46	Hickey confesses to killing Joey Joseph and Michael Kruck and states that he was successful in 3 killings and 12 attempts; Gets Life in Prison, after an unsuccessful attempt to plead not guilty by reason of insanity
05/08/1922	56	Hickey dies

### General Information

Sex	Male
Race	White
Number of victims	3
Country where killing occurred	United States
States where killing occurred	Massachusetts, New York
Cities where killing occurred	Lowell, New York City, Lackawanna
Type of killer	More disorganized but has a few organized tendencies
Height	5'6"

### Childhood Information

Date of birth	October 29, 1865
Location	Lowell, Massachusetts
Birth order	3 of 3
Number of siblings	2; one sibling died
XYY?	no
Raised by	After parents died, him and a brother lived in a boarding house
Birth category	oldest
Parent's marital status	Married
Family event	2 <sup>nd</sup> child died in 1859 before Hickey's birth, mother died when he was 4, father died when he was 12

Age of family event	Listed above
Problems in school?	No close friends
Teased while in school?	Yes, for being smaller and effeminate
Physically attractive?	somewhat
Physical defect?	no
Speech defect?	no
Head injury?	Scar from possible blunt object blow to the brain; couldn't determine if it was caused by injury or was a birth defect
Physically abused?	Parents no; brother tried to kill him after their father died
Psychologically abused?	No
Sexually abused?	no
Father's occupation	bootmaker
Age of first sexual experience	N/A
Age when first had intercourse	N/A
Mother's occupation	N/A
Father abused drugs/alcohol	N/A
Mother abused drugs/alcohol	N/A
<b>Cognitive Ability</b>	
Highest grade in school	Expelled 3 months into his freshman year for stealing
Highest degree	N/A
Grades in school	Decent; teachers referred to him as quite intelligent but unmotivated
IQ	N/A; claimed to be above average
Source of IQ information	N/A
<b>Work History</b>	
Served in the military?	No
Branch	
Type of discharge	
Saw combat duty	
Killed enemy during service?	
Applied for job as a cop?	No
Worked in law enforcement?	No
Fired from jobs?	Fired from YMCA for monetary improprieties
Types of jobs worked	Goodyear Rubber Plant, shipyard, newspaper, A.C.Pinkham Pharmacy
Employment status during series	yes
<b>Relationships</b>	
Sexual preference	Bisexual
Marital status	Divorced
Number of children	1
Lives with his children	no
Living with	Mostly by himself; moved in with the Madigan family for 2 months and was kicked out for drinking, took a

	room at Boarding Home of Mrs. John Jones and stayed until the winter of 1910, stayed at Keswick Colony for months at a time during 3 separate stays.
<b>Triad</b>	
Animal torture	N/A
Fire setting	N/A
Bed wetting	N/A
<b>Killer Psychological Information</b>	
Abused drugs?	N/A
Abused alcohol?	yes
Been to a psychologist?	yes
Time in forensic hospital?	no
Diagnosis	
<b>Killer Criminal History</b>	
Committed previous crimes?	Stealing, previously convicted for larceny at age 15
Spend time in jail?	no
Spend time in prison?	no
Killed prior to series? Age?	Killed at age 18, had cooling off periods in between murders consisting of 3 + years
<b>Serial Killing</b>	
Number of victims	3
Victim type	Young boys
Killer age at start of series	18
Date of first kill in series	September 1, 1883- Edwin W. Morey
Date of final kill in series	December 10, 1902-Michael R. Kruck
Gender of victims	boys
Race of victims	white
Age of victims	young
Type of victim	Young boys
Method of killing	Strangulation with the exception of poisoning the first victim
Weapon	no
Was gun used?	no
Type	N/A
Did killer have a partner?	no
Name of partner	
Sex of partner	
Type of serial killer	Mostly disorganized but also has some organized traits
How close did killer live?	Fairly close
Location of first contact	drugstore
Location of killing	drugstore
Killing occurred in home of victim?	no

Killing occurred in home of killer?	no
Victim abducted or killed at contact?	Killed at contact
Behavior During Crimes	
Rape?	Yes
Tortured victims?	No
Stalked victims?	No
Overkill?	No
Quick & efficient?	Yes
Used blindfold?	No
Bound the victims?	No
After Death Behavior	
Sex with the body?	No
Mutilated body?	No
Ate part of the body?	No
Drank victim's blood?	No
Posed the body?	No
Took totem – body part	No
Took totem – personal item	No
Robbed victim or location	No
Disposal of Body	
Left at scene, no attempt to hide	Second killing he strangled the boy in an outhouse and disposed of the body in a latrine, the other two he did not attempt to hide
Left at scene, hidden	Second killing hid the boy in a latrine
Left at scene, buried	no
Moved, no attempt to hide	No attempt to hide 2 of the victims
Moved, buried	No
Cut-op and disposed of	No
Moved, too home	No
Sentencing	Life in prison
Date killer arrested	November 18, 1912
Date convicted	November 29, 1912
Sentence	Life in prison
Killer executed?	no
Did killer plead NGRI?	yes
Was the NGRI plea successful?	no
Name and state of prison	Auburn Prison in Auburn, NY
Killer committed suicide?	no
Killer killed in prison?	no
Date of death	May 8, 1922, at the age of 56

## References

(1912, December 21). Hickey Verdict Delayed. Jury Locked Up After Debating Nine Hours

Without Result. *The New York Times*.

(1912, December 22). Hickey Escapes The Chair.; Self-Confessed Slayer of Boys Convicted

of Second Degree Murder. *The New York Times*, p. 8.

McLaughlin, V. (2006). *The Postcard Killer: The True Story of J. Frank Hickey*. New York:

Thunder's Mouth Press