



## Summary Information

**Title:** Mildred Kitchens Collection

**Collection Number:** 2021:008

**Creator:** Mildred Kitchens

**Collection Dates:** 1914-2021

**Extent:** 1 cubic foot

**Language:** English

**Collection Abstract:** This collection consists of photographs and other records related to the life of Diboll native Mildred Griffith Kitchens. Born in 1920 to John C. Griffith and Georgia White Griffith, Mrs. Kitchens graduated from Lufkin High School in 1937 before attending Texas State College for Women (now Texas Woman's University), where she graduated in 1940. She married Frank Kitchens in 1942. The photographs and records in this collection showcase her life, including the celebration of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in July 2020.

## Repository:

The History Center  
102 N. Temple  
Diboll, TX 75941  
936-829-3543  
[www.thehistorycenteronline.com](http://www.thehistorycenteronline.com)

**Author/Processing Information:** This collection was processed in June 2021.

**Biographical/Historical Note:** Mildred Griffith Kitchens was born in Diboll, Texas July 17, 1920 to John C. Griffith and Georgia White Griffith. Mildred had one older sister, Margarett, and one younger sister, Joyce. When she finished the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, her family moved to Lufkin. Mildred graduated from Lufkin High School in 1937. After working during the summer after her senior year for a local judge, she moved to Denton, Texas to attend Texas State College for Women (now Texas Women's University), which she graduated from in 1940. After college she began working for the Works Progress Administration in Marshall, Texas. She met Frank Kitchens while working for the WPA and the couple married in Seattle in 1942. After World War II, the couple made their home in Tyler, Texas. Frank worked for Citizens First Bank while Mildred worked as a teacher at John Tyler High School, for the first family planning clinic in Texas, and retired from the Department of Public Welfare in 2000. Mrs. Kitchens celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday during the 2020-2021 SARS-CoV-2 or Covid-19 pandemic.

**Collection Scope and Content:** This collection consists of original and copied photographs of Mildred Kitchens and her family at various stages throughout her century of life. These included photographs of her and her sisters as children, Lufkin Class of 1937 photographs and paraphernalia, photographs related to her time at Texas State College for Women (now Texas Woman's University), photographs of her marriage to Frank Kitchens, and photographs from her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party. Additionally, there are copies and originals of her three degrees and newspaper articles regarding her work in women's clubs and the Red Cross, as well as her work in education.

**Arrangement:** This collection is arranged and described at the folder level.

### Subject Terms

#### Family Names

- Kitchens
- Griffith
- Ivey
- White
- Carrell

#### Locations

- Diboll (Tex.)
- Angelina County (Tex.)
- Norman (Okl.)

### Access and Use

**Access Restrictions:** None

**Acquisition Information:** This collection was donated to The History Center by Mildred Kitchens in early 2021.

**Custodial History:** Mildred Griffith Kitchens collected these items throughout her life. In 2021, to commemorate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, she donated some originals and copies of items pertinent to her life.

**Citation:** Mildred Kitchens Collection, 1914-2021, 2021:001, The History Center, Diboll, TX

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### Collection Inventory

#### Box 1

- Folder 1      Family Photographs (5) 4 Original, 1 Copy, 1914-2012  
[1. Essie Ivey and Georgia White in Diboll, 1915-1916; 2. Mildred Kitchens with her two sisters, Marguerite and Joyce in Diboll around 1925; 3. Portrait Georgia White Griffith, 1930; 4. Portrait of Frank Kitchens, Mildred's husband, 1942; 5. Mildred's sons Gary and Kim Kitchens, 2012]
- Folder 2      Childhood Photographs (2) Copies, 1927-1930

[1. Diboll 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Class c. 1927, Mildred Griffith [Kitchens] is on the top row at the far right; 2. Maypole Queen and her court, Diboll, 1929-1930; Mildred Griffith (left), Linda Carrell (Queen, center), Joyce Griffith]

- Folder 3 Lufkin High School Graduation Program and Photo (2), originals, 1937  
[1. Mildred Griffith's senior portrait, Lufkin High School, 1937; 2. Graduation Program from Lufkin High School, 1937]
- Folder 4 Texas State College for Women Photographs (4), Copies, and Loan Payment Receipt, 1937-1941  
[1. Portrait of Mildred Griffith at Texas State College for Women in 1938; 2. Mildred Griffith, Texas State College for Women Graduation Portrait, May 1940; 3. Mildred Griffith in Lufkin, Summer 1940; 4. Mildred Griffith headshot for Works Progress Administration, 1941; 5. Loan Payment Receipt]
- Folder 5 Texas State College for Women Yearbook, Daedalian, 1938 and 1940, extracted copies
- Folder 6 Wedding and Honeymoon Photos and Certificates (5) 4 copies, 1 original, 1942  
[1. Frank and Mildred Kitchens as newlyweds in Oklahoma, 1942; Mildred Griffith Kitchens on honeymoon in Seattle, Washington, March 1942; 3. Marriage certificate for Frank and Mildred Kitchens, March 14, 1942; 4. Newspaper announcement for marriage of Frank and Mildred Kitchens from The Tyler Courier-Times, March 22, 1942; 5. Mildred Kitchens in Norman, Oklahoma (original)]
- Folder 7 Newspaper Articles, Mildred Kitchens in the Red Cross, 1942 (copies)
- Folder 8 Newspaper Articles, Mildred Kitchens and her Women's Forum and Women's Clubs, 1962-1967 (copies)
- Folder 9 Newspaper Articles, Mildred Kitchens, Work in Family Planning, Discrimination Lawsuit, Community Service Efforts, John Tyler High School, 1970-2021 (copies)
- Folder 10 John Tyler High Schools Yearbook, Alcalde, Mildred Kitchens as Vocational Education Officer, 1966-1970, extracted copies
- Folder 11 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration Photos and Certificates, all copies, 2020  
[1. Photo of Mildred Kitchens at Christmas in 2001; 2. Mildred Griffith Kitchens on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, July 17, 2020; 3. 100<sup>th</sup> birthday truck celebrating Mildred Kitchens, from the Texas Women's University Alumni Association; 4. Texas State House of Representatives Certificate honoring Mildred Kitchens for her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday; Certificate from Texas Governor Greg Abbott congratulating Mildred Kitchens on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday]
- Folder 12 Mildred Griffith Kitchens's Degrees (3), 1 original, 2 copies  
[1. Lufkin High School Diploma, 1937, original; 2. Texas State College for Women, Bachelor of Arts, 1940, copy; 3. East Texas State University, Master of Arts, 1970, copy]