

Griffin Family Collection
Wellesley Historical Society

Repository Identifier

mawelhs

Local Identifier

2001.19

Name and Location of Repository

The Wellesley Historical Society
229 Washington Street
Wellesley, MA 02481
(781) 235-6690
www.wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org

Title

Griffin Family Collection; 1828 – 1988, & undated

Date

1828 – 1988, & undated

Extent

.5 linear feet, 1 Box

Name of Creator

Griffin Family

Biographical Note

John T. “Jack” Griffin was born in Wellesley on January 1, 1901. He was raised on Linden Street, attending Wellesley public schools, and graduated from Dartmouth College in 1923. Following college he returned home to Wellesley where he eventually settled at 68 Linden Street, and served as an active member of the Wellesley community. During the Great Depression, Griffin oversaw the Works Progress Administration (WPA) programs in Wellesley including the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). From 1933 – 1966, he served as the executive secretary for the Wellesley Board of Selectmen. From 1966 – 1972, after retiring from his role with the Board of Selectmen, he served as the town assessor. In addition to his involvement with the town government he was a member of the Wellesley Club, Wellesley Historical Society, 22 ½ Club, and Kiwanis. Griffin and his wife Rose E. Johnson Griffin had two sons, John T. Griffin Jr. and Robert J. Griffin. John T. Griffin Sr. died on November 24, 1989 and is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains materials related to the life and work of the Griffin family. Materials belonging to John T. Griffin relate to his work in Wellesley during the 1930s and 1940s. Other materials relate to the education of Robert J. Griffin and the taxi service operated by Thomas B. Griffin. Other materials include assorted Griffin family correspondence, clippings and household bills and printed reading materials belonging to the family.

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Index Terms

Advertisements
Clippings
Correspondence
Genealogy
Griffin, John T.
Massachusetts — Politics and government — 20th century
Massachusetts — Wellesley
United States – Civilian Conservation Corps.
United States – Works Progress Administration
Wellesley (Mass.)
Wellesley (Mass.) — Family and personal papers
Wellesley College

System of Arrangement

This collection is organized into three series arranged by subject:

- I. John T. Griffin Papers; 1935 – 1988, & undated
- II. Griffin Family Papers; 1890 – 1981, & undated
- III. Printed Material Collection; 1828, 1910, 1911, 1960, & undated

Conditions Governing Access

The papers are open for research purposes by appointment only. Please contact the Wellesley Historical Society for more information.

info@wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org
(781) 235-6690

Physical Access

Some of the materials are fragile.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Copyright restrictions may apply.

Languages and Scripts of the Material

English

Immediate Source of Acquisition

2001.19

Related Materials

Wellesley Historical Society: Photograph Collection: People, F – G

Accruals

The Historical Society may add materials to the collection in the future; however, no further accruals are currently expected.

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Description

Processing of this collection was made possible through a grant from the Wellesley Community Preservation Committee.

DACS Finding Aid created by Taylor C. Kalloch in June 2017.

Bibliography

“Five Openings in the CCC Available”. *Townsmen* (Wellesley, MA). October 4, 1940, 2.

“Jack Griffin Veteran of Service to Town”. *Townsmen* (Wellesley, MA). February 15, 1973, 1.

“John T. Griffin is Honored by 300 Friends at Testimonial Dinner”. *Townsmen* (Wellesley, MA). April 14, 1966, 1.

McCann, Darcie. *Wellesley Townsman*. “Jack Griffin: A Man Who Loved His Town”. November 30, 1989, 3.

“Open House”. *Townsmen* (Wellesley, MA). May 24, 1940, 4.

"United States Census, 1910," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M2K4-PYX> : accessed 2 June 2017), John T Griffin in household of Thomas B Griffin, Wellesley, Norfolk, Massachusetts, United States; citing enumeration district (ED) ED 1160, sheet 2B, family 34, NARA microfilm publication T624 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1982), roll 610; FHL microfilm 1,374,623.

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Container List

***I.* John T. Griffin Papers; 1935 – 1968, & undated**

This series contains materials belonging to John T. Griffin. The bulk of the series is related to life in Wellesley during WWII.

Box 1

Folder 1: Business Cards, John T. Griffin; undated

Folder 2: Certificates of Appointment to Assistant Town Clerk & Temporary Town Clerk for the Town of Wellesley; 1940 & 1941

Folder 3: Duties performed as Assistant to the Local Administrator of the Civil Works Administration, Director of the Town of Wellesley Emergency Relief Administration, & Local WPA Coordinator; c. 1935

Folder 4: Insurance, Registration, & Ration Cards; 1942, 1944, 1945, 1966, & undated

Folder 5: Photographs; 1968 & undated

***II.* Griffin Family Papers; 1898 – 1981, & undated**

This series contains materials belonging to various members of the Griffin family. Included are business correspondence, educational materials, and newspaper clippings.

Box 1

Folder 6: Babson Institute Materials, Robert J. Griffin; 1954 – 1957

Folder 7: Bills for Household Items; 1898, 1930, & 1938

Folder 8: Correspondence; 1926, 1938, 1940, 1941, 1946, 1969, 1981, 1986, & undated

Folder 9: Ephemera; 1898, & undated

Folder 10: Griffin's Taxi Service Materials, Thomas B. Griffin; undated

Folder 11: Lists of Birthdays & Anniversaries; undated

Folder 12: Newspaper Clippings; 1926, 1949, 1952, 1958, 1961, 1964, 1966, 1970, & 1981

***III.* Printed Material Collection; 1828, 1910, 1911, 1960, & undated**

This series contains a collection of printed materials belonging to the Griffin family. Of note is the booklet about Wellesley College's College Hall.

Box 1

Folder 13: "Administrative Organization in Massachusetts Towns", By Edward T. Dowling; 1960

Folder 14: Dartmouth College Dining Association, College Hall Menu; October 8, 1910

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Folder 15: "Gazetteer of Massachusetts: Containing a General View of the state, with an Historical Sketch of the Principal Events from Its Settlement to the Present Time, and Notices of the Several Towns Alphabetically Arranged", By Jeremiah Spofford; 1828

Folder 16: Newspapers; 1911

Folder 17: Wellesley College, College Hall Book; undated