

Collection #
M 1227
OM 0618

AGNES BRIDGFORD COLLECTION, 1919–2006

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Processed by

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Indiana Historical Society
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box, 1 oversize folder, 1 color photo folder, 4 black and white photo folders

COLLECTION DATES: 1919–2006

PROVENANCE: American National University, Indianapolis, Indiana, 2015

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2015.0349

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Agnes Search was born 24 June 1905 to Charles and Constance Search in Indianapolis, Indiana. She attended the Clemens Vonnegut School, Arsenal Technical High School, and the Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union. In 1925, Agnes married Oral Bridgford, who was also a teacher. After graduating from the Normal College, she taught at the Claire Ann Shooer Nursery School. Agnes gave birth to Peter William Bridgford on 17 January 1934. In 1937 Agnes began working at the Meridian Heights Presbyterian Kindergarten and eventually became director. At the same time, Agnes took classes at Butler University and received her bachelor of science in 1951. Agnes also is credited with helping initiate the kindergarten system in Washington Township and was Nora's first kindergarten teacher. In 1971, Agnes retired and began volunteering. She worked the recruiting station for the Daughters of the American Revolution and ran a pilot program at Greenbriar School. She did volunteer work at the soup kitchen in All Saint's Episcopal Church and the art museum's gift shop. Agnes also helped organize the Alliance of the James Whitcomb Riley Home and worked as a docent at the Riley home for 25 years. She was a Board Member and registrar for the Indianapolis Shepherd Center. Agnes' husband, Oral, died 1 June 1980. Agnes continued to be active in the community until 2001. She died 13 July 2006.

Sources:

Birth certificate, via Ancestry.com

Collection materials

Social Security Death Index, via Ancestry.com

1940 US Federal Census, via Ancestry.com

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The materials in this collection relate to the life and career of Agnes Bridgford, including her school diplomas and yearbook, a coaching manual, miscellaneous and class photos, correspondence, news clippings, an obituary, and Oral Bridgford's teaching contracts and college yearbooks.

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Agnes Bridgford Butler University diploma, 1951

Agnes Bridgford photo, ca. 1950s

Agnes Bridgford obituary, 2006

Agnes Search grammar and high school diplomas,
1919, 1923

Arsenal Technical High School, Class of 1923 50th
year reunion materials, 1972–3

Arsenal Technical High School yearbook, 1923

Basketball coaching manual, 1963–4

Kindergarten class photos, 1938–52

Kindergarten class photos, 1953–57

Kindergarten class photos, ca. 1930s–50s

Miscellaneous correspondence, 1929–46, n.d.

Miscellaneous news clippings, 1928–30, n.d.

Miscellaneous photos, n.d.

Miscellaneous programs, 1930, 1963

Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union
yearbook, 1921

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

Visual Collections:
Color Photographs,
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Box 1, Folder 2

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Visual Collections:
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Box 1, Folder 8

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Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union
yearbook, 1923

Box 1, Folder 10

Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union
yearbook, 1924

Box 1, Folder 11

Normal College of the American Gymnastic Union
yearbook, 1925

Box 1, Folder 12

Oral Bridgford teacher contracts, 1927–56

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