



## **Mildred Kittell Ray Collection (K0024)**

**Collection Number:** K0024

**Collection Title:** Mildred Kittell Ray Collection

**Dates:** 1857-1973, bulk 1857-1899

**Creator:** Ray, Mildred Kittell, 1895-1996

**Abstract:** The Mildred Kittell Ray Collection contains correspondence, genealogy research, photographs, newspaper clippings, Abel Fisher's diaries, and documents pertaining to the Fisher and Taylor families.

**Collection Size:** 0.19 cubic foot  
(10 folders, 27 photographs)

**Language:** Collection materials are in English.

**Repository:** The State Historical Society of Missouri

**Restrictions on Access:** Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City](https://www.shsmo.org/research-center-kansas-city). If you would like more information, please contact us at [kansascity@shsmo.org](mailto:kansascity@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

**Restrictions on Use:** The Donor has given and assigned to the University all rights of copyright, which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Mildred Kittell Ray Collection* (K0024); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Kansas City].

**Donor Information:** The collection was donated to the University of Missouri by Mildred Kittell Ray on August 19, 1980 (Accession No. KA0038). An addition was made on April 2, 1981 by Sam Ray (Accession No. KA0075). An addition was made on March 13, 1982 by Reed Black.

**Processed by:** Processed by Rachel Forester, October 2019

**Historical Note:**

Mildred Kittell was born on September 22, 1895, in Halstead, Kansas, to George H. and Kate Fisher Kittell. Mildred began her primary education studies at Westport High, in Westport, Missouri, and later graduated from Canon City High School in Colorado. She earned a degree in teaching at the Kansas State Teacher's College in Emporia, Kansas.

In 1917, Mildred moved back to Kansas City, Missouri, and began work as a physical education teacher for five local grade schools. She retired from teaching in the 1960s.

In 1966, Mildred began writing a Friday editorial feature for the *Kansas City Times* titled, "Post Cards From Old Kansas City." She utilized her extensive postcard collection as the medium through which she told the history of Kansas City, Missouri. She spent long hours researching the history the postcards depicted at the Kansas City Public Library's Missouri Valley Special Collections. Mildred's column ran for twenty-three years, between 1968 and 1991.

Mildred married Samuel (Sam) H. Ray on November 27, 1918, in Kansas City, Missouri. Together they had three children. Ray died on April 5, 1996, at the age of 100, and is buried at the Forest Hill Cemetery in Kansas City, Missouri.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into ten folders.

**Scope and Content Note:**

The collection consists of correspondence, genealogy research conducted by Mildred Kittell Ray, family photographs, newspaper clippings, and documents pertaining to the Fisher and Taylor families. Additional materials include two diaries kept by Abel Fisher concerning his trip to California and his early years in Kansas City, Missouri.

Note that folder ten contains letters written by both John and James Taylor while living in Kansas City, Missouri, to their parents in Oldham, England. The letters were encapsulated for preservation purposes and transferred to an oversize folder.

**Container List:**

Box 001	f. 1	Correspondence, 1857-1967, no date
	f. 2	Genealogical Research, no date
	f. 3	Documents, 1875-1908, no date
	f. 4	Certificates, 1867, 1877, 1883
	f. 5	Diaries, 1855-1858
	f. 6	Receipts, 1901, 1926
	f. 7	Newspaper Clippings, 1931-1969, no date
	f. 7	Newsletter, 1962
	f. 9	Photographs, 1873-1973, no date
Box 002	f. 10	Correspondence, 1857-1858, 1863

**Index:**

Index Term	Folder	Image
Affidavits	3	
Bidstrup, Perry A.	1	
Brannon, Charles	9	Yes
Brannon, Daisy Wade Fisher	9	Yes
County clerks	3	
County council members	3-4	
Ellison, E. D.	3	
Ellison, Garrett	1	
Fisher family	1-9	Yes
Fisher, Abel	1-2, 5	Yes
Fisher, Alexis	1-2, 8	Yes
Fisher, Amos	9	Yes
Fisher, Annie T.	1-3, 7, 9	Yes
Fisher, James E.	9	Yes
Fisher, John	9	Yes
Fisher, Leek	1-2	
Fisher, Ruth Greene	1-2	
Forest Hill Cemetery (Kansas City, Mo.)	3	
Genealogy	1-10	
Gold mines and mining	5	
Hanna, Nina J.	3	
Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Austin Lodge No. 178 (Austin, Mo.)	4	
Jackson County (Mo.). Court	3	
Jackson County Historical Society (Mo.)	7	
Kittel, Kate F.	9	Yes
Kittell, Marian	1-2	
Longaker, Charles T.	8	Yes
Native Americans	1	
Oldham (England)	1-2, 10	
Pennington, Dwight	1	
Probate courts	3	
Ray, Mildred Kittell, 1895-1996	1, 7-8	
Rogers, Alfred R.	3, 6	
Slarik, Lenne L.	1	
Slavery	1	
Taylor family	1-4, 6-10	Yes
Taylor, James	1-2, 8	
Taylor, John	1-4, 6-10	Yes

Index Term	Folder	Image
Tucker, Annette	9	Yes
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865	1	
Young, J. M.	1	