DESCRIPTION
This collection contains correspondence, photographs, postcards, slides, and photo albums of Ethel G. Stiffler. Correspondence includes Ethel’s letters to family about her school and personal activities between 1925 and 1942. Photographs depict scenes around Tucson including Fort Lowell, the University of Arizona, San Xavier del Bac, desert, and border scenes. Postcards show locations around Arizona featuring buildings in Tucson, Flagstaff, and Texas as well as rodeo scenes, the Colorado River, desert and animals. Two photo albums in the collection contain images of Tucson and surrounding areas taken in 1925-1927.

6 boxes, 3 linear ft.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE
Ethel Grace Stiffler was born, September 8, 1899 and grew up in Parkton, Maryland. She lived with her father Jacob Clemm Stiffler, owner of a small general store and the town postmaster. Her mother was Bertha Cross Stiffler, a seamstress, and one sister. Stiffler earned her undergraduate degree from Goucher College in Baltimore in 1922 and soon after earned her M.S. degree in Botany at the University of Pennsylvania.

In 1925 Ethel moved to Tucson, Arizona to join the University of Arizona faculty for a two year teaching job in Botany. In 1927 she moved back East for additional graduate work and teaching jobs but returned to Tucson in 1933. That same year she married Edwin F. Carpenter, a colleague from the University of Arizona and they had two children, Roger born in 1935 and Emily born in 1939. The family briefly moved back East during World War II but after Carpenter was discharged in 1946 the family moved back to Tucson. Stiffler lived in Tucson until her death on February 9, 1995.

RELATED MATERIAL
The donor used excerpts and various photographs in editing and compiling two books: “Letters from Tucson, 1925-1927” and “Letters from Tucson, 1933-1942.” Both volumes are available at the Arizona Historical Society Library, Tucson.

ACQUISITION
Donated by Roger E. Carpenter in July 2009.

ACCESS
There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

COPYRIGHT
Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society – Tucson, Archives Department.

PROCESSING
This collection was processed by Natalia Fernández June 2010.
BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

Series I: Personal Correspondence, 1925-1942

Box 1

Folders 1-13  Personal Correspondence  1925-1933

Box 2

f. 14-25  Personal Correspondence  1933-1937

Box 3

f. 26-38  Personal Correspondence  1937-1941

Box 4

f. 39-41  Personal Correspondence  1942

Series II: Photographic Materials, 1920s-1955

Box 4

f. 42  Loose Photographs  undated, 1925-1940
f. 43  Loose Photographs from Album I  1925-1927
f. 44  Postcards  circa 1920s-1955
f. 45  Slides  1939

Box 5  Photo Album I  1925-1927

- University of Arizona
- Rodeo
- Hawk Nest
- Desert Animals
- Nogales
- Mt. Lemmon
- Colossal Cave Trip
- Cochise Stronghold
- Bear Canyon
- Sabino Canyon
- Ramsey Canyon
- Mt. Baldy
- Casa Grande Trip-Indian Pageant
- Onyx Cave Trip
- San Xavier Mission
- Tumacacori Mission
- Roosevelt Dam
- Steward Observatory Telescope
- Portraits of Ethel G. Stiffler
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<tr>
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<td>The University of Arizona</td>
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<td>San Xavier Mission</td>
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<td>Desert Plants, Animals, and Landscapes</td>
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<td>Portraits</td>
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<td>Cat’s Back</td>
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