

**Guide to the
Patti Kidd Collection
1997-2003**

1 linear ft.

Accession Number: 0809-134

COLLECTION NUMBER: 84

Prepared by Kevin Kendro

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CITATION: The Patti Kidd Collection, Collection 84, Box number, Folder number, Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

Biographical Sketch

Patti Kidd was born in Florida in 1952. She graduated from Venice High School in Venice, Florida, in 1970. She received a BA in English from the University of Central Florida and a Masters of Arts in English with a concentration in creative writing from the University of North Texas. She has written for both newspapers and magazines. She taught grammar and composition at the Virginia Institute of Technology; Barclay Career School; ITT Technical School; and Tarrant County College. She authored a book entitled *Central Florida for Free*, which describes one-day attractions in central Florida. She wrote a monthly column on environmental issues in the *Irving News*, Irving, Texas, called "Green Beat."

Kidd began research on the history of 20 houses in Irving's Heritage District in 1996 for a pamphlet to be distributed at that year's Irving Heritage Festival. She later expanded the pamphlet into a book called, *Our Town, Irving* which was published for Irving's centennial celebration in 2003.

Sources:

The Patti Kidd Collection, Collection 84, Irving Archives; and information from mylife.com.

Scope and Content

The Patti Kidd Collection consists of research material gathered during the writing of the book *Our Town, Irving*. The book is made up of brief histories of many of the houses in the Irving, Texas, Heritage District along with anecdotes relating to the houses or people associated with the houses. The collection is contained in one cubic foot box and space in Oversize Box 9 and arranged in two series.

Series I, Research Material, consists of interviews with residents; property histories and tax information on the houses being researched; drafts of write-ups about the houses in the book; handwritten notes made by the author; first and second editions of the book; and a number of city plans for Irving's Heritage District.

Series II, Photographs, is made up of photos of houses in Irving's Heritage District and a number of houses outside the district. Not all the houses in the photos were included in the book.

Provenance Statement

The Patti Kidd Collection, accession number 0809-134, was donated to the Irving Archives by Patti Kidd on July 8, 2009. Prior to its donation to the Irving Archives, the material was in the possession of Patti Kidd.

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish from the Patti Kidd Collection must be obtained from the Irving Archives, Irving Public Library.

Container List

Series I. Research Material, 1996-2003

Box 1

Folder

1 Book Proposal, 1997

Contains a proposal to the City of Irving on the purpose of the book, the design of the book, a timeline for production of the book, the author's credentials, and compensation for writing the book.

2 First Pages of Book, 1997

Contains a copy of the first 22 pages of the book. These include the introduction and dedication pages, and pages on Texas and Irving history, and a few house histories.

3 Work Schedule, 1997

Contains a spreadsheet showing what steps have been accomplished regarding each address being researched.

4 Land Deeds and Tax Cards, 1899-1905 and 1970s

Contains photocopies of land deeds to H. W. Britain from Merrifield, 1899; from the Britains to Schulze and Brown, 1902; from Schulze and Brown to the Rock Island Railway, 1902. Also included are two plat maps adopting the lot and block numbers for the Town of Irving, 1903 and 1905; and copies of city of Irving tax cards for various houses in the Heritage District. These cards provide basic information on a house, such as when it was built, its size, a sketched floorplan, and previous owners.

5 Plat Map, n.d.

Contains a plat map of part of the Heritage District which has blue dots stuck on it representing the locations of some of the houses being researched.

6 Interview – Althoff, 1997

Contains a transcript of an interview by the author with Carl and Pauline Althoff.

7 Interview – C.C. and Vera Anderson, 1997

Contains a transcript of an interview with C.C. and Vera Anderson.

8 Interview – Bob Crockett, 1997

Contains a transcript of an interview conducted by the author with Bob Crockett as they walked through a section of the Heritage District while Mr. Crockett tells what he knows of the houses around. Also included is a history of the Clark family.

9 Interview – C. J. Range, 1997

Contains a transcript of an interview with C. J. Range.

10 Interview - Ruby Caster Taylor, 1997

Contains a transcript of interview with Ruby Caster Taylor including information on the Caster Cabin.

11-13 Research Information, 1996-2003

Contains handwritten notes from discussions with various people about their memories of the houses; email communications; home tour brochures; photocopies of pages from city directories; and news clippings. Also included are: obituaries; Irving Heritage District Visitor Guide, 2000; postcard to Miss Nina Herring and her 5th grade class at Stark Elementary School in Dallas, 1973 (Nina Herring was a teacher in the IISD for many years, 1940s-1950s); Stories of the Land Office by O. Henry; history of Western Heights Baptist Church, 1984; timeline for First Baptist Church of Las Colinas, 2003; history of Bear Creek Cemetery Association, 2003; IISD attendance certificate, 1937; The Whistle Stop (Heritage Society newsletter), third quarter, 2001 and June 2002; correspondence regarding the Bear Creek Cemetery Association; copy of plat map filed by Schulze and Brown describing lots and blocks in Irving, 1905. An oversize penmanship certificate, 1937, and a display cover for an Irving history book entitled Irving A Texas Odyssey are in Oversize Box 7. A copy of a map "Dallas County When Created by the Texas Legislature, 1846" and an Irving street map (encapsulated), 1962, have been placed in the map collection.

14 Obituaries, 1909-1915

Contains photocopies of obituaries from the Irving Index, 1909-1915.

15-56 House Research Notes, 1996-1997

Contains research files, listed by address, for houses mentioned in the book. The files contain a brief write-up about that particular house and a copy of the city of Irving tax card for that address. Some of the files contain only the copy of the tax card and no additional information. There were a number of files labeled with addresses, but there was no information inside the files. Those files have been removed from the collection

57 Working Draft, n.d.

Contains a working copy of the book with red edit marks on some of the pages.

58 Working Draft, n.d.

Contains a spiral-bound working draft of the book with corrections and rewrites on some of the pages.

59 Photocopy of Book, n.d.

Contains what appears to be a photocopy of the final version of the book.

60 First Edition of Book, c. 2003

Contains the spiral-bound first edition of Our Town, Irving.

61 Second Edition of Book, c. 2003

Contains the spiral-bound second edition of Our Town, Irving. This version includes information on more houses as well as an index.

62 Micro-cassettes, c. 1997

Contains four micro-cassettes used for recording interviews. The labels on these tapes indicate they are recording of interviews with Dr. Clay Gilbert, C. C. and Vera Anderson, and Carl and Pauline Althoff.

63 Downtown Plans, 1985-1995

Contains plans for re-development of the Irving Heritage District. These are:

Land Use and Heritage Preservation Plan, 1985

A Plan for Downtown Irving, 1992

Market Study for Downtown Irving, 1993

Resource Team Report for Irving, Texas, June 1995 (The Texas Main Street Program of the Texas Historical Commission)

64 Mapsco, 1979 and 1980

Contains two Mapscos: Fort Worth, 1979-80 and Dallas, 1980.

Yearbooks

Nimitz High School, 1970, 1971, 1972. The 1970 yearbook is in the yearbook bookcase.
Crockett Middle School – 1960. This yearbook is in the middle school yearbook collection.

Series II. Photographs

65 Photographs, c. 1997

Contains photos of houses in the Irving Heritage District and a few outside the district that were included in the book. Most are identified by address on back.

66 Photographs, c. 1997

Contains photos of an unidentified house being remodeled and photos considered for use on the cover of the book, including a photo of the caboose, windmill, and water tower in Heritage Park and the clock tower on Main Street.

67 Photographs, 2000

Contains photos of the opening of the Jackie Townsell Bear Creek Heritage Center, 2000. Also included are photos of an exhibit about the Bear Creek community.

68 Photographs, c. 1997

Contains black-and-white photos of homes in the Heritage District. Most are identified by owners name and not by address. Some are not identified.

69 Photographs, c. 1997

Contains black-and-white photos of the building that at one time was “Tiger’s Den” a small building that served hamburgers and snacks to the children attending the Irving Schools during the 1940s-1950s. Also includes interior and exterior photos of Harvey’s Bar-B-Q building.