

Collection #  
P 0581

## LUCY WILLIAMS MITCHUM PHOTOGRAPHS, 1931-1946

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF  
COLLECTION: One photograph folder

COLLECTION  
DATES: 1931-1946

PROVENANCE: Victoria Romero, Seattle, WA

RESTRICTIONS: None

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NOTES:

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Lucy Williams Mitchum was a dominant female African American golfer at a time when African Americans were not allowed on the PGA Tour. She was born on October 20, 1905 and died December 4, 2001. She grew up in Rome, Georgia with five siblings and moved to Indianapolis as a young adult. She learned to play golf from her brothers, who were caddies for white golfers. She married her third husband, Russell Mitchum, the owner of Triangle Night Club, and the two lived on N. Capitol Ave in Indianapolis.

Lucy was one of sixteen women who petitioned the United Golf Association to create a women's championship, which they allowed in 1930. She won four United Golfers' National Open Women's Championship titles in 1932, 1934, 1937, and 1946. She became the first golfer to win four major championships. She also won the first women's Joe Louis Open Championship in 1946. She practiced and played at Douglas Park Golf Club in Indianapolis. She liked to say that she "was a cook on Monday through Friday but a champ on Saturdays and Sundays" as she would drive to tournaments on the weekends and be back for work on Monday morning. Lucy's golf career ended in 1950, and she has never been recognized by the World Golf Hall of Fame or the Professional Golf Association.

### Sources:

Victoria Romero, niece of Lucy Williams Mitchum

Johnson, M. Mikell. *Heroines of African American Golf: The Past, The Present, and the Future*. Trafford Publishing, 2010.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Snapshots of Lucy Williams Mitchum golf career:

A: Indianapolis and St. Louis golfers at Douglas Park, 1931, Indianapolis

B: National trophies won by Lucy Williams Mitchum

C: Gary, Indiana, 1934, Midwestern Chicago Women's Club

D: Louise Beaver, Lucy Williams Mitchum, Hattie McDaniel, and unknown woman at Guffee Park, LA, August 25, 1939

E: Swinging at Joe Louis Tournament, 1946

F: Dr. Adams of Washington D.C., UGA President with Lucy Williams Mitchum at Joe Louis Tournament in Detroit, Michigan, 1946

G: Joe Lewis congratulating Lucy Williams Mitchum

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Snapshots of Lucy Williams Mitchum Golf Career,  
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