

Arthur Griffin Timeline

- 1903** Born September 12th Lawrence, Massachusetts to Andrew and Mary Dietel Griffin. One of eight children of which five would survive infancy.
- 1921** Graduated from Lawrence High School.
- 1924** Graduated from the New School of Design, Boston, Massachusetts with major in Graphic Design and Illustration.
- 1923-25** Employed by the Brand Company as a designer of lighting fixtures and electric signs.
- 1924** Established a design and illustration business with clients including *House Beautiful*, New England Telephone, and Houghton Mifflin.
- 1929** Purchased first camera - a second hand folding Eastman Kodak Brownie. Worked as an illustrator with the *Boston Globe*.
- 1932** Took first trip to Europe. Photographed in France, Germany, and Italy. Began utilizing the Bromoil Process.
- 1934** Married Lawrence native Claire Kress. Sold first photograph to *American Home Magazine*.
- 1935** Daughter Lee born.
Studied with Boston portrait photographer, John Garo whose students also included Yosef Karsh.
- 1936** Became exclusive photographer for the newly created *Boston Globe Rotogravure Magazine* which debuted in November - the same month as *Life*. It eventually featured over 2,000 Arthur Griffin images.
- 1937** Became the New England photojournalist for *Life* and *Time*.
- 1938** The cover of August 8th issue of *Life* featured an Arthur Griffin image of boys diving into a Quincy, MA granite quarry. Pioneer in the use of the recently invented color film.
- 1939** First photographer to capture in color the image of Red Sox player Ted Williams. First show: a Zeiss sponsored exhibition of black and white photography of New England, which toured America.
- 1940** First photographer to capture in color the fighter Joe Louis.

- The *Boston Globe* published color photography for first time.
- 1946** First color photographs to appear in *The Saturday Evening Post* - a two-page layout on New England. Departed the Boston Globe to become an freelance photographer. Photographs featured in the magazines *Holiday* and *Collier's*. Began utilizing the dye transfer process - first made available by Eastman Kodak in 1945.
- 1947** Collaborated with Pulitzer Prizewinner Esther Forbes on his first book, The Boston Book. Published by Houghton, it featured black and white images of New England.
- 1948** Eastman Kodak purchased first color photograph. It was a relationship that lasted until 1974. Collaborated with Louise Andrews Kent on the book Village Greens of New England.
- 1950** Began the exclusive use of color film.
Claire Griffin continued the use of black and white film.
- 1958** Provided the first color images used in *Yankee* magazine 1958-1962.
- 1962** Published New England, a photo essay of color images of New England. It became a prototype for the 'coffee table' book.
- 1966** Published New England Revisited - the second in his trio of color photo essays of New England.
- 1977** Claire Griffin died.
- 1979** Married artist Polly Lee.
- 1992** Founded the non-profit Arthur Griffin Center for Photographic Art to house his archives of over 75,000 images and to provide gallery space for rotating exhibitions devoted to the art of photography. It is the only center constructed in the greater Boston area for this purpose.
- 1997** Established a public works endowment fund in Winchester, MA.
- 2001** Arthur Griffin dies at 97 on Friday, March 2, 2001.