

Suffolk University Archives
Early Student Research Project

Thaddeus Alexander Kitchener
Suffolk Law School 1913

Thaddeus Alexander Kitchener, class of 1913, is believed to be the first black graduate of Suffolk Law School.¹ He was born March 3, 1884 in Kingston, Jamaica to Robert Kitchener and Evelina Brown.² He graduated from Wolmers High School in Jamaica.³ He was a resident of 93 Kendall Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts by March 12, 1908, when he married Mary E. Smith of Annapolis, Maryland.⁴ In 1909 he applied for admission to Suffolk Law School and was accepted by Gleason L. Archer on August 8.⁵ At the time of his admittance to Suffolk, Mr. Kitchener was employed as a janitor at Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston.⁶

Mr. Kitchener graduated from Suffolk Law School in 1913.⁷ His World War I Draft Registration card indicates that he continued to be employed as a janitor at Simmons College as late as 1918 and lived at 38 Seattle Street in Boston.⁸

Copyright Information: Copyright ©2006 by the Suffolk University Archives, Suffolk University.

¹ Marriage Record vol. 581, page 55, Massachusetts Vital Records, 1841–1910, from original records held by the Massachusetts Archives. Online database: *NewEnglandAncestors.org*, New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2004. World War I Draft Registration Card 4041/A4647, September 12, 1918. Note: Kitchener is listed as “colored” in his marriage record and as “negro” on his World War I Draft Registration card.

² Marriage Record, *ibid.* Suffolk School of Law Application for Admission, July 5, 1909, SLS Registrations 1908-1913, application number 36. Note: His Suffolk admission application gives his birth date as March 3, 1884.

³ Suffolk School of Law Application for Admission, *Ibid.*

⁴ Marriage Record, *Ibid.*

⁵ Suffolk School of Law Application for Admission, *Ibid.*

⁶ Suffolk School of Law Application for Admission, *Ibid.*

⁷ Suffolk Law Alumni Directory, 30th Anniversary, 1936, p.15.

⁸ WWI Draft Registration Card, *Ibid.*