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**Inventory of the
Jack Bass and Walter De Vries Papers, 1974 -**

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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Jack Bass and Walter De Vries Papers,
Dates:	1974 -
Creator:	Bass, Jack and De Vries, Walter.
Abstract:	<p>In 1974, Jack Bass and Walter De Vries interviewed prominent South Carolina public figures. These interviews, among others, were used for their book, <i>The Transformation of Southern Politics: Social Change and Political Consequence since 1945</i>.</p> <p>The papers consist of eight interview transcripts conducted by Jack Bass and Walter De in 1974 Vries with prominent South Carolina public figures. The overarching theme of the interviews is race relations and the effect of race on South Carolina politics. Those interviewed include Thomas R Waring, Jr. (mentioning his uncle Julius Waties Waring, and his wife Elizabeth Waring); Terrell Glenn; Maurice Bessinger; Gedney Howe, Sr. (also mentioning Judge and Mrs. Waring, Strom Thurmond and James F. Byrnes); James Redfern (mentioning the Orangeburg Massacre); John West (mentioning the Ku Klux Klan); I. S. Leevy Johnson; and Julius S. Baggett</p>
Extent:	0.25 linear feet(1 archival box)
Repository:	Avery Research Center at the College of Charleston
Call Number:	AMN 1061
Language of Material:	Material in English

Historical Note

In 1974, Jack Bass and Walter De Vries interviewed prominent South Carolina public figures. These interviews, among others, were used for their book, *The Transformation of Southern Politics: Social Change and Political Consequence since 1945*. The entire group of interviews is housed at the University of North Carolina in the Southern Historical Collection Oral History Program.

Collection Overview

The papers consist of eight interview transcripts conducted by Jack Bass and Walter De in 1974 Vries with prominent South Carolina public figures. The overarching theme of the interviews is race relations and the effect of race on South Carolina politics. Those interviewed include Thomas R Waring, Jr. (mentioning his uncle Julius Waties Waring, and his wife Elizabeth Waring); Terrell Glenn; Maurice Bessinger; Gedney Howe, Sr. (also mentioning Judge and Mrs. Waring, Strom Thurmond and James F. Byrnes); James Redfern (mentioning the Orangeburg Massacre); John West (mentioning the Ku Klux Klan); I. S. Leevy Johnson; and Julius S. Baggett

Collection Arrangement

1. Interview Transcripts

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

No restrictions.

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Subject Headings

African Americans -- Southern States -- Politics and government.

Baggett, Julius.

Bass, Jack.

Bessinger, Maurice, 1930-

Byrnes, James F. (James Francis), 1882-1972.

De Vries, Walter.

Glenn, Terrell.

Howe, Gedney Main, 1914-1981.

Johnson, I. S. Leevy, b. 1942.

Ku Klux Klan (1915-) -- History.

Orangeburg Massacre, Orangeburg, S.C., 1968.

Redfern, James.

South Carolina -- Politics and government.

South Carolina -- Race relations -- History.

Thurmond, Strom, 1902-2003.

Waring, Elizabeth.

Waring, Julius Waties, 1880-1968.

Waring, Thomas R.

West, John C. (John Clifford), 1922-

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Jack Bass and Walter De Vries Papers, Avery Research Center, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC, USA.

Acquisitions Information

Donated by Jack Bass, April 2008.

Processing Information

Processed by Jessica Lancia, April 2008

Encoded by Melissa Bronheim, August 2010

Edited by Melissa Bronheim, August 2010

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Detailed Description of the Collection

1. Interview Transcripts, 1974

Box 1 Folder 1 List of Oral History Interviews Conducted by Jack Bass

Includes diskette containing all interview transcripts, except Gedney Howe's.

Box 1 Folder 2 Thomas R. Waring, Jr. Interview Transcript, 1974

Thomas Waring, former editor-in-chief of the Charleston News and Courier, discusses the following topics: the politics of Senators James F. Byrnes and Strom Thurmond, including the 1954 gubernatorial campaign; his uncle, Judge J. Waties Waring and his wife, Elizabeth, and the reaction of Charleston to their views on race, the divorce, and his legal decisions. Interview conducted by Jack Bass.

Box 1 Folder 3 Terrell Glenn Interview Transcript, 1974

In the interview, the former United States Attorney discusses the civil rights movement in South Carolina, including the changes in race relations as a result of political enfranchisement. Interview conducted by Jack Bass and Walter De Vries.

Box 1 Folder 4 Maurice Bessinger Interview Transcript, 1974

Bessinger, South Carolina businessman and 1974 gubernatorial candidate, discusses his entry into politics, George Wallace, race relations in the South, the role of race in politics, and his conversion to Christianity. Conducted by Jack Bass and Walter De Vries.

Box 1 Folder 5 Gedney Howe Interview Transcript, 1974

Charleston attorney and local politician Howe reflects on politics in South Carolina, specifically on issues of race and religion. Includes long discussion on personality and politics of Mendel Rivers. Discusses Mendel Davis, the Charleston white elite, the Inter-Racial Council of Charleston, Judge J. Waties and Elizabeth Waring, Strom Thurmond, John F. Byrnes. Interview conducted by Jack Bass.

Box 1 Folder 6 James Redfern Interview Transcript, 1974

President of Black-on-Nation (Columbia, South Carolina-based organization to empower black communities), Redfern narrates about his presence at the Orangeburg Massacre; and discusses the present and future work of Black-on-Nation; segregation at the University of South Carolina; how he became involved in the civil rights movement; various black organizations in Columbia like Blacks United for Action; black self-image and militancy. Interview conducted by Jack Bass.

Box 1 Folder 7 John West Interview Transcript, 1974

A judge and former South Carolina Governor, West talks about the 1974 gubernatorial election; his tenure as governor; how the Civil Rights movement and race relations have changed South Carolina; his experiences with the Ku Klux Klan; the proposed constitutional amendment to validate Charles Ravenel's candidacy; political figures such as George Wallace, James B. Edwards, Marion Gressette, and Strom Thurmond; the rising economy and the work of the Human Affairs Commission. Interview conducted by Jack Bass and Walter De Vries.

Box 1 Folder 8 I.S. Leevy Johnson Interview Transcript, 1974

Leevy, one of the first African Americans to be elected to the South Carolina senate in the 20th century, discusses topics including: race relations in South Carolina and race in South Carolina politics; his personal background and entry into politics; and his thoughts on individuals such as John West and Charles Ravenel. Interview conducted by Jack Bass and Walter De Vries.

Box 1 Folder 9 Julius H. Baggett Interview Transcript, 1974

Majority leader of the South Carolina House of Representatives, Baggett discusses the creation of the Democratic caucus, the rise of the Republican Party, the participation and influence of African Americans in South Carolina politics; and the effect of Watergate on South Carolina politics. Interview conducted by Jack Bass