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HISTORY AND CULTURE

**Inventory of the  
J. R. Bonds Papers, 1925 - 1986**

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## Table of Contents

Descriptive Summary.....	3
Biographical Note.....	3
Collection Overview.....	4
Restrictions.....	4
Subject Headings.....	4
Administrative Information.....	5
Detailed Description of the Collection.....	6
1. Personal, 1925-1970.....	6
2. Professional, 1943-1986.....	6
3. Bonds-Wilson High School, 1950-1978.....	7
4. Photographs and Newspapers, 1937-1972.....	7

## Descriptive Summary

<b>Title:</b>	J. R. Bonds Papers,
<b>Dates:</b>	1925 - 1986
<b>Creator:</b>	Bonds, J. R. (James Roosevelt), 1904-1992.
<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>J. R. Bonds (1904-1992) was an African-American educator from South Carolina. In 1946, Bonds was selected as the Schools' Supervisor for Cooper River School District Four. In 1950, the Six Mile High School was officially renamed Bonds-Wilson High in honor of J. R. Bonds and John T. Wilson. J. R.'s wife, Lacy Campbell Bonds (1910-1973), was a registered nurse and secretary at Bonds-Wilson High School.</p> <p>The collection contains programs, photographs, correspondence, newspapers and other materials related to educator J. R. Bonds. The coverage of the material is from 1925-1986. Please note that the collection contains newspapers chiefly from schools in North Charleston, South Carolina. Also includes household photographs as well as scenes of Lacy Bonds at Dixie Hospital in Hampton, Virginia, where she trained to become a nurse.</p>
<b>Extent:</b>	1.0 linear feet(2 archival boxes)
<b>Repository:</b>	Avery Research Center at the College of Charleston
<b>Call Number:</b>	AMN 1082
<b>Language of Material:</b>	Material in English

## Biographical Note

J. R. Bonds (1904-1992) was an African-American educator from South Carolina. He attended Marion High School and graduated from South Carolina State College. He also completed course work at Atlanta School of Social Science. He began teaching in 1927 and, in 1936, started working for Cooper River School District Four. In 1946, Bonds was selected as the Schools' Supervisor for District Four. In 1950, in recognition for developing the high school program in the district, the Six Mile High School was officially renamed Bonds-Wilson High School in honor of J. R. Bonds and John T. Wilson.

J. R. Bonds married Lacy Campbell (1910-1973), daughter of Daniel Campbell and Jeanette Rogers. Lacy Campbell Bonds, a registered nurse, worked as her husband's secretary during his tenure at Bonds-Wilson High School.

## Collection Overview

The collection contains programs, photographs, correspondence, newspapers and other materials related to educator J. R. Bonds. The majority of the items in this collection are professional materials relating to Bonds' time as the Supervisor of Schools for Cooper River District 4. Box 1 contains personal and professional material as well as materials relating to Bonds-Wilson High School. Box 2 houses some Bonds-Wilson High School items as well as other photographs and miscellaneous items. The coverage of the material is from 1925-1986 and the physical condition is very good. Please note that the collection contains newspapers chiefly from schools in North Charleston, South Carolina. Also includes household photographs as well as scenes of Lacy Bonds at Dixie Hospital in Hampton, Virginia, where she trained to become a nurse.

## Collection Arrangement

1. Personal, 1925-1970
2. Professional, 1943-1986
3. Bonds-Wilson High School, 1950-1978
4. Photographs and Newspapers, 1937-1972

## Restrictions

### Access Restrictions

No restrictions.

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## Subject Headings

African Americans -- South Carolina -- Charleston.

African Americans -- Education -- South Carolina -- History -- 20th century.

African American educators -- South Carolina -- Charleston.

Bonds, J. R. (James Roosevelt), 1904-1992.

Bonds, Lacy, 1910-1973.

Bonds-Wilson High School (Charleston, S.C.).

Educators -- South Carolina -- Charleston.

Hampton Institute -- Photographs -- 20th century.

High schools -- South Carolina -- Charleston.

Public schools -- South Carolina -- History -- 20th century.

School supervisors -- South Carolina -- History -- 20th century.

Wilson, John T., 1910-1994.

## **Administrative Information**

### **Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], J. R. Bonds Papers, Avery Research Center, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC, USA.

### **Acquisitions Information**

Received from Eugene Graves in October 1999.

### **Processing Information**

Processed by Melissa Bronheim, September 2009, and Amanda Ross, November 2009

Encoded by Melissa Bronheim, September 2009

Edited by Amanda Ross, November 2009

Funding from the Council on Library and Information Resources supported the collection processing and encoding of this finding aid.

## Detailed Description of the Collection

### 1. Personal, 1925-1970

Box 1 Folder 1 Lacy Bonds: Memory Book, 1925-1926

Includes photographs of Lacy Bonds and others at Dixie Hospital in Hampton, Virginia, training to be a nurse.

Box 1 Folder 2 Lacy Bonds: Stenographer's Notebook, undated

Box 1 Folder 2 Lacy Bonds: Death Certificate, 1973

Box 1 Folder 3 James and Lacy Bonds: Photographs, 1927-1934

Includes scenes from Bay Shore, New York; Summerville, South Carolina; Cape Romaine, South Carolina; and Hendersonville, North Carolina

Box 1 Folder 4 James and Lacy Bonds: Photographs, 1965-1969

Includes assorted photographs depicting James and Lacy Bonds in various home scenes. Also includes scenes at the Owl's Club (also known as the Owls' Whist Club) and photographs of the McCottry family, Noisette family, Miriam M. Brown (Laing Elementary School principal), and others.

Box 1 Folder 5-6 James and Lacy Bonds: Photograph Albums, 1959-1973

Includes assorted photos depicting James and Lacy Bonds and others in various scenes.

Box 1 Folder 7 James and Lacy Bonds: Photograph Albums, 1967-1972

Includes Bonds' residence and other assorted scenes.

Box 1 Folder 8 USO Committee of Management: Chairman, 1944

Includes program and photograph depicting Bonds as Master of Ceremonies for the Federal Recreation Building dedication.

Box 1 Folder 9 South Carolina State College, 1968-1969 and 1986

Includes programs and news article.

### 2. Professional, 1943-1986

Box 1 Folder 10 Correspondence, 1943-1986

Includes letters from J. R. Bonds regarding his proposal of duties as Supervisor of Schools in District No. 4 and a letter on his personal history for an article on the renaming of Bonds-Wilson High School; memoranda regarding the Charleston County School District; as well as a letter from Senator Ernest Hollings.

Box 1 Folder 11 Cooper River School District Number Four: "A Suggested Philosophy..." by J. R. Bonds, undated

Box 1 Folder 12-13 Cooper River School District Number Four: Supervisor of Schools, 1953-1970

Includes school dedication programs, attendance supervisors yearbook as well as school supervisor checkbook.

- Box 1 Folder 14 Cooper River School District Number Four: Directories, 1960-1965
- Box 1 Folder 15 Form: Principal's or Teacher's Annual Report-Negro, 1957-1958
- Box 1 Folder 12 Charleston County School District: School Volunteer Program Certificate of Appreciation, undated
- Box 1 Folder 17 Notary Public Certificate, 1970

### 3. Bonds-Wilson High School, 1950-1978

- Box 2 Folder 18 Photographs, 1950-1952 and 1968

Includes industrial art department depicting John T. Wilson and J. R. Bonds, class of 1968, 8th grade class, and others.

- Box 2 Folder 19 Class Rings, 1964, 1972, and 1985
- Box 1 Folder 20 Press Release: School Named for J. R. Bonds and John. T. Wilson
- Box 1 Folder 19 Graduation Programs, 1971-1973, and School Bulletin, 1980-1981
- Box 1 Folder 22 1955 Class Reunion, 1978

Includes agenda, invitation, and program.

### 4. Photographs and Newspapers, 1937-1972

- Box 2 Folder 23 Owl's Club, 1963

Includes schedule and photograph for the Owl's Club (also known as the Owls' Whist Club).

- Box 2 Folder 24 Photographs: Bethune School and Miscellaneous, 1952

- Oversize Paper Folder 1082-OPF/1 School Newspapers, 1937-1969

Includes "The Four Mile Messenger," 1937; "The Six Mile Tattler," 1937; "The Liberty Hill Digest," 1937; "The Parvenue," 1950; "The Eagle," 1950-1953; "The Star," 1955, 1969, 1972; and "Liberty Hill Echoes," 1963.

- Oversize Paper Folder 1082-OPF/2 Other Newspapers, 1949-1969

Includes *The Palmetto Leader* and *The News and Courier*.