



# **Guide to the Lawrence Chesterfield Bryant papers, 1865-1977, bulk 1942-1977**

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David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive

Duke University

Durham 27708

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URL: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

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## Summary

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**Collection Title:**

Lawrence Chesterfield Bryant papers, 1865-1977, bulk 1942-1977

**Creator:**

Bryant, Lawrence Chesterfield

**Abstract:**

University professor, minister, academic dean, and chairman of the Guidance Dept. and Professor of Education at South Carolina State College. Collection contains thirty bound volumes of letters, documents, business records, research work, financial and legal papers, writings, and various other papers assembled by Bryant. Most correspondence dates since 1968 and is personal in nature. Writings and other materials deal with his career, the compilation of his memoirs, and his positions at S.C. State College. Included are the records of his genealogical research on lives of African American South Carolina legislators, and materials relating to politics and voting in Southern states. Dr. Bryant graduated from Shaw University in 1940 and received several more advanced degrees at other institutions.

**Extent:**

3.2 Linear Feet  
30 Items

**Physical Location:**

For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

**Language:**

English

**Language:**

Material in English

**Collection ID:**

RL.00168

**Permalink:**

<http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/bryantlawrence/>

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Lawrence Chesterfield Bryant Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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## **Background**

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### **Scope and Content**

Collection contains thirty bound volumes of letters, documents, business records, research work, financial and legal papers, writings, and various other papers assembled by Bryant. Most correspondence dates since 1968 and is personal in nature. Writings and other materials deal with his career, the compilation of his memoirs, and his position at S.C. State College. Included are the records of his genealogical research on lives of African American South Carolina legislators, and materials relating to politics and voting in Southern states.

### **Biographical/Historical**

Born on February 16, 1916 in a rural community in Nash County, N.C. to Emmitt Bryant and Hattie Cooper, Dr. Bryant graduated from Shaw University with a B.S. degree in 1940 in Biology and Chemistry. In 1947, he entered Howard University, receiving a Bachelor of Divinity degree in Religion in 1950. In 1951 he received an M.A. degree from New York University, and became the first African American to receive a doctorate in education from the University of Virginia in 1959. He served as pastor at First Baptist Church in Harrisburg, Virginia. He also taught at Virginia Theological Seminary and College in Lynchburg, Virginia, then went on to become professor of education at Jackson College in Jackson, Mississippi; dean and professor of education at Florida Memorial College; and professor of education at South Carolina State University from 1960 to 1986. In 2005 he was awarded the South Carolina Silver Crescent Award for his research on African American legislators and his contributions to state education programs. He passed away in Orangeburg, S.C. June 8, 2010.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Statement**

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Duke University  
Durham 27708  
[askRL@duke.edu](mailto:askRL@duke.edu)  
URL: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

### **Access Restrictions**

Collection is open for research.

### **Use Restrictions**

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

### **Acquisition Information**

The Lawrence Chesterfield Bryant Papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library as a purchase in 1971.

### **Processing Information**

Processed by Rubenstein Library staff, 1978

Encoded by Carrie Mills and Meghan Lyon, May 2011

Subject headings and biography updated by Paula Jeannet.

Accession(s) described in this finding aid: 12-22-71, 2-10-78

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## **Names and Subjects**

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- African Americans -- Genealogy
- African Americans -- Suffrage -- South Carolina
- African American politicians -- Southern States
- South Carolina. Legislature
- South Carolina -- Politics -- 20th century
- Southern States -- Politics -- 20th century
- African Americans -- Education

- South Carolina State College
- Shaw University
- Bryant, Lawrence Chesterfield

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## Collection Inventory

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### Lawrence Chesterfield Bryant papers, 1865-1977, bulk 1942-1977

**Physical Description:** 8 boxes

**Scope and Contents note**

Volumes 13, 18, and 19 are still in Bryant's possession due to their personal nature. Collection includes bound volumes of personal correspondence, genealogical records, financial papers, and other professional and personal materials.

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Volumes 1-4, 1941-1971 Box 1

**Scope and Contents note**

Letters, documents, and records of Lawrence C. Bryant.

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Volume 5, 1966-1971 Box 2

**Scope and Contents note**

Letters, documents, and records of Lawrence C. Bryant.

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Volumes 6-8, 1966-1971 Box 2

**Scope and Contents note**

Letters of Dr. Lawrence C. Bryant.

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Volume 9, 1963-1971 Box 3

**Scope and Contents note**

Letters of Dr. Lawrence C. Bryant.

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Volumes 10-11, 1963-1971 Box 3

**Scope and Contents note**

Letters of Bryant families.

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Volume 12, 1963-1971 Box 3

**Scope and Contents note**

Letters of Sills-Cooper families.

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Volume 14, 1865-1971

Box 4

**Scope and Contents note**

Guidance, religious, junior college material.

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Volume 15, 1865-1971

Box 4

**Scope and Contents note**

Genealogy and history.

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Volume 16, 1865-1971

Box 4

**Scope and Contents note**

Income taxes, business.

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Volume 17, 1865-1971

Box 4

**Scope and Contents note**

Business papers.

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Volume 20, 1963-1974

Box 5

**Scope and Contents note**

Primarily family letters and cards.

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Volume 21, 1963-1974

Box 5

**Scope and Contents note**

Committees, assignments, letters, retirement cards, pictures.

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Volume 22, 1963-1974

Box 5

**Scope and Contents note**

Letters and insurance papers.

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Volume 23, 1963-1974

Box 5

**Scope and Contents note**

Personal letters, mostly from relatives.

Volume 24, 1973-1974	Box 5
<b>Scope and Contents note</b> Carbon copies of letters.	
Volume 25, 1974-1975	Box 6
<b>Scope and Contents note</b> Business papers, contracts, letters, copyright forms, and committee assignment.	
Volume 26, 1974-1975	Box 6
<b>Scope and Contents note</b> Letters by Dr. Lawrence C. Bryant.	
Volume 27, 1974-1975	Box 6
<b>Scope and Contents note</b> Letters and miscellaneous papers of Dr. Lawrence Bryant.	
Volume 28, 1974-1975	Box 6
<b>Scope and Contents note</b> Copies of letters and miscellaneous papers.	
Volume 29, 1975-1976	Box 7
<b>Scope and Contents note</b> Carbon copies of letters.	
Volume 30, 1975-1976	Box 7
<b>Scope and Contents note</b> Copies of letters, business papers by Dr. Lawrence C. Bryant.	
Volume 31, 1952-1967	Box 8
<b>Scope and Contents note</b> Letters from relatives of Dr. Lawrence Bryant.	
Volumes 32-33, 1952-1967	Box 8

**Scope and Contents note**

Letters, documents, and business records of Dr. Lawrence C. Bryant.

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