

Collection #
SC 3452

**AFRICAN AMERICANS IN INDIANAPOLIS
MATERIALS, CA. 1920–1943**

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| Collection Information | 1 |
| Historical Sketch | 2 |
| Scope and Content Note | 3 |
| Contents | 4 |

Processed by

Jonnie Fox
June 2018

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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 2 manuscript folders, 5 black and white photograph folders, 1 OVA folder, 2 yearbooks in general collection

COLLECTION DATES: ca.1920–1942

PROVENANCE: Jack Hartigan, Indianapolis, IN

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: M 0634 Dora Atkins Blackburn Papers, 1926–1978, M 1094 Crispus Attucks High School Collection, 1937–2011, BV 3469, SC 2697 Crispus Attucks High School Scrapbook, 1950–1996

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2003.0565

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Crispus Attucks High School and Bobby Joe Edmonds

Crispus Attucks opened in the fall of 1927 as a high school for African American students. The school employed teachers from around the country who had advanced degrees and had been barred from teaching in white schools. Attucks has many notable alumni including Oscar Robertson, Wes Montgomery, and Bobby Joe Edmonds. The building, located at 1140 Doctor M.L.K. Jr. Street in Indianapolis, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989. It was converted to a middle school in the 1980s, and in 2006 it became a magnet school for students planning to enter the field of medicine.

Bobby Joe Edmonds (1941–1991) was born in Providence, Kentucky, to Warren H. and Edna Edmonds. After graduating Crispus Attucks, he attended Tennessee State University. Following college, he was a member of the Indiana Pacers (1967–1968, 1969–1970). Edmonds married Barbara Garrison in 1969. Together they had one son, Bobby Joe Edmonds Jr., and two daughters, Tracy J. and E.L. Edmonds. In his later years, he managed and styled hair at Hair Majesty of Indianapolis. He is buried at Crown Hill Cemetery.

Atkins Flower Shop

Atkins Flower Shop of Indianapolis was operated by Doris Atkins Blackburn for fifty-six years. In 1926, the shop was located at 209 W 21st Street. The shop was moved to 2049 N Capitol Avenue in 1949.

Sources:

Ancestry, Library Edition, accessed 21 June, 2018.

BV 3469, SC 2697 Crispus Attucks High School Scrapbook, 1950–1996

M 1094 Crispus Attucks High School Collection, 1937–2011

M 0634 Dora Atkins Blackburn Papers, 1926–1978

“Retro Indy: Crispus Attucks High School,” *Indy Star*, February 24, 2014, accessed 21 June, 2018.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains three Crispus Attucks High School yearbooks (1942–1943), one pamphlet of the Constitution of the Indiana League of High School Girls' Athletic Association, and two signed posters of Bobby Joe Edmonds. Also in this collection are six duplicate postcards of Atkins Flower Shop, a portrait of Bobby Joe Edmonds, two portraits by Harris Bros. Studio, one unidentified portrait, two photos of unidentified women, three photos at the National Baptist Convention Headquarters (1920), and a class portrait of the School #42 (1938).

CONTENTS

CONTENTS

Bobby Joe Edmonds Autograph, N.D.

Constitution of the Indiana League of High School
Girls' Athletic Associations, N.D.

National Baptist Convention Headquarters, photos of
women, 1920, N.D.

Bobby Joe Edmonds Portrait, N.D.

Portrait of Woman, N.D.

Group Portraits, N.D.

Atkins Flower Shop postcards, N.D.

IPS #42 Class of 1938 Portrait, 1938

Crispus Attucks High School Yearbook, 1942

Crispus Attucks High School Yearbook, 1943

CONTAINER

Manuscripts:
Folder 1 of 2

Manuscripts:
Folder 2 of 2

B/W Photographs:
Folder 1 of 5

B/W Photographs:
Folder 2 of 5

B/W Photographs:
Folder 3 of 5

B/W Photographs:
Folder 4 of 5

B/W Photographs:
Folder 5 of 5

OVA B/W Photograph:
Folder 1 of 1

General collection:
2003.0565

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2003.0565