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# The Almeda Gardner Industrial School and the 1927 Mississippi Flood

Exhibit created by Jennifer Ford, University of Mississippi Libraries  
May 2021

### **The Almeda Gardner Industrial School and the 1927 Mississippi Flood**

The Archives & Special Collections recently acquired several candid photographs, featuring students at the Almeda Gardner Industrial School for Girls, in Moorhead, MS. Named for the wife of Chester H. Pond, the founder of the town and inventor of the electric self-winding clock, the American Missionary Association sponsored the African American school. At one time, the institution boasted over one hundred students, from primary through higher grades, who either boarded at the school or lived in town.

On display are enlarged reproductions of the original photographs taken during the devastating 1927 Mississippi River flood, when students literally boated across campus. The school closed a few years after the flood.

Moorehead, Mississippi is located in Sunflower County (*highlighted*).





**The archives needs your help!** There is little documentation about the school in the collections. If you have any additional information or suggestions for sources please contact the department at [archivesdept@olemiss.edu](mailto:archivesdept@olemiss.edu)

Contact [archivesdept@olemiss.edu](mailto:archivesdept@olemiss.edu) if you have any additional information or suggestions for sources about this collection.







Full view of exhibit case on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor,  
J. D. Williams Library, left side

Contact [archivesdept@olemiss.edu](mailto:archivesdept@olemiss.edu) if  
you have any additional information  
or suggestions for sources about this  
collection.





Full view of exhibit case on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor,  
J. D. Williams Library, right side

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Original photos (set 1 of 3)

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Original photos (set 2 of 3)

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## Original photos (set 3 of 3)

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## Photograph enlargements, 1 of 6

### The Almada Gardner Industrial School and the 1927 Mississippi Flood

The Archives & Special Collections recently acquired several candid photographs, featuring students at the Almada Gardner Industrial School for Girls, in Moorhead, MS. Named for the wife of Chester H. Ford, the founder of the town and inventor of the electric light-bulb grid, the American Industrial Association sponsored the African American school. At one time, the institution housed over one hundred students, most primary through higher grades, who either boarded at the school or lived at home.

On display are enlarged reproductions of the original photograph taken during the devastating 1927 Mississippi River flood, when students (standing) lined across campus. The school closed a few years after the flood.

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## Photograph enlargements, 2 of 6

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Photograph enlargements, 3 of 6

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## Photograph enlargements, 4 of 6

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## Photograph enlargements, 5 of 6

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## Photograph enlargements, 6 of 6

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