On February 6, 1952, ownership of the property transferred from Elsie A. Van Reyper to George C. and Bertha C. Bond. George (1894-1966) and Bertha (1898-1971) were born and raised in the farming community of Abingdon, Illinois. They were married in 1919 and settled on a 220-acre dairy farm. Owing to extended periods of drought they went out of business in the 1920s, at which time the Bonds started manufacturing and selling ice cream out of the farm. In 1929, the ice-cream business was bought by a dairy company and George and Bertha decided to re-locate to the east and moved to Montclair. George unsuccessfully tried to make a living as a hosiery salesman.

The Bonds then went back to the ice-cream business and in 1934 they opened a store at the intersection of Normal and Carlyle streets, across from the main entrance to Montclair State University. Remarkably for those Depression years, the business thrived and they eventually opened five ice cream parlors in Montclair, Cedar Grove, Clifton, and Bloomfield. One of the homes that Bertha delivered ice cream to was the Van Reyper residence, which reminded her of her grandparent’s house in Illinois. In 1952, the same year they opened their last two ice cream parlors, the Bonds had the opportunity to buy the Van Reyper property.

They raised three boys and eventually numerous in-laws and grandchildren frequented the property. George Bond was closely connected with Montclair State College (now MSU) and became the president of the College Development Fund. In that capacity he spearheaded a large fundraising effort, entitled the Road to Excellence. On George’s death in 1966, the Van Reyper-Bond House was bequeathed to the College.