Descriptive Summary

Creator: Jones, Madison, 1925-
Title: Madison Jones papers, 1950-1989
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 684
Extent: 6.5 linear ft. (15 boxes)
Abstract: Papers of author and educator Madison Jones, including corrected typescripts, manuscript notebooks, and preliminary drafts.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction
Special restrictions apply: No reproduction of any unpublished manuscripts, without the written permission of the author.

Source
Purchase, 1990.

Custodial History
Floyd C. Watkins American Literary Manuscripts Collection.

Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Madison Jones papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing
Processed by Barbara J. Mann, August 1990.

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Collection Description

Biographical Note
Madison Percy Jones, Jr. was born March 21, 1925 in Nashville, Tennessee, to Madison Percy and Mary Temple (Webber) Jones. He attended Nashville public elementary schools, Wallace Preparatory School, and Montgomery Bell Academy. Jones enrolled at Vanderbilt University, but dropped out after two academic quarters. He stayed out of school for a year and a half re-evaluating his life and working on the family farm, Sycamore Farm. His freshman English teacher had praised his abilities to write and during this time off he thought about the possibility of being a writer.

Jones re-enrolled at Vanderbilt and took an advanced composition course taught by Donald Davidson, a member of the Vanderbilt Agrarian Movement and one of the original members of the Fugitives, a Vanderbilt-connected group of poets that also included John Crowe Ransom, Allen Tate, and Robert Penn Warren. Davidson both praised and critiqued Jones's writing and became a respected friend. Madison Jones graduated with an A.B. in 1949.

After graduating from Vanderbilt, he entered the University of Florida. He chose this university in order to take courses in creative writing with Andrew Lytle, novelist, short-story writer and another member of the Vanderbilt Agrarian Movement. Jones graduated in 1951 with a M.A. and began coursework on his Ph.D., attending the University of Florida from 1951-1953. Although he completed his coursework, he never wrote his dissertation.

Jones became an Instructor of English at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, from 1953-1954. The next year he received a one year Sewanee Review fellowship which enabled him to return to the south. He moved to Florida and began full-time work on his first novel, The Innocent. Upon completion of the fellowship he moved to Knoxville, and spent a year as Instructor of English at the University of Tennessee.

After his year at the University of Tennessee, Jones decided he wanted to move further south and accepted a position as Assistant Professor of English at Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama. He remained at Auburn for the rest of his teaching career, becoming Professor of English and Alumni Writer-in-Residence, 1968-1987, Distinguished Faculty Lecturer in 1980, and Professor of English, Emeritus, and University Writer-in-Residence, Emeritus, 1987-.


Madison Jones has also been the recipient of other fellowships and honors including the Alabama Library Association Book Award (1968), Rockefeller Foundation fellowship (1968), Guggenheim fellowship (1973), member of the Fellowship of Southern Writers, and member of the Alabama Academy of Distinguished Authors.

Madison Jones married Shailah McEvilley of Cincinnati, Ohio, February 5, 1951. They have five children: Carroll, Madison III, Ellen, Michael, and Andrew. The Jones family resides in Auburn.

**Biographical Source:** Sources used to compile this biographical note include *Contemporary Authors*, Vol. 13-16 First Revision (Detroit: Gale Research Company, 1975) and *Contemporary Authors: New Revision Series*, Vol. 7 (Detroit: Gale Research Company, 1982).

**Scope and Content Note**
The collection consists of the papers of Madison Jones from 1950-1989. The papers include materials relating to the writing and publishing of his novels, including corrected typescripts, manuscript notebooks, and correspondence, and preliminary drafts. The rest of the collection consists of a copy of Madison Jones's vita, two financial documents, and a short story written by Scarlett Robinson. Among the earliest materials found in this collection are manuscript drafts of his second novel, *Forest of the Night*, published in 1960, and manuscript drafts and corrected typescripts of his third novel, *A Buried Land*, published in 1963. Jones's first novel, *The Innocents*, published in 1957, is not represented. Corrected typescripts of his last published novel, *Last Things*, published in 1989, and a photocopied typescript of Jones's autobiography are also included in the collection.

**Arrangement Note**
Organized into three series: (1) Writings, (2) Correspondence, and (3) Personal materials.
Description of Series

Series 1: Writings, 1960-1989
Series 2: Correspondence, 1956-1989
Series 3: Personal materials, 1975, 1982
Series 1
Writings, 1960-1989
Boxes 1 - 10

Scope and Content Note
Series 1, Writings, 1960-1989, contains mainly manuscript notebooks and corrected typescripts, both originals and photocopies, to his published novels *A Buried Land* (1963), *A Cry of Absence* (1971), *An Exile* (1967), *Forest of the Night* (1960), *Passage Through Gehanna* (1989), *Last Things* (1989), *Season of the Strangler* (1983). These have been arranged alphabetically in the collection by book title. Also included are manuscript notebooks and corrected typescripts for "Tales of Dixie", an unpublished novel. Also included with the appropriate novel are preliminary drafts, earlier versions, and starts related to that published work. The author has made notations in some of the manuscripts and typescripts of their kinship to his published novels. These notations have been incorporated in the folder titles.

Box 10 of this series contains other writings by Madison Jones including a typescript (photocopy) of his autobiography for inclusion in the Autobiography Series of *Contemporary Authors* (1990), and corrected typescript of "Modern Story" published in *Delta Review*. Also included are corrected typescripts of starts of two different untitled books, one of which is described as "Beginnings of Novels about Sylvia Nunn and about Jud or Bo, Rivers" (late 1971-Feb 1973), and the other, "Bruce and Charles Carney, Doepelganger Book". The last part of this series contains *The Guide and Other Stories*, Jones's thesis from the University of Florida (1951), corrected typescripts and manuscript notes for a [dissertation?], and an article Jones wrote for *The Chattahoochee Review* (1988).

*A Buried Land* (Viking Press, 1963)

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Chapter XIV (B): Corrected typescript
Chapter XV (B): Corrected typescript
Chapter XVI (B): Corrected typescript
Chapter XVII (B): Corrected typescript
Chapter XVIII (B): Corrected typescript
Chapter XIX: Corrected typescript
Chapter XX (B): Corrected typescript

A Cry of Absence (Crown Publishers, 1971)
Manuscript notebook: Original, 1968
Manuscript notebook, Book II
Manuscript notebook, Book III
Manuscript notebook
Hester, Chapters I-VI: Corrected typescript (photocopy)
Hester, Chapters VII-XI: Corrected typescript (photocopy)
Hester, Chapters XII-XV: Corrected typescript (photocopy)
Hester, Chapters XVI-XIX: Corrected typescript (photocopy)
Hester, Chapters XX-XXIV: Corrected typescript (photocopy)
Chapter XI: Corrected typescript
Miscellaneous corrected typescript pages
Corrected typescript pages 8-9 (photocopies)

An Exile (Viking Press, 1967) [For revisions of An Exile SEE ALSO Box 9: folder 3.]
Manuscript notebook
Pages 1-74: Corrected typescript
Pages 75-144: Corrected typescript

Forest of the Night (Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1960)
Manuscript notebooks
Unfinished novel intended to be an updated version of Forest of the Night, 1983: Corrected typescript

Last Things (Louisiana State University Press, 1989) [For endorsements of Last Things SEE Box 11: folders 9, 25; Box 12: folders 25, 30; and Box 13: folder 21.]
Chapters 1--9: Corrected typescript (photocopy)
Chapters 10-17: Corrected typescript (photocopy)
Draft: Chapter I: Corrected typescript
Draft: Chapter I: Corrected typescript
Draft: Chapter III: Corrected typescript
Draft: Chapter IV: Corrected typescript
Draft: Chapter V: Corrected typescript
### Madison Jones papers, 1950-1989

#### Manuscript Collection No. 684

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<td>4 10</td>
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<td>4 14</td>
<td>Earlier work: Corrected typescript</td>
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<td>4 15</td>
<td>Unfinished novel related to <em>Last Things</em>: Tricia, Tom, Mother (100 plus pages)</td>
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**Passage Through Gehanna (Louisiana State University Press, 1989)**

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<tr>
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<td>Manuscript notebook: Beginning of novel of Jud, Virgil Salter, Sylvia, Hannah, and summary</td>
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<td>Manuscript notebook: Buford, Hannah, Jud</td>
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<td>5 3</td>
<td>Manuscript notebook: Jud (work done in Ireland and Spain)</td>
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<td>5 4</td>
<td>Manuscript notebook: Jud</td>
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<td>5 5</td>
<td>Chapters 1-4: Corrected typescript (photocopy)</td>
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<td>5 6</td>
<td>Chapters 5-9: Corrected typescript (photocopy)</td>
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<td>5 7</td>
<td>Chapters 10-13: Corrected typescript (photocopy)</td>
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<td>Chapters 14-17: Corrected typescript (photocopy)</td>
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<td>Chapters 22-25: Corrected typescript (photocopy)</td>
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<td>Earlier version: Chapters I-V: Corrected typescript (original and photocopy)</td>
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<td>Earlier version: Chapters XI-XVII: Corrected typescript (photocopy)</td>
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<td>Earlier version: Chapters XVIII-XXIV: Corrected typescript (photocopy)</td>
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<td>Starts: Corrected typescript and handwritten manuscript</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous corrected typescript</td>
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<td>Last try at novel number 6 (Passage Through Gehanna?): Corrected typescript</td>
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<td>Reviews: &quot;A Southern Morality&quot; by M. E. Bradford</td>
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<td>6 11</td>
<td>Reviews: Clippings, 1978 [For an additional review of Passage Through Gehanna SEE ALSO Box 13: folder 22.]</td>
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**Season of the Strangler (Doubleday and Company, 1983)**

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<tr>
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<td>Prologue: Corrected typescript</td>
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<td>7 2</td>
<td>&quot;A Strange Land&quot; (Chapter 1): Corrected typescript</td>
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<td>&quot;A Strange Land&quot;: Corrected typescript (photocopy)</td>
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<td>&quot;Loss&quot; (Chapter 2): Corrected typescript (original and photocopy)</td>
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<td>&quot;Loss&quot;: Corrected typescript (original and photocopy)</td>
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<td>&quot;Faith&quot; (Chapter 3): Corrected typescript</td>
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<td>7 7</td>
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<td>&quot;Faith&quot;: Corrected typescript (photocopy)</td>
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Madison Jones papers, 1950-1989
Manuscript Collection No. 684

"Sim Denny" (Chapter 4): Corrected typescript (original and photocopy)
"Sim Denny": Corrected typescript (photocopy)
"Sim Denny": Miscellaneous pages: Corrected typescript
"A Worldly Man" (Chapter 5): Corrected typescript
"A Worldly Man": Corrected typescript
Manuscript notebook: Unfinished start of novel based on "A Worldly Man"
"Aspiration" (Chapter 6): Corrected typescript
"Aspiration": Corrected typescript
"Aspiration": Corrected typescript (photocopy)
"Bulwark" (Chapter 7): Corrected typescript
"Bulwark": Corrected typescript (photocopy)
"Rage" (Chapter 8): Corrected typescript (photocopy with original corrections)
"Rage": Corrected typescript (photocopy)
"Break" (Chapter 9): Corrected typescript
"Break": Corrected typescript (photocopy)
"Self-Portrait" (Chapter 10): Corrected typescript
"Ashes" (Chapter 11): Corrected typescript (photocopy with original corrections)
"Ashes": Corrected typescript (photocopy)
"Familiar Spirit" (Chapter 12): Corrected typescript
"Familiar Spirit": Corrected typescript (photocopy)
"Familiar Spirit": Miscellaneous page: Corrected typescript
Epilogue: Corrected typescript
Miscellaneous pages: Corrected typescripts (photocopy)
Manuscript notebook: Notes
Typesetting notes
Reviews: Clippings, 1982

Tales of Dixie (Unpublished)
Manuscript notebook: Part of Douglas
Manuscript notebook: Part of Douglas
Manuscript notebook: Part of Douglas; revisions of An Exile [SEE ALSO Box 3 for more materials on An Exile]
Pages 1-85: Corrected typescript
Pages 1-85: Corrected typescript (photocopy)
Pages 86-160: Corrected typescript
Pages 86-160: Corrected typescript (photocopy)
Pages 161-220: Corrected typescript
Pages 161-220: Corrected typescript (photocopy)
Pages 221-278: Corrected typescript
### Other Writings by Madison Jones

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<td>&quot;Modern Story&quot;: Published in <em>Delta Review</em>: Corrected typescript</td>
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<td>Starts: Bruce and Charles Carney, Doepelganger book: Corrected typescript</td>
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<td>Thesis: <em>The Guide and Other Stories</em>, 1951 February 6</td>
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<td>[Dissertation?]: Manuscript notes</td>
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Series 2
Correspondence, 1956-1989
Boxes 11 - 14

Scope and Content Note
Series 2, Correspondence, 1956-1989, contains letters from family, friends and associates, publishing companies, presses, production companies, students, and readers of his works. Other correspondence includes letters about speaking engagements and honors and awards. Among the many notable correspondents are Jewel Spears Brooker, Cleanth Brooks, Fred Chappell, Brainard Cheney, William Cobb, Harry Crews, Donald Davidson, James Dickey, Sally Fitzgerald, Jessie Hill Ford, Ben Forkner, Michael Hargraves, Walter Havighurst, Harper Lee, Andrew Lytle, Frederick Manfred, Flannery O'Connor, M. L. Rosenthal, Monroe K. Spears, William Styron, Allen Tate, Robert Penn Warren, Floyd Watkins, and Melvin B. Yoken. This correspondence has been divided according to type, i.e., individual correspondents; publishing companies, presses, production companies, readers' services; and readers and students. It is then arranged alphabetically by name within each heading.

The correspondence soliciting Madison Jones's papers by Boston University and Auburn University located in Box 14: folder 20 have been removed and placed in the office files of the Special Collections department. Placeholder pages have been inserted in the file noting the items which have been removed.

Individual Correspondents

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<td>Bill M. Barnett, 1987</td>
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<td>Rick Barnett, 1984</td>
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<td>Henry Denmark Bell, 1968</td>
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<td>Madison Smartt Bell, 1979, 1985</td>
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<td>Madison Smartt Bell: Endorsement of <em>Last Thing</em>, 23 March 1989</td>
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<td>Christine Benagh, 1982</td>
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<td>John Bensko, no date</td>
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<td>Jewel Spears Brooker, 1983-1986</td>
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<td>Cleanth Brooks, 1982</td>
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<td>Fred Chappell, 1983-1986</td>
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<td>Fannie Cheney, 1982</td>
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William Cobb, 1984
Roger Cole, 1974, 1982
Malcolm Cowley, 1963
Elizabeth Cox, 1986
Harry Crews: Endorsement of *Last Thing*, 7 March 1989
Donald Davidson, 1968
Donald Davie, 1988
James Dickey, 1985
Walter P. Edge, 1985
O. B. Emerson, 1982
Michel Fabre, 1971
Irving Feldman, 1976
Sally Fitzgerald, 1979
Ben Forkner, 1985
Herbert E. Francis, 1984
Stanley Gettle, 1979
Richard J. Gray, 1969
Frank Green, 1986
E. R. Hagemann, 1967
James B. Hall, 1971
Michael Hargraves, 1982, 1985
Yolande C. Hasson, 1978
Walter Havighurst to Wickenden, 1960
Edward H. Hobbs, 1978
William Hoffman, 1989
Gene L. Howard, 1986
Jeff Humphries, 1985
Bowen Ingram, 1971
Harper Lee, 1987
Denver Lindley, no date [For additional Denver Lindley correspondence SEE ALSO Box 13: folders 13 and 28.]
Andrew Nelson Lytle, 1971, 1981, 1985, no date
Viola Goode Liddell, 1970
David McDowell, 1981 [Jessamyn West McPherson to Denver Lindley SEE Jessamyn West]
Frederick Manfred, 1974-1975, 1981
Wright Morris, 1983
John H. Napier, 1982
Flannery O'Connor, 1963
Douglas Paschall, 1985
William Parrill, 1985-1986
James Patrick, 1986
George [Peabody?], 1976
Walker Percy, 1971
Devin Perkins, 1990
Stuart Phillips, 1968
Jack Rook, 1972
Elise Sanguinetti, 1982
Roy Simmonds, 1986
William Slavick, 1981
Miller Solomon, no date
William Styron, 1980
Allen Tate, 1969, 1971, 1976, no date
Peter Hillsman Taylor, 1985
Simone Vauthier, 1975
Bill Walsh: Endorsement of Last Things, 22 Mar 1989
Robert Penn Warren, 1984-1985
Floyd C. Watkins, 1985
Sterling Watson, 1978, 1987
Jessamyn West to Denver Lindley, no date
John Wisner, 1950
Melvin B. Yoken, 1970, 1982
Peter D. Zivkovic, 1984, 1986
Envelopes: Glenn W. Jones, Mark Morrow, Dale Short, HDR, Jr.

Unidentified Correspondents
Brooks [?], 1970
Ilde [?], 1982
Jervie [?], 1980
Maltby [Sykes?], 1970
Mel [?], 1978

Publishing Companies, Presses, Production Companies, Readers' Services
Ace Books: Margaret Blackstone, 1982
Argus Communications: Edmund L. Leach, 1982
Cesco: Stewart Phillips, 1979
Chelsea House: Jeffrey Kosakov, 1986
Crown Publishers: Kaufman, Van Duym, Whipple, Schaffner, Seaver to David McDowell, 1971
Doubleday and Company, Inc.: Randall E. Greene, 1980
Doubleday and Company, Inc.: Envelope, 1982
Frederic C. Beil Publisher: Frederic C. Beil III, 1986
Halcyon Productions, Inc.: Harold [Colie?], 1969
Harcourt, Brace and Company, Inc.: Denver Lindley, 1956 [For additional Denver Lindley correspondence SEE ALSO Box 12: folder 3 and Box 13: folder 27.]
Houghton Mifflin Company: Joyce F. Hartman, 1953
Keystone Readers' Service of Birmingham: Don Bradshaw, 1968
Louisiana State University Press: Beverly Jarrett, 1984
Oxmoor House: John Logue, 1976
Peachtree Publishers, Ltd.: Chuck Perry, 1986
Viking Press, Inc.: Denver Lindley, 1963, no date [For additional Denver Lindley correspondence SEE ALSO Box 12: folder 3 and Box 13: folder 13.]
Viking Press, Inc.: Ursula Bender, 1970

Reviews
Southern Review: Lewis P. Simpson, 1984
Speaking Engagements and Symposia
13  32  *Alabama Journal and Advertiser*: Jubilee Writer's Symposium: May Lamar, 1984
13  33  Bellarmine College: Wade Hall, 1982
13  36  South Atlantic Modern Language Association: Christel Bell, 1982
13  37  Speech about Andrew Lytle: Manuscript, no date

Honors and Awards
13  38  Alabama Academy of Distinguished Authors: Lee N. Allen, 1982
13  39  Alabama Academy of Distinguished Authors: Speech about Madison Jones: Author unknown, no date
13  40  Alabama Library Association: Literary Awards Committee: W. Stanley Hoole, 1968
13  41  Auburn University Award for Faculty Achievement in the Humanities: Leah Rawls Atkins, 1986
13  42  Bruccoli Clark, Inc.: *Dictionary of Literary Biography Yearbook*: J. M. Brook, 1986
13  43  Bruccoli Clark, Inc.: *Dictionary of Literary Biography Yearbook*: Jean W. Ross, 1986

Correspondence from Readers and Students
14  1  George Andrews, 1969
14  2  Evelyn Bickford, 1985
14  3  Brad Byrd, 1986
14  4  Johnathan Carroll, no date
14  5  Cecil N. Dern, 1977
14  6  Lee Anne Edwards, 1983
14  7  First National Bank of Auburn, 1970
14  8  Father Gene: St. Michael's Church, 1978
14  9  Ken Hubner, no date
14  10  Steve Juscik, 1986
14  11  Sister Joseph Marie, S.S.N.D., 1970
14  12  Dan Monte, 1983
14  13  Raymond Moses, 1983
14  14  Mrs. Billie S. Mosiman, 1978
14  15  Glen Pourciau, 1978
14  16  Dave Smith, 1979
14  17  Cecil I. Warren, 1963
14  18  Harris Westerfield, 1961
14  19  Thomas Worthington to Madison P. Jones (father), 1957

**Correspondence soliciting Jones's papers**

**Series 3**
**Personal materials, 1975, 1982**
**Box 15**

**Scope and Content Note**
Personal Materials, Series 3, 1975, 1982, contains a copy of Madison Jones’s vita, a telephone bill from Dublin, information regarding an Orangeburg County, South Carolina, Industrial Development Revenue Bond, and a story written by student Scarlett Robinson entitled "Leave Taking".

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<th>Box</th>
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<th>Content</th>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vita, no date</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Financial: Department of Posts and Telegraphs bill, Dublin, Ireland, 1975</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Financial: Orangeburg County, South Carolina, Industrial Development Revenue Bond, Series 1982</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Short story: &quot;Leave Taking&quot; by Scarlett Robinson, no date</td>
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