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# Clarence Pierce Collection

## MUM00364

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### ACCESS RESTRICTIONS

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**This collection is stored at an off-site facility. Researchers using this collection must contact Archives and Special Collections at least two business days in advance of their planned visit to request box transfers.**

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### SUMMARY INFORMATION

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**Repository**

University of Mississippi Libraries

**Creator**

Pierce, Clarence, 1921-

**Title**

Clarence Pierce Collection

**ID**

MUM00364

**Date [inclusive]**

1946-1995

**Extent**

1 box

**Abstract:**

Collection of letters, speeches, clippings and photograph primarily pertaining to Pierce, U.S. Senator James O. Eastland and Vaiden, Mississippi.

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### **Preferred Citation**

Clarence Pierce Collection, Archives and Special Collections, J.D. Williams Library, The University of Mississippi

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### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

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Clarence Pierce was born in Thornton, Mississippi and received his B.A. in Education from the University of Mississippi in 1950. He was the Carroll County Representative to the Mississippi Legislature from 1952-1984. Between 1964 and 1968, Pierce also served as a staff assistant for U.S. Senator James O. Eastland; from 1968 to 1972, he was an employee of the U.S. Senate.

During his last ten years in the Mississippi House (1974-1984), Pierce chaired its Highway Financing Committee. During the last two years, he also chaired the Transportation Committee of the Southern Legislative Conference of the Council of State Governments. After leaving the legislature, Pierce served as Clerk of the U.S. District Court in the Southern District of Mississippi.

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### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

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Dating from 1946 to 1995, the Clarence Pierce Collection consists mostly of letters along with a few speeches, clippings, and photograph images. The subject matter is primarily Pierce, U.S. Senator James O. Eastland, or Vaiden, Mississippi.

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### **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

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#### **Publication Information**

University of Mississippi Libraries 16 July 2009

#### **Access Restrictions**

The Clarence Pierce Collection is open for research. This collection is stored at an off-site facility. Researchers

interested in using this collection must contact Archives and Special Collections at least two business days in advance of their planned visit.

### **Copyright Restrictions**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specified conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be "used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship or research." If a user makes a request for, or later uses, a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excess of "fair use", that user may be liable for copyright infringement.

### **Additions**

No further additions are expected to this collection.

### **Acquisition Information**

Clarence Pierce donated the collection to Special Collections in 1995 with later additions in 1996 and 2013.

### **Processing Information**

Leigh McWhite revised the collection finding aid in July 2008. Finding aid encoded by Jason Kovari, 16 July 2009. Finding aid updated in 2014 by McWhite and encoded by Susan Ivey.

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## **RELATED MATERIALS**

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### **Resources at the University of Mississippi**

James O. Eastland Collection. The finding aid for this congressional collection is available online at <http://purl.oclc.org/umarchives/MUM00117/>

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## **CONTROLLED ACCESS HEADINGS**

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### **Corporate Name(s)**

- Mississippi. Legislature. House of Representatives
- United States. Congress. Senate

### Format(s)

- clippings (information artifacts)
- correspondence
- photocopies
- photographs
- speeches

### Geographic Name(s)

- Vaiden (Miss.)

### Personal Name(s)

- Eastland, James O. (James Oliver), 1904-1986
- Pierce, Clarence, 1921-

### Subject(s)

- Mississippi. State Highway Commission
- Politicians -- Mississippi
- Roads

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## COLLECTION INVENTORY

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### Folder 1

Letter from Lieutenant Governor Fielding L. Wright to Pierce, 18 February 1946.

#### Scope and Content

Regarding Pierce's service as a page in the Mississippi Senate.

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### Folder 2

Letter dated from J.D. Williams, Chancellor of University of Mississippi, to Pierce, 29 August 1951.

#### Scope and Content

Regarding congratulations upon Pierce's election to the Mississippi House of Representatives, assistance of the university.

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**Folder 3**

Letter from Walter Sillers, Attorney, to Pierce, 8 September 1951.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding Siller's candidacy for Mississippi Speaker of the House.

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**Folder 4**

Letter from J.D. Williams, Chancellor of University of Mississippi, to Pierce, 23 September 1955.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding an invitation to buffet luncheon and homecoming game for state officials.

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**Folder 5**

Letter from J.D. Williams, Chancellor of University of Mississippi, to Pierce, 27 September 1955.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding an invitation to visit campus.

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**Folder 6**

Letter from J.D. Williams, Chancellor of University of Mississippi, to Pierce, 17 October 1955.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding thank you for visit to campus.

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## Folder 7

Letter dated from J.D. Williams, Chancellor of University of Mississippi, to Pierce, 23 November 1955.

### Scope and Content

Regarding controversy over speaker invitation issued by the Committee of One Hundred to Reverend Kershaw.

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## Folder 8

Letter from U.S. Representative Frank E. Smith of Mississippi to Pierce, 17 February 1958.

### Scope and Content

Regarding thanks for *Clarion-Ledger* clipping, possibility of Charlie Sullivan running for Congress, U.S. Senator James O. Eastland.

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## Folder 9

Letter from Walter Sillers, Speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives, to Governor Farris Bryant, Director of the Office of Emergency Planning in Washington, DC, 9 June 1966.

### Scope and Content

Regarding attendance of Pierce at White House Conference for State Legislative Leaders.

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## Folder 10

Letter from U.S. Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey to Pierce, 30 June 1966.

### Scope and Content

Regarding Pierce's attendance at the National Legislative Leaders Conference sponsored by the Office of Emergency Planning.

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**Folder 11**

Letter from Naomi French to Pierce, 20 August 1970.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding Mississippi House Highways and Highway Financing Committee.

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**Folder 12**

Letter from U.S. Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit Judge James P. Coleman to Pierce, 29 March 1971.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding approval of Mississippi House bill no. 780 on the preservation of history.

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**Folder 13**

Letter from Lewis Powell to U.S. Senator James O. Eastland, 14 November 1971.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding thank you for assistance during judicial confirmation process.

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**Folder 14**

Letter from C.B. "Buddie" Newman, Speaker of the Mississippi House to Pierce, 6 April 1976.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding Pierce's appointment to Mississippi American Revolution Bicentennial Commission.

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## Folder 15

Letter from U.S. Representative Jamie L. Whitten of Mississippi to Pierce, 24 March 1977.

### Scope and Content

Regarding congratulations on recognition of Pierce.

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## Folder 16

**FOLDER**  
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Letter from Herbert L. Wiltsee, Executive Director of the Council of State Governments (retired), to Pierce, 12 December 1978.

### Scope and Content

Regarding gratitude for Pierce's cooperation and counsel.

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## Folder 17

Letter from Gerald R. Ford to Pierce, 5 July 1985.

### Scope and Content

Regarding congressional service with U.S. James O. Eastland, dedication of U.S. Courthouse in Jackson, Mississippi named in Eastland's honor.

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## Folder 18

Letter from Woods [E. Eastland] to Clarence [Pierce], 3 September 1985.

### Scope and Content

Regarding thank you for work on luncheon and reception honoring James O. Eastland, Pierce's friendship with the Eastland family.

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## Folder 19

Letter U.S. Senator John McCain of Arizona to Pierce, 28 October 1991.

### **Scope and Content**

Regarding thank you for 1893 Carroll County tax record with McCain family references.

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## Folder 20

Letter from Winston P. Churchill, House of Commons, to Pierce, 15 June 1993.

### **Scope and Content**

Regarding the growth of minority population in British cities, Pierce's letter of support.

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## Folder 21

Letter from Shelby Foote to Bill Lee, 11 July 1993.

### **Scope and Content**

Regarding Pierce's eulogy of Mississippi Confederates, U.S. Senator James O. Eastland.

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## Folder 22

Photocopy of original letter in Folder 21.

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## Folder 23

Letter from Roman L. Hruska to Pierce, 26 April 1995.

### **Scope and Content**

Regarding U.S. Senator James O. Eastland, Hruska's visits to Mississippi, U.S. Senator John C. Stennis.

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#### Folder 24

Invitation from Mr. and Mrs. Bobby L. Chain to Dr. Tom Dulin and Clarence Pierce, 14 May (year unknown).

##### **Scope and Content**

Regarding reception honoring U.S. senators James O. Eastland and Edward M. Kennedy in Oxford, Mississippi.

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#### Folder 25

Deed to Vaiden Hill Church for "the colored people of my neighborhood," 1 May 1871.

Article in the Memphis *Commercial Appeal* (1 December 1929).

##### **Scope and Content**

Regarding the founding of Vaiden, Mississippi.

Letter from Carl D. Mullican Jr. at the University of Mississippi Bureau of Business Research to Pierce, 10 July 1950.

##### **Scope and Content**

Regarding Pierce leaving UM and their shared experiences as roommates.

Letter from U.S. Representative John F. Kennedy to Edgar J. Stephens Jr. in New Albany, Mississippi, 16 September 1952.

##### **Scope and Content**

Regarding Mississippi politics, campaign in Massachusetts.

Letter from Walter Sillers to Pierce, 26 September 1955.

##### **Scope and Content**

Regarding Mississippi Speaker of the House contest.

Letter from U.S. Representative George S. Long of Louisiana to Pierce, 23 May 195[6].

##### **Scope and Content**

Regarding Long's connection with the Pierce family.

Letter from Charlotte Capers, Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives & History, to Pierce, 4 August 1965.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding the number of Mississippians killed at the Battle of Gettysburg during the Civil War

Newspaper clipping "Rep. Pierce Chairman of House Committee" Jackson *Clarion-Ledger* (2 August 1970).

Letter from Reverend John M. Allin, Bishop of the Mississippi Diocese, to Pierce, 1 October 1970.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding thanks for tickets to the Mississippi State-University of Mississippi games.

Letter from Reverend John M. Allin, Bishop of Diocese of Mississippi, to Pierce, 25 May 1973.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding Allin's possible nomination for the Office of Presiding Bishop.

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**Folder 26**

Manuscript "Address by Senator James O. Eastland Dedication, Mississippi Memorial Gettysburg National Military Park, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Friday, October 19, 1973."

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**Folder 27**

Letter from Parham Williams, Dean of University of Mississippi Law Center, to Pierce, 11 April 1974.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding thank you for help securing appropriation for new law center facility.

Letter from Porter L. Fortune, Chancellor of the University of Mississippi, to Pierce, 11 April 1975.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding thank you for legislative service.

Letter from M.L. Agnew Jr. to Pierce, 16 August 1974.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding photograph of Agnew and Pierce at installation of Jack Allin, time shared at St. Clement's in Vaiden.

Letter from U.S. Senator John C. Stennis of Mississippi to Pierce, 27 April 1976.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding enjoying Vaiden Bicentennial celebration.

Letter from J.L. Norwood, Associate Director of the National Park Service, to U.S. Senator John C. Stennis of Mississippi, 28 April 197[8].

**Scope and Content**

Regarding the Natchez Trace Parkway, Tennessee-Tombigbee Canal bridge.

"Committee on Transportation, Southern Legislative Conference of the Council of State Governors, Steering Committee 1978-79."

**Scope and Content**

Regarding Pierce named as chairman.

Letter from D. Gardiner Tyler of Charles City, Virginia to Pierce, 3 January 1980.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding the enclosed map with location of Vaiden's marked.

Newspaper clipping. "A Truck-Weight Summit" *Memphis Commercial Appeal* (4 May 1980).

**Scope and Content**

Regarding summit on truck weights with Mississippi, Tennessee, and Arkansas governors, Pierce' role.

Newspaper clipping. "Pierce sponsors bill to redefine corridor system" *Greenwood Commonwealth* (1980).

**Scope and Content**

Regarding Pierce and highway legislation.

Newspaper clipping. "Departing Pierce Is Given Commendation by House" (January 1981).

**Scope and Content**

Regarding Pierce's retirement from legislature.

Letter from Pierce to Sam Waggoner, Mississippi Highway Commissioner, 21 April 1982.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding refusing honor of having a hospitality location on Interstate 55 in Holmes County named after him.

Letter from John O. Pastore to Pierce, 31 July 1985.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding James O. Eastland.

Letter from U.S. Senator John C. Stennis of Mississippi to James O. Eastland, 31 July 1985.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding naming of federal courthouse after Eastland.

Letter from Mr. & Mrs. William Gahan of St. Andrews, Tennessee to Pierce, 16 February 1986.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding Pierce's mother.

Letter from Woods Eastland to Pierce, 14 September 1990.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding thank you for comments on James O. Eastland during dedication of Interstate 55 marker.

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**Folder 28**

Newspaper clipping. "Pierce named to head important roads committee."

**Scope and Content**

Regarding the House Committee on Highways and Highway Finance.

Manuscript.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding speech for dedication of Carroll County, Mississippi Herbert R. Power Medical Facility.

Manuscript.

**Scope and Content**

Regarding speech for naming of road after Frank Hawkins.

Newspaper clipping. "To the Citizens of Carroll and Leflore Counties."

**Scope and Content**

Regarding Pierce advertisement for reelection to legislature.

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#### Folder 29

Copies of Photographs

Color photograph of Harry Truman inscribed to Pierce (9 May 1963).

Black-and-white photograph of Joseph Vaiden Herring (1851-1908).

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#### Folder 30

Letter from Supreme Court Justice William H. Rehnquist to Pierce. 10 September 1985.

##### **Scope and Content**

Regarding Rehnquist's recollections of U.S. Senator James O. Eastland.

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#### Folder 31

Letter from U.S. Senator John C. Stennis of Mississippi to Pierce, 10 December 1973.

##### **Scope and Content**

Regarding Christmas greetings.

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#### Folder 32

Ticket admitting bearer to Senate Gallery for the Impeachment Trial of the President Bill Clinton. 7 January 1999.

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