

University of Mississippi

eGrove

Archives & Special Collections: Finding Aids

Library

November 2020

Finding Aid for the Clarence Pierce Collection (MUM00364)

Follow this and additional works at: https://egrove.olemiss.edu/finding_aids

Recommended Citation

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

This Finding Aid is brought to you for free and open access by the Library at eGrove. It has been accepted for inclusion in Archives & Special Collections: Finding Aids by an authorized administrator of eGrove. For more information, please contact egrove@olemiss.edu.

Finding Aid for the Clarence Pierce Collection (MUM00364)

[Questions? Contact us!](#)

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.

Finding Aid for the Clarence Pierce Collection

Table of Contents

[Descriptive Summary](#)

[Administrative Information](#)

[Subject Terms](#)

[Biographical Note](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[User Information](#)

[Related Material](#)

[Container List](#)

Descriptive Summary

Title:	Clarence Pierce Collection
Dates:	1946-1995
Collector:	Pierce, Clarence, 1921-
Physical Extent:	1 box
Repository:	University of Mississippi. Department of Archives and Special Collections. University, MS 38677, USA
Identification:	MUM00364
Location:	Library Annex H18
Language of Material:	English
Abstract:	Collection of letters, speeches, clippings and photograph primarily pertaining to Pierce, U.S. Senator James O. Eastland and Vaiden, Mississippi.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

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

Processing Information

Leigh McWhite revised the collection finding aid in July 2008. Finding aid encoded by Jason Kovari, 16 July 2009.

Additions

No further additions are expected to this collection.

Subject Terms

Pierce, Clarence, 1921-
Mississippi. Legislature. House of Representatives
United States. Congress. Senate
Eastland, James O. (James Oliver), 1904-1986
Mississippi. State Highway Commission
Vaiden (Miss.)
Roads
Politicians -- Mississippi

Formats

photocopies
correspondence
clippings (information artifacts)
speeches
photographs

Biographical Note

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.

Scope and Content Note

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.

User Information

Preferred Citation

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

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.

Related Material

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/>

Container List

- Folder 1 Photocopy typed letter dated 18 February 1946 from Lieutenant Governor Fielding L. Wright to Pierce, re: Pierce's service as a page in the Mississippi Senate.
- Folder 2 Typed letter dated 29 August 1951 from J.D. Williams, Chancellor of University of Mississippi, to Pierce, re: congratulations upon Pierce's election to the Mississippi House of Representatives, assistance of the university.
- Folder 3 Photocopy typed letter dated 8 September 1951 from Walter Sillers, Attorney, to Pierce, re: Siller's candidacy for Mississippi Speaker of the House.
- Folder 4 Typed letter dated 23 September 1955 from J.D. Williams, Chancellor of University of Mississippi, to Pierce, re: invitation to buffet luncheon and homecoming game for state officials.
- Folder 5 Typed letter dated 27 September 1955 from J.D. Williams, Chancellor of University of Mississippi, to Pierce, re: invitation to visit campus.
- Folder 6 Typed letter dated 17 October 1955 from J.D. Williams, Chancellor of University of Mississippi, to Pierce, re: thank you for visit to campus.
- Folder 7 Photocopy typed letter dated 23 November 1955 from J.D. Williams, Chancellor of University of Mississippi, to Pierce, re: controversy over speaker invitation issued by the Committee of One Hundred to

Reverend Kershaw.

- Folder 8 Photocopy typed letter dated 17 February 1958 from U.S. Representative Frank E. Smith of Mississippi to Pierce, re: thanks for *Clarion-Ledger* clipping, possibility of Charlie Sullivan running for Congress, U.S. Senator James O. Eastland.
- Folder 9 Photocopy typed letter dated 9 June 1966 from Walter Sillers, Speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives, to Governor Farris Bryant, Director of the Office of Emergency Planning in Washington, DC, re: attendance of Pierce at White House Conference for State Legislative Leaders.
- Folder 10 Photocopy typed letter dated 30 June 1966 from U.S. Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey to Pierce, re: Pierce's attendance at the National Legislative Leaders Conference sponsored by the Office of Emergency Planning.
- Folder 11 Photocopy typed letter dated 20 August 1970 from Naomi French to Pierce, re: Mississippi House Highways and Highway Financing Committee.
- Folder 12 Photocopy typed letter dated 29 March 1971 from U.S. Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit Judge James P. Coleman to Pierce, re: approval of Mississippi House bill no. 780 on the preservation of history.
- Folder 13 Photocopy typed letter dated 14 November 1971 from Lewis Powell to U.S. Senator James O. Eastland, re: thank you for assistance during judicial confirmation process.
- Folder 14 Photocopy typed letter dated 6 April 1976 from C.B. "Buddie" Newman, Speaker of the Mississippi House to Pierce, re: Pierce's appointment to Mississippi American Revolution Bicentennial Commission.
- Folder 15 Photocopy typed letter dated 24 March 1977 from U.S. Representative Jamie L. Whitten of Mississippi to Pierce, re: congratulations on recognition of Pierce.
- Folder 16 Photocopy typed letter dated 12 December 1978 from Herbert L. Wiltsee, Executive Director of the Council of State Governments (retired), to Pierce, re: gratitude for Pierce's cooperation and counsel.
- Folder 17 Typed letter dated 5 July 1985 from Gerald R. Ford to Pierce, re: congressional service with U.S. James O. Eastland, dedication of U.S. Courthouse in Jackson, Mississippi named in Eastland's honor.
- Folder 18 Photocopy handwritten letter dated 3 September 1985 from Woods [E. Eastland] to Clarence [Pierce], re: thank you for work on luncheon and reception honoring James O. Eastland, Pierce's friendship with the Eastland family.
- Folder 19 Photocopy typed letter dated 28 October 1991 U.S. Senator John McCain of Arizona to Pierce, re: thank you for 1893 Carroll County tax record with McCain family references.
- Folder 20 Photocopy handwritten letter dated 15 June 1993 from Winston P. Churchill, House of Commons, to Pierce, re: growth of minority population in British cities, Pierce's letter of support.
- Folder 21 Handwritten letter dated 11 July 1993 from Shelby Foote to Bill Lee, re: Pierce's eulogy of Mississippi Confederates, U.S. Senator James O. Eastland.
- Folder 22 Photocopy of original letter in Folder 21.
- Folder 23 Photocopy typed letter dated 26 April 1995 from Roman L. Hruska to Pierce, re: U.S. Senator James O. Eastland, Hruska's visits to Mississippi, U.S. Senator John C. Stennis.
- Folder 24 Photocopy of invitation 14 May (year unknown) from Mr. and Mrs. Bobby L. Chain to Dr. Tom Dulin and Clarence Pierce, re: reception honoring U.S. senators James O. Eastland and Edward M. Kennedy in Oxford, Mississippi.
- Folder 25 Photocopy of deed to Vaiden Hill Church dated 1 May 1871 for "the colored people of my neighborhood."
Photocopy of article in the *Memphis Commercial Appeal* (1 December 1929), re: founding of Vaiden, Mississippi.
Photocopy of typed letter dated 10 July 1950 from Carl D. Mullican Jr. at the University of Mississippi

Bureau of Business Research to Pierce, re: Pierce leaving UM and their shared experiences as roommates.

Photocopy of typed letter dated 16 September 1952 from U.S. Representative John F. Kennedy to Edgar J. Stephens Jr. in New Albany, Mississippi, re: Mississippi politics, campaign in Massachusetts.

Typed letter dated 26 September 1955 from Walter Sillers to Pierce, re: Mississippi Speaker of the House contest.

Photocopy typed letter dated 23 May 195[6] from U.S. Representative George S. Long of Louisiana to Pierce, re: Long's connection with the Pierce family.

Photocopy typed letter dated 4 August 1965 from Charlotte Capers, Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives & History, to Pierce, re: number of Mississippians killed at the Battle of Gettysburg during the Civil War

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

Photocopy of handwritten letter dated 1 October 1970 from Reverend John M. Allin, Bishop of the Mississippi Diocese, to Pierce, re: thanks for tickets to the Mississippi State-University of Mississippi games.

Photocopy of typed letter dated 25 May 1973 from Reverend John M. Allin, Bishop of Diocese of Mississippi, to Pierce, re: Allin's possible nomination for the Office of Presiding Bishop.

Folder 26 Typed manuscript "Address by Senator James O. Eastland Dedication, Mississippi Memorial Gettysburg National Military Park, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Friday, October 19, 1973."

Folder 27 Typed letter dated 11 April 1974 from Parham Williams, Dean of University of Mississippi Law Center, to Pierce, re: thank you for help securing appropriation for new law center facility.

Photocopy typed letter dated 16 August 1974 from M.L. Agnew Jr. to Pierce, re: photograph of Agnew and Pierce at installation of Jack Allin, time shared at St. Clement's in Vaiden.

Photocopy typed letter dated 11 April 1975 from Porter L. Fortune, Chancellor of the University of Mississippi, to Pierce, re: thank you for legislative service.

Photocopy typed letter dated 27 April 1976 from U.S. Senator John C. Stennis of Mississippi to Pierce, re: enjoyed Vaiden Bicentennial celebration.

Photocopy of typed letter dated 28 April 197[8] from J.L. Norwood, Associate Director of the National Park Service, to U.S. Senator John C. Stennis of Mississippi, re: Natchez Trace Parkway, Tennessee-Tombigbee Canal bridge.

Photocopy typed document "Committee on Transportation, Southern Legislative Conference of the Council of State Governors, Steering Committee 1978-79," re: Pierce named as chairman.

Photocopy handwritten letter dated 3 January 1980 from D. Gardiner Tyler of Charles City, Virginia to Pierce, re: enclosed map with location of Vaiden's marked.

Photocopy newspaper clipping. "A Truck-Weight Summit" Memphis *Commercial Appeal* (4 May 1980), re: summit on truck weights with Mississippi, Tennessee, and Arkansas governors, Pierce' role.

Photocopy newspaper clipping. "Pierce sponsors bill to redefine corridor system" *Greenwood Commonwealth* (1980), re: Pierce and highway legislation.

Photocopy newspaper clipping. "Departing Pierce Is Given Commendation by House" (January 1981), re: Pierce's retirement from legislature.

Photocopy typed letter dated 21 April 1982 from Pierce to Sam Waggoner, Mississippi Highway Commissioner, re: refusing honor of having a hospitality location on Interstate 55 in Holmes County named after him.

Photocopy typed letter dated 31 July 1985 from John O. Pastore to Pierce, re: James O. Eastland.

Photocopy typed letter dated 31 July 1985 from U.S. Senator John C. Stennis of Mississippi to James O. Eastland, re: naming of federal courthouse after Eastland.

Photocopy typed letter dated 16 February 1986 from Mr. & Mrs. William Gahan of St. Andrews, Tennessee to Pierce, re: Pierce's mother.

Photocopy typed letter dated 14 September 1990 from Woods Eastland to Pierce, re: thank you for comments on James O. Eastland during dedication of Interstate 55 marker.

Folder 28 Photocopy newspaper clipping. "Pierce named to head important roads committee," re: House Committee on Highways and Highway Finance.

Photocopy typed manuscript, re: speech for dedication of Carroll County, Mississippi Herbert R. Power Medical Facility.

Photocopy typed manuscript, re: speech for naming of road after Frank Hawkins.

Photocopy newspaper clipping. "To the Citizens of Carroll and Leflore Counties," re: Pierce advertisement for reelection to legislature.

Folder 29 Copies of Photographs

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

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

Folder 30 Typed letter dated 10 September 1985 from Supreme Court Justice William H. Rehnquist to Pierce, re: Rehnquist's recollections of U.S. Senator James O. Eastland.