Bernard Malamud:
A Preliminary Inventory of His Papers at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Malamud, Bernard 1914-1986
Title: Bernard Malamud Papers
Dates: 1940-1996
Extent: 32 boxes (13.23 linear feet)
Abstract: The collection consists primarily of incoming and outgoing correspondence, as well as appointment calendars, articles, audio tapes, essays, holograph notebooks and manuscripts, interviews, lectures, office files, reviews, and typescripts.
Call Number: Manuscript Collection MS-04783
Language: English
Access: Open for research

Administrative Information

Acquisition: Purchase (R 14069) and Gift (G 11121), 1997
Processed by: Liz Murray, 1998
Repository: Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin
Scope and Contents

This collection of correspondence and papers of American novelist and short story writer Bernard Malamud was received through his wife Ann de Chira Malamud, both as a purchase and a gift. The collection consists primarily of incoming and outgoing correspondence, as well as appointment calendars, articles, audio tapes, essays, holograph notebooks and manuscripts, interviews, lectures, office files, reviews, and typescripts. Much of the collection had been identified and arranged prior to receipt at the Ransom Center. Some penciled identifications appear to be in Malamud's hand, especially in the correspondence series. For the most part, original folder titles were used in the inventory as given, with bracketed information added during accessioning.

The collection is arranged in four series: I. Correspondence, 1941-1996 (18 boxes); II. Writings, 1930s-1982 (3 boxes); III. Career-Related Material, 1940-1989 (7 boxes); and IV. About Malamud, 1960s-1990, nd (2 boxes).

The Correspondence Series, spanning Malamud's teaching and writing career (1949-86), contains individual correspondent files as well as subject files for acquaintances, American writers, fan letters, and friends. The largest group of letters is from Malamud's brother Eugene, from the 1940s to 1970s. Several folders of correspondence with Malamud's literary agency Russell & Volkening, especially Diarmuid Russell, complement a larger collection of Russell & Volkening correspondence previously received at the Ransom Center. Prominent literary correspondents include John Barth, Ben Belitt, Saul Bellow, Kay Boyle, Harold Brodkey, Kenneth Burke, John Cheever, Malcolm Cowley, Ralph Ellison, Leslie Fiedler, Robert Giroux, Herbert Gold, Lillian Hellman, John Hersey, Granville Hicks, Irving Howe, Alfred Kazin, Frank Kermode, Archibald MacLeish, Norman Mailer, Howard Nemerov, Edna O'Brien, Flannery O'Connor, Joyce Carol Oates, Cynthia Ozick, Philip Rahv, Theodore Roethke, Philip Roth, C. P. Snow, Lionel Trilling, John Updike, Kurt Vonnegut, Robert Penn Warren, and Eudora Welty. Correspondence after Malamud's death (1986-96) deals mainly with his estate and other literary affairs. Of note are three folders of Malamud's letters to his wife Ann, dating from 1941 to 1968. These letters were restricted until Ann's death in 2007 and were released in 2009.

Letters for some correspondents appear both in their individual folder and in subject folders. Malamud's folder titles were transferred to new folders and his original folders were retained. Original order was also maintained within folders, usually a rough chronological or alphabetical sequence. Scattered throughout the files are copies of Malamud's letters, as well as numerous holograph drafts. Most incoming letters lack envelopes.

Malamud's writings in Series II comprise holograph and typescript manuscripts as well as holograph notebooks. Early notes for three novels are present: "The Apprentice," later called *The Assistant*, "The Juggler" which became *Dubin's Lives*, and a chapter fragment for *The Tenants*. Also present are typescripts of "The People," edited by Ann Malamud which was published posthumously as *The People and Uncollected Stories*. Notes on other authors' works, story ideas and stories which appeared in *The Erasmian*,

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writings about his brother Eugene, and memoir drafts are included.

Series III. Career-Related Material, contains Subseries A. Appointment Calendars and Subseries B. Business and Personal Papers. The appointment calendars in Subseries A, 1968-1986, offer a full account of Malamud's meetings and whereabouts for more than twenty years. The business and personal papers in Subseries B include topics such as expenses, house ownership, income, stock inventories, literary executors, disposition of the Malamud library, medical information, professional events and associations, honors, awards, honorary degrees, and travel.

The last series, Series IV. About Malamud, contains articles, essays, interviews, and reviews about Malamud's work as well as bio-bibliographical information, condolence letters, and special events in tribute to Malamud. Audio tapes are present in cassette and reel-to-reel format including interviews, readings, talks, and tributes such as discussion of *A New Life*, Corvallis, Oregon, 1961; short story reading at Farleigh Dickinson University, 1978; Poetry Center reading, April 1985; interview with Townsend Ludington, England; and PEN/Malamud Award Reading and Ceremony, 1993 and 1994.

In all, the collection is in good condition although Malamud used a highly-acidic paper for much of his correspondence copies.

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**Separated Material**

A few serial publications received with the papers were transferred to the Ransom Center Library.

Three numbered etchings by Karl Schrag, "Cloud, Rain and Sea," "Nightmist and Rising Moon," and "Summer House," were transferred to the Ransom Center Art Collection.

Sound recording were transferred to the Center's Sound Recording Collection.
I. Correspondence, 1941-1996

Acquaintances, 1950-86

A-E

F-I

J-Z

Aiken, George D. (see 14.20)

American writers, 1944-90

A-D

E-G

H-L

H-L (cont'd)

M-P

Q-S

T-Z

Ames, Elizabeth (director of Yaddo), 1958-73

Andrus, Katharine Seldes (see 17.11)

Artists, painters, sculptors, 1961-86

A-L

O-W

Ashton, Dore and Matti Meggid, 1962-85

Atlas, James, n.d.

Auchincloss, Louis, 1976
Baker, Ida, 1960-1980, n.d. [also letters to the Malamuds from Philip Roth]  
Folder 4

Barth, John, 1966  
Folder 5

Bartheleme, Donald, 1977  
Folder 6

Beck, Rosemarie [photocopies of letters from BM to RB, 1962-72]  
Folder 7

Becker, Steve, 1970s-80s  
Folder 8

Beeken, David (see 8.2)  

Belitt, Ben, 1965-83  
Box 3 Folder 9

Bellow, Saul, 1950s-81, n.d.  
Folder 10

Bennington College  
Folder 11

Ben-Zion, 1950-69  
Folder 12

Berman, Shelley (see 14.20)  

Bernays, Anne (see 11.8)  

Birstein, Ann (see 11.10)  

Blaise, Clark and Bharti Mukherjee, 1961-86  
Box 3 Folder 13

Blaise (cont'd)  
Box 4 Folder 1

Folder 2

Bliven, Naomi, 1980-83  
Folder 3

Bloom, Claire (see 16.5)  

Böll, Heinrich, 1972  
Box 4 Folder 4

Boyle, Kay, 1971, 1980-85  
Folder 5

Brodkey, Harold, 1979-86  
Folder 6

Broughton, Alan, 1979-82  
Folder 7
Buckingham, Richard (see 8.1)

Burke, Kenneth, 1964-84

Calisher, Hortense (see 10.9)

Cantor, Jay, 1960s-80s, n.d.

Carson, Josephine (Rider), 1970s-85

Carver, Catharine, 1950-64, n.d.

Cheever, John and Mary, 1970s-82, n.d.

Cheuse, Alan, 1970-86

Cohen, Arthur, 1980

Coover, Robert, 1984


Crow, Charles, 1945-46

Davis, Mrs. Edward (see 4.2)

Davis, Robert and Hope, 1954-84

Decter, Midge (see 14.16)

Delbanco, Nicholas, 1968-86, n.d.

Dunn, Robert, 1981-85

Ellison, Ralph, 1959

Ellman, Richard, 1962-79

Elman, Richard, 1971-1980s

Evslin, Dorothy (Mrs. Bernard), 1946-67, n.d.

Fan letters (letters from public)
With comments/notes by Bern, 1960s-80s

1960s

1970s

1980-86

1986, after BM's death

People who think they may be related to BM

Farrar, Straus & Giroux, Inc., 1980s-1996

Feder, Stuart, 1977-81, n.d.

Feiffer, Jules and Judy, 1981, n.d.

Fiction contests, BM as judge

Fiedler, Leslie, 1955-83

Film proposals, 1962-86

Foreign writers, 1962-85

Former students, 1961-86

A-G

H-K

L-Z

Forster, E. M. [photograph of E. M. F. and Richard Buckingham by George Platt Lynes, 1949]

Fredericks, Claude and David Beeken, 1966-85

Friends

A-B
Malamud, Bernard 1914-1986

C-Ch

Co-D

E

F-H

K

L

M

N-R

S

T

W-Z

Folder 4

Folder 5

Folder 6

Folder 7

Folder 8

Folder 9

Folder 1

Folder 2

Folder 3

Folder 4

Folder 5

Folder 6

Box 9

Folder 7

Box 10

Folder 1

Folder 2-3

Folder 4

Folder 5

Folder 6

Folder 7

Folder 9


[letters from the Malamuds to the Garrisons, 1968-84]

Giroux, Robert, 1961-84 [includes articles written by RG]

Gold, Herbert, 1953-1960s, n.d.

Golffing, Francis, 1967-85

Gould, Elliott (see 14.20)

Harcourt, Brace, and Company, 1950-59 [Robert Giroux and others, especially re: The Natural]

Harnak, Curt and Hortense Calisher, 1975-84
Hawkes, Jack and Sophie, 1961-83

Folder 10

Hellman, Lillian, 1957-74

Folder 11

Hersey, John, 1965

Folder 12

Hicks, Granville and Dottie [and family], 1961-84

Folder 13

Hovland, Sue [also Anne Hovland and other family members], 1961-1980s

Folder 14

Hovland (cont'd)

Box 11 Folder 1


Folder 2

Howes, Barbara, 1969

Folder 3

Humphrey, Hubert H. (see 14.20)

Inge, William, 1961

Box 11 Folder 4

Inkeles (Alex, Bernadette, Ann), 1949-85

Folder 5-6

Jacobson, Herb L., 1976

Folder 7

Johnson, Lyndon B. (see 14.20)

Johnson, Pamela H. (see 18.2)

Kaplan, Justin and Anne Bernays, 1968-85

Box 11 Folder 8

Karchmer, Sylvan [BM's letters (photocopies) to SK, 1952-71]

Folder 9

Kazin, Alfred and Ann Birstein, 1952-83

Folder 10

Kennedy, William, 1966-85

Folder 11

Kerber, Hans and Bea (see 17.8)

Box 11 Folder 12

Kermode, Frank, 1961-82
Malamud, Bernard 1914-1986

Kessler, Jascha, 1961-85

Kollek, Teddy (see 14.20)

Kremetz, Jill (see 18.12)


Latham, Edward, 1980

Leahy, Patrick J. (see 14.20)

Lehmann-Haupt, Chris and Natalie Robins, 1963-73

Lewis, Ebba and Gene (see 17.8)

Loeb, Ben, 1963-85, n.d.

Lynes, George Platt (see 8.1)

Macdonald, Cynthia, 1976-79

MacLeish, Archibald, 1979, n.d.

Mailer, Norman, 1977, 1984

Malamud, Ann [BM's wife], 1941-68

Malamud, Eugene [BM's brother]
  1940s
  1950-52
  1953-59
  1960s
  1970s

Manning, Robert, 1966-80

Martin, Ethel and George (see 17.8)

Masters, Hilary, 1980-86

Manuscript Collection MS-04783

Folder 1

Box 11 Folder 14

Box 12 Folder 1

Box 12 Folder 2

Box 12 Folder 3

Box 12 Folder 4

Folder 5

Folder 6

Box 32 Folder 1-3

Box 12 Folder 7-8

Folder 9-10

Box 13 Folder 1-2

Folder 3-5

Folder 6

Box 14 Folder 1

Box 14 Folder 2
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malamud, Bernard</td>
<td>1914-1986</td>
<td>Manuscript Collection MS-04783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGuiness, Joe</td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Folder 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>McPherson, James A.</td>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Folder 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>McShane, Frank</td>
<td>1966-83</td>
<td>Folder 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meggid, Matti</td>
<td>(see 3.1)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Meijer, Henk and Molly</td>
<td>1963-85</td>
<td>Box 14 Folder 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris, Wright</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
<td>Folder 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morse, Wayne</td>
<td>(see 14.20)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moynihan, Daniel Patrick</td>
<td>(see 14.20)</td>
<td>Box 14 Folder 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mukherjee, Bharti</td>
<td>(see 3.13)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myerson, Dan</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
<td>Box 14 Folder 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nemerov, Howard</td>
<td>1960-83</td>
<td>Folder 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neuberger, Maurine B.</td>
<td>(see 14.20)</td>
<td>Box 14 Folder 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuberger, Richard L.</td>
<td>(see 14.20)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>New Yorker</em>, 1977</td>
<td></td>
<td>Folder 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norris, Faith and Tom</td>
<td>1952-86</td>
<td>Folder 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oates, Joyce Carol</td>
<td>1983-84</td>
<td>Folder 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O'Brien, Edna</td>
<td>[early 1960s?]</td>
<td>Folder 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O'Connor, Flannery</td>
<td>1960</td>
<td>Folder 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oka, Kenneth</td>
<td>(see 14.20)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ozick, Cynthia</td>
<td>1982-85</td>
<td>Box 14 Folder 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podhoretz, Norman and Midge</td>
<td>1956-67</td>
<td>Folder 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pogrebin, Letty Cottin</td>
<td>1977-82</td>
<td>Folder 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pollitt, Katha</td>
<td>1974-83</td>
<td>Folder 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priezel, Kate Rothko</td>
<td>1977-79</td>
<td>Folder 19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prouty, Winston L. (see 14.20)

Public figures, 1957-81 [includes Senator George D. Aiken, Shelley Berman (comedian), Elliott Gould (actor), Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, President Lyndon B. Johnson, Mayor Teddy Kollek (Jerusalem), Senator Patrick J. Leahy, Senator Wayne Morse, Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Senator Maurine B. Neuberger, Senator Richard L. Neuberger, Mayor Kenneth Oka (Miami Beach), Senator Winston L. Prouty]

Rahv, Philip

Readings given

Recommendations, 1960s-1980s

References, 1965-81

Renvoize, Jean (formerly Temple-Smith), 1969-84

Requests

For information, re: BM's life and work, 1986-96

For interviews or information about interviews, 1963-83

Miscellaneous, 1962-85

Non-accepted requests for readings, workshops, etc., 1958-82

To serve on committees, 1968-86

Robins, Natalie (see 12.2)

Roethke, Theodore, 1962

Roiphe, Anne, 1974-80, n.d.

Roth, Philip (see also 3.4) and Claire Bloom, 1965-86

Rovere, Richard and Eleanor, 1971-1980s

Russell & Volkening
1958-63 [especially Diarmuid Russell]  

1964-67  

1986-87 [primarily letters to Ann Malamud regarding foreign rights, contracts, and other literary affairs]  

Salzberg, Joel, 1983-86  

Sanders, Ronald, 1972-81  


Schaffer, Susan Fromberg, 1983  

Schoolmates  

Brooklyn, 1961-79  

Oldest school friends: Kerber, Lewis, Martin, and Wittkin  

Schrag, Karl [also brother Paul and wife Susie], 1950-85  

Seide, Michael, 1944-86  

Seldes, Marian, Tim, Lee, and Katharine Seldes Andrus, 1977-83  

Seldes, Mrs. Tim [Susan Shreve] (see 17.13)  

Shenker, Israel, 1970-84  

Shreve, Susan, 1982-84 [Mrs. Tim Seldes in 1987]  

Singer, Isaac B., 1981  

Smith, Dave, 1981  

Snow, C. P. and Pamela H. Johnson, 1959-80
Stern, Daniel, 1969-85  
Folder 3

Straus, Dorothea and Roger, 1959-84  
Folder 4

Straus, Nina Pelikan, 1960s-1980s  
Folder 5-6

Teachers, old  
Folder 7

Temple-Smith, Jean (see 15.6)  
Folder 7

Towers, Robert, 1979-85  
Box 18 Folder 8

Translators, 1979-80  
Folder 9

Trilling, Lionel and Diana, 1954-58  
Folder 10

Updike, John, 1969-71  
Folder 11

Vonnegut, Kurt and Jill Kremetz, 1970, 1979  
Folder 12

Warren, Robert Penn, 1967  
Folder 13

Watson, Richard, 1983-86  
Folder 14

Folder 15

Wiesel, Elie, 1984-85  
Folder 16

Wittkin, Herbert (see 17.8)  
Box 18 Folder 17

Box 18 Folder 17
II. Writings, 1930s-1982

"The Apprentice," holograph notebooks

Plans for second draft, Chapter 1, 1954; became *The Assistant*

"2nd Dr.[aft] & third"

*Dubin's Lives*, holograph notebooks

"The Juggler, April 1970-Oct. 1971, notes on plot and character"


" 'Juggler': Notes on time, place & circumstance, Apr. 21, 1973-Aug. 8, 1975"

" 'Juggler,' Aug. 9, 1975-Nov. 10, 1978, II"

"Notes for proofs"

"1) Thoreau; 2) Walden; 3) The Senses of Walden," II A and II B

*The Erasmian*, Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn, photocopies of stories ca. 1930s

"In Defense of *The Fixer,*" address at the PEN Annual Meeting, 6 June 1981

"Lawrence's Novels," holograph notebook

[Malamud, Eugene], holograph and typed ms. by BM about his brother, ca. 1950s or 1960s

Memoir, drafts, 1980-82

Miscellaneous notes from 1980s
Notebooks, holograph

[Notes on books, various authors, and titles]  
Box 20  
Folder 5-8

[Notes on writers and writing, story ideas, Nov. 1965-Oct. 1968]  
Folder 9

"On writing, art" [12 pages of quotes from BM and others on art and writing, ca. 1971], holograph notebook  
Box 21  
Folder 1

"The People"

Photocopied corrected typescript, Ann Malamud's marked copy and BM's typescript discards  
Box 21  
Folder 2-3

Photocopy typescript edited by AM, summer 1987  
Folder 4

[Readings list and corresponding notes], holograph notebook  
Folder 5

"Seide 'The Common Wilderness,'" BM's notes, holograph notebook  
Folder 6

"Some notes about people: daybook, [March 4- May 8, 1973]," holograph notebook  
Folder 7

"Stories, Bennington, 1972," [July 1972-Aug. 1979], holograph notebook  
Box 22  
Folder 1

Folder 2

[ The Tenants] "Ch.5 wedding data," holograph notebook  
Folder 3
III. Career-Related Material, 1940-1989

A. Appointment Calendars

1968
1969, two copies (one used only through August)
1970 April-December
1971
1972
1973
1974
1974 (May-December torn out)
1975-76
1977
1978
1979
1980
1982 January-June
1982 June-December
1983
1984
1985
1986

Box 22 Folder 4
Folder 5
Folder 6
Folder 7
Folder 8
Folder 9
Folder 10
Box 23 Folder 1
Folder 2
Folder 3
Folder 4
Folder 5
Folder 6
Folder 7
Folder 8
Folder 9
Box 24 Folder 1
Folder 2
Folder 3

B. Business and Personal Papers

Business and financial
Business expenses, etc., 1970-86

Drawer contents, itemized lists

Financial miscellany, 1970s-1980s

House ownership

Corvallis, Oregon (first), 1955-61

Bennington, Vermont (second), 1969-87

House closings prior to fall departures, Bennington

Literary executors

Malamud library, 1989, dealers, consignments, gifts

Notebooks

1943-65, income

1962-75, stocks

1966-83, income

1968-71, business expense, daybook

1968-79, new house (Bennington)

Tax returns and financial info, 1940-59

Medical

1974-85, "medical" [health reports]

1984 and 1986 [daybook and loose pages, medical and financial records]
Personal and professional

Address book, "Corvallis, Oregon"

American Academy of Arts and Sciences, includes 1981 ceremonial programs for BM's induction; info on 1983 Gold Medal for Fiction

Bellagio [Study and Conference Center], 1983

Center for Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences, 1966-82

Honors, awards, honorary degrees

1958-76

1980-85

International PEN Congress (48th), Jan. 12-18, 1986, conference packet

Johnson Inaugural, January 1965

Records [list of recordings]

Yaddo, 1971-80

YMHA [Poetry Center] Reading, 1979

Travel

1968, Israel, March-April

1971, International driving permit; International vaccination certificate, 1971-73

1973 [Stockholm and Venice travel diary]

1974-81 [personal and travel information]

1979 [Capri travel diary]  Folder 3

1985, Sicily, Mondello Literary Prize  Folder 4

n.d. [London travel diary]  Folder 5

Articles

Arranged by author

A-G

H-M

P-W

Discussing BM and other writers' work

Foreign articles

Bibliography

Biographical information

CCNY Malamud event, 1987 ["A Tribute to Bernard Malamud, May 15, 1987]

Condolence letters, 1986

Cooper Union Malamud event, 1989 [Nov. 17, 1989 "Remembering Bern: A Tribute to Bernard Malamud"]

Essays

Interviews, 1960s-1980s

Lectures on BM, announcements

Reviews

By and about BM from newspapers [includes articles]

From England (Chatto and Heath), 1980s-90

"The People and Uncollected Stories" [BM's posthumous book]