

# Peter Matthiessen:

## A Preliminary Inventory of an Addition to His Papers at the Harry Ransom Center

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Matthiessen, Peter, 1927-2014
<b>Title:</b>	Peter Matthiessen, Addition to His Papers
<b>Dates:</b>	1950s-2003
<b>Extent:</b>	27 boxes, 1 oversize box (13.10 linear feet)
<b>Abstract:</b>	This collection of Peter Matthiessen Papers is an addition to accessions received in 1995 and 1998, for which preliminary inventories are also available. Included are works, articles and essays, correspondence, personal and career-related material, books, and audio cassettes.
<b>Call Number:</b>	Manuscript Collection MS-02721
<b>Language:</b>	English
<b>Access:</b>	The material is in good physical condition and is open for research

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### Administrative Information

<b>Acquisition:</b>	Purchase, 2004 (R15198)
<b>Processed by:</b>	Alex Jasinski and Liz Murray, 2004
<b>Repository:</b>	<a href="#">Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin</a>

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## Scope and Contents

This collection of Peter Matthiessen Papers is an addition to accessions received in 1995 and 1998, for which preliminary inventories are also available. Included are works, articles and essays, correspondence, personal and career-related material, books, and audio cassettes.

The Papers are organized in three series: Series I. Works, circa 1967-2003 (bulk 1997-2003); Series II. Correspondence, 1975-2002; and Series III. Personal and Career-Related, circa 1950s-2003.

The Works Series includes research material, notes, typescript drafts, and publication material. Books represented in Subseries A. are: *Birds of Heaven: Travels with Cranes* (2002), *Bone by Bone* (1999), *End of the Earth, Voyages to Antarctica* (2003), and *Tigers in the Snow* (2000). Also present are galley proofs for *Killing Mr. Watson* (1990) and an excerpt from *Lost Man's River* (1997).

Subseries B. includes articles for *Audubon*, *Outside*, and *The New Yorker*. Titles include "The Last Great Strand" for *Audubon* (1967); "Burning Bright" (2002), "Footprints in the Last Wild Place" (2003), and "Mean Spirit" (1995) for *Outside*; and "Tiger in the Snow" for *The New Yorker* (1997). Considerable material is included for "In the Great Country," Matthiessen's contribution to the book *Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land* (2003).

The correspondence in Series II. includes personal and literary letters from notables such as Edward Abbey, John Barth, Kay Boyle, Benjamin Bradlee, Bill Clinton, Peter Coyote, Don DeLillo, Alex and Eugenie Dolberg, John Elder, Victor Emanuel, William Gaddis, George Garrett, Martha Gellhorn, Allen Ginsberg, Nadine Gordimer, Peggy Guggenheim, Joseph Heller, Edward Hoagland, John Irving, Peter Jennings, Timothy Leary, Norman Mailer, Frank McCourt, W.S. Merwin, Peter Nabokov, Philip Roth, Salman Rushdie, James Salter, Charles Simic, William Styron, Studs Terkel, Paul Theroux, Kurt Vonnegut, Robert Penn Warren, and Howard Zinn. There is a small number of letters written by Matthiessen to others, as well as family correspondence.

Material in Series III., Personal and Career-Related, includes articles about Matthiessen, awards, interviews, photographs and slides, public appearances, and works of others. Awards include the Cooper Prize (2001), Heinz Award (1999), and the Lannan Lifetime Achievement Award (2002), among others. Visual images include photographs from Matthiessen's *Paris Review* days in the 1950s and his appearance at the 2000 Texas Book Festival. Public appearances include benefits, conferences, lectures, memorials, readings, and seminars.

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## Separated Material

Books and audio cassettes received with the Papers were transferred to appropriate departments within the Ransom Center.

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**Series I. Works, circa 1967-2003**

## Subseries A. Book-length Works

<i>Birds of Heaven: Travels with Cranes</i> (2002)	<b>Box 1 Folder</b>
Proposals, outlines, and research	<b>Folder 1-2</b>
Early drafts, including magazine versions	<b>Folder 3</b>
Draft with editor's comments; working title "Travel with Cranes"	<b>Folder 4-5</b>
Corrected typescript drafts, various chapters	<b>Box 2 Folder 1-4</b>
Corrected typescript drafts, cont'd	<b>Box 3</b>
Setting copy	<b>Folder 5</b>
Setting copy, cont'd	<b>Box 4 Folder 1</b>
Mixed drafts and page proofs	<b>Folder 2-3</b>
Corrected page proofs, various sections	<b>Folder 4</b>
Illustrations and maps, drafts and proofs	<b>Folder 5</b>
First pass page proofs, 4/30/01	<b>Folder 6</b>
First pass page proofs, cont'd	<b>Box 5 Folder 1</b>
Author's proofs, second pass, 8/14/01	<b>Folder 2-3</b>
Second pass master proofs of revised first pass pages	<b>Folder 4-5</b>
Master pages, proofs, 9/11/01	<b>Box 6 Folder 1-2</b>
Reviews	<b>Folder 3</b>

*Bone by Bone* (1999)

Corrected typescript drafts	
Various sections, 9/96	<b>Folder 4-6</b>
Various sections, 9/96, cont'd	<b>Box 7 Folder 1</b>
Complete draft, 9/96	<b>Folder 2-4</b>
Revised draft, July-August 1998	<b>Box 8 Folder 1-3</b>
Setting copy, November 1998	<b>Folder 4</b>
Setting copy, cont'd	<b>Box 9 Folder 1-2</b>
Proofs, master set, first pass, December 1998	<b>Folder 3-4</b>
Uncorrected proofs, 2/24/99	<b>Box 10 Folder 1-2</b>
Corrected pages from publisher, March 1999	<b>Folder 3-5</b>
Blue line proofs and dust jacket	<b>Folder 6</b>
Reviews	<b>Folder 7</b>
Dust jacket copy and proofs for <i>The Cloud Forest</i> , <i>The Peter Matthiessen Reader</i> , and <i>The Snow Leopard</i> (Czech translation)	<b>Folder 8</b>
<i>End of the Earth, Voyages to Antarctica</i> (2003)	<b>Box 11 Folder</b>
Research material	<b>Folder 1-3</b>
Photographs of Antarctica, esp. penguins	<b>Folder 4</b>
Outlines and notes	<b>Folder 5-6</b>
Corrected typescript drafts	<b>Folder</b>
"Cambell and Enderby" and explorer sections	<b>Folder 7</b>

"The Last Clean Land"	<b>Folder 8</b>
Part 1, "Macquar2"	<b>Box 12 Folder 1</b>
Part 1, variant draft	<b>Folder 2</b>
Part 2, early drafts	<b>Folder 3-4</b>
"Worst Journey," footnotes	<b>Folder 5</b>
Partial draft	<b>Folder 6</b>
Mixed typescript pages and notes	<b>Folder 7</b>
Draft, 4/7/02	<b>Folder 8</b>
Part 1, 4/7/02	<b>Folder 9</b>
Part 2, April-May 2002	<b>Box 13 Folder 1</b>
Part 1, Nov. 2002	<b>Folder 2</b>
Draft fragments, Dec. 2002	<b>Folder 3</b>
Parts 1-2, author's copy, 12/2/2002	<b>Folder 4-5</b>
Part 2, 1/25/03	<b>Folder 6</b>
Drafts, Jan. 29-31, 2003	<b>Box 14 Folder 1-3</b>
Part 1, draft 3, author's clean copy, 3/20/03	<b>Folder 4</b>
Parts 1-2, draft 3, Byers copy, 3/20/03	<b>Folder 5-6</b>
Partial draft, 4/1/03	<b>Folder 7</b>
Draft with note from Steve Byers	<b>Box 15 Folder 1-2</b>
Lightly corrected draft	<b>Folder 3</b>
Page proofs, incomplete	<b>Folder 4</b>

Galleys [\*removed to oversize box 28]

**Folder \****Killing Mr. Watson* (1990)

Galley proofs

**Folder 5-6**

Reviews

**Folder 7***Lost Man's River* (1997)**Box 16 Folder**Excerpt in *The Paris Review*, #144, Fall 1997**Folder 1**

Articles and reviews

**Folder 2-3***Tigers in the Snow* (2000)**Folder**

Research material

**Folder 4-5**

Research material, cont'd

**Box 17-19 Folder**

Corrected typescript drafts and notes

**Box 20 Folder**  
1-5

Corrected typescript drafts and notes, cont'd

**Box 21**  
**Folder 1**

Corrected typescript, with Becky's notes

**Folder 2**

Uncorrected typescript

**Folder 3**

Setting copy, 8/23/99

**Folder 4**

Corrected page proofs, partial

**Folder 5**

Corrected page proofs

**Box 22 Folder 1-3**

Reviews and publicity

**Folder 4**

Subseries B. Articles and essays, 1967-2003

"Burning Bright," for *Outside*, Oct. 2002**Folder**  
5"In the Great Country," in *Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: Seasons of Life and Land* (2003)

Notes	<b>Folder 6</b>
Research material	<b>Folder 7-8</b>
Research material, cont'd	<b>Box 23 Folder 1</b>
Drafts	<b>Folder 2</b>
Galleys [*removed to oversize box 28]	<b>Folder *</b>
"Footprints in the Last Wild Place," <i>Outside</i> , Feb. 2003, proofs for adapted essay	<b>Folder 3</b>
"The Last Great Strand," <i>Audubon</i> , March/April 1967, published version	<b>Folder 4</b>
"Mean Spirit," <i>Outside</i> , Oct. 1995, published version	<b>Folder 5</b>
"Tiger in the Snow," <i>The New Yorker</i> , Jan. 6, 1997	
Notes	<b>Folder 6-7</b>
Drafts	<b>Folder 8-16</b>
Drafts, cont'd	<b>Box 24 Folder 1-3</b>
Uncorrected proofs	<b>Folder 4</b>
Published version	<b>Folder 5</b>



**Series II. Correspondence, 1975-2002**

A-C, including

**Box 24 Folder 6**

Abbey, Edward

Abbot, John

Babenko, Hector

Baekeland, Tony

Barth, John

Bass, Rick

Boyle, Kay

Bradlee, Benjamin

Brooks, Allan

Campbell, William

Carney, Frederika

Clinton, Bill

Cole, John

Coyote, Peter

Crews, Harry

"Adventurer of the Soul: Peter Matthiessen's Life in the World," documentary film project

**Folder  
7**

D-F, including

**Folder 8**

Davis, Paul

DeKooning, Lisa

Delano, Frank

DeLillo, Don

Dickey, Patsy

Dillard, Annie

Doig, Ivan

Dybek, Stuart

Elder, John

Emanuel, Victor

Erdrich, Louise and Dorris, Michael

Fisketjon, Gary

Fuller, Blair

Dolberg, Alex and Eugenie

**Folder 9**

Family and personal

**Folder 10**

Fans

**Folder 11**

G-L, including

**Folder 12**

Gaddis, William

Gallagher, Tess

Garrett, George

Gellhorn, Martha

Gerber, Dan

Gibson, Margaret

Ginsberg, Allen

Goldman, Amy

Gordimer, Nadine

Gray, Francine

Guggenheim, Peggy

Hall, Oakley

Heller, Joseph

Hoagland, Edward

Humes, Harry

Iyer, Pico

Jennings, Peter

Jones, Kaylie

Kidder, Tracy

LaDuke, Winona

Leary, Timothy

Lopez, Barry

Lord, Sheridan

Harrison, Jim

**Box 25 Folder 1**

*Indian Country*

**Folder 2**

Irving, John

**Folder 3**

M-O, including

**Folder 4**

MacLehose, Christopher

Mailer, Norman

McClatchy, J. D.

McCourt, Frank

McGuane, Tom

McKibben, Bill

Meidav, Edie

Merchant, Ismail

Merwin, William (W.S.)

Miles, Hugh

Morris, William

Moynihan, Daniel P.

Nabokov, Peter

Ortiz, Simon

Matthiessen, Peter (outgoing)

**Folder 5**

Norman, Howard

**Folder 6**

P-Sn, including

**Folder 7**

Parnall, Peter

Paulsen, Frederik

Peacock, Doug

Peterson, Roger Tory

Porter, John Edward

Rafelson, Bob

Rattray, David

Rattray, Everett

Reid, Robert

Remnick, David

Rogers, Pattiann

Roth, Philip

Roy, Arundhati

Rushdie, Salman

St. John, David

Salter, James

Schainberg, Larry

Schaller, George

Sefina, Carl

Shaw, Adam

Shawn, William

Sheed, Wilfrid

Sifton, Elizabeth

Silko, Leslie Marmon

Simic, Charles

Snyder, Gary

*Snow Leopard*

**Folder 8**

So-Sz, including

**Folder 9**

Southern, Terry

Sproul, Barbara C.

Stanton, Doug

Steele, Max

Stegner, Lynn

Steinberg, Saul

Stern, Richard

Stone, Robert

Straus, Roger W. Jr.

Strete, Craig

Styron, Tom

Styron, William

Sullivan, Phil

T-Z, including

**Folder 10**

Terkel, Studs

Theroux, Paul

Turner, Frederick

Turner, Jack

Turner, Kay

Vonnegut, Kurt

Warren, Robert Penn

Wenning, Bobby and Claire

White, Randy Wayne

Williams, Joy

Williams, Terry Tempest

Winter, Evelyn

Winter, Paul

Woiwode, Carole and Larry

Wright, Charles

Young, Nancy

Zen Studies Society

Zinn, Howard

Unidentified

**Folder 11**

**Series III. Personal and Career-Related, ca. 1950s-2003**

Articles about Matthiessen [*oversize removed to box 28]	<b>Box 26</b> <b>Folder 1*</b>
Awards	
Cooper Prize, Society of American Historians, 2001	<b>Folder 2</b>
Heinz Award, Heinz Foundation, 1999	<b>Folder 3</b>
Lannan Lifetime Achievement Award, Lannan Foundation, 2002	<b>Folder 4</b>
Various awards, including Distinguished Service Award (Society for Conservation Biology, 1999), Edith Wharton Citation of Merit for State Author (N.Y. State, 1995), John Hay Award (Orion Society, 1999)	<b>Folder 5</b>
Interviews	
"The Art of Fiction CLVI," typescript draft	<b>Folder 6</b>
"The Art of Fiction CLVII" in Paris Review, #150, Spring 1999	<b>Folder 7</b>
Miscellaneous material, articles on others, Royal Opera Program "Sophie's Choice"	<b>Box 27</b> <b>Folder 1</b>
Photographs and slides	
1950s, from "Paris Review...Early Chapters," Checkerboard Film Foundation documentary (2001)	<b>Folder 2</b>
1995, Matthiessen at his desk in Sagaponack, in Jill Krementz's "The Writer's Desk 2000 Calendar" [*removed to oversize box 28]	<b>Folder *</b>
1999-2000, American Academy of Arts and Letters, Photographs of Members, photocopied booklet	<b>Folder</b>
1999 and 2001, expeditions	
2000, Texas Book Festival	

Undated, Cincinnati Zoo

Public appearances

Benefits, conferences, lectures, memorials, readings, seminars **Folder 3-4**

"An Evening with William Styron," The Library of Virginia, 2000 **Folder 5**

Works of others

Miles, Hugh and Houseman, Chip. "Spirit of the Snow Leopard," proposed film **Folder 6**

Pizzey. "Birds of Australia" **Folder 7**

Plimpton, George. "An Interloper in the canyon of heroes," undated article in *The New York Times* **Folder 8**



**Box 28** Oversize