#### SOUTHWESTERN WRITERS COLLECTION

#### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS - ALBERT B. ALKEK LIBRARY TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY - SAN MARCOS

Stephen Harrigan Papers, 1971-2000

Collection 012

17.5 linear feet 35 boxes plus oversize

Acquisition: Donation since 1987. Donors: Stephen Harrigan, Bill Wittliff. Note: Contact the SWWC for information about additional materials from this writer that have not yet been fully processed.

Access: Open for Research.

**Processed by:** Jennifer B. Patterson, May 1994, Amanda Oates, 2000, Inventory Revised 2005.

#### **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Stephen Harrigan was born on October 5, 1948, and grew up in Oklahoma City, Abilene and Corpus Christi. After receiving a degree in English from The University of Texas at Austin in 1971, Harrigan briefly attended graduate school and worked as a yardman and as an ad writer for the University Co-op. He contributed articles to a number of magazines, including *Rolling Stone*, *The Atlantic Monthly, Esquire* and *The Texas Observer*. He became a regular writer for *Texas Monthly* shortly after its inception and co-founded and edited *Lucille*, a journal of poetry, which published 10 issues between 1974 and 1978.

Harrigan received a Dobie-Paisano fellowship in 1977, which allowed him to complete his first novel. *Aransas*, published by Knopf in 1980, tells the story of Jeff Dowling, an alienated young man who comes to terms with himself and the world as he trains two dolphins for a circus in Port Aransas, Texas. The *New York Times* named the novel one of the notable books of 1980, and reviewers praised its realism and style. His second novel, *Jacob's Well*, also focused on man's relationship with nature, following the lives of three people who are drawn together to explore an artesian well in Central Texas. The book was named one of the best books of 1984 by *The Washington Post* and *The Dallas Morning News*.

Harrigan's recent books, until the publication in 2000 of *Gates of the Alamo*, have been nonfiction. As a freelance writer and later staff writer and editor for *Texas Monthly*, Harrigan displayed a talent for journalism, contributing interviews and other investigative pieces, but he also focused on the natural environment, writing about rivers, Big Bend, Padre Island and other Texas landmarks. Many of these essays were collected in Harrigan's third book, *A Natural State: Essays on Texas* (1988), which was recently republished by the University of Texas Press. His 1992 book *Water and Light: A Diver's Journey to a Coral Reef* combined research on aquatic life with his own experiences scuba diving off a coral reef in the Caribbean. The *New York Times Book Review* called *Water and Light* "moving, intelligent ... literary," and praised Harrigan's "remarkable ability to discuss the metaphysical and spiritual aspects of underwater exploration." Harrigan has also published a book of poetry and written screenplays, one of which, The Last of His Tribe, was broadcast on HBO.

Harrigan's works are characterized by an intense interest in humans and their relationship to the environment around them. He once wrote of his interest in natural subjects: "I don't know what nature is exactly--whether it is a category that includes human beings or shuts them out--but for me it has always contained that hint of eeriness, the sense that some vital information--common knowledge to all the universe--has been specifically withheld from me. Sometimes, as with the snake, this secrecy has seemed malevolent, but far more often it has been wonderfully tantalizing. For much of my life I have been obsessed with nature, but not in the way a naturalist would be obsessed with itdriven to classify, to define relationships, to comprehend the world's marvelous intricacy. I have simply wanted to feel more fully a part of that intricacy, to see something other than neutral scorn in the eyes of that half-imagined snake." (Introduction *to A Natural State*, UT Press, 1994)

Harrigan lives in Austin with his wife Sue Ellen and three daughters.

#### SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection is composed of 21 boxes of manuscripts, galley proofs, notes, clippings, correspondence, artwork, financial and legal papers, screenplays, photographs and artifacts, 1971 to the present that document Stephen Harrigan's writing career. It has been arranged into six series: Works (1971-2000, n.d.), Correspondence (1976-1991, n.d.), Personal Materials (n.d.), Works by Other Authors, (1971, 1982, 1992-1993, n.d.), Texas Institute of Letters (1982-1983, 1985-1986), and Clippings (1971-1983).

The Works series comprises the largest part of the Harrigan collection. It thoroughly documents Harrigan's methodical writing process. Most of the books and articles can be traced from the earliest notes taken by Harrigan to a proof copy or published work. The other series relate generally to his writing career. The materials are arranged in chronological order. Largely absent from the collection are personal papers or correspondence.

Books in the Stephen Harrigan Collection have been cataloged separately. See the Jan Reid Collection for correspondence with Harrigan. See also accession nos. 88-052 for photographs of Harrigan by Bill Wittliff, 89-012 for an interview with Harrigan, among others, for the 90th anniversary of TIL, 90-061 for a note by Harrigan tipped into a copy of Raven's Bride, 92-061 for a teleplay by Harrigan for the TV series "Ned Blessing", 92-073 and 92-093 for clippings about Harrigan by Susan Hanson, and 93-108 for an interview with Harrigan and others by Michael Hall.

#### SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

#### Series 1: Works, 1971-2000, n.d. Boxes 1-16, 18-31

This series surveys Harrigan's creative works from his work as ad writer at the University Co-op to the publication of his most recent book, *Water and Light*. It includes manuscript drafts, notes, notebooks, galley proofs, correspondence, magazines, clippings, financial and legal papers, screenplays, photographs and artifacts. In some cases Harrigan added notes and inscriptions describing the materials and providing background information. This series is further divided into six subseries: Early Works, Books, Screenplays, Songs, Contributions to *Texas Monthly*, and General Works.

The first subseries, Early Works, contains notes, clippings, manuscripts, correspondence, artwork, financial papers and forms documenting Harrigan's writing before the publication of his first book. It contains clippings of the ads Harrigan wrote for the University Co-op and materials from Lucille, the journal of poetry that he helped found and edit. Both are introduced by notes written by Harrigan in 1988 giving additional information and background about his job at the Co-op and his association with *Lucille*. The Co-op clippings are arranged chronologically, and the *Lucille* files have been grouped by type of material, having lost their original order. Of particular interest in the *Lucille* files are the three folders of submissions of aspiring poets, some of whom have gone on to literary success, such as Naomi Shihab (Nye), R.S. Gwynn and Vassar Miller.

The second subseries, entitled Books, contains research notes, background materials, legal papers, handwritten and typed manuscripts, galley proofs, correspondence, reviews and artwork for four of Harrigan's published books. There are multiple drafts of each book, and the handwritten notes and early drafts of *Aransas, Jacob's Well, Water and Light* and *Gates of the Alamo* provide an overview of Harrigan's writing process. His attention to detail and in-depth organization are demonstrated in his research for Water and Light, which includes two boxes of index cards with notes about the sea and the history of diving as well as his personal notes from his trip to Grand Turk Island. The materials are arranged alphabetically by book.

Screenplays, the third subseries, contains research notes and multiple drafts of Harrigan's screenplay ISHI, which was filmed for HBO in 1992 as The Last of His Tribe. Many of these drafts were maintained in notebooks (which are stored in the Artifact cases at the end of the collection) and materials found in the pockets of these notebooks have been placed at the back of each folder. The drafts are arranged chronologically, from the earliest draft to the final production script and shooting notes. Also found in the subseries is the script "Moonwalker," co-written by Harrigan and Lawrence Wright.

The fourth subseries, Songs, contains various typed and handwritten drafts of a song written by Harrigan entitled "The Old Three."

The fifth subseries, Contributions to *Texas Monthly*, contains research materials and notes, manuscript drafts, galley proofs, correspondence, photographs, artwork, and published articles written by Harrigan for *Texas Monthly* magazine. Harrigan's talent as a journalist is well documented here, showing the broad range of his interests, from an interview with Governor Bill Clements to research on the sculptor Pompio Coppini to essays on the natural wonders of Texas. Some of these articles were later published in Harrigan's third book, *A Natural State: Essays on Texas*. Also included are a number of complete issues of *Texas Monthly* in which Harrigan's articles appeared.

Within the final subseries are general materials relating to Harrigan's writing career. It includes multiple handwritten and typed drafts on broadcasting, a typed essay on the exploration of Texas, an application for the NASA "Journalist in Space" program, a press release, and a clipping about the author. Also included are handwritten notebooks of Harrigan's poetry and prose.

#### Series 2: Correspondence, 1976-1991, n.d. Box 16

Within this series is correspondence relating to Harrigan's writing. The letters range from requests for articles from magazines and journals to letters of interest from agents and publishers, "Letters to the Editor" forwarded to Harrigan from Texas Monthly, letters from other writers and friends, fan mail, and correspondence from organizations like the Texas Institute of Letters, of which Harrigan is a former president. The series is arranged chronologically except for one folder of short notes from Lee Goerner, Harrigan's editor at Knopf. Other correspondents of note include John A. Sterling, Wallace Stegner, A.C. Greene, Elmer Kelton and Gunnar M. Hansen.

#### Series 3: Personal Materials, n.d. Boxes 16, 33

Within this series are a few materials relating to Harrigan's personal life. Of particular interest are swimming fins and underwater slate, still imprinted with faint notes from a scuba diving trip.

#### Series 4: Works By Others, 1971, 1982, 1992-1993, n.d. Boxes 16-17, 31-32

This series contains the typescripts of one screenplay and two books by writers other than Harrigan. Arrangement is alphabetical by author.

#### Series 5: Texas Institute of Letters , 1982-1983, 1985-1986 Box 32

This series contains material from Harrigan's years as an active member of the Texas Institute of letters. The documents include meeting minutes, financial statements, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and programs from Institute events.

Series 6: Clippings, 1971-1983) Boxes 32, 34-35

This series includes photocopies of newspaper clippings about Harrigan and his work saved by the author and original clippings of his ads for the University Coop. His Co-op ads have been preservation photocopied and reside in Series I.

### **Container List**

Box Folder

# Series I: Works, 1971-2000, n.d.

### Early Works, 1971-1978, n.d.

# <u>Co-op Clippings, 1971-1974, n.d.</u>

1	1	Note by Harrigan concerning his time at the Co-op
	2	March 1971 ads
	3	April 1971 ad
	4	January 1972 ads
	5	May 1972 ad
	6	November 1972 ads
	0 7	December 1972 ads
	8	January 1973 ads
	9	
	9 10	February 1973 ads March 1973 ads
	10	
	11 12	April 1973 ads May 1972 ada
	12 13	May 1973 ads
	13	June 1973 ads
	14 15	July 1973 ads
		August 1973 ads
	16	September 1973 ads
	17	October 1973 ads
	18	November 1973 ads
	19	December 1973 ads
	20	January 1974 ads
	21	February 1974 ads
	22	March 1974 ads
	23	April 1974 ads
	24	Undated
	<u>Lı</u>	<i>ucille,</i> 1972-1978, n.d.
2	1	Note by Harrigan concerning his time
	-	running the magazine
	2	Submissions for publication and
		correspondence, includes copy of MFA
		thesis by R.S. Gwynn entitled "After the
		Nigerian Air Show, Poems by R.S.
		Gwynn," University of Arkansas (1972),
		and correspondence with Gunnar

### Series I: Works, continued

### Early Works, continued

### Lucille, continued

2	3	Submissions for publication and correspondence, includes poems by and correspondence from Vassar Miller
	4	Submissions for publication and
		correspondence
	5	Design notes, photos and sketches
	6	Correspondence, 1975-1978
	7	Financial papers, includes bank statements and cancelled checks
	8	Grant applications, guidelines and correspondence, 1974-1977, n.d.
	9	Reviews, 1975-1978, n.d.
	10	Empty file folders, n.d.

## Books, 1977-2000, n.d.

### Aransas, 1977-1980, n.d.

3	1	Dobie-Paisano Application and acceptance letter
	2	Correspondence and contract for publication of Aransas
	3	Notes and notebook 1
	4	Notebooks 2 and 3, 1977, n.d.
	5	Notebooks 4 and 5, n.d.
	6	Notebooks 6 and 7, n.d.
	7	Notebooks 8 and 9, n.d.
	8	Revisions, two notebooks, n.d.
4	1	Original typescript (ch. 1-7), contains deleted first chapter, n.d.
	2	Original typescript continued (ch. 8–15), n.d.
	3	Early typescript, bound, n.d.
	3	Edited typescript, International Creative Management's copy
5	1	Edited typescript, continued

### Series I: Works, continued

### Books, continued

	Aran	sas, continued
18	1 2	Typescript with typesetting notes, 1980 Various chapters with typesetting notes, n.d.
5	2	Correspondence regarding revisions from Alfred A. Knopf Publishing
	3	First proof with handwritten revisions, 1978- 1979
	4 5 6	Page proofs Final page proofs Reviews, 1980
18	3	Reviews, 1980
5	7	Screenplay of <i>Aransas</i> by Robert Lovenheim, includes correspondence, 1980, n.d.
	<u> Jacob</u>	' <u>s Well, 1981-1984, n.d.</u>
6	1	Notes and maps, n.d.
18	4 5	Notebooks 1 and 2, 1981, n.d. Notebooks 3 and 4, n.d.
19	1	Notebook, no number (begins with Chapter 4 notes), 1983
6	2	Original manuscript with corrections (pgs. 1- 137), 1984
	3	Original manuscript with corrections continued (pgs. 138-277), 1984
	4	Original manuscript with corrections continued (pgs. 278-416), n.d.
	5 6	Early draft with changes (pgs. 1-137), n.d. Early draft with changes continued (pgs. 138- 277), n.d.
7	1	Early draft with changes continued (pgs. 278- 412), n.d.

#### Series I: Works, continued

#### Books, continued

*Jacob's Well*, continued 7 2 Early draft (pgs. 1-148), n.d. 3 Early draft (pgs. 149-299), n.d. 4 Early draft (pgs. 301-412), n.d. 5 Author's galleys, n.d. 6 Reviews, 1984, n.d. 19 2 Reviews, 1984 3 Publicity, includes 1983 Simon Schuster Catalog and book signing invitations 4 Correspondence, 1982, 1984 5 Screenplay agreement between Stephen Harrigan and Ron Coley, 1984 <u>Sleepyhead</u> 7 7 Published book of poetry, drafts of poems, and extra poems not included in the book Water & Light, 1987, 1991-1992, n.d. 8 1 Trip to Turks and Caicos Islands, notes, map, sketches, 1987, n.d. 2 Research notes, general outline of chapters 3 Prospectus and sample chapter with handwritten notes 4 Typescript of draft (pgs. 1-133 and chapter 8), includes correspondence with Houghton Mifflin Publishing Company 5 Typescript of draft continued (pgs. 149-294) Edited manuscript copy with style sheet, n.d. 6 7 Edited manuscript copy continued, n.d. 8 Typescript with editor's notes, n.d. 1 2 9 Typescript with editor's notes continued, n.d. Edited master proofs, 1992 3 Author's marked set with cover, 1992, n.d. 4 Author's extra set, 1992, n.d.

# Series I: Works, continued

### Books, continued

		<u>Water &amp; Light, continued</u>
19	6 7	Correspondence, 1991-1992, n.d. Publicity, 1992 Houghton Mifflin catalog and mail-outs
	8	Audio-tapes, n.d.
		Comanche Midnight & Other Essays, n.d.
20	1-2 3	Typescript (pgs. 1-178) Bound typescript, n.d.
		Gates of the Alamo, 1987, 2000, n.d.
	4	Correspondence (April 12, 1987 letter from Harrigan to John Sterling, Editor in Chief, Houghton Mifflin. The book was contracted with Houghton Mifflin, but moved with John Sterling to Broadway Books/Knopf.)
21		Research note-cards, Set 1(A-I)
22		Research note-cards, Set 2 (J-S)
23		Research note-cards, Set 3 (S-Z and miscellaneous)
24	1-2 3 4	Chapter notes and research, n.d. Costume notes, n.d. Typescript with notes by Elizabeth Crook (pgs. 1-157), n.d.
	5	Typescript with notes by Elizabeth Crook, continued (pgs. 157-309), n.d.
25	1	Typescript with notes by Elizabeth Crook, continued (pgs. 310-454), n.d.
	2	Typescript with notes by Elizabeth Crook, continued (pgs. 455-686), n.d.
	3	Typescript with notes by Elizabeth Crook, continued (pgs. 687-919), n.d.

### Series I: Works, continued

### Books, continued

	Gate	s of the Alamo, continued
25	4	Typescript with notes by Hardin (pgs. 1-215), n.d.
	5	Typescript with notes by Hardin, continued (pgs. 216-414), n.d.
26	1	Typescript with notes by Hardin, continued (pgs. 415-641), n.d.
	2	Typescript with notes by Hardin, continued (pgs. 642-846), n.d.
	3	Typescript with notes by Hardin, continued (pgs. 847-936), n.d.
	4	Typescript with notes by Huffines (pgs. 1-203), n.d.
	5	Typescript with notes by Huffines, continued (pgs. 204-384), n.d.
27	1	Typescript with notes by Huffines, continued (pgs. 385-585), n.d.
	2	Typescript with notes by Huffines, continued (pgs. 586-776), n.d.
	3	Typescript with notes by Huffines, continued (pgs. 777-936), n.d.
	4	Typescript with notes by David Lindley (pgs. 1-239), n.d.
28	1	Typescript with notes by David Lindley, continued (pgs. 452-718), n.d.
	2	Typescript with notes by David Lindley, continued (pgs. 719-919), n.d.
	3	Part I, sent to International Creative Management (pgs. 1-277), n.d.
	4	Bound typescript draft, Part II (pgs. 278-506), n.d.
29	1	Bound typescript draft, Part III (pgs. 507-739), n.d.
	2	Bound typescript draft, Part IV (pgs. 740-919), n.d.
	3	Typescript (pgs. 1-332), n.d.

#### Series I: Works, continued

#### Books, continued

#### Gates of the Alamo, continued Typescript (pgs. 333-591) 30 1 Typescript (pgs. 592-936) 2 3 Publicity, Alfred A. Knopf Spring 2000 catalog Screenplays, 1986-1987, 1990-1991, n.d. "ISHI" 31 Research, notes, clippings, 1986, 1991, n.d. 1 2 Research notebooks and note-cards, n.d. 10 1 First draft, December 1987 2 First draft, December 1987, copy 3 Second draft, includes correspondence with Texas Monthly Publishing, n.d. Draft that Harrigan says got him invited to the 4 Sundance Film Festival, also labeled second draft, n.d. 5 Third draft, September 1990 6 First HBO Draft (Take One), August 1990 7 First HBO Draft (Submitted), September 1990 8 Draft, December 6, 1990 11 Draft, December 20, 1990 1 2-3 Drafts, January 1, 1991 4 Draft, February 3, 1991 5 6 Draft, February 21, 1991 Draft, March 30, 1991 Draft, August 14, 1991 7 8 Annotated draft, August 29, 1991 12 1 Draft, September 6, 1991 2 Production draft with revisions, September 10, 1991 3 Production file, includes script, staff and crew information, shooting schedule, and notes, 1991

		Series I: Works, continued
		Screenplays, continued
		"ISHI," continued
12	4 5	Miscellaneous notes, n.d. Movie prop, n.d.
		<u>"Moonwalker,"n.d.</u>
	6	Script by Lawrence Wright and Stephen Harrigan, n.d.
		<u>Songs, n.d.</u>
31	3	"The Old Three," typed draft with corrections, n.d.
		Contributions to Texas Monthly, 1978-1992, n.d.
		Texas Monthly Articles, 1978-1988, n.d.
13	1	"Coppini the Great," research file, photographs, and correspondence, 1984,
	2 3	n.d. "The Line Forms Here," galley proofs, 1978 "On the Edge of Texas," research file, maps,
	4 5	correspondence, 1982, n.d. "On the Edge of Texas," maps, n.d. "On the Edge of Texas," drafts, edited galley
	6	proofs, n.d. "Governor's New Clothes," research notes, 1980–1981 m.d.
	7	1980-1981, n.d. "Governor's New Clothes," drafts (handwritten and typed) and published article in <i>Texas Monthly</i> , May 1981
14	1	"What Texas Means to Me," research notes
	2 3	and drafts, n.d. "Isle Without End," notes, n.d. "On the Set of Lonesome Dove," research material, call sheets from the set, drafts,
	4	galley proofs, 1988, n.d. "The Lost Tribe," notes, drafts, galley proofs, n.d.

# Series I: Works, continued

		Contributions to Texas Monthly, continued
		Texas Monthly 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Issue, 1992, n.d.
31	4 5	Correspondence, drafts, and galleys, 1992, n.d. Various drafts and galleys with Harrigan's annotations, 1992, n.d.
		<u>Texas Monthly magazines, 1979-1981, 1988</u>
14	5	January, July, and August 1979
15	1 2 3 4 5	January, June, and August 1980 October and November 1980 February and April 1981 May and August 1981 Correspondence and artwork, 1980, 1988
		<u>General Works, 1976, 1978, 1981, 1986, 1988, n.d.</u>
16	1 2	Various untitled drafts, n.d. Application for NASA's Journalist in Space Program (1986), memo from Texas Commission of Arts (1981), and interview with Harrigan by Mark Gozonsky in <i>West Austin News</i> (1988)
31	6 7	Notebook, Poetry, 1976 Notebook, Prose, 1978
		Series II: Correspondence, 1976-1991, n.d.
16	3	Lee Goerner and Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., includes royalty statements and contract, 1978, 1984, 1985, n.d.
	4	International Creative Management and Texas State Library, 1980, 1983-1985, n.d.
	5	Simon and Schuster Publishing, includes publishing agreement, 1983, 1984, 1991
	6	Correspondence 1976-1980, and undated, contacts include Marge Harrigan, Justin Green, John Deaton, the University of Texas, Julian Bach Literary Agency, the University of Iowa, Houghton Mifflin Publishing, John A. Sterling, Paul R. Reynolds, Bill Broyles, and fan mail

Box	Folder		
		Series II: Correspondence, continued	
16	7	Correspondence, 1981-1988, contacts include James P. Hart, Albert C. Lewis, <i>Outside</i> magazine, <i>Houston City</i> Magazine, Texas Institute of Letters, PEN: An Association of Writers, <i>Esquire</i> , Simon and Schuster Publishing, and others	
		Series III: Personal Materials, n.d.	
	8	Personal Materials, includes underwater slate used during the writing of <i>Water &amp; Light</i> , notes, etc., n.d.	
33		Swimming fins	
		Series IV: Works by Others, 1971, 1982, 1992-1993, n.d.	
31	8	<i>Raven's Bride</i> by Elizabeth Crook, three audio-tapes	
16	9	"Texas Ramblers," an original screenplay by Ken Harrison, draft, November 1982	
17	1 2 3 4 5	<ul> <li>Texas, by James A. Michener, photocopy of edited draft (pgs. 1-246)</li> <li>Texas, continued (pgs. 247-526)</li> <li>Texas, continued (pgs. 527-843)</li> <li>Texas, continued (pgs. 844-1129)</li> <li>Barton Springs Eternal: The Soul of a City, Essays, Photos, and Oral History, edited by Turk Pipkin and Marshall Frech, photocopy and correspondence, 1992, 1993, n.d.</li> </ul>	
31	9 10	"The Snake Doctors," poem by Frank Stanford <i>From Hell to Breakfast</i> , book of poetry by James Whitaker	
32	1	100 Flowers, literary journal, Spring 1971	
		Series V: Texas Institute of Letters, 1982-1983, 1985-1986	
	2 3	Clippings, correspondence, meeting minutes, and programs,1982-1983 Clippings, correspondence, financial documents, newsletters, programs, 1985-1986	

# Series VI: Clippings

32	4	Clippings about Harrigan, 1977, 1978, 1982, 1983
34		Original clippings of Co-op ads, preservation photocopies can be found in Series I.
35		Original clippings of Co-op ads, preservation photocopies can be found in Series I.