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October 2015

# Henry Channing Rivers Correspondence

Henry Channing Rivers 1917-

Shirley Thayer 1919-2001

*Maine State Library*

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Name: Rivers, Henry

Place of birth: Wellesley, Massachusetts

Date of birth: May 6, 1917

Home address: Northeast Harbor, Me.

Publications: A Canticle for Winds

Biographical information                      see letter

Please return to Shirley Thayer at your earliest convenience.

November 15, 1978

Dear Shirley Thayer,

I am sorry to have been so slow in answering your request of 7/14 for biographical information.

As things move faster I tend to slow up, or stand still or move backward. But I haven't reached a firm enough footing to supply anyone with anything. In this fluid state I can't see myself in the perspective of a biography, but can only offer those occasional lapses into autobiography in poetry or painting.

These are not factual, but simple responses to happenings and impressions over which I hope I had no special control.

There is a tendency nowadays to write things down as if they were facts, an almost desperate desire to know and to tell. If I degenerate to this further trauma I will let you have the results.

How are things in Augusta? It is my impression that they have a confidence crisis on their hands, but libraries are the best place to be at all times. I should know - my wife, about whom I have a little biographical material, is a librarian.

Best wishes and thanks for keeping my book safely,

Sincerely,

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