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Okefenokee family letters to Jean Sherwood Harper

Zach S. Henderson Library Special Collections

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OVERVIEW OF COLLECTION

Title: Okefenokee family letters to Jean Sherwood Harper

Date: 1931-1941

Extent: 1 Box (0.21 Linear Feet)

Collector: Harper, Jean Sherwood, 1896-1990

Language: English

Repository: Zach S. Henderson Library Special Collections, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA. specolle@georgiasouthern.edu, 912-478-7819, library.georgiasouthern.edu.

Processing Note: Collection reprocessed in 2023 by Ted Paden, Special Collections Graduate Assistant., under the supervision of Autumn Johnson, Special Collections Librarian. Collection previously known as "Correspondence of the Chesser and other Okefenokee families with Francis Harper 1931-1941."

INFORMATION FOR USE OF COLLECTION

Conditions Governing Access: The collection is open for research use.

Physical Access: Materials must be viewed in the Special Collections Reading Room under the supervision of Special Collections staff.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

In order to protect the materials from inadvertent damage, all reproduction services are performed by the Special Collections staff. All requests for reproduction must be submitted using the Reproduction Request Form. Requests to publish from the collection must be submitted using the Publication Request Form. Special Collections does not claim to control the rights to all materials in its collection. In all instances, it is the researcher's responsibility to obtain permission from the holders of any rights in the material being quoted, reproduced or published.

Preferred Citation: [Item Identification], Chesser family letters to Jean Sherwood Harper, Zach S. Henderson Library Special Collections, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, GA

Related Collections:

Francis Harper Papers (Georgia Southern University)

[Francis Harper Papers, 1902-1968 \(University of North Carolina\)](#)

[Francis Harper papers \(The University of Kansas\)](#)

Delma Eugene Presley Collection of South Georgia Culture and History

ABOUT THE COLLECTION

Biographical History: Jean Sherwood Harper was born in Cornwall, N.Y. She received her bachelor's degree from Vassar College in 1918 and her master's degree in horticulture () from Cornell University in 1923. In 1920 and 1921 she was the tutor for Anna and Elliot Roosevelt while their father, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, was campaigning for vice-president.

Harper married naturalist Francis Harper in 1923. She and her husband were lifelong protectors of the Okefenokee Swamp. She wrote an article in the *Vassar Quarterly*, February 1933 issue, in there she wrote about collecting the folk songs of the Okefinokee Swamp. The same year, Harper wrote a letter to then President Roosevelt that led directly to the protection of the Okefenokee Swamp as a National Wildlife Refuge. Harper also served as the National Secretary of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom for a number of years.

Scope and Content: This collection consists of letters from Okefenokee families, including members of the Chesser family, to Jean Sherwood Harper from 1931-1941. Also includes a typescript of seven poems authored by Jean Sherwood Harper.

Find this collection in the University Libraries' [catalog](#).

System of Arrangement: Materials are arranged chronologically.

Acquisitions Info: Gift of Donald Berryhill, 2008.

Custodial History: Previous collection belonging to Berryhill included Letter from Aunt Rhodee to Mrs. [Jean] Harper, 1932 December 8 and Archie and Annie Rinkins to Francis Harper, 1936 October 29.

Access Points:

Harper, Jean Sherwood, 1896-1990

Chesser Family

Harper, Francis, 1886-1972

Okefenokee Swamp (Ga. and Fla.) --
 History -- Sources
 Okefenokee Swamp (Ga. and Fla.) --
 History -- Photographs
 Georgia -- History -- 19th century --
 Sources

Georgia
 United States -- Okefenokee Swamp
 Personal Correspondence
 Sources

CONTAINER LISTING

Box 1: 0200107554210

<u>Items</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>	<u>Item Number</u>
Letter from Aunt Rhoda [Rhonda Spaulding] to Mrs. [Gene] Francis Harper, 1931 August 4	1	1
Letter from Mattie [Mathis] Chesser to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1931 October 17	1	2
Letter from Mattie [Mathis] Chesser to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1931 November 17	1	3
Letter from Mattie [Mathis] Chesser to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1932 February 27	1	4
Letter from Jasia to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1932 June 6	1	5
Letter from Aunt Rhoda to Mrs. [Jean] Harper, 1932 June 8	1	6
Letter from Aunt Rhoda to Mrs. [Jean] Harper, 1932 December 8	1	7
Letter from Mattie [Mathis] Chesser to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1932 August 27	1	8
Letter from Mattie [Mathis] Chesser to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1933 July 21	1	9
Letter from Mattie [Mathis] Chesser to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1933 October 28	1	10
Letter containing photographs of turpentine workers to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1935 December 1	1	11
Letter from Mary K Chapin to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1935 December 30	1	12

Letter from Mary K Chapin to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1936 April 14	1	13
Letter from S. M. Gibson to Gene [Jean] Harper, 1936 June 17	1	14
Dog License with collar and tag, 1936 July 2	1	15
Railway Express Agency Receipt to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1936 July 21	1	16
Letter from Rhoda Spaulding to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1936 August 5	1	17
Letter from Rhoda Spaulding to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1936 August 8	1	18
Letter from Archie and Annie Rinkins to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1936 October 29	1	19
Letter from Archie & Annie Dinkins to Mr. and Mrs. Francis Harper, 1936 December 21	1	20
Folder Two		
Letter from Ben and Shirley to Jean, 1939 January 2	2	21
Letter from Margaret Cary to Jean and Francis, 1939 January 20	2	22
Letter from Ben and Shirley Chesser to Jean and Family, 1939 September 26	2	23
Letter from Margaret Cary to Dr. and Mrs. Francis Harper, 1939 October 2	2	24
Letter containing a newspaper clipping and handwritten note from Iva Chesser to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1940 September 19	2	25
Letter from Shirley Chesser to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1940 September 16	2	26
Letter from Wade Chesser to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1941 February 18	2	27
Letter from Iva Chesser to Mrs. [Jean] Francis Harper, 1941 February 20	2	28
Transcript of poems authored by Jean Sherwood	2	29
Dog License with collar and tag, 1936 July 2	3	30

