



# Southwestern Writers Collection

The Wittliff Collections at the Alkek Library  
Texas State University-San Marcos

## **A Guide to the Cindy Bonner Papers, 1983-1999 Collection 053**

### **Descriptive Summary**

<b>Creator:</b>	Bonner, Cindy
<b>Title:</b>	Cindy Bonner Papers
<b>Dates:</b>	1983-1999
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Cindy Bonner papers document the writing and editing process of her novels and short stories, including research notes, annotated drafts, proofs, and correspondence, dating from 1983-1999.
<b>Identification:</b>	Collection 053
<b>Extent:</b>	12 boxes (6 linear feet)
<b>Language:</b>	Materials are written in English
<b>Repository:</b>	<a href="#"><u>Southwestern Writers Collection, Special Collections, Alkek Library, Texas State University-San Marcos</u></a>

## Biographical Sketch

Cindy Bonner was born June 14, 1953, in Corpus Christi, Texas. She attended University of Southern Mississippi (1971-73), and San Antonio College (1979). She won Honorable Mention, Roberts Awards, 1989, and third place for a short story, Byliners Contest, 1990. Her first novel, *Lily* (1992), was a finalist for the Western Writers of America's Pipe Bearer's Award. Her novels have been listed as "Best Books" by the American Library Association and have been translated into Spanish and German. Her most recent novel, *Right from Wrong*, won the Pen Texas Award in 1997.

In addition to raising two children, Ms. Bonner has worked in various professions, including as a yoga teacher, computer operator, real estate manager of a blues/rock band, and writer. She stated, "In 1982, with the encouragement of my husband, I bought a spiral notebook and began to teach myself to write... the hard way, through trial and error and a tidal wave of rejection letters. It is my goal to write fiction that someone, somewhere, will still be reading in one hundred years from now," (Contemporary Authors, 1999). Ms. Bonner currently lives and writes full-time in Yorktown, Texas.

## Scope and Content Note

The Cindy Bonner papers document the writing and editing process of her novels and short stories. The collection includes research notes, annotated drafts, proofs, and correspondence, dating from 1983-1999. The collection is arranged in 3 series: Works, Correspondence, and Artifacts.

Series I: Works (1986-1999) documents the writing and editing process of Bonner's four published novels, *Lily*, *Looking After Lily*, *The Passion of Dellie O'Barr*, and *Right from Wrong*. This series also includes the unpublished novel "Flossie/War Dreams" and seven short stories. Formats include research notes, annotated drafts, proofs, and correspondence.

Series 2: Correspondence (1983-1993) relates to Bonner's writing career and includes letters of acceptance and rejection, and dialogue with literary agents. And Series 3: Artifacts (n.d.) includes one toy pencil that reads, "I'm a Big Time Writer." The toy was given to Bonner by her son and remained on her desk for five years.

## **Administrative Information**

### **Access Restrictions**

Open for research.

### **Preferred Citation**

Cindy Bonner Papers, Southwestern Writers Collection, Texas State University-San Marcos

### **Acquisition Information**

Gift donated by Cindy Bonner, since 1994.

### **Processing Information**

Processed by Amanda Oates, 2000. Finding aid revised by Maggie DeBrecht, 2011

# Detailed Description of the Contents

## Series I: Works 1986-1999

### Novels 1991-1999

#### Box Folder

##### Lily 1992

- |   |     |                                      |
|---|-----|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | 1   | Handwritten draft                    |
|   | 2   | Outline                              |
|   | 3   | Research                             |
|   | 4-5 | First draft "McDade"                 |
|   | 6-7 | Original "McDade"                    |
|   | 8   | "McDade edited," with editor's marks |
| 2 | 1   | "McDade edited"-continued            |
|   | 2-3 | Copy edited Lily                     |
|   | 4-5 | Edited page proofs                   |
|   | 6   | Annotated page proofs                |
| 3 | 1   | Annotated page proofs-continued      |
|   | 2-3 | Final Page Proofs                    |
|   | 4   | Correspondence (1991-1994)           |
|   | 5   | Publicity                            |

##### Looking After Lily 1994

- |   |     |                     |
|---|-----|---------------------|
|   | 6   | Research            |
|   | 7-8 | "First First Draft" |
| 4 | 1-2 | First draft         |

## Series I: Works-continued

Novels-continued

### Box Folder

#### Looking After Lily-continued

- |   |     |  |
|---|-----|--|
| 4 | 3   | Draft with December 1992 journal entry |
|   | 4-5 | “Clean draft”                          |
|   | 6   | “First edit”                           |
| 5 | 1   | “First edit”-continued                 |
|   | 2-3 | Annotated typescript                   |
|   | 4-5 | “Copy Edit”                            |
|   | 6   | Publicity                              |

#### The Passion of Dellie O’Barr 1996

- |   |     |                         |
|---|-----|-------------------------|
| 6 | 1-2 | Annotated typescript #1 |
|   | 3-4 | Annotated typescript #2 |
|   | 5-6 | Annotated typescript #3 |
| 7 | 1-2 | Page proofs             |

#### Right from Wrong 1999

- |   |     |  |
|---|-----|--|
|   | 3-4 | Original typescript as submitted to editor |
|   | 5   | Rejected version                           |
| 8 | 1   | Rejected version-continued                 |
|   | 2-3 | Annotated typescript #1                    |
|   | 4-5 | Annotated typescript #2                    |
| 9 | 1-2 | Annotated page proofs                      |
|   | 3   | Publicity                                  |

## **Series I: Works-continued**

Novels-continued

### **Box Folder**

#### *Right from Wrong-continued*

12 2 Publicity and promotional materials

#### "Flossie/War Dreams"

9 4-5 Flossie typescript

6 War Dreams typescript

10 1 War Dreams typescript-continued

### **Short Stories 1986-1993**

10 2 "Hatching Eggs" 1988-1993, drafts and correspondence

3 "Library Books" 1987-1992

4 "Pendejo" 1986-1987, drafts and correspondence

5 "Perfect Pitch" 1987-1989

11 1 "Starving Artist" 1988-1992

2 "Weekends and Summers" 1987

3 "Worms" 1989

## **Series II: Correspondence 1983-1993**

11 4 Correspondence

## **Series III: Artifacts, n.d.**

12 1 Toy pencil which reads, "I'm a Big Time Writer," given to Bonner by her son, includes note describing item