

# Papers of Penn Jones, Jr.

## Preliminary Collection Statement

Dr. Robert Platt met Penn Jones, Jr. during the summer of 1963. They were close friends until Platt moved to Washington for a sabbatical eighteen years later. After November 22, 1963, Jones devoted most of his time to assassination research. He spoke to an assembly on the campus of Tarrant County Junior College (now TCC) in the year the college opened and every year thereafter for ten years. Platt accompanied Jones on some of his investigative trips, and they visited in each other's homes occasionally.

When Platt returned from Washington in 1982, Jones was already in failing health, and a few years later required assisted living care. Platt then contacted Elaine, Penn's second wife, about purchasing the remainder of his library and his files. There were three large four-drawer filing cabinets of materials. Most of these materials were transferred to the Baylor Collections of Political Materials in October 2004.

The materials included six 10"x12"x15" storage boxes containing the files of Jones as well as numerous magazines, photographs, slides, cassette tapes, videos, films, reel-to-reel tapes, newspapers, and copies of *The Continuing Inquiry*.

Preliminary processing has included listing all the media materials as well as photocopying the magazine articles related to Kennedy. The media are all listed on the Penn Jones web site. The magazine photocopies have been placed in notebooks for researchers. The original magazines will be placed in archival sleeves and boxes for long-term preservation. Conversion of media to digital format was begun in March 2005 with the cassette tapes.

Processing has also begun on the files using a preliminary series outline as a guide to arrange the papers. When the papers are in order, the finding aid will be added to the web site. Materials related to the Kennedy assassination, but not collected by Penn Jones, will be added to our JFK Materials web site: <http://www3.baylor.edu/Library/BCPM/JFK/JFK.htm>.

Dr. Platt continues to find related materials which he deposits in the library. He recently found a copy of *Forgive My Grief*, vol. 1, and the BCPM hopes to locate copies of the other three volumes.

Initial research interest has been encouraging. We have received inquiries from Washington, DC, Colorado, and Nevada and a researcher from Colorado has already traveled to Waco to access the papers.

It is the desire of the BCPM staff to locate and encourage other Kennedy assassination researchers to also donate their papers to this private political archive in order to preserve these materials for future generations. If you have such materials, please contact us at 254-710-3540.

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