Descriptive Summary

**Title:** The Kaye Gibbons Archive, 1987-

**Collection Number:** Mss. 2006:2

**Creator:** Kaye Gibbons

**Extent:** 24 boxes

Administrative Information

**Provenance:** Gift/Purchase, 2006

**Processed by:** Patrick Scott 2006 (revised 2007)

**Access Restrictions:** Open to research. Publisher's contracts in the archive will not be made available to researchers without special permission from the author.

**Preferred Citation:** [Item], Kaye Gibbons Archive, Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University of South Carolina Libraries

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Scope and Contents Note

The novelist Kaye Gibbons was born in Nash County, North Carolina, and took her undergraduate degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her first novel, *Ellen Foster*, published in 1978 by Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill when she was 26, earned immediate critical recognition and accolades from Eudora Welty and Walker Percy. For it, Gibbons won the Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters and the Louis D. Rubin Writing Award. It has become a contemporary classic, taught in high schools and universities alongside such works as *Catcher in the Rye* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*. 

The Kaye Gibbons Archive covers her literary career to 2006. The archive includes notes, drafts edited typescripts, and proofs for Ms. Gibbons’ novels, together with typescripts for stories and essays, correspondence, reviews, etc. The archive itself is support by a very full collection of advance proofs, published books including reprints and translations, limited editions, etc. The list below covers boxed archival materials. Books by Kaye Gibbons, advance proofs, and some other published items by Kaye Gibbons are not included in the list; they have been cataloged and shelved as individual items. Detailed entries for such items are available in the library’s on-line catalogue at http://libcat.csd.sc.edu/. One archival item, the annotated typescript of Kaye Gibbons’ talk “Saying it: don't try this at home,” at the library’s Ex Libris Society meeting, November 8, 2004 (previously donated by the author), is also cataloged individually at PS3557.I13917 S3 2004.

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**Container List**

**Series I: Books**

**Box 1**
Edited typescript for *Ellen Foster* (1987)
Edited version for audio book

**Box 2**
Autograph manuscript version for *A Virtuous Woman* (1989)
Edited typescript
Box 3
Diskettes with drafts for *A Cure for Dreams* (1991)

Box 4
Typescript for *Charms for the Easy Life* (1993)
Screenplay for *Charms* (2001)

Box 5
Notes and manuscript draft for opening of *Sights Unseen* (1995)

Box 6
Page proof for *On the Occasion of My Last Afternoon* (1998)

Box 7
First draft, first chapters of *Divining Women* (2004)
Second draft
Author’s final draft with cover note.
Proof printout for opening pages
Updated bio note (2004)

Box 7a
Edited typescript marked by author and editor, 206 1
Page proofs, 208 1
Design proofs of prefatory matter

Box 8a
*The Life All Around Me* (2006)--early versions as “Ellen in Love”

Box 8b
*The Life all Around Me* (2006)--later versions as *The Life All Around Me*

Box 9
Notes and edited typescript for *The Other Side of Air* (2006) --Jeanne Braselton, completed with an afterword by Kaye Gibbons

Box 10
*The Lunatics’ Ball*--notes--note related canvas chart with 19th century photos is separately housed
Proposal
First editorial read
Rough draft --second editorial reading

Box 11
*Jackie Onassis* book project

Series II: Other Materials

Box 12
Correspondence, I --*Ellen Foster*

Box 13
Correspondence, II --general
Box 14
Correspondence, III –photocopies of contracts etc. (not available without special permission from the author)

Box 15
Reviews and Miscellaneous –includes folder of cover art

Box 16
Speaking: Welty tribute and letter; speech for high schools, correspondence , tour schedules, broadsheets, photos

Box 17
Stories etc.: On going unpublished (about my mother); My Mother, Literature etc (in The Writer on Her Work), The First Grade Jesus (publ 1988), Unpublished novel

Box 18
Essays: Katharine Anne Porter (Kenyon Review), O’Connor, Ransom, Hopkins, MacDiamid, Arnold/Eliot, Kate Chopin’s Awakening (for Modern Library edition), Allure

Box 19
Notebooks, I, 4 notebooks, incl. first sustained piece of fiction

Box 20
Notebooks, II, 3 notebooks

Box 21
Magazines