

University of Victoria Special Collections and University Archives

Finding Aid - George Barker collection (SC009)

Generated by Access to Memory (AtoM) 2.4.0 Printed: August 24, 2018

Language of description: English

University of Victoria Special Collections and University Archives

University Archives

University of Victoria

PO Box 1800 STN CSC

Victoria

BC

Canada

V8W 3H5

Telephone: 250-721-8257

Fax: 250-721-8215

Email: archives@uvic.ca

<http://library.uvic.ca/archives/>

<http://127.0.0.1:8000/index.php/george-barker-collection>

George Barker collection

Table of contents

Summary information	3
Administrative history / Biographical sketch	3
Scope and content	3
Notes	4
Access points	4
Series descriptions	4
SC009-1991-072, Diary, 1968	4
SC009-1996-037, Correspondence, 1967	4
SC009-1996-051, Notebooks, Manuscripts, 1966-1967	5
SC009-1996-052, Manuscripts, 1968-1970	7
SC009-1996-053, Manuscripts, Correspondence, 1931-1965	8
SC009-1996-054, Manuscripts, 1968	11
SC009-1996-055, Notebook, 1946	11
SC009-1996-056, Manuscripts,	11
SC009-1996-057, Elizabeth Smart's "A Bonus", 1977	12
SC009-1999-015, Aristotle's "Poetics", 1936	12
SC009-2003-010, De-catalogued Items, 1955-1965	13

Summary information

Repository: University of Victoria Special Collections and University Archives

Title: George Barker collection

ID: SC009

Date: 1931 - 1977 (date of creation)

Physical description: 35 cm of textual records
ca. 50 drawings

**Dates of creation,
revision and deletion:**

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

George Barker, poet, novelist and artist, was born in Loughton, Essex, England, of Irish and English parentage. Barker was educated at the Regent Street Polytechnic. In 1933, he published *Alanna Autumnal*, a novel, and *Thirty Preliminary Poems*. He was visiting professor of English Literature at the Imperial Tohoku University in Japan in 1939. From 1940 to 1943, he lived in the United States, and from 1960 to 1965, in Rome. He taught at State University of New York College at Buffalo, 1965-1966; the University of Wisconsin 1971-1972, and at Florida International University in 1974. He was also Arts Fellow at York University in 1966. His later works included *Calamiterror*, *Sacred and Secular Elegies*, *News of the World*, *The True Confession of George Barker*, *Dreams of a Summer Night*, and *Poems of Places and People*. One of Barker's liaisons was with the Canadian writer Elizabeth Smart (1913-1986) who drew from their relationship in her novel, *By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept*. Smart bore 4 of Barker's 15 children.

Scope and content

The collection consists of: Barker's correspondence (1934-1964); news clippings (1933-1968); sketches (1963-1965); holographs and transcripts of essays (1937-1969); notebooks; holographs and typescripts of poetry (1954-1970); contracts (1933-1964); marked proofs; a heavily annotated copy of Elizabeth Smart's *A Bonus* (1977), and an annotated copy of Aristotle's *Poetics* etc., which Barker used for reviewing Ezra Pound's *XXX Cantos*.

Notes

Title notes

Finding aids

File and volume descriptions available.

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- **Description identifier:** george-barker-collection-2

Access points

- Literature (subject)
- Poetry modern--20th century--England (subject)
- Poets, English--20th century (subject)

Series descriptions

Series SC009-1991-072: Diary

Date: 1968 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Manuscript diary for 1968. File 56

Physical description: 1 file.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC009-1991-072-56	File - Letts Desk Diary	1968		

Series SC009-1996-037: Correspondence

Date: 1967 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Correspondence to "Tim" [O'Keefe]. File 36.10

Physical description: 1 file.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC009-1996-037-36.1	Item - Letter to "Tim" [O'Keefe]	1967		

Series SC009-1996-051: Notebooks, Manuscripts

Date: 1966-1967 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Notebooks and manuscript of "The Golden Chains". Files 1-9

Physical description: 9 files.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC009-1996-051-1	File - Black notebook			
SC009-1996-051-1-1.1	Item - Draft trans. of 15th century English poem "Quia Amore Languo"			
SC009-1996-051-1-1.2	Item - A revision of the above poem			
SC009-1996-051-1-1.3	Item - An essay "On the Symbol" (The Cross)			
SC009-1996-051-1-1.4	Item - Aphorisms and comic verse rhymes			
SC009-1996-051-1-1.5	Item - Poetry			
SC009-1996-051-1-1.6	Item - Draft letter, "Dear John..."			
SC009-1996-051-1-1.7	Item - Miscellaneous notes			
SC009-1996-051-2	File - Blue "Challenge" notebook	1967		
SC009-1996-051-2-2.1	Item - Draft letter "to Lancaster" [University], applying for Granada Fellowship			
SC009-1996-051-2-2.2	Item - Draft letter to O'Keefe			
SC009-1996-051-2-2.3	Item - Draft essay "How Poets Survive, or do they?"			
SC009-1996-051-2-2.4	Item - Manuscript unpublished poem "And the Sixteen Winds that Blow"			

SC009-1996-051-2-2.5	Item - Poem "The Long Gone Ghosts of Shepherds Mind Spectral"	
SC009-1996-051-2-2.6	Item - VII Poems on Trees	
SC009-1996-051-2-2.7	Item - To Whom it may Concern - poem	
SC009-1996-051-2-2.8	Item - A lecture on poetry	
SC009-1996-051-2-2.9	Item - Two draft letters: a) "To Hester Brash" (sic)	
SC009-1996-051-2-2.10	Item - b) "Dear C.H.S." [Sisson]	
SC009-1996-051-3	File - Green loose-leaf notebook	1966
SC009-1996-051-3-3.1	Item - Manuscript of lecture "St. George and the Long Snouted Allegorrie"	
SC009-1996-051-3-3.2	Item - "Inscription for the Gazebo at York University"	
SC009-1996-051-3-3.3	Item - "Apotheosis of Nietzsche"	
SC009-1996-051-3-3.4	Item - Notes	
SC009-1996-051-3-3.5	Item - Notes on Bunyan	
SC009-1996-051-3-3.6	Item - Misc. notes	
SC009-1996-051-3-3.7	Item - Poem	
SC009-1996-051-3-3.8	Item - "Valediction -Ceremonial Poem addressed to the Shade of the Poet Higgins, obit. December 7 MCMLXV"	1966
SC009-1996-051-4	File - Blue "Challenge" notebook	1964-1967
SC009-1996-051-4-4.1	Item - Notes on a lecture on poets and poetry	
SC009-1996-051-4-4.2	Item - Like I so love that I can feel	
SC009-1996-051-4-4.3	Item - Draft letter, "My Darling Heart"	
SC009-1996-051-4-4.4	Item - Draft of poems and tributes to the memory of Oscar Williams	1964
SC009-1996-051-4-4.5	Item - Draft letter "Dear John"	1967
SC009-1996-051-4-4.6	Item - Manuscript poem, beginning: "Elspeth, my love, here the same/Echo of leaves speaks your name..."	
SC009-1996-051-4-4.7	Item - Miscellaneous notes and comments	
SC009-1996-051-5	File - Orange notebook	1965
SC009-1996-051-5-5.1	Item - The Memoirs of Lord George Byron	
SC009-1996-051-5-5.2	Item - Notes for a lecture dealing with Robert Southey and Robert Graves	
SC009-1996-051-5-5.3	Item - Notes for a lecture on Michelangelo and sculpture	
SC009-1996-051-5-5.4	Item - Draft letter	
SC009-1996-051-5-5.5	Item - "Asterisks" and "Aphorisms"	
SC009-1996-051-6	File - Blue "University of NY at Buffalo" exercise books	1965
SC009-1996-051-6-6.1	Item - "On T.S. Eliot (1)"	
SC009-1996-051-6-6.2	Item - "On T.S. Eliot (2)"	
SC009-1996-051-7	File - Blue "University of NY at Buffalo" exercise book	1965
SC009-1996-051-8	File - Verse Sheet 1	1967
SC009-1996-051-9	File - MS of The Golden Chains	1966-1967
SC009-1996-051-9-9.1	Item - Red privately bound hard cover	1966-1967
SC009-1996-051-9-9.2	Item - "Extras of the Golden Chains"	

Series SC009-1996-052: ManuscriptsDate: 1968-1970 (date of creation)Scope and content:

Manuscripts and sketches. Files 10-20; 18 is OS

Physical description: 10 files.Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC009-1996-052-10	File - At Thurgarton Church	1968-1970		
SC009-1996-052-10-10.1	Item - "Norfolk December 1968"	1968		
SC009-1996-052-10-10.2	Item - At Thurgarton Church	1970		
SC009-1996-052-11	File - Blue notebook	1968		
SC009-1996-052-12	File - Blue notebook	1968		
SC009-1996-052-13	File - MS in grey paper cover	1970		
SC009-1996-052-14	File - MS in red cloth bound notebook	1968		
SC009-1996-052-15	File - MS in blue cloth bound notebook	1969		
SC009-1996-052-16	File - MS in red folio	1969		
SC009-1996-052-17	File - Green sketchbook with Barker drawings			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.1	Item - Cromer Pier/GB			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.2	Item - A Memorial drawing for Bertrand Russell/GB			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.3	Item - A crucifixion (in black, blue and red ink)			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.4	Item - Illustration for Children's Verses (1)			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.5	Item - Weybourne Church			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.6	Item - The Broads			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.7	Item - [Another sketch of The Broads]			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.8	Item - Norfolk Landscape Winter			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.9	Item - Illustration for Children's Verses (2)			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.10	Item - Illustration for Children's Verses entitled "Never!"			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.11	Item - Illustration for Children's Verses entitled "Aylsham Fair"			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.12	Item - Near Cromer			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.13	Item - [Sketch of soldier with sword]			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.14	Item - [Sketch of buildings]			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.15	Item - Palermo: The Palace			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.16	Item - Tomb of the Barbarossa at Palermo Cathedral			
SC009-1996-052-17-17.17	Item - Tomb of Roger Guiscan [?], Palermo			

SC009-1996-052-17-17.18	Item - [sketches]
SC009-1996-052-17-17.19	Item - Headdress of Empress Constanzia
SC009-1996-052-17-17.20	Item - Enna: the Norman Castle
SC009-1996-052-17-17.21	Item - Taormina with Aetna
SC009-1996-052-17-17.22	Item - Two mad children
SC009-1996-052-17-17.23	Item - Joanna the Mad: from a bust in Palermo
SC009-1996-052-17-17.24	Item - Hugh McDiarmid
SC009-1996-052-17-17.25	Item - [sketch of an androgyne]
SC009-1996-052-18	File - "Drawings /GB 70"
SC009-1996-052-18-18.1	Item - Castello Tranto
SC009-1996-052-18-18.2	Item - St. Peter (verso of 18.1)
SC009-1996-052-18-18.3	Item - Byzantine Emperor, Alexis Comnenus
SC009-1996-052-18-18.4	Item - St. Thomas (verso of 18.3)
SC009-1996-052-18-18.5	Item - Norfolk Landscape
SC009-1996-052-18-18.6	Item - [Landscape, possibly Norfolk]
SC009-1996-052-18-18.7	Item - St. John (verso of 18.6)
SC009-1996-052-18-18.8	Item - [Sketch of tree, very faint]
SC009-1996-052-18-18.9	Item - [Profile of woman with tiara]
SC009-1996-052-18-18.10	Item - [A face, frontal view]
SC009-1996-052-19	File - A Vision of Beasts and Gods 1968
SC009-1996-052-20	File - "At the Grave of Vernon Watkins" in Vernon Watkins 1906-1967

Series SC009-1996-053: Manuscripts, Correspondence

Date: 1931-1965 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Manuscripts, correspondence, notebooks. Files 21-55 except 36.10 and 55.4; files 50, 53 are OS

Physical description: 34 files.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC009-1996-053-21	File - Address book			
SC009-1996-053-22	File - Blue ring binder notebook	1964		
SC009-1996-053-23	File - Blue "Challenge" notebook	1964		
SC009-1996-053-24	File - Dreams of a Summer Night	1965		
SC009-1996-053-25	File - Two poems			
SC009-1996-053-25-25.1	Item - "Things that Happen in Autumn"			
SC009-1996-053-25-25.2	Item - "Sonnet on Ireland" pencil draft with corrections			
SC009-1996-053-26	File - Essays	1934-1970		
SC009-1996-053-27	File - Fables	1961		
SC009-1996-053-28	File - "Experimental sketches for Marine Water Engine designed	1963		

	by George Barker 1963"	
SC009-1996-053-29	File - "First Notes for a Programme Personal Choice"	
SC009-1996-053-30	File - "Honouring Tennyson"	
SC009-1996-053-31	File - "On Refusing a Heavenly House"	
SC009-1996-053-32	File - "Elucidations of the Notes to the True Confessions"	
SC009-1996-053-33	File - "Further Notes & Elucidations of the True Confessions"	
SC009-1996-053-34	File - "Poem in an Orange Wig"	
SC009-1996-053-35	File - "An Introduction to the Two Voices of Tennyson"	
SC009-1996-053-36	File - Correspondence From George Barker	
SC009-1996-053-36-36.1	Item - To "Cecil Day Lewis"	1963
SC009-1996-053-36-36.2	Item - To "David Archer"	
SC009-1996-053-36-36.3	Item - To "David Archer"	1962
SC009-1996-053-36-36.4	Item - To "Malcolm"	
SC009-1996-053-36-36.5	Item - To "Tony" [Anthony Thwaite]	1963
SC009-1996-053-36-36.6	Item - To "Tony" [Anthony Thwaite]	
SC009-1996-053-36-36.7	Item - To "Emily"	
SC009-1996-053-36-36.8	Item - To "Oscar [Williams]"	
SC009-1996-053-36-36.9	Item - To "Dr. Muir"	
SC009-1996-053-36-36.11	Item - Miscellaneous drafts	
SC009-1996-053-37	File - Correspondence To George Barker - Miscellaneous	
SC009-1996-053-37-37.1	Item - Barker	1957
SC009-1996-053-37-37.2	Item - Day Lewis, Cecil	1964
SC009-1996-053-37-37.3	Item - Eliot, T.S.	1960
SC009-1996-053-37-37.4	Item - Gutteridge, Bernard	
SC009-1996-053-37-37.5	Item - Hawkins, Desmond	1938
SC009-1996-053-37-37.6	Item - Hughes, David	1957
SC009-1996-053-37-37.7	Item - MacBryde, Robert	
SC009-1996-053-37-37.8	Item - Moraes, Dom	1962
SC009-1996-053-37-37.9	Item - Sexton, Anne	1963
SC009-1996-053-37-37.10	Item - Shapiro, Karl	1944
SC009-1996-053-37-37.11	Item - Warren, C. Henry	
SC009-1996-053-37-37.12	Item - Misc. and unidentified	
SC009-1996-053-38	File - Correspondence - David Wright	
SC009-1996-053-39	File - Correspondence - Faber and Faber	1935-1956
SC009-1996-053-40	File - Correspondence - BBC	1939-1963
SC009-1996-053-41	File - Correspondence - Oscar Williams	1963-1964
SC009-1996-053-42	File - Correspondence - Business - Miscellaneous	1936-1963
SC009-1996-053-43	File - Contracts	1933-1964
SC009-1996-053-44	File - "Pibroch for MacBryde"	
SC009-1996-053-45	File - "Valediction Addressed to the Shade of the Poet Higgins"	1966
SC009-1996-053-46	File - "On a Distant Prospect of English Poetry and Downing College"	
SC009-1996-053-47	File - Miscellaneous poems and fragments	
SC009-1996-053-47-47.1	Item - A verse for Elspeth	

SC009-1996-053-47-47.2	Item - Sad were those sirens lolling by the cafe tables	
SC009-1996-053-47-47.3	Item - The odalisque of the orient	
SC009-1996-053-47-47.4	Item - The Sparrows Feather	1963
SC009-1996-053-47-47.5	Item - The skinny little autumn tree	
SC009-1996-053-47-47.6	Item - Poem written in the corner of a Portrait of Lady Arabella Stuart	
SC009-1996-053-47-47.7	Item - Petrobey lay high up on a stony mountain	
SC009-1996-053-47-47.8	Item - Whipmawhopmagate	
SC009-1996-053-47-47.9	Item - An infant Version of the Fall of Man	
SC009-1996-053-47-47.10	Item - III Roman Odes	
SC009-1996-053-47-47.11	Item - To James Flecker	
SC009-1996-053-48	File - Miscellaneous sketches	
SC009-1996-053-48-48.1	Item - Ink drawing of nude	1931
SC009-1996-053-48-48.2	Item - 8 ink sketches	
SC009-1996-053-48-48.3	Item - Sketch	
SC009-1996-053-48-48.4	Item - 8 page birthday card	
SC009-1996-053-48-48.5	Item - pen and oil sketch	1937
SC009-1996-053-48-48.6	Item - Pencil outline of nude	
SC009-1996-053-48-48.7	Item - Pen sketch	
SC009-1996-053-49	File - "Drawings 1964-5, Pencil & Pen: Emperors, Poets, Saints etc. GB"	1964-1965
SC009-1996-053-50	File - "Original poems and drawings of the poet Max Welhaus invented by GB for the edification and instruction of the students of York University."	
SC009-1996-053-51	File - Miscellaneous prose	
SC009-1996-053-51-51.1	Item - Coming to London	1956
SC009-1996-053-51-51.2	Item - Funeral Eulogy on Garcia Lorca	1939
SC009-1996-053-51-51.3	Item - Housman lecture	
SC009-1996-053-51-51.4	Item - A Letter to History	1940
SC009-1996-053-51-51.5	Item - On Dylan Thomas' death	
SC009-1996-053-51-51.6	Item - On the Image	
SC009-1996-053-51-51.7	Item - The Philadelphia Train	1943
SC009-1996-053-51-51.8	Item - Poetry and Reality	1937
SC009-1996-053-51-51.9	Item - Poiesis	
SC009-1996-053-51-51.10	Item - Ralph Abercrombie eulogy	1968
SC009-1996-053-51-51.11	Item - The snow had changed the grey and white factory town	
SC009-1996-053-51-51.12	Item - William Shakespeare and the Horse with Wings	
SC009-1996-053-51-51.13	Item - Dear John	1968
SC009-1996-053-52	File - Miscellaneous prose, published pages, some with GB's notes	
SC009-1996-053-52-52.1	Item - Civilization?—I'll stay right here	
SC009-1996-053-52-52.2	Item - Ezra Pound, review of Seventy Cantos	
SC009-1996-053-52-52.3	Item - The Face Behind the Poem	
SC009-1996-053-52-52.4	Item - The Hippogryph and the Water-Pistol	
SC009-1996-053-52-52.5	Item - How to Refuse a Heavenly House	

SC009-1996-053-52-52.6	Item - On Two Contemporaries	
SC009-1996-053-52-52.7	Item - Poet as Pariah New Statesman and Nation	
SC009-1996-053-52-52.8	Item - A pond = green corpse	1965
SC009-1996-053-52-52.9	Item - The Proper Consummation	
SC009-1996-053-53	File - Scrapbook kept by Olga Barker	1935-1953
SC009-1996-053-54	File - A Garland for Dylan Thomas	1963-1964
SC009-1996-053-55	File - Miscellaneous	
SC009-1996-053-55-55.1	Item - The Tongue of Spring	1952
SC009-1996-053-55-55.2	Item - Review of GB's Dreams of a Summer Night	1966
SC009-1996-053-55-55.3	Item - Program of George Barker's Library of Congress reading	1958

Series SC009-1996-054: Manuscripts

Date: 1968 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The Texas Quarterly. File 55.4

Physical description: 1 file.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC009-1996-054-55.4	Item - Miscellaneous	1968		

Series SC009-1996-055: Notebook

Date: 1946 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Notebook. File 57

Physical description: 1 file.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC009-1996-055-57	File - Black marbled notebook "Royal Compositions"	1946		

Series SC009-1996-056: Manuscripts

Scope and content:

Manuscript. File 58

Physical description: 1 file.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC009-1996-056-58	File - "In the uncertain hour before morning...".			

Series SC009-1996-057: Elizabeth Smart's "A Bonus"

Date: 1977 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Elizabeth Smart's A Bonus. File 59

Physical description: 1 file.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC009-1996-057-59	File - Elizabeth Smart's A Bonus	1977		

Series SC009-1999-015: Aristotle's "Poetics"

Date: 1936 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Holo. notes throughout Aristotle's Poetics and at back, holo. poetry in front and back. Inscription on front flyleaf : "George Barker mcmxxxvi [This copy given me by Eliot to help me review Ezra's XXX Cantos] " decatalogued from PR6003/A68A75. File 60

Physical description: 1 file.

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
----------	-------	-------	---------------	-----------

SC009-1999-015-60	File - Annotated copy of Everyman's Library 1934 ed. of Aristotle's Poetics	1934		
Series SC009-2003-010: De-catalogued Items				
<u>Date:</u> 1955-1965 (date of creation)				
<u>Scope and content:</u>				
De-catalogued items from PR6003/A68F6 "Peacock: a new Oxford Literary Magazine" PR6003/A68L6 "New Poems" by Edward Lowbury PR6003/A68D6 "Poetry (Chicago)" Files 61-63				
<u>Physical description:</u> 3 files.				
<u>Publication status:</u>				
Published				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
SC009-2003-010-61	File - Peacock: A new Oxford Literary Magazine	1964		
SC009-2003-010-61-61.1	Item - "For Elspeth"			
SC009-2003-010-61-61.2	Item - "Memorial Verses for Louis MacNeice"			
SC009-2003-010-61-61.3	Item - "Elizabeth Jennings"			
SC009-2003-010-62	File - New Poems	1965		
SC009-2003-010-63	File - "A Domestic Poem"	1955		