

# Guide to W. P. Barrett Correspondence

BKP 142



Compiled by ALSC staff

October 2014

Arts Library Special Collections  
180 York Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
203-432-1712  
haasalsc@yale.edu

<https://web.library.yale.edu/arts/alsc>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Robert B. Haas Family Arts Library Special Collections  
Arts Library Special Collections  
180 York Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
203-432-1712  
haasalsc@yale.edu  
<https://web.library.yale.edu/arts/alsc>

**CALL NUMBER:** BKP 142

**CREATOR:** Barrett, William Phillips, 1861-1938

**TITLE:** W. P. Barrett correspondence

**DATES:** 1918-1932

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 8 Items (letters)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection contains letters written by W. P. Barrett to bookplate collectors and designers R.W. Irwin and H. Harden.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/arts.bkp.0142>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/arts.bkp.0142>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Acquired by purchase, 2014.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Copyright has not been transferred to Yale University.

## Preferred Citation

W. P. Barrett Correspondence, Robert B. Haas Family Arts Library, Yale University.

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## Biographical / Historical

William Phillips Barrett (1861-1938) was an employee of John & Edward Bumpus Ltd. and managed their ex-libris orders. According to Brian North Lee: "The extent to which [Barrett] personally engaged in design has been a matter of debate, but he deserves acclaim as an entrepreneur." Barrett's initials appear on hundreds of bookplate designs produced by the Bumpus firm, though several bookplate engravers worked for Bumpus under an anonymity clause, including J.A.C. Harrison, Robert Osmond, John Edward Syson, Charles Bird, and George Ernest Vize.

Reference: Lee, Brian North, FSA. "The Renaissance of Copper-Engraved Bookplates in Britain." In *Coat of Arms* No.187, Autumn 1999. Accessed October 31, 2014. [http://www.theheraldryociety.com/articles/heraldry\\_as\\_art/Copper\\_engraved\\_bookplates.htm](http://www.theheraldryociety.com/articles/heraldry_as_art/Copper_engraved_bookplates.htm)

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## Scope and Contents

The collection contains letters written by W. P. Barrett to bookplate collectors and designers R.W. Irwin and H. Harden.

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## Arrangement

Arranged chronologically.

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## Collection Contents

### Correspondence, 1918-1932

The series consists of seven autograph letters signed by Barrett.

b.1	ALS to H. Harden, Esq.	June 16, 1918
b.1	ALS to R.W. Irwin, Esq.	September 16, 1930
b.1	ALS to R.W. Irwin, Esq.	November 8, 1930
b.1	ALS to R.W. Irwin, Esq. Also includes envelope addressed to Irwin at 2232 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, USA.	April 14, 1931
b.1	ALS to R.W. Irwin, Esq.	September 24, 1931
b.1	ALS to R.W. Irwin, Esq.	June 30, [1932?]
b.1	ALS to R.W. Irwin, Esq.	September 5, [19??]

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Bookplates, British

### **Genres / Formats**

Correspondence

### **Names**

Barrett, William Phillips, 1861-1938