

# Paul Mellon correspondence with E. Bartlett Barnes

S007



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June 22, 2021

Institutional Archives  
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<https://britishart.yale.edu/about-us/departments/institutional-archives>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Yale Center for British Art, Institutional Archives  
Institutional Archives  
1080 Chapel Street  
P. O. Box 208280  
New Haven, CT 06520-8280  
(203) 432-8395  
ycba.institutionalarchives@yale.edu  
<https://britishart.yale.edu/about-us/departments/institutional-archives>

**CALL NUMBER:** S007

**CREATOR:** Barnes, E. Bartlett

**TITLE:** Paul Mellon correspondence with E. Bartlett Barnes

**DATES:** 1988–1999

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** .209 linear feet (1 box)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** This collection consists of correspondence between Paul Mellon (1907-1999) and E. Bartlett Barnes (1908-1994). Mellon often included in his correspondence information about accomplishments and news notes for the Yale '29 alumni column, which was written by Barnes. There is correspondence about "The Mountain Club," of which Mellon was a member at Yale, and newspaper clippings about Mellon's donation of art to the National Gallery (September 30, 1995). There are also significant materials related to Mellon's racing career including pamphlets from Rokeby Stables, a photograph of Sea Hero at the Kentucky Derby, and newspaper articles about Rokeby Stables.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/ycba.ia.S007>

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is restricted.

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### Biographical / Historical

E. Bartlett Barnes (1908-2004) was the scribe for the Yale '29 class column of the Yale Alumni Magazine, beginning in 1966. He and Paul Mellon graduated in the same class at Yale and corresponded sporadically for 20 to 30 years. Barnes was the publisher and president of the Bristol Press for which he first began working as a reporter in 1937. From 1948-1949 he was President of the New England Newspaper Advertising Executives Association and Director of the Bureau of Advertising, American Newspaper Publishers Association.

Beginning in the mid-1950s, Barnes joined a small group of editors and publishers who launched a twenty year campaign for the creation of a state Freedom of Information Law. In 1969 he became President of the Bristol Industrial Development Corporation and Director of the Bristol Savings Bank. He served as Chairman of the Bristol Board of Education and as Director of the Connecticut Freedom of Information Commission, holding both positions from 1985 to 1989. He was also a 67-year member and Paul Harris Fellow of the Bristol Rotary Club and a 50-year member and former deacon of the First Congregational Church in Bristol.

Barnes is credited with transforming the New England Carousel Museum into a nonprofit group dedicated to preservation and education, and he was a senior member of the Bristol Yale Club whose members raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for scholarships for local students. Barnes was also actively involved in providing guidance and support to local Bristol organizations including the Bristol Public Library, the American Clock and Watch Museum, the Family Center, and the Barnes Nature Center. He was heavily involved with the Boy's Club, and contributed over 20,000 dollars to the Bristol chapters of the organization.

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## Scope and Contents

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## **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**

Art -- Collectors and collecting  
Horse racing  
Universities and colleges -- Alumni and alumnae

### **Names**

Mellon, Paul