

LINCOLN PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

Bedford Road,  
Lincoln, Massachusetts

ARCHIVES/  
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Ruth Barbarow  
Collection

2007.006

Processed by William F. Carroll, CA  
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### **Collection Information**

Abstract : Ruth Barbarow, 1918-2006, was a Lincoln artist, and left her paintings to the Friends of the Lincoln Council on Aging, with the provision that the works be sold and the proceeds be given to the Friends.

Finding Aid : Finding Aid in print form is available in the Repository

Preferred Citation : Archives/Special Collections of the Lincoln Public Library, Lincoln, Massachusetts.

Provenance : Gift of John Cowles, auction manager of the estate, 2007.

MARC Access: Collection is catalogued in MARC under the following subject headings (lcs, aat, gmgpc, etc.)

Barbarow, Ruth, 1918-2006.  
Women painters – Massachusetts – Lincoln.  
Artists – Massachusetts – Lincoln.  
Art, American – Massachusetts – Lincoln.

### **Historical/Biographical Notes**

Ruth Barbarow was born in New Jersey in 1918, and began painting portraits and landscapes as a hobby in high school. She received 4 years of formal training at the Cooper Union Day Art School in New York City. During her lifetime she painted as a hobby and whenever the opportunity was present. Her early works were exhibited in New Jersey and in Vermont where she lived for several years. In 1950 she received the Vermont first prize for amateur landscape painting. Moving to Massachusetts around 1960 she continued painting and presenting exhibitions throughout southern New England, including Concord and Lincoln.

Following her death in 2006, the remaining paintings in her possession were bequeathed to the Friends of the Lincoln Council on Aging, with the provision that the paintings be sold and the proceeds to benefit the Friends. The paintings were sold at a silent auction in 2007.

### **Scope and Content**

The bulk of the collection comprises snapshots and digital images of Ruth Barbarow's paintings which were offered for sale following her death. Many are printed from the auctioneer's list. Also included are photographs of exhibitions of her work in the Lincoln Public Library, with a guest book and a comment sheet. In addition there are typescript documents relating to provenance of the collection, and biographical information about Ruth Barbarow. The collection also includes the pictures and other material on compact discs.

The collection is arranged into 11 series topically.

## **Series Descriptions**

Series 1 : Background, 2007. (1 page)

Series 2 : Biographical Information, 2007. (3 p.)

Series 3 : Puppet Making, 2007 prints. (14 items)

Series 4 : Exhibition, 2007 prints. (19 items)

Series 5 : Acton Dwelling, 1990s. (7 pages)

Series 6 : Barbarow Pictures, 2007 prints. (41 items)

Series 7 : Barbarow Auction, 2007 prints. (ca. 55 items)

Series 8 : Portfolio, 2007 prints. (39 items)

Series 9 : Barbarow Art Work, 2007. (1 item)

Series 10 : Barbarow Catalog, 2007. (1 item)

Series 11 : Visitors Book, 1990s. (2 items)

Ruth Barbarow Collection  
2007.006  
Series 1, Background

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2007.006.1.1	Notes on the provenance of the collection : typescript / 2007.

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Ruth Barbarow Collection  
2007.006  
Series 2, Biography

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2007.006.2.1	Biographical information on Ruth Barbarow, including notes on the art auction held after her death, and her obituary : typescript / 2007.

Ruth Barbarow Collection  
2007.006  
Series 3, Puppet Making

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2007.006.3.1-.14	Puppet making with women's groups in Lincoln, show the various steps of painting, clothes making, etc. : Kodacolor prints, 4x6 in. / nd. (14 prints)

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Ruth Barbarow Collection  
2007.006  
Series 4, Exhibition

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2007.006.4.1-.19	Painting exhibition at Lincoln Public Library, paintings by Ruth Barbarow : Kodacolor prints, 4x6 in. / nd. (19 items)

Ruth Barbarow Collection  
2007.006  
Series 5, Acton Dwelling

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2007.006.5.1a-.1g	Photographic prints and painting of the Wetherby (Wetherbee) mansion in Acton, showing condition in 1994, painting of how the house might have looked when new, and photographs after restoration, with email printouts relating to the house and its owners : Kodacolor prints, 4x6 in., typescript / 1994-2007. (7 pages)

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Ruth Barbarow Collection  
2007.006  
Series 6, Barbarow Pictures

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2007.006.6.1-.41	Paintings made by Ruth Barbarow, and photographs of subjects for paintings : digital printouts / 2007. (41 items)



Ruth Barbarow Collection  
2007.006  
Series 7, Barbarow Auction

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2007.006.7.1-.72	Paintings and photographs by Ruth Barbarow to be auctioned, with auctioneers list : digital printouts / 2007. (ca. 56 items; not all on the auctioneers list are with the collection)

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Ruth Barbarow Collection  
2007.006  
Series 8, Portfolio

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2007.006.8.1-.39	Prints of the works of Ruth Barbarow from 1930s to 1990s, with prints of paintings on exhibit in the Library and snapshots : Kodacolor prints, variable sizes / printed ca. 2007. (39 items)

Ruth Barbarow Collection  
2007.006  
Series 9, Barbarow Art Work

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2007.006.9.1	Barbarow Art Work : compact disc / 2007.

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Ruth Barbarow Collection  
2007.006  
Series 10, Barbarow Catalog

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2007.006.10.1	Barbarow Catalog, written as a Microsoft Word document : compact disc / 2007.

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Ruth Barbarow Collection  
2007.006  
Series 11, Visitors Book

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2007.006.11.1	Guest Book, Exhibit of Ruth Barbarow paintings at Lincoln Public Library March 3 to 28, 1992 : bv, with signatures / 1992.
1		2007.006.11.2	Visitor comments on Ruth Barbarow exhibit 'Four impressions of Lincoln' : manuscript / nd.