



# ArchivesSpace

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## Barbara Banker Kamar collection, 1885-2012, undated

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Maine Women Writers Collection

Abplanalp Library

University of New England

716 Stevens Avenue

Portland, Maine 04103

[mwwc@une.edu](mailto:mwwc@une.edu)

URL: <https://library.une.edu/mwwc/>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Maine Women Writers Collection
<b>Creator:</b>	Kamar, Barbara Banker
<b>Title:</b>	Barbara Banker Kamar collection
<b>ID:</b>	0430
<b>ID [aspace_uri]:</b>	/repositories/3/resources/431
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1885-2012, undated
<b>Date [bulk]:</b>	1935-1946
<b>Physical Description:</b>	.75 linear foot 24 folders
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .

### Preferred Citation

Barbara Banker Kamar, Maine Women Writers Collection, University of New England, Portland, Maine

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## Biographical/Historical Note

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Barbara Banker Kamar was born in Boston, Massachusetts on March 31, 1917 to Grace G. Pascal Banker and Lyman Van Vliet Banker of Newton Highlands, Massachusetts. She was educated at Newton High School and Mount Holyoke College. She spent summers during her youth and adulthood at the family home on Chebeague Island, Maine. She also waited tables in Ogunquit during her college years.

After graduating from Mount Holyoke she had further training at The Fairfield School, formerly known as the Chandler Secretarial School. She first worked as a stenographic secretary in the Bond Department of Aetna Casualty and Security (Boston) in 1940-1941. She went on to work in the secretarial departments of both Wellesley Hills Junior High and the Wellesley School Department (1941-1942).

Barbara Banker enlisted in the WACs in May 1943 and received her commission in December 1943. After her training at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, she worked as a Special Service Officer at Fort Lewis, Washington from January 1944 to March 1945. She married Charles Martin Kamar in October 1944. He was a career Army officer and reached the rank of Captain before retiring in the early 1960s. Barbara and Chuck Kamar had two children: Charles Martin V (1945) and Beth (1955). Chuck died in 1995 and Barbara Banker Kamar lived on as a widow in the Newton Highlands area until her death at the age of 87 on May 9, 2004. She is buried in the Pine Hill Cemetery in Tewksbury, Massachusetts.

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## Collection Scope and Content

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The Barbara Banker Kamar collection is comprised of correspondence and memorabilia, with supporting biographical material. In Series 1, correspondence is arrayed over three major periods of Kamar's life: her years at Mount Holyoke College when she and her family wrote almost daily at times, her years as a WAC in Georgia and Washington, and from the 1950s and 1960s when Charles Kamar was in the Army. Series 2 contains memorabilia from Barbara Banker's time at Mount Holyoke, and undated notes. Series 3 contains biographical materials that were collected during processing, primarily from the Mount Holyoke Archives.

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## Arrangement

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This collection is organized into three series. 1. Correspondence; 2. Memorabilia and notes; 3. Administrative information. Series 1 and 3 are arranged chronologically; series 2 is arranged by subject.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

Maine Women Writers Collection

Abplanalp Library

University of New England  
716 Stevens Avenue  
Portland, Maine 04103  
[mwwc@une.edu](mailto:mwwc@une.edu)  
URL: <https://library.une.edu/mwwc/>

## Access

Collection is open for research.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- World War, 1939-1945
- Chebeague Island (Me.)
- Correspondence
- Ephemera
- Kamar, Barbara Banker
- Mount Holyoke College
- United States. Army. Women's Army Corps

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## Collection Inventory

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### Correspondence, 1885-1962, undated, (1935-1947)

Language of the Material: English.

Title/Description	Instances	
M. Chandler to Miss Brooks, 1885 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 001
Barbara Banker to Mount Holyoke official, 1934 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 1	Folder 002
Family Correspondence, 1935	Box 1	Folder 003

Digital Object: [Letter from Mrs. Banker to her daughter, Barbara, 1935 October 11](#)

Language of the Material: English.

Family Correspondence, 1936	Box 1	Folder 004
<u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">Letter from Barbara Banker to her mother, 1936 May 25</a>	Box 1	Folder 005
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Family Correspondence, 1937	Box 1	Folder 006
<u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">Letter from Barbara Banker to her father, 1937 January 25</a>	Box 1	Folder 007
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Family Correspondence, 1938	Box 1	Folder 008
<u>Digital Object:</u> <a href="#">Letter from Barbara Banker to her mother, 1938 March 1</a>		
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Family Correspondence, 1939	Box 1	Folder 009
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 010
Family Correspondence, 1943	Box 1	Folder 011
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 012
	Box 1	Folder 013
Family Correspondence, 1944	Box 2	Folder 014
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 2	Folder 015
	Box 2	Folder 016
	Box 2	Folder 017
Family Correspondence, 1945-47	Box 2	Folder 018
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 2	Folder 019
Family Correspondence, 1950s	Box 2	Folder 020
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Family Correspondence, 1960s	Box 2	Folder 021
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		

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### Memorabilia Notes, 1935-1963, undated, (1935-1937)

Title/Description	Instances	
Mount Holyoke, 1935-1937, undated	Box 2	Folder 001

Digital Object: [Letter from Harriet Newhall of Mount Holyoke College to Mrs. Lyman V. Banker, 1935 May 1](#)

Language of the Material: English.

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Various, 1932-1963, undated

Box 2

Folder 002

Language of the Material: English.

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## Administrative information, 2012

Title/Description	Instances	
Biographical Materials, 2012	Box 2	Folder 001
<u>Language of the Material</u> : English.		

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