A Finding Aid to the Fairfield Porter Papers, 1888-2001 (bulk 1924-1975), in the Archives of American Art

Megan McShea

Funding for the processing and digitization of this collection was provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art.

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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives of American Art
Title: Fairfield Porter papers
Identifier: AAA.portfair
Date: 1888-2001
(bulk 1924-1975)
Extent: 9.3 Linear feet
Creator: Porter, Fairfield
Language: English
Summary: The papers of New York-based painter, lithographer, art critic, and poet Fairfield Porter measure 9.3 linear feet and date from 1888 to 2001, with the bulk of material dating from 1924 to 1975. Papers document Porter's life and career through correspondence, writings, business records, printed materials, photographs, and artwork.

Administrative Information

Provenance
The papers of Fairfield Porter were given to the Archives of American Art by the artist's wife, Anne Porter, in five separate accessions between 1977 and 1997.

Location of Originals
Before donating the papers to the Archives, Anne Porter returned letters from Frank O'Hara to Fairfield Porter to the O'Hara estate. Letters from John Ashbery to Fairfield Porter were returned to Ashbery, and photocopies have been placed in the collection.

Related Material
The Archives of American Art holds an oral history of Fairfield Porter conducted by Paul Cummings in 1968.

Alternative Forms Available
The papers of Fairfield Porter in the Archives of American Art were digitized in 2006, and total 9,600 images.

Processing Information
These papers were initially processed for microfilming upon their accession to the Archives on reels 1311-1314 and 2675-2676. The collection was fully re-processed, arranged, and described by Megan McShea in 2006, and the bulk of it was scanned, with funding provided by the Terra Foundation for American Art Digitization Project.
Preferred Citation

Restrictions on Access
The bulk of this collection has been digitized and is available online via AAA's website. Use of material not digitized requires an appointment.

Ownership and Literary Rights
The Fairfield Porter papers are owned by the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution. Literary rights as possessed by the donor have been dedicated to public use for research, study, and scholarship. The collection is subject to all copyright laws.

Biographical Note
Fairfield Porter was born near Chicago in 1907, the fourth of five children of James and Ruth Furness Porter. His father was an architect, his mother a poet from a literary family, and Porter grew up in an environment where art and literature were highly valued. His father designed the family homes in Winnetka, Illinois and on Great Spruce Head Island, an island in Maine that he purchased for the family in 1912. Fairfield Porter spent summers there from the age of six, and views of the island, its structures, and neighboring towns were the subjects of many paintings.

Porter attended Harvard from 1924 to 1928, studying fine art with Arthur Pope and philosophy with Alfred North Whitehead. After graduating from Harvard, Porter moved to New York City and took studio classes at the Art Students League from 1928 until 1930, studying with Boardman Robinson and Thomas Hart Benton, and immersing himself in the art and radical politics of Greenwich Village. In the 1940s, he studied at Parson's School of Design with art restorer Jacques Maroger, adopting the Maroger recipe for an oil medium in his own painting.

To further his education as an artist, Porter traveled to Europe in 1931, where he spent time with expatriate art theorist Bernard Berenson and his circle. When he returned to New York, he allied himself with progressive, socialist organizations, and like many of his contemporaries, worked at creating socially relevant art. He did artwork for the John Reed Club, a communist group; taught drawing classes for Rebel Arts, a socialist arts organization; wrote for their magazine, Arise!; and created a mural for the Queens branch of the Socialist Party. Living in the Chicago area for several years in the 1930s, he illustrated chapbooks for the socialist poet John Wheelwright's Poems for a Dime and Poems for Two Bits series. Porter's financial contributions to the radical Chicago publication Living Marxism kept it afloat for several years.

In 1932, Porter married Anne Channing, a poet from Boston, and they settled in New York. The Porters had five children, and their first son, born in 1934, suffered from a severe form of autism. In the next decade, they had two more sons, and spent three years in Porter's hometown of Winnetka, where he had his first solo exhibition of paintings. When they returned to New York in 1939, the Porters became friends with Edwin Denby, Rudy Burkhardt, and Elaine and Willem de Kooning. Porter became an earnest admirer of Willem de Kooning's artwork and was among the first to review and purchase it.

In 1949, the Porters moved to the small, seaside town of Southampton, New York. Their two daughters were born in 1950 and 1956. Like the family home on Great Spruce Head Island, Southampton became the setting of many of Porter's paintings. In fact, almost all of his mature paintings depict family homes, surrounding landscapes, family members, and friends. Porter was an individualistic painter who embraced
figurative art in the late 1940s and 1950s, when abstract expressionism was the prevailing aesthetic trend. Porter once made a comment that his commitment to figurative painting was made just to spite art critic Clement Greenberg, a respected critic and ideologue who had championed abstract expressionism and denigrated realism as passé.

Porter established his reputation as a painter and as a writer in the 1950s. John Bernard Myers of the vanguard Tibor de Nagy gallery gave Porter his first New York exhibition in 1951 and represented him for the next twenty years. That same year Tom Hess, editor of ArtNews, hired Porter to write art features and reviews. Porter went on to contribute to ArtNews until 1967 and also became art editor for The Nation beginning in 1959, the same year his article on Willem de Kooning won the Longview Foundation Award in art criticism. As a critic, Porter visited countless galleries and studios, and he gained a reputation for writing about art with the understanding and vested interest of an artist, and with the same independence from fashionable ideas that he demonstrated in his artwork.

The 1950s and 1960s were prolific years for Porter's writing and art, and saw the development of his critical ideas and the maturation of his painting. Porter enjoyed an elder status among a circle of younger artists such as Jane Freilicher, Larry Rivers, and Alex Katz, and their many poet friends, now known as the New York School of Poetry: Frank O'Hara, John Ashbery, James Schuyler, Kenneth Koch, Barbara Guest, and others. Porter himself wrote poetry and was published in the 1950s, sometimes alongside poems by his wife, who had been publishing poetry since the 1930s (twice in the vanguard Chicago journal, Poetry). The Porters' correspondence is laced with poems they and their friends sent back and forth, often about and dedicated to each other.

Besides his annual exhibitions at Tibor de Nagy and later Hirschl and Adler Galleries, Porter exhibited regularly at the Whitney, and had one-man exhibitions at many museums including the Rhode Island School of Design (1959), The University of Alabama (1963), Cleveland Museum of Art (his first retrospective, 1966), Trinity College (1967), the Parrish Art Museum (1971), the Maryland Institute of Art (1973), and the 1968 Venice Biennale. He also had residencies at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture (1964) and Amherst College (1969). Porter died in 1975 at age 68. A full-scale retrospective of his artwork was held at the Boston Museum of Fine Art, Boston in 1983, and a study center and permanent home for his artwork was established at the Parrish Art Museum in Southampton through a donation made by Anne Porter. A posthumous collection of his poems was published by Tibor de Nagy Editions in 1985, and a catalogue raisonné, edited by Joan Ludman, was published in 2001.

This biography relies heavily on information found in Justin Spring's biography of Porter, Fairfield Porter: A Life in Art (Yale University Press, 2000).

Scope and Content Note

The papers of New York-based painter, lithographer, art critic, and poet Fairfield Porter measure 9.3 linear feet and date from 1888 to 2001, with the bulk of material dating from 1924 to 1975. The collection includes a biographical chronology; certificates, awards, and diplomas; letters to Fairfield and Anne Porter; scattered outgoing correspondence; and reviews, essays, notes, poems, and translations written by Porter and others. Among the writings are poetry manuscripts written by several New York School Poets including Frank O'Hara, James Schuyler, and Kenneth Koch. Also found are gallery records, inventories and appraisals, financial records, exhibition catalogs, clippings, posters, and records of Anne Porter's efforts to place his collection and document and publish his work after his death. Photographs of Porter, his homes, and his family are also present, as well as sketchbooks, loose sketches, and drawings spanning his entire career.

Significant correspondence is present from the Porters' many poet friends, including Kenneth Koch, James Schuyler, Ron Padgett, Kenward Elmslie, Barbara Guest, Carl Morse, David Shapiro, and others.
Among the letters are poetry manuscripts by Koch, Morse, Schuyler, Padgett, and Shapiro. Some letters are actually written in verse, especially those from Kenneth Koch.

Artists with letters in the collection include Joe Brainard, Rudy Burkhardt, John Button, Lucien Day, Rackstraw Downes, Philip Evergood, Jane Frielicher, Arthur Giardelli, Leon Hartl, Alex Katz, Edward Laning, Roy Lichtenstein, Larry Rivers, Richard Stankiewicz, Nicolas Vasilieff, among others. Other art world figures represented include John Bernard Myers, curator at the Tibor de Nagy gallery (New York), and Tom Hess, editor of *ArtNews*. Artwork found within the correspondence includes an illustrated letter from Ron Padgett and an original print on a holiday card by Edith Schloss.

### Arrangement

The collection is arranged into the following nine series. See the series descriptions below for more information about the content of each series.

- Series 1: Biographical Materials, 1916-1975 (Box 1 and 11; 0.2 linear feet)
- Series 2: Correspondence, 1918-1996 (Boxes 1-2; 1.2 linear feet)
- Series 3: Writings by Fairfield Porter, 1924-1975 (Box 2; 0.6 linear feet)
- Series 4: Writings by Others, 1888-1992 (Boxes 2-3; 0.7 linear feet)
- Series 5: Personal Business Records, 1944-1996 (Boxes 3-4; 1 linear foot)
- Series 6: Anne Porter's Posthumous Projects, 1980-1988 (Box 4; 0.2 linear feet)
- Series 7: Printed Materials, 1934-2001 (Boxes 4-6 and 11; 1.5 linear feet)
- Series 8: Photographs, circa 1880-1990 (Boxes 6 and 11; 0.6 linear feet)
- Series 9: Artwork, 1918-1975 (Boxes 7-10 and 12-17; 2.2 linear feet)

### Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

**Subjects:**
- Art critics -- New York (State) -- Southampton
- Lithographers -- New York (State)
- Painters -- New York (State) -- Southampton
- Painting, Modern -- 20th century
- Poets
- Works of art

**Types of Materials:**
- Photographs
- Sketchbooks
- Sketches
- Travel diaries

**Names:**
- Brainard, Joe, 1942-
- Burkhardt, Rudy
- Button, John, 1929-1982
- Day, Lucien B., 1916-
- Downes, Rackstraw
Elmslie, Kenward
Evergood, Philip, 1901-1973
Frielicher, Jane
Giardelli, Arthur
Guest, Barbara
Hartl, Léon, 1889-
Hess, Thomas B.
Hirschl & Adler Galleries
Katz, Alex, 1927-
Koch, Kenneth, 1925-
Laning, Edward
Lichtenstein, Roy, 1923-1997
Morse, Carl
Myers, John Bernard
O'Hara, Frank, 1926-1966
Padgett, Ron
Porter, Ruth W., 1875-1942
Rivers, Larry, 1925-
Schloss, Edith
Schuyler, James
Shapiro, David, 1947-
Stankiewicz, Richard, 1922-
Tibor de Nagy Gallery
Vasilieff, Nicholas
Container Listing

Series 1: Biographical Materials, 1916-1975 and undated

(Box 1 and 11; 0.2 linear feet)

Biographical Materials include a chronology of Porter's life prepared by Prescott D. Schutz of Hirschl and Adler Gallery, a birth certificate, a diploma from Harvard College, various other certificates, two passports, a copy of Porter's will, bills and correspondence related to healthcare for the Porters' first son, Johnny, and writings by and about Porter's mother, Ruth Furness Porter. Also found is a copy of a letter from Porter's great-grandfather agreeing to the marriage of his daughter Margaret Eliot to James Furness.

Box 1, Folder 1  
Chronology of Fairfield Porter's Life (1981), undated  
(photocopy)  
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 2  
Certificates and Diplomas, 1929-1973  
(see also Box 11, OV)  
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 3  
Passports, 1931-1967  
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 4  
Fairfield Porter's Will (1961), undated  
(photocopy)  
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 5  
Johnny Porter's Medical Records, 1944-1975  
(not scanned)

Box 1, Folder 6  
Material Related to Ruth Furness Porter, James Furness, and Margaret Eliot Furness, 1916-1942, undated  
(not scanned)

Box 11 (OV)  
Oversized Certificates and Diplomas  
(see Box 1, folder 2)

Return to Table of Contents
Series 2: Correspondence, 1918-1996 and undated
(Boxes 1-2, 1.2 linear feet)

Correspondence includes letters written by Fairfield Porter, Anne Porter, family members, artists, writers, critics, curators, neighbors, and others in Porter's circle. Incoming and outgoing letters are filed separately and arranged by correspondent. Single items of correspondence are filed in miscellaneous files by the first letter of the individual's last name. Incoming letters include letters to Fairfield and Anne Porter, as well as scattered third-party correspondence. Outgoing letters are mostly drafts and carbon copies of letters written by Fairfield Porter, although actual letters sent to his mother, wife, and Frank O'Hara are present.

Significant correspondence is present from the Porters' many poet friends, including Kenneth Koch, James Schuyler, Ron Padgett, Kenward Elmslie, Barbara Guest, Carl Morse, David Shapiro, and others. Among the letters are poetry manuscripts by Koch, Morse, Schuyler, Padgett, and Shapiro. Some letters are actually written in verse, especially those from Kenneth Koch. See Writings for additional poetry manuscripts.

Artists with letters in the collection include Joe Brainard, Rudy Burkhardt, John Button, Lucien Day, Rackstraw Downes, Philip Evergood, Jane Freilicher, Arthur Giardelli, Leon Hartl, Alex Katz, Edward Laning, Roy Lichtenstein, Larry Rivers, Richard Stankiewicz, Nicolas Vasilieff, among others. Other art world figures represented include John Bernard Myers, curator at the Tibor de Nagy gallery (New York), and Tom Hess, editor of ArtNews. Artwork found in this series includes an illustrated letter from Ron Padgett and an original print on a holiday card by Edith Schloss.

Porter's interest in leftist politics during the 1930s is seen in outgoing letters and in letters from Alex Haberstroh and Paul Mattick. Letters to Porter's mother, Ruth Porter, contain detailed descriptions of his boarding school and college years and his travels abroad in the 1920s and 1930s.

Annotations made by Anne Porter are found throughout this series, including dates, last names, and other explanatory notes.

Additional correspondence can be found in Personal Business Records, especially among the gallery records, and in Anne Porter's Posthumous Projects. A collection of excerpts about Fairfield Porter, compiled by Anne Porter from letters she wrote to her mother, is filed with Writings by Others.

Box 1
Incoming Letters to Anne and Fairfield Porter from:

Box 1, Folder 7    Adams, Pat, 1956, undated
                 Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 8    Ashbery, John, undated
                 (photocopies of originals dated 1955-1973 and undated; not scanned)

Box 1, Folder 9    Auerbach, Ellen and Walter, 1939, 1942, 1972-1973
                 Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 10   Miscellaneous A, 1957, 1981, 1983, undated
                 Image(s)
                 (includes an undated letter from Peter Ackroyd and a 1981 letter from John Ashbery to Anne Porter)

Box 1, Folder 11   Benedict, Michael, 1964, undated
Box 1, Folder 12  Berend, Charlotte, 1952, 1955
  Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 13  Bergman, Joy, 1987-1989, undated
  Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 14  Bigelow, Don N., 1970, undated
  Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 15  Birch, Barbara Channing, 1952, 1983-1995, undated
  Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 16  Bishop, Isabel, 1967-1972, undated
  Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 17  Brainard, Joe, 1989, undated
  Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 18  Brooks, Jim, undated
  Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 19  Brown, Garrett Mills, 1971-1974
  Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 20  Buckley, Senator James L., 1971, 1975
  Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 21  Bullowa, Arthur, 1977-1982
  Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 22  Burkhardt, Rudy, 1951, 1975, undated
  Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 23  Button, John, 1960-1975, undated
  Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 24  Miscellaneous B, 1952-1989, undated
  Image(s)
  (includes a 1989 postcard from Bill Berkson and a 1952 note from Louise Bourgeois)

Box 1, Folder 25  Campbell, Larry, 1952, 1956, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 26  Channing, Katherine M., 1933, 1942, 1954
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 27  Clement, Adele, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 28  Cornell, Joseph, 1966
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 29  Cummings, E.E., 1946, 1952
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 30  Miscellaneous C, 1942, 1965-1975, undated
Image(s)
(Includes a 1975 photo postcard from Dale Chihuly picturing him in Europe, and a 1966 letter from Oscar Collier)

Box 1, Folder 31  Day, Lucien, 1972, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 32  DeMott, Benjamin, 1972, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 33  Denby, Edwin, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 34  Downes, Rackstraw, 1972-1996, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 35  Miscellaneous D, 1955-1975, undated
Image(s)
(Includes a letter from James Deely)

Box 1, Folder 36  Elmslie, Kenward, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 37  Evergood, Philip, 1952-1953
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 38  Miscellaneous E, 1968-1975, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 39  Frazer, James, 1974, undated
Box 1, Folder 40  Freeman, Dick, 1972-1975, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 41  Freilicher, Jane, 1953, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 42  Miscellaneous F, 1953-1975, undated
Image(s)
(includes 1953 letter from John Ferren, a 1975 letter of condolence from Joe Fiore, and a 1956 letter from Jean Follett)

Box 1, Folder 43  Giardelli, Arthur, 1936-1937, 1958-1974, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 44  Gilbert, Creighton, 1955
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 45  Gordon, Albert, 1975, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 46  Griffin, Howard, 1961, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 47  Guest, Barbara, 1958, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 48  Miscellaneous G, 1952-1978, undated
Image(s)
(includes a 1955 note from John Graham and a 1966 letter from Dorothy Grotz)

Box 1, Folder 49  Haberstroh, Alex, 1935, 1939, 1941
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 50  Hartl, Leon, 1952-1954, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 51  Hess, Tom, 1978, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 52  Miscellaneous H, 1939-1974, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 53  Ickes, Betty, 1971, undated
Box 1, Folder 54  Javits, Senator Jacob R., 1968-1971
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 55  Johnson, Ben, 1955-1956
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 56  Katz, Alex, 1959
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 57  Klein, Samuel and Pauline, 1967, 1972, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 58  Koch, Katherine "Koko", 1982-1988, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 59  Koch, Kenneth, 1968-1976, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 60  Koethe, John, 1973-1974
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 61  Miscellaneous J, K, 1952-1978
Image(s)
(includes a brief 1968 note from Robert F. Kennedy, a 1960 note from William King, and a 1952 note from Doris Kreindler)

Box 1, Folder 62  Laning, Edward, 1948-1952
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 63  Leake, Eugene W., 1966, 1968, 1974
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 64  Leigh, Ted, 1972, 1974, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 65  Miscellaneous L, 1952-1994, undated
Image(s)
(includes a 1954 letter from John C. LeClair, a 1994 letter from Denise Levertov, an undated letter from Roy Lichtenstein, a 1952 letter from Charles Locke and a 1963 letter from Tom Locker)

Box 1, Folder 66  Maroger, Jacques, 1952
Box 1, Folder 67  Mattick, Ilse Hamm, undated

Box 1, Folder 68-69  Mattick, Paul, 1938-1941, undated
(2 folders)

Box 1, Folder 70  Morse, Carl, 1970, 1984-1987

Box 1, Folder 71  Myers, John Bernard, undated

Box 1, Folder 72  Miscellaneous M, 1952-1975, undated
(image(s)
(includes an undated letter from Dwight MacDonald, an undated letter from
Norman MacLeish, an undated letter from John MacWhinnie, a 1952 note
from Ezio Martinelli, a 1975 note from Harry Mathews, circa 1975 note from
Peter Matthiessen, a 1963 note from Henry Mayer, and an undated note from
Howard Moss)

Box 1, Folder 73  Miscellaneous N, 1955

Box 1, Folder 74  O'Hara, Frank, 1954, 1956, 1959, undated

Box 1, Folder 75  Padgett, Ron, 1970-1989, undated

Box 1  Porter, Anne Channing

Box 1, Folder 76  to Katherine M. Channing, 1936, 1953, undated
(image(s)

Box 1, Folder 77-79  to Fairfield Porter, circa 1934-1962
(3 folders)
(image(s)

Box 1, Folder 80  Porter, Edward and Audrey, 1946-1977, undated
Box 1, Folder 81  Porter, Eliot and Aline, 1959-1966, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 82-84  Porter, John (Fairfield and Anne Porter's son), 1942-1968, 1977, undated
(3 folders)
Image(s)
Image(s)
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 85  Porter, John and Trudy, 1951-1956, 1970-1978, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 86  Porter, Ruth Furness, 1941
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 87  Miscellaneous P, 1947-1995, undated
Image(s)
(includes an undated letter from Harley Perkins and a 1947 letter to a family member from Miss Probst, Fairfield's German governess)

Box 1, Folder 88  Rivers, Larry, 1952, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 89  Miscellaneous Q-R, 1941-1975, undated
Image(s)
(includes a 1966 letter from Frank Redelius describing the preparation of the Maroger Medium)

Box 1, Folder 90-93  Schuyler, James, 1955-1989, undated
(4 folders)
Image(s)
Image(s)
Image(s)
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 94  Schloss, Edith, 1972-1996
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 95  Shapiro, David, 1972-1974
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 96  Smith, Elizabeth, 1974-1975, undated
Box 1, Folder 97  Stankiewicz, Richard, 1956, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 98  Straus, Francis, 1968, 1975
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 99  Straus, Nancy Porter, 1952-1955, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 100  Miscellaneous S, 1956-1975, undated
Image(s)
(includes a 1969 letters from Robert G. Skinner, a 1956 postcard from David Smith, a 1956 letter from Raphael Soyer, and a 1970 note from Henry Striebel)

Box 1, Folder 101  Tworkov, Jack, 1952, 1960
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 102  Miscellaneous T, 1968-1975
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 103  Vasilieff, Nicholas, 1951-1954
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 104  Walker, John, 1952
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 105  Wallace, Frank, 1953, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 106  Welliver, Neil, 1972, undated
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 107  White, Bobby, 1967-1970
Image(s)

Box 1, Folder 108  Miscellaneous V, W, Y, 1955-1989, undated
Image(s)
(includes 1965 letter from Jean Volkmer concerning conservation of a Porter painting and a 1953 letter from Hudson Walker)

Box 1, Folder 109  First Name Only, Albert, 1936, 1955, undated
Box 1, Folder 110 Illegible and Unsigned Letters, 1952, 1987, undated

Box 1 Outgoing Letters from Fairfield Porter to:

Box 1, Folder 111 Miscellaneous A, 1956, 1961
(draft and copy)

Box 1, Folder 112 Channing, Katherine M. "Kee", 1935-1957, undated

Box 1, Folder 113 Miscellaneous F, 1918, 1923, 1956
(includes copy of a 1956 letter sent to Alfred Frankfurter and Betty Chamberlain)

Box 1, Folder 114 Miscellaneous G-N, 1940-1959, undated
(includes drafts of letters to Clement Greenberg and Dwight MacDonald)

Box 2, Folder 1 O'Hara, Frank, 1954-1955, undated

Box 2, Folder 2-5 Porter, Anne, 1931-1964, undated
(4 folders)

Box 2, Folder 6-12 Porter, Ruth Furness, circa 1923-1942 and undated
(7 folders)

Box 2, Folder 13 Miscellaneous P, W, circa 1932, undated
Series 3: Writings by Fairfield Porter, 1924-1975, undated

(*Box 2; 0.6 linear feet*)

Writings by Fairfield Porter include manuscripts and corrected typescripts of artist profiles, art criticism and theory, talks and lectures, notes, research, preparatory writings, poetry, translations, and other writings. Artist profiles include essays about Richard Stankiewicz, Joseph Cornell, and Albert York. Porter's essays on various art-related subjects are often found in multiple drafts and are filed under the title of what appears to be the latest draft. Early versions of these writings are found in Porter's research notes and other notebooks. Teaching notes include a class register and syllabus for a 1969 art course taught at Queens College in New York. Reviewing notebooks contain detailed notes and rough sketches from visits with artists made while Porter was writing criticism. Other notebooks contain a variety of entries, including prose writings and scattered poems, sketches, and other notes. Scattered notes are also found in many of the sketchbooks in the Artwork series.

Two folders of poetry manuscripts by Porter, and a single poem by Porter and Kenneth Koch, contain a mix of published and unpublished poems, often in multiple drafts. A few of Porter's translations from French of Stéphane Mallarmé's poetry are present in various drafts. Miscellaneous Creative Writings include a work of experimental fiction called "Lake Mahopac," a school essay entitled "A Neighbor," and a tune Porter composed for the William Blake poem "Ah, Sunflower."

Writings in this series represent only a small portion of Porter's literary output. See Printed Materials and Anne Porter's Posthumous Projects for published writings.

Box 2, Folder 15  Artist Profiles, circa 1955-1974

Box 2, Folder 16  Reviews, undated

Box 2  Essays

Box 2, Folder 17  "Art Reveals the Nature of Society", undated

Box 2, Folder 18  "Art Should be Independent of Science", undated

Box 2, Folder 19  "The Arts Today: Reflection of a Sick Society?", undated

Box 2, Folder 20  "The Class Content of Modern Painting", undated

Box 2, Folder 21  "Poets and Painters in Collaboration", undated (*First page missing*)

Box 2, Folder 22  "Technology and Artistic Perception", undated
Box 2, Folder 23  "Technology and Artistic Perception", undated

Box 2, Folder 24  "Technology and Artistic Perception", undated

Box 2, Folder 25-26  untitled, undated

Box 2, Folder 27  Photocopied Essays, undated


Box 2  Notes

Box 2, Folder 29  Paint Recipes, circa 1929-1959

Box 2, Folder 30-35  Research Notes, undated

Box 2, Folder 36  Teaching Notes, Queens College, 1969

Box 2, Folder 37  Mailing List, undated

Box 2, Folder 38  Supply Inventory, 1972-1975

Box 2, Folder 39  Miscellaneous Notes, undated

Box 2  Notebooks
Box 2, Folder 40  Reviewing Notebook, 1950s  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 41  Reviewing Notebook, 1950s  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 42  Reviewing Notebook, circa 1953  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 43  Reviewing Notebook, circa 1954  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 44  Reviewing Notebook, circa 1956  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 45  Reviewing Notebook, circa 1960  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 46  Other Notebook, circa 1931  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 47-51  Other Notebooks, undated  (5 folders)  Image(s)  Image(s)  Image(s)  Image(s)  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 52  Other Notebook, circa 1975  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 53-54  Poetry, undated  (2 folders)  Image(s)  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 55  Translations from Mallarmé, 1973, undated  Image(s)
Box 2, Folder 56  Miscellaneous Creative Writings, 1924, 1950s, undated  Image(s)
Series 4: Writings by Others, 1888-1992, undated

(Boxes 2-3; 0.7 linear feet)

This series includes essays, diaries, poetry, notes, and other writings. Writings about Fairfield Porter include essay-length memoirs by several of his contemporaries and criticism of his writings and art written by Rackstraw Downs and others. Travel Diaries written by Porter’s mother, Ruth Porter, document three family trips to Europe between 1922 and 1931. A typescript created by Anne Porter from letters she wrote to her mother between 1931 and 1960 contains passages from those letters that mention Fairfield Porter. The original letters were destroyed by Anne Porter.

Poetry manuscripts are arranged by author, with unsigned poems at the end of the series. Included are poems in typescript and corrected typescript by some of Porter’s well-known friends including John Ashbery, Robert Dash, Edwin Denby, Howard Griffin, Kenneth Koch, Carl Morse, Frank O’Hara, Larry Rivers, James Schuyler, and David Shapiro. Additional poetry manuscripts can be found in Correspondence. Published poetry is filed with Printed Materials.

Miscellaneous essays are filed alphabetically by author with unsigned essays filed at the end of the series. These include writings of family members, including Fairfield Porter’s mother, Ruth Porter, and maternal grandmother, Lucy Fairchild Furness. Also found are articles by cosmologist Arthur Young with notes by Fairfield Porter, and a review of James Schuyler’s *Crystal Lithium*, among other writings.

Throughout this series, photocopies are filed separately and have not been scanned.

Box 2

About Fairfield Porter

Box 2, Folder 57-58

Memoirs, 1984, undated
(2 folders)
Image(s)

Box 2, Folder 59-61

Criticism, 1974-1984, undated
(3 folders)
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 1-3

Travel Diaries by Ruth Porter, 1922, 1924, 1931
(3 folders)
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 4-7

Excerpts from Letters by Anne Porter (1931-1960), undated
Image(s)

Box 3

Poetry by:
Box 3, Folder 8  John Ashbery, undated
   Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 9  John Ashbery (Photocopies), undated

Box 3, Folder 10  Susan Baran, undated
   Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 11  Sisco E.S. Barnard, undated
   Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 12  Barbara Channing Birch, undated
   Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 13  Marc Cohen, undated
   Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 14  Marc Cohen (Photocopies), circa 1992

Box 3, Folder 15  Robert Dash, 1960, undated
   Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 16  Edwin Denby, undated
   Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 17  Maggie Eaton, 1981-1983, undated
   Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 18  Margaret Tynes Fairley, undated
   Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 19  Howard Griffin, undated
   Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 20  Barbara Guest, undated
   (photocopy, not scanned)

Box 3, Folder 21  Kenneth Koch (with Janice Koch), 1955, undated
   Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 22  Jamie Levinson Morris, undated
   Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 23  Carl Morse, undated
Box 3, Folder 24-25  Frank O'Hara, undated
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 26  Anne Porter (1954), undated
(photocopy, not scanned)

Box 3, Folder 27  Johnny Porter, 1941-1942, undated
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 28  Laurence Porter, undated
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 29  Ruth Furness Porter, 1888, 1916, undated
Image(s)
(Also includes short story manuscript)

Box 3, Folder 30  Larry Rivers, undated
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 31  James Schuyler, 1962, 1973
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 32  David Shapiro, undated
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 33  David Shapiro and Students (Photocopies), undated

Box 3, Folder 34  Mary Soles, undated
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 35  Ralph Wright, undated
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 36  Unknown Author 1, 1951, undated
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 37  Unknown Author 2, undated
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 38  Unknown Author 3, undated
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 39  Unknown Author 4, undated
Box 3, Folder 40  Miscellaneous Unknown Authors, 1960-1961, undated
(Image(s))

Box 3  Miscellaneous Essays

Box 3, Folder 41  by Anina Porter Fuller, 1991
(not scanned)

Box 3, Folder 42  Lucy Fairchild Furness, undated
(Image(s))

Box 3, Folder 43  Laurence Porter, undated
(not scanned)

Box 3, Folder 44-45  Leon Porter, 1989
(2 folders; not scanned)

Box 3, Folder 46  Ruth Furness Porter, undated
(Image(s))

Box 3, Folder 47  Arthur Young (with notes by Fairfield Porter), 1967, undated
(partially scanned)
(Image(s))

Box 3, Folder 48  Unknown Author on James Schuyler, undated
(Image(s))

Box 3, Folder 49-50  Unknown Author, undated
(2 folders; not scanned)

Box 3, Folder 51  Guest Lists, undated
(not scanned)

Box 3, Folder 52  Miscellaneous Notes, 1964, 1982, undated
(not scanned)

Return to Table of Contents

(Boxes 3-4; 1 linear foot)

Personal Business Records include account books, receipts, notes, business agreements, correspondence, bank records, inventories of artwork, appraisals, copyright registrations, and other records related to Fairfield Porter's professional activities and, to a lesser extent, personal finances. This series is arranged by type of material.

Gallery records include contractual agreements, accounting statements of painting sales, inventories, insurance claims, and scattered correspondence. The bulk of gallery records are for Tibor de Nagy Gallery, the first to represent Porter, and Hirschl and Adler Gallery, which represented Porter from 1972 on and managed his estate after his death. Also found are records from the Brooke Alexander Gallery, which handled Porter's small oeuvre of limited edition prints.

Inventories and appraisals include property appraisals of furnishings and other assets, as well as detailed artwork inventories created after Porter's death. Additional artwork inventories are found with gallery records for Hirschl and Adler Gallery.

Detailed records are also found relating to the major estate gift of Porter's collection to the Parrish Art Museum (Southampton, NY), as well as smaller gifts and loans made by Anne Porter to various museums and galleries after Porter's death. These records are arranged by museum or organization name. Museum research contains notes and printed materials related to the estate settlement.

Box 3, Folder 53  Account Books, 1946-1967
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 54  Account Books, 1967-1969
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 55  Account Books, 1969-1972
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 56  Account Books, 1972-1978
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 57  Account Books, 1977
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 58  Account Books

Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 60  Account Books, 1981-1985
Image(s)

Box 3, Folder 61  Account Books, 1985-1988
Box 3, Folder 62  Employment Records, 1944
(not scanned)

Box 3, Folder 63  Funeral Expenses, 1975-1976
(not scanned)

Box 3, Folder 64  Great Spruce Head Island Corporation Records, 1971-1977
(not scanned)

Box 3, Folder 65  Family Trust Fund, 1980
(not scanned)

Box 4  Gallery Records

Box 4, Folder 1-5  Tibor de Nagy Gallery Contract and Sales Records, 1959-1972
(5 folders)
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 6  Tibor de Nagy Gallery Inventories, 1964-1969
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 7  M. Knoedler and Company Gallery, 1970-1971
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 8-13  Hirschl and Adler Gallery, 1972-1996, undated
(6 folders)
Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 14-17  Brooke Alexander, Inc., 1972-1996
(4 folders)
Image(s)
Box 4, Folder 18  Other Galleries and Miscellaneous Receipts, 1964-1979
Box 4, Folder 19  Charitable Trust Records, 1986-1987
   (not scanned)
Box 4, Folder 20  Inventories and Appraisals, 1943
Box 4, Folder 21  Inventories and Appraisals, 1975-1978
Box 4, Folder 22  Inventories and Appraisals, 1976
Box 4, Folder 23  Inventories and Appraisals (Copy), 1976
Box 4, Folder 24  Artwork Inventory Notes, circa 1976
Box 4  Parrish Art Museum Loans and Gift
Box 4, Folder 25  Receipts and Deeds of Gift, 1976-1984
Box 4, Folder 26  Correspondence and Minutes, 1980-1989
Box 4, Folder 27  Drafts of Master List, undated
Box 4, Folder 28  Press Clipping Report, 1993
   (partially scanned)
Box 4, Folder 29-30  Other Loans and Gifts, 1977-1989
   (2 folders)
Box 4, Folder 31  Museum Research, 1982-undated
   (not scanned)
Box 4, Folder 32  Copyrights and Permissions, 1975-1988
(not scanned)

(Box 4; 0.2 linear feet)

This series contains research, writings, and correspondence related to three publication projects executed by Anne Porter and various editors after the death of her husband, Fairfield Porter. Projects include a catalog raisonné of Porter's artwork edited by Joan Ludman, an edition of collected letters edited by Ted Leigh, and an edition of collected poems edited by John Yau.

Materials for the catalog raisonné include notes, correspondence, reproductions of works of art, and clippings. Correspondence contains information about the provenance and subject matter of artworks. Correspondents include John MacWhinnie, Lucian Day, Bill Berkson, and Larry Campbell. Also found is a letter concerning a forged painting, and two proposals for the catalog raisonné project.

Materials related to the collected letters include correspondence between Anne Porter and Ted Leigh, copies of letters from a few of Porter's correspondents including James Schuyler, and a manuscript of an article by Leigh. The collected poems file contains correspondence, a typescript and a corrected proof for the 1985 publication. A copy of the Collected Poems is filed with Printed Materials. Manuscripts of Porter's poetry are filed with Writings. Publicity for these publications is filed with Printed Materials.

Box 4, Folder 33-35
Catalog Raisonné Materials, 1980-1988, undated
(3 folders; partially scanned)

Box 4, Folder 36-37
(2 folders)

Box 4, Folder 38-39
Collected Poems Materials, 1982-1985
(2 folders; not scanned)
Series 7: Printed Materials, 1934-2001, undated

(Boxes 4-6 and 11; 1.5 linear feet; not scanned)

Printed materials include printed artwork, books, book covers, clippings, magazines, exhibition catalogs, posters, chapbooks, journals, reproductions of works of art, and other printed miscellany primarily related to the art and writings of Fairfield Porter and others in his circle.

Books include a book about Thomas Eakins written by Porter and a book about the New York School with an article Porter wrote about Richard Stankiewicz. Book covers illustrated by Porter are found for books of poetry by James Schuyler, Kenneth Koch, and John Koethe. Clippings include magazines, magazine clippings, newspaper clippings, and other ephemeral publications. Reviews by Porter, mostly for The Nation from 1959 to 1961, are filed separately. Artwork by Porter includes a cartoon created for the Harvard Lampoon. Articles about Porter include reviews, profiles, and obituaries.

Exhibition catalogs and posters are present for Porter's individual and group exhibitions. A file of items found in Porter's studio at the time of his death consist mostly of photographs and illustrations clipped from newspapers and reproductions of works of art.

Poetry publications include chapbooks, journals, and books. Volumes containing poems by the Fairfield and/or Anne Porter are filed at the beginning. Poetry publications include the magazine Poetry, Locus Solus I, two issues of Semi-Colon, four issues of John Wheelwright's Poems for Two Bits and Poems for a Dime series, which were illustrated by Porter, and James Schuyler's anthologies 49 South and Broadway 2. An issue of the journal Parenthèse with an obituary of Porter by John Bernard Myers is filed with clippings about Porter. Copies of the prints Porter made for the Wheelwright publications can be found in the Artwork series.

Subject files include pamphlets, newsletters, and brochures related to nuclear energy, an issue with which Porter was involved, and Subud, a spiritual practice Porter followed. Printed miscellany includes a teaching guide for a slide program of Porter's paintings created by the Parrish Art Museum.

Portions of this series have not been digitized.

Box 4

Books
(not scanned; see also Poetry Publications)

Box 4, Folder 40
School of New York: Some Younger Artists, 1959

Box 4, Folder 41
Thomas Eakins, 1959

Box 4, Folder 42
Book Covers with Art by Porter, 1972-1974
(not scanned; see also Poetry Publications, John Wheelwright chapbooks)

Box 4
Clippings

Box 4, Folder 43-44
Reviews by Porter, 1959-1982, undated
(2 folders)

Image(s)

Box 4, Folder 45
Artwork by Porter, circa 1927, 1957
Box 4, Folder 46-47  Articles about Porter, 1955, 1968-1976  
(2 folders)  
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 1  Articles about Porter, 1971, 1981  
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 2  Articles about Porter, 1983, 1991  
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 3  Articles about Porter, 1955-1978  
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 4  Articles about Porter, 1980s  
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 5  Articles about Porter, 1980s  
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 6  Articles about Porter, 1980s  
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 7  Articles about Porter, 1990s  
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 8  Articles about Porter, undated  
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 9  Articles about Porter (Photocopies), circa 1980s  

Box 5, Folder 10  Articles about Porter (Photocopies), 1980s-1992  

Box 5, Folder 11  Articles about Porter (Photocopies), 1980-1987  

Box 5, Folder 12  Reviews of Anne Porter's Poetry, 1994-1995  
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 13  Miscellaneous Clippings, 1967-1977, undated  
Image(s)

Box 5, Folder 14-24  Exhibition Catalogs, 1960-2001, undated  
Image(s)
Image(s)
Box 5, Folder 25  
Exhibition Posters, 1975-1977, undated  
*(not scanned; see Box 11, OV)*

Box 5, Folder 26  
Items Found in Studio, 1941-1971, undated  
*(not scanned; see also Box 11, OV)*

Box 5, Folder 27  
Navy Blueprints, 1943  
*(not scanned)*

Box 5  
Poetry Publications  
*(not scanned)*

Box 5, Folder 28  
Fairfield Porter's *Collected Poems*, 1985

Box 5, Folder 29  
Other Fairfield Porter Publications, 1955, undated

Box 5, Folder 30-32  
Anne Channing Porter, 1934-1982  
*(3 folders)*

Box 6, Folder 1-3  
Anne and Fairfield Porter, 1953-1989  
*(3 folders)*

Box 6, Folder 4  
John Wheelwright Chapbooks Illustrated by Fairfield Porter, 1936-1937

Box 6, Folder 5  
Kenneth Koch and Frank O'Hara, undated

Box 6, Folder 6  
John Koethe, 1973

Box 6, Folder 7  
Katherine Porter, 1986

Box 6, Folder 8  
Groundwater Press Chapbooks, 1989

Box 6  
Subject Files  
*(not scanned)*
Box 6, Folder 9-13  Nuclear Energy, 1964-1975, undated  
(5 folders)

Box 6, Folder 14-15  Subud, 1957-1960  
(2 folders)

Box 6, Folder 16  Printed Miscellany, 1980-1990, undated  
(not scanned)

Box 11 (OV)  Oversized Exhibition Posters  
(see Box 5, folder 25)

Box 11 (OV)  Oversized Items Found in Studio  
(See Box 5, folder 26)
Series 8: Photographs, circa 1880-1990, undated

(Boxes 6 and 11; 0.6 linear feet)

This series includes photographs of Fairfield Porter, his family, homes and studios, photographic studies, and works of art. Most of the photographs are unattributed, but photographs by James Schuyler, John MacWhinnie, Ellen "Pit" Auerbach, and Edith Schloss are found. Photographs of Fairfield Porter are filed at the beginning of the series, except for his childhood photographs, wedding photographs, and photographs of Porter with his wife and children, which are filed with family photographs. New York City street scenes appear to have been used as studies for some of Porter's paintings. Photographs of works of art by others include paintings by Alex Katz and Alex Haberstroh that were owned by the Porters, and a bust of Porter sculpted by Robert White. See file headings below for more information about subjects.

Throughout this series, duplicates, negatives, and copy prints have not been scanned. The remainder of the series has been selectively scanned.

Box 6

Fairfield Porter

Box 6, Folder 17

Fairfield Porter, circa 1946-1972

Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 18

Fairfield Porter (Copy Negatives and Prints), undated

Box 6, Folder 19

With Siblings and Friends, circa 1931-1963

Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 20

With Siblings and Friends (Copy Negatives and Prints), undated

Box 6, Folder 21

In Studio, Gallery, Working, circa 1960s-1970s

Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 22

In Studio, Gallery, Working (Copy Negative), circa 1960s-1970s

Box 6

Family

Box 6, Folder 23

Fairfield Porter's Parents and Their Families, 1880s-1890s, undated

(not scanned)

Box 6, Folder 24-26

Childhood Photographs of Fairfield Porter and Family, circa 1910-1920s

(3 folders)

Image(s)

Image(s)

Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 27

Anne Channing Porter and Family, 1913, 1927, circa 1990

Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 28

Wedding Photographs, 1932
Box 6, Folder 29  Fairfield Porter, Anne Porter, and Their Children in Groups, circa 1930s-1940s
  Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 30  Fairfield Porter, Anne Porter, and Their Children in Groups, circa 1950s-1960s
  Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 31  Fairfield Porter, Anne Porter, and Their Children in Groups (Negatives), circa 1934

Box 6, Folder 32  Fairfield and Anne Porter with Their Grandchildren, circa 1969, undated
  Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 33-36  Son Johnny, circa 1934-1977
  (4 folders; not scanned)

Box 6, Folder 37-40  Son Laurence, 1938-1980s
  (4 folders; not scanned)

Box 6, Folder 41-42  Son Jerry (Richard), 1941-1970
  (2 folders; not scanned)

Box 6, Folder 43  Daughter Katherine, circa 1951-1980
  (not scanned)

Box 6, Folder 44  Daughter Elizabeth, 1957-1985, undated
  (not scanned)

Box 6, Folder 45  Porter Children, Negatives, undated
  (not scanned)

Box 6, Folder 46  Porter Grandchildren, 1969-1989, undated
  (not scanned)

Box 6, Folder 47  Miscellaneous People, 1953-1954, undated
  (not scanned)

Box 6  Places

Box 6, Folder 48  Possibly Winnetka, Illinois Home, circa 1930s
  Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 49  Great Spruce Head Island, Maine, 1962-1972, undated
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 6, Folder 50</th>
<th>Southampton, New York, 1977</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 51</td>
<td>Vinalhaven, Maine, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>(not scanned)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 52-54</td>
<td>New York City Street Scenes, 1940s-1970s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>(3 folders; not scanned)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 55</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Places, 1940, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>(not scanned)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6</td>
<td>Works of Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 56-62</td>
<td>By Fairfield Porter, 1930s-1980, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>(7 folders; not scanned)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 6, Folder 63</td>
<td>By Others, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>(not scanned; see also Box 11, OV)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 11 (OV)</td>
<td>Oversized Photographs of Works of Art by Others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>(see Box 6, folder 63)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Series 9: Artwork, 1918-1975, undated

(Boxes 7-10 and 12-17; 2.2 linear feet)

Artwork includes sketchbooks, loose sketches and drawings, illustrations, prints, and cartoons by Fairfield Porter. Artwork by others includes works of Peggy Bacon, Alex Haberstroh, Leon Hartl, and Edith Schloss, and a portrait of Porter in pencil by Joe Brainard.

Sketchbooks contain sketches and drawings in pencil, charcoal, ink, watercolor, and pastel of subjects similar to those found in Porter's paintings: homes, family, landscapes, city street scenes, and figure studies. Notes in Anne Porter's handwriting are found in many of the sketchbooks and on sketches, and were presumably made retrospectively, upon donation of the collection. Sketchbooks also contain notes written by Fairfield Porter. Many of the dates assigned to sketchbooks in this finding aid have been estimated based on the relationship of sketches to dated paintings.

Loose sketches and drawings are mostly from Porter's early career and schooling. Life Class Sketches are from the Art Students League and from Barbara Merrick's dance class, and include two black and white oil paintings on paper. Sketches for murals and frescoes are related to two commissioned works from the 1930s, and also include sketches in oil. A mixed group of early sketches of landscapes, people, street scenes, and copies of museum pieces, filed under the heading "miscellaneous sketches and drawings," appear to contain the pages of two disassembled travel sketchbooks, among other sketches. Sketches and drawings of people are mostly of family members, with scattered sketches of friends, neighbors, and interiors of family homes. Miscellaneous landscape sketches also include several sketches in oil. Miscellaneous painted sketches include several scenes from a trip to the Western United States in 1938, along with other landscapes, scenes, and still lifes in oil and watercolor.

Illustrations made for the socialist arts organization Rebel Arts include a silk-screened poster and a drawing for a print made by Porter in the 1930s. Other prints found in this series are from the same era, and several of them were published in John Wheelwright's chapbooks, copies of which are filed in Printed Materials. Also among the prints is a lithograph illustrating Dostoyevsky's The Possessed, which Porter made in 1932.

Throughout this series, duplicates, negatives, and copy prints have not been scanned. The remainder of the series has been selectively scanned.

Box 7, Folder 1 Sketchbook, 1928-1930
(see also Box 12, OV)
Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 2 Sketchbook, early 1930s
Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 3 Sketchbook, 1930s
Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 4-5 Sketchbooks, 1937
(2 volumes in 2 folders)
Image(s)
Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 6 Sketchbook, circa 1937
Box 7, Folder 7  Sketchbook, circa 1939
  Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 8  Sketchbook, circa 1941
  Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 9  Sketchbook, circa 1943-1944
  Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 10 Sketchbook, circa 1945-1947
  Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 11 Sketchbook, circa 1947
  Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 12 Sketchbook, circa 1948
  Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 13 Sketchbook, 1944-1948
  Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 14 Sketchbook, circa 1950
  Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 15 Sketchbook, circa 1952
  Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 16 Sketchbook, circa 1953
  Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 17 Sketchbook, 1957-1958
  Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 18 Sketchbook, circa 1940-1960
  Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 19 Sketchbook, circa 1960-1966
  Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 20-21 Sketchbooks, circa 1967
  (2 volumes in 2 folders)
  Image(s)
Box 8, Folder 1  
Sketchbook, circa 1967-1975

Box 8, Folder 2  
Sketchbook, circa 1968

Box 8, Folder 3  
Sketchbook, circa 1969

Box 8, Folder 4-5  
Sketchbook, circa 1970

Box 8, Folder 6  
Sketchbook, circa 1971

Box 8, Folder 7  
Sketchbook, circa 1973

Box 8, Folder 8-10  
Sketchbooks, circa 1974

Box 8, Folder 11  
Sketchbook, circa 1974-1975

Box 8, Folder 12-17  
Sketchbooks, circa 1928-1975

Box 8  
Sketches and Drawings
Box 8, Folder 18  Childhood Drawings, 1918-1919, undated
(see also Box 10, sol)
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 19  Life Class Sketches, circa 1930-1934
(see Boxes 13 and 14, OV)
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 20  Murals and Frescoes, 1930s
(see Box 15, OV)
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 21  Murals and Frescoes (Copy Negative), undated

Box 8, Folder 22  People, 1933-1947
(see also Box 10 (sol) and OV 16)
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 23  People, undated
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 24  People (Copy Negatives), undated

Box 8, Folder 25-29  Miscellaneous Sketches and Drawings, circa 1920s-1940s
(5 folders including copies)
Image(s)
Image(s)
Image(s)
Image(s)
Image(s)
(Includes sketches from European travels)

Box 8, Folder 30-32  Miscellaneous Landscapes, undated
(3 folders; see also Box 10 (sol) and OV 17)
Image(s)
Image(s)
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 33  Miscellaneous Painted Sketches, 1938, undated
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 34  Rebel Arts Illustrations, circa 1934-1935
(See Box 10, sol)
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 35  Prints, circa 1930s
(see also Box 12, OV)
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 36  Prints (Duplicates), circa 1930s

Box 8, Folder 37  Cartoons, 1975, undated
Image(s)

Box 8  Artwork by Others

Box 8, Folder 38  Print by Peggy Bacon, undated
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 39  Drawing of Fairfield Porter by Joe Brainard, undated
(See Box 10, sol)
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 40  Drawing by Dick Freeman, undated
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 41  Drawings by Alex Haberstroh, undated
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 42  Drawing by Leon Hartl, 1963
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 43  Music by Jimmy Lennon, 1974
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 44  Childhood Drawings of Johnny Porter, undated
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 45  Print by Edith Schloss, undated
Image(s)

Box 8, Folder 46  Artist Unknown, 1931, undated
(See also Box 10, sol)
Image(s)

Box 9  Oversized Sketchbooks
(See Box 8, folders 2, 3, 6, and 7)

Box 10  Oversized Sketchbooks
(See Box 8, folders 8, 11, and 12)

Box 10  Oversized Sketches and Drawings, Childhood Drawings
Box 10  Oversized Sketches and Drawings, People  
(See Box 8, folder 23)

Box 10  Oversized Sketches and Drawings, Miscellaneous Landscapes  
(See Box 8, folder 32)

Box 10  Oversized Rebel Arts Illustrations  
(See Box 8, folder 34)

Box 10  Oversized Drawing of Fairfield Porter by Joe Brainard  
(See Box 8, folder 39)

Box 10  Oversized Artwork by Unknown Artist  
(See Box 8, folder 46)

Box 12 (OV)  Oversized Sketchbook  
(see Box 7, folder 1)

Box 12 (OV)  Oversized Prints  
(See Box 8, folder 35)

Box 13 (OV)  Oversized Sketches and Drawings, Life Class Sketches  
(See Box 8, folder 19)

Box 14 (OV)  Oversized Sketches and Drawings, Life Class Sketches  
(See Box 8, folder 19)

Box 15 (OV)  Oversized Sketches and Drawings, Murals and Frescoes  
(See Box 8, folder 20)

Box 16 (OV)  Oversized Sketches and Drawings, People  
(See Box 8, folder 23)

Box 17 (OV)  Oversized Sketches and Drawings, Miscellaneous Landscapes  
(See Box 8, folder 32)