

# Elizabeth J. Wayland Barber Collection

## Program in Aegean Scripts and Prehistory (PASP)

Department of Classics  
University of Texas at Austin

### Collection Summary

**Creator:** Elizabeth J. "Betchen" Wayland Barber

**Title:** Elizabeth J. Wayland Barber Collection

**Inclusive Dates:** 1961-2013

**Bulk Dates:** 1961-1968

**Abstract:** The Elizabeth Wayland Barber collection of scholarly materials related to Linear A, including research data from her dissertation and college thesis. The collection includes manuscripts, bound theses, and scholarly publications (monograph and offprints).

**Quantity:** 5 boxes (1 oversize); 34 items (6.0 linear feet/6.0 cubic feet).

**Call Number:** PASP 2013.08.

### Administrative Information

#### Acquisition Information:

Donors: Elizabeth J.W. Barber.

Donation Date: August 2013 & March 2014.

### Processing Information:

Item level inventory and finding aid.

By: Sarah A. Buchanan

Date: September 2013-April 2014.

### Arrangement

Research Material, 1961-1968	(group 1)
Bryn Mawr College, 1961-1962	(group 1, subgroup 1)
Computer tapes: Linear A, Linear B (first analysis)	(group 1, subgroup 1, series 1)
Yale University, 1966-1968 (second analysis)	(group 1, subgroup 2)
Murray Fowler's Etruscan computer tapes, 1964	(group 1, subgroup 3)
Manuscripts and Publications, 1968-2013	(group 2)
Dissertation, 1968	(group 2, subgroup 1)
<i>Archaeological Decipherment</i> , 1974	(group 2, subgroup 2)
Journal articles (compiled) and CV, 1975-2013	(group 2, subgroup 3)
E. J. W. Barber's Mycenaean Library, 2014	(group 2, subgroup 4)

## **Index Terms**

### **Persons**

Barber, Elizabeth J. Wayland (1940 --)  
Baumbach, Lydia  
Bennett, Jr., Emmett Leslie (1918-2011)  
Chadwick, John (1920-1998)  
Fowler, Murray (1905-1999)  
Lamb, Sydney MacDonald (1929 --)  
Lang, Mabel Louise (1917-2010)  
Neuman, Lydia G.  
Palaima, Thomas G.  
Peters, Ann  
Vilborg, Ebbe  
Wolfe, Richard George (programmer)

### **Organizations**

Bryn Mawr College  
Occidental College  
Yale University  
University of Texas at Austin  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

### **Publications**

*Glotta*  
*Journal of Indo-European Studies*

### **Subjects**

European dance  
Textile and Apparel Technology (M.S.T.A.T.)  
Women's studies

### **Places**

Austin, Texas  
Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania  
New Haven, Connecticut  
Pasadena, California

### **Document Types**

Article photocopies  
Books  
Computer tape: Mac TransiTape  
Computer tapes: Memorex  
Data spreadsheets (printouts)  
Dissertation (hardbound, paperbound)  
Punch-card computer input  
Research Notes

## Creator Sketch

Elizabeth J. "Betchen" Wayland Barber (December 2, 1940--) is a scholar who works at the intersections of historical linguistics, archaeology, paleobiology, art history, and textiles. As a child, Barber developed expert sewing and weaving skills under her mother's tutelage, which informed her understanding of work in the premodern textile industry. As an undergraduate at Bryn Mawr College in the early 1960's, Barber's chief mentor was Dr. Mabel Lang, who taught Barber Linear B and advised her honors thesis on Linear A. Barber provided proofreading assistance for Lang's Pylos tablet publications. For her thesis, Barber worked with Dr. Emmett Bennett (then of University of Wisconsin) and her sister Dr. Ann Peters (then a graduate student at University of Wisconsin, and later of University of Hawaii, Pacific and Asian Linguistics Institute) and used computer indices of the Hagia Triada texts to decipher signs and symbols in Linear A. Barber created the punch-card input (Group 1 Subgroup 1). Two computer tapes – one each of Linear A and Linear B (Series 1 within the above) – were created at the University of Wisconsin's Computer Center (programmed by Murray Fowler's colleague Richard George Wolfe), towards completion of Barber's undergraduate research; these tapes arrived in PASP in the March 2014 accrual. A copy of Barber's Greek Honors Paper (May 1962), "A Computer Analysis of Linear A," is available in the Emmett L. Bennett Offprint Collection (the "B Authors" folder) of PASP.

At Yale University, Barber's doctoral study was supervised by Dr. Sydney Lamb. The printouts (Group 1, Subgroup 2) represent Barber's second round of analysis conducted, continuing the work done with the tapes. Her dissertation, "The Computer-Aided Analysis of Undeciphered Ancient Texts" (1968), describes an analytical procedure for performing initial analyses for later decipherment. Dr. Barber joined the faculty of Occidental College in 1969 where she taught such subjects as basic linguistic structure, language and the brain, historical and archaeological linguistics, Neolithic and Bronze Age Old World archaeology, ancient Greek, and first-year writing. She was made professor emerita in 2007. Barber is the author of several books. These include *Archaeological Decipherment: A Handbook* (1974), *Prehistoric Textiles: The Development of Cloth in the Neolithic and Bronze Ages with Special Reference to the Aegean* (1992), *Women's Work: The First 20,000 Years; Women, Cloth, and Society in Early Times* (1995), *The Mummies of Ürümchi* (2000), *When They Severed Earth from Sky: How the Human Mind Shapes Myth* (2006, coauthor with Paul T. Barber) and *The Dancing Goddesses: Folklore, Archaeology, and the Origins of European Dance* (2013).

At the time of donation of her Linear A archive to PASP (in 2013, in part from reading Margalit Fox's book on Alice Kober), Dr. Barber lived in Pasadena, Calif. Dr. Barber enclosed several copies of her articles on textiles for distribution to Lydia G. Neuman, then a graduate student in the M.S. Textile and Apparel Technology program at UT; the archivist kept a copy for this collection.

The second accrual of this collection was donated by Barber to PASP in March 2014. It consists of the two computer tapes described above, a tape by Murray Fowler and Wolfe of the Etruscan alphabet, and eight books from Barber's personal Mycenaean Library. Of note, Fowler and Wolfe's *Materials for the study of the Etruscan Language* (v.I-II, 1965) detail the creation of the computer tapes.

## Scope and Content of the Records

Research notes and data spreadsheets, a book, dissertation, and article photocopies are included in the 34 items that comprise the Elizabeth J. "Betchen" Wayland Barber Collection (1961-2013) of the Program in Aegean Scripts and Prehistory. The bulk of the items reflect Barber's scholarship and early work in Linear A.

The first record group, **Research Material** (7 items), is comprised of two sub-groups.

The first subgroup consists of research materials (2 items) created by Dr. Barber over the course of her undergraduate thesis at Bryn Mawr College, 1961-1962. Included are a wide black data folder (of counts and analysis) and a grey folder containing a typescript photocopy of the analysis, appendices, and Bennett's index.

Within the first subgroup is one series (2 items), consisting of two computer tapes: one each of Linear A and Linear B. These were created at the University of Wisconsin's Computer Center (programmed by Murray Fowler's colleague Richard George Wolfe), towards Barber's undergraduate research.

The second subgroup consists of research materials (2 items) created by Dr. Barber during her doctoral thesis work at Yale University, 1966-1968. Included are two blue folders: one thin and one thick (oversize). The thin blue folder contains duplicate printouts and a code key for non-sign codes. The thick blue folder contains the following computer-generated counts and indices: tablet list, sentence list, monogram "alphabetic," monogram frequency, diagram alphabetic, diagram reverse, diagram frequency, trigram alphabetic, trigram reverse, trigram frequency, context concordances, paradigms, Harris Test for morpheme boundaries, and words.

The third subgroup (1 item) consists of a Memorex computer tape created by Murray Fowler, programmed by Richard George Wolfe, of the Etruscan alphabet. This data is detailed in their *Materials for the study of the Etruscan Language* (1965) (in Group 2, Subgroup 4)

The second record group, **Manuscripts and Publications** (27 items), is comprised of three sub-groups.

The first subgroup consists of Dr. Barber's dissertation (2 items): a hardbound and a paperbound copy.

The second subgroup consists of a hardbound copy (1 item) of her first book, *Archaeological Decipherment* (Princeton, 1974).

The third subgroup consists of journal article photocopies, and Dr. Barber's CV from 2013 (15 items). The articles were copied by the archivist from the originals that Dr. Barber had prepared for Lydia G. Neuman, then a graduate student in the M.S. Textile and Apparel Technology program at UT.

The fourth subgroup consists of Dr. Barber's Mycenaean Library (9 items), materials that she kept under her desk. It contains books by Bennett, Fowler and Wolfe, Vilborg, and proceedings of the 1961 Mycenaean Colloquium at Wingspread (Racine, WI).

## **Provenance**

Dr. Barber donated her archival materials to PASP under the custody of Dr. Thomas G. Palaima in September 2013. A second accrual was received in March 2014 (eight books and three computer tapes).

## **Related Material**

Emmett L. Bennett Offprint Collection  
Program in Aegean Scripts and Prehistory  
Department of Classics, University of Texas at Austin  
<http://www.utexas.edu/research/pasp/>

Thomas G. Palaima Papers  
Program in Aegean Scripts and Prehistory  
Department of Classics, University of Texas at Austin  
<http://www.utexas.edu/research/pasp/>

German, Russian, and Classical Studies Department, Occidental College  
Los Angeles, California  
<http://www.oxy.edu/german-russian-classical-studies/programs/classical-studies>

Textiles and Apparel Graduate Program  
School of Human Ecology  
College of Natural Sciences, University of Texas at Austin  
<http://he.utexas.edu/txa/graduate-program>

Related Scholars (of ancient textiles): Irene Good (Penn Museum), Larissa Bonfante (New York University)

## **Organization of Records**

The Barber collection is arranged in folders placed within an archival storage box, and an oversized ledger-size box. The material is shelved on existing cabinets in the PASP offices.

## **Detailed Description of the Collection**

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

**Elizabeth J. Wayland Barber Collection**  
**1961-2013**  
**34 items**

**Research Material, 1961-1968, (7 items)**

**Bryn Mawr College, 1961-1962 (4 items)**

Undergraduate thesis (1961-1962) (2 items)

Box 1.1                      Typescript photocopy of the analysis, appendices, and Bennett's index  
                                    Grey folder (1 item)

Box 2.1                      Counts and analysis

                                    Wide black data folder (1 item)

Computer tapes created at University of Wisconsin for E. Barber, 1961 (2 items)

Box 5                        Linear A (Memorex Slot #354) (1 item)

                                    Linear B (Mac TransiTape) (1 item)

**Yale University, 1966-1968 (2 items)**

Doctoral dissertation (1966-1968) (2 items)

Box 2.2                      Duplicate printouts and a code key for non-sign codes  
                                    Thin blue folder (1 item)

Computer-generated counts and indices, consisting of: tablet list, sentence list, monogram "alphabetic," monogram frequency, diagram alphabetic, diagram reverse, diagram frequency, trigram alphabetic, trigram reverse, trigram frequency, context concordances, paradigms, Harris Test for morpheme boundaries, and words.

Box 2.3                      Thick blue folder (1 item)

**Murray Fowler, University of Wisconsin 1964 (1 item)**

Computer tape of the Etruscan alphabet (1 item)

Box 5                        Etruscan CIEW translation (*Corpus Inscriptionum Etruscarum Wisconsinense*), "DCS blocked: Density 800; E. Barber 2290; LNG-007" (Memorex) (1 item)

**Manuscripts and Publications, 1968-2013 (27 items)**

**Dissertation, 1968 (2 items)**

Box 1                        Elizabeth Wayland Barber, "The Computer-Aided Analysis of Undeciphered Ancient Texts," Yale University (1968).  
                                    Hardbound, burgundy-color (1 item)

Box 1.2                      Elizabeth Wayland Barber, "The Computer-Aided Analysis of Undeciphered Ancient Texts," Yale University (1968).  
                                    Paperback (1 item)

***Archaeological Decipherment, 1974 (1 item)***

- E. J. W. Barber, *Archaeological Decipherment: A Handbook*, Princeton: Princeton University Press (1974).  
Box 1.3                      Hardbound with dust jacket; Inscribed to Thomas Palaima (1 item)

**Journal articles (compiled) and CV, 1975-2013 (15 items)**

- Curriculum vitae and copy of mailing labels (3 items)  
Curriculum vitae (2013) (1 item)  
Box 1.4                      Mailing labels from archival donation, Sept. 2013 (2 items)
- Journal articles (photocopies) (12 items)  
E.J.W. Barber and P.T. Barber, "Why the Flood is Universal but only Germanic Dragons have Halitosis: Using Cognitive Studies to Help Decode Myth," *Journal of Indo-European Studies Monograph Series* 49 (2004), 1-22.  
Box 1.5                      Article offprint with color postcard, Inscribed to Thomas Palaima (1 item)
- E.J.W. Barber, "On *aig-* as 'Protection', Again," *The Journal of Indo-European Studies* 31.3-4 (Fall/Winter 2003), 337-346.  
Box 1.5                      Article offprint, Inscribed to Thomas Palaima (1 item)
- The Dancing Goddesses: Folklore, Archaeology, and the Origins of European Dance* by Elizabeth Wayland Barber.  
Box 1.5                      Color postcard (1 item)
- E.J.W. Barber, "The PIE Notion of Cloth and Clothing," *The Journal of Indo-European Studies* 3.4 (1975), 294-320.  
Box 1.5                      Article reprint, Inscribed to Lydia Neuman (1 item)
- E.J.W. Barber, "New Kingdom Egyptian Textiles: Embroidery vs. Weaving," *American Journal of Archaeology* 86 (1982), 442-445.  
Box 1.5                      Article reprint, Inscribed to Lydia Neuman (1 item)
- E.J.W. Barber, "Archaeolinguistics and the Borrowing of Old European Technology," *Journal of Indo-European Studies* 17 (1989), 239-250.  
Box 1.5                      Article reprint, Inscribed to Lydia Neuman (1 item)
- E.J.W. Barber, "Neolithic Textiles in Europe and the Near East," *Archeomaterials* 4.1 (Winter 1990), 63-68.  
Box 1.5                      Article reprint, Inscribed to Lydia Neuman (1 item)
- E.J.W. Barber, Review of J. Becker, *Pattern and Loom* (1987), in *Archeomaterials* 4.2 (Summer 1990), 210-212.  
Box 1.5                      Article reprint, Inscribed to Lydia Neuman (1 item)
- E.J.W. Barber, Review of L. Bender Jørgensen, *North European Textiles*

- Box 1.5 *until AD 1000* (1992), in *Antiquity* 67.257 (December 1993), 934-935.  
Article reprint, Inscribed to Lydia Neuman (1 item)
- Box 1.5 E.J.W. Barber, Review of J.L. Sebesta and L. Bonfante (Eds.), *The World of Roman Costume* (1995), in *Archaeological News* 20 (1995), 46.  
Article reprint, Inscribed to Lydia Neuman (1 item)
- Box 1.5 E.J.W. Barber, "The Clues in the Clothes: Some Independent Evidence for the Movements of Families," *Journal of Indo-European Studies Monograph Series* 38 (2001), 1-14.  
Article reprint, Inscribed to Lydia Neuman (1 item)
- Box 1.5 Elizabeth J.W. Barber, "Half-clad Minoan Women, Revisited," *Kadmos* 44.1-2 (May 2006), 40-42.  
Article reprint, Inscribed to Lydia Neuman (1 item)

**Mycenaean Library of 2014, 1953-1965 (9 items)**

- E. J. W. Barber's books kept under her desk in Pasadena, CA (9 items)
- Box 4 Emmett L. Bennett, Jr. (Ed.), *Mycenaean Studies: Wingspread, 1961*, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press (1964).  
Book with dustjacket (1 item)
- Box 4 Emmett L. Bennett, Jr., *A Minoan Linear B Index*, New Haven: Yale University Press (1953)  
Paperback, rose-color (1 item)
- Box 4 Emmett L. Bennett, Jr. (Foreword by Carl W. Blegen), *The Pylos Tablets: Texts of the Inscriptions Found, 1939-1954*, Princeton: Princeton University Press for University of Cincinnati (1955).  
Paperback, blue-color (1 item)
- Box 4 John Chadwick and Lydia Baumbach, "The Mycenaean Greek Vocabulary," *Glotta* XLI.3/4 (1963).  
Journal issue (1 item)
- Box 4 Ebbe Vilborg, *A Tentative Grammar of Mycenaean Greek*, Gothenburg: Almqvist & Wiksell (1960).  
Book with dustjacket (1 item)
- Box 4 Emmett L. Bennett Jr., John Chadwick, Michael Ventris (Ed.), "The Knossos Tablets: A revised transliteration of all the texts in Mycenaean Greek recoverable from Evans' excavations of 1900-1904 based on independent examination," Supplementary Papers No.2 of the *Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies of the University of London* (Jan. 1956).  
Paperback (1 item)

- Box 4 Murray Fowler and Richard George Wolfe, *Materials for the study of the Etruscan Language*, Madison: University of Wisconsin Press (1965).  
Volume I and Volume II (2 items)
- Box 4 Proceedings of the *Mycenaean Colloquium* (September 4-8, 1961) at Wingspread in Racine, Wisconsin.  
Typescript pages, Attendee list (1 envelope)