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Barry Miles papers 4078472

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Miles, Barry, 1943-
Creator:	Ferlinghetti, Lawrence
Creator:	Patten, Brian, 1946-
Creator:	Malanga, Gerard
Creator:	McClure, Michael
Creator:	Burroughs, William S., 1914-1997
Creator:	Ginsberg, Allen, 1926-1997
Creator:	Brautigan, Richard C.
Title:	Barry Miles papers
ID:	4078472
ID:	MS#0873
Date [inclusive]:	1958-1990
Date [bulk]:	1965-1997
Physical Description:	16 linear feet 38 boxes: 27 document boxes 10 cassette tape boxes 1 half document box
Language of the Material:	Material is primarily in English with some French.
Abstract:	The Barry Miles Papers contains correspondence, manuscripts, photographs, and printed materials concerned with Miles' literary activities in the London counterculture. Included are letters and manuscripts from William S. Burroughs and Allen Ginsberg, among numerous others. This collection also includes material used by Miles in the research and writing of his work <i>Ginsberg: A Biography</i> as well as from his editorship of the annotated edition of Ginsberg's <i>Howl</i> .

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Barry Miles Papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical sketch

Barry Miles was born in 1943, in Cirencester, England. He studied art at Cheltenham College of Art before moving to London and qualifying as an art teacher.

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Biographical sketch

Throughout the 1960s, Miles managed Better Books, a counterculture center located in London, at which he staged performances and poetry readings of American poets, helping to generate greater interest in American literary and arts movements within Britain.

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Biographical sketch

After Better Books was sold in 1965, and Miles, together with art critic John Dunbar and musician Peter Asher, founded MAD Ltd. With the financial support of Paul McCartney, they opened Indica Bookshop and Art Gallery in 1966, which continued to host experimental poetry readings and avant-garde art shows. Miles remained owner/manager of Indica until it closed in 1970.

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Biographical sketch

Also around this time, Miles founded and edited a number of little magazines, including Trees and The Long Hair Times (also, sometimes, just Long Hair), magazines that specialized in publishing Beat poetry and other avant-garde and experimental literature from the US and UK.

The latter magazine was the direct forerunner of the underground newspaper The International Times (later just IT), founded in 1966 by Miles, John "Hoppy" Hopkins, and Jim Haynes.

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Biographical sketch

Miles became manager of Zapple Records in 1968, a subsidiary of the Beatles' Apple Records, which was intended as an outlet for spoken word and avant-garde records. Only two records were released before Zapple folded in 1969.

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Biographical sketch

Living in New York for much of the 1970s, Miles worked for Allen Ginsberg catalogueing his tape archives and writing for New Musical Express. He later returned to London to edit Time Out.

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Biographical sketch

Since the 1970s, Miles has worked as a writer and biographer, and in 1989 he published the first complete biography of Allen Ginsberg. He has also written biographies of Paul McCartney, Frank Zappa, William S. Burroughs, Jack Kerouac, and Charles Bukowski, and the band Pink Floyd, as well as editing annotated editions of Ginsberg's *Howl* and Burroughs' *Naked Lunch*. He has written extensively on the Sixties counterculture, publishing the book *Hippie* and an essay in *I Want to Take You Higher: The Psychedelic Era, 1965-1969*.

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Scope and Content

This collection is comprised of the correspondence and manuscripts (primarily of others) obtained by Miles in his capacity as a bookseller at Better Books and Indica Bookshop, little magazine publisher (*The International Times*, *Longhair*), and producer at Zapple Records from the mid-1960s through the 1990s. Also included is material compiled by Miles during the writing of *Ginsberg: A Biography*, and the annotated edition of Ginsberg's *Howl*, including multiple drafts of these writings.

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Scope and Content

The bulk of the correspondence pertains to Miles' publishing and bookselling efforts, much of it from counterculture poets and writers. William S Burroughs and Allen Ginsberg are the most voluminous of Mile's correspondents. Also included are many flyers and catalogues.

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Scope and Content

The manuscript holdings consist largely of poetry, although there are a number of prose works by William S Burroughs. There are also a large number of Ginsberg manuscripts.

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Scope and Content

The scholarly work of Miles himself are also found in this collection, primarily drafts and research materials for *Ginsberg: A Biography*, and the annotated edition of *Howl*. There are ten distinct versions of the former work, along with handwritten research notes, typed chronologies and itineraries, and duplicate Ginsberg correspondences and journals from university libraries and personal collections. Included are ten boxes of cassette tapes of Ginsberg readings, lectures, and interviews.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in five series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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535 W. 114th St.
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Business Number: (212) 854-5153
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rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

Revision Description

xml document instance created by Carrie Hintz EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2010-04-07 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

Box five is located onsite. The remainder of the collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Alternate Form Available

William Burroughs letters are available on: microfilm.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Reader must use microfilm of materials specified above.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Reproductions may be made for research purposes. The RBML maintains ownership of the physical material only. Copyright remains with the creator and his/her heirs. The responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--297-2/17/86; 2/24/86; 8/15/86. Method of acquisition--Purchase; Date of acquisition--08/15/86. Accession number--M-86-08-15.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Allen Ginsberg letters & misc: Source of acquisition--293. Method of acquisition--Purchase; Date of acquisition--07/22/92. Accession number--M-92-07-22.

Processing Information

Processed J. L-W 02/02/88.

Processing Information

Allen Ginsberg letters & misc Cataloged HR 08/27/92.

Processing Information

Papers reprocessed Aaron Winslow (GSAS, 2014) 2009.

Processing Information

Finding aid written Aaron Winslow (GSAS, 2014) 1/--/2010.

Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Artists
- Beats (Persons)
- Biography -- 20th century
- Biographers -- Great Britain -- Correspondence
- Bohemianism
- Booksellers and bookselling
- Bookstores
- Counterculture
- Hippies
- Little magazines -- England -- London
- Poetry
- Poetry, Modern -- 20th century
- Poetry, Modern -- 20th century -- Periodicals
- Poetry -- Periodicals
- Poetry -- Publishing
- Poetry -- Social aspects
- Poets, American -- 20th century -- Biography
- Poets, American -- 20th century -- Correspondence
- Poets, American -- 20th century -- Interviews
- Poets, English -- 20th century
- Advertisements
- Announcements
- Bibliographies
- Broadsides (notices)
- Brochures
- Trade catalogs
- Collages (visual works)
- Drafts (documents)
- Drawings (visual works)
- Essays
- Galley proofs
- Genealogies (histories)
- Handbills
- indexes (reference sources)
- Interviews
- Invitations
- Itineraries
- Manuscripts (documents)
- Notes (documents)
- Photographs
- Photographic prints
- Poems

- Posters
- Press releases
- Résumés (personnel records)
- Reviews (documents)
- Screen prints
- Artists
- Authors
- Biographers
- Editors
- Poets
- Beats (Persons) in literature
- Beat literature

General

Boxes 38 and 39 are record storage cartons that are stored at ReCAP. They contain cassette boxes 28-37.

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Collection Inventory

Series I: Correspondence, 1960s-1980s

Scope and Contents

This series contains correspondence related to Miles' work as a publisher of the little magazines *Longhair* and *The International Times*, and as owner and manager of London's Better Books and Indica Books. Most of the correspondents are writers and artists from the counterculture scene in the US and Britain.

Scope and Contents

The majority of the correspondents are represented by only one or two letters, primarily addressing business and promotional concerns. These are arranged alphabetically within "General Correspondence." Because some of the correspondents are people of note, this finding aid includes a list of correspondents found within the "General Correspondents" folders.

Scope and Contents

Correspondents with a large volume of material have been filed individually, the largest of these being the correspondence of William S Burroughs, which is also available on microfilm in the Columbia University library catalogue.

Scope and Contents

Original flyers and catalogues for various little magazines, book publications, poetry readings, and musical events have also been placed within this series.

Scope and Contents

All materials have been organized alphabetically by correspondent.

Title/Description	Instances	
General, 1960s-1980s (8 Folders), 1960s-1980s	box 1	folder 1 to 8
General--List of Correspondents, 2010	box 1	folder 9
<p><u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> Conditions Governing Access Folder missing, 2024. kws</p>		
Berrigan, Ted, 1966	box 1	folder 10
Brautigan, Richard, 1968-1969	box 1	folder 11
Burroughs, William S., 1967-1983 (2 Folders), 1967-1983	box 1	folder 12 to 13
<p>Scope and Contents (Microfilm available.)</p>		
Burroughs Book Project, 1966-1974	box 2	folder 1
Di Prima, Diane, 1966-1969	box 2	folder 2
Horovitz, Michael, 1969-1981	box 2	folder 3
McGilvery, Laurence, 1971-1974	box 2	folder 4
Malanga, Gerard, 1965-1984	box 2	folder 5
Maynard, Joe, 1973--1978	box 2	folder 6
Mikriammos, Philippe, 1974-1979	box 2	folder 7
Olson, Charles, 1968-1969	box 2	folder 8
Pivano, Fernanda, 1968-1975	box 2	folder 9
Sanders, Ed, 1965-1974	box 2	folder 10
Catalogues and Flyers, 1965-1977	box 2	folder 11

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Series II: Manuscripts, 1959-1979**Scope and Contents**

This series holds the manuscripts of writers associated with Miles and his various magazines (*Long Hair* and *Trees*), as well as his publishing, promotional, recording (at Zapple Records), and bookselling

ventures. There are no manuscripts by Miles himself in this series, however, there are a considerable number of original manuscripts by William S Burroughs here.

Scope and Contents

All manuscripts have been arranged alphabetically.

Title/Description	Instances	
General, 1959-1979 (2 Folders), 1959-1979	box 3	folder 1 to 2
Burroughs, William S., 1965-1976		
Intro to Miles Biography, 1976	box 3	folder 3
"MOB", 1969	box 3	folder 4
"St. Louis Return", 1965	box 3	folder 5
"Who Is the Written Third Walks Beside You", 1964	box 3	folder 6
DiPrima, Diane--"Ode to Keats" and "Revolutionary Letters", 1968	box 3	folder 7
Horovitz, Michael, 1965	box 3	folder 8
Malanga, Gerard, 1964-1965		
Clockwork, 1965	box 3	folder 9
General, 1964-1965	box 3	folder 10
Shepp, Archie--"SCAG", 1965	box 3	folder 11
Warhol, Andy, Undated	box 3	folder 12

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Series III: Allen Ginsberg, 1960s-1990s

Scope and Contents

Correspondence, as well as manuscripts and typescript drafts of poems by Allen Ginsberg, are included in this series. There can also be found a handwritten itinerary of one of Ginsberg's reading tours, and Ginsberg's rendition of his family tree that includes a sketch by Beat poet Gregory Corso. These materials have been organized alphabetically.

Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence 1960s-1980s (3 Folders), 1960s-1980s	box 5	folder 1 to 3
Correspondence, 1970s-1990s (4 Folders), 1970s-1990s	box 5	folder 4 to 7
Scope and Contents		
(1992 Addition)		
Manuscripts, 1973-1982		
"Airplane Blues", 1982		

	box 5	folder 8
"Capitol Air", 1981	box 5	folder 9
"Conversation Sanders", 1980	box 5	folder 10
Scope and Contents (1992 Addition)		
"Do the Meditation; Rock Rag", 1982	box 5	folder 11
"Dope Fiend Blues", 1974	box 5	folder 12
Family Tree, with Gregory Corso pencil drawing, 1986	box 5	folder 13
Scope and Contents (1992 Addition)		
"Gospel Noble Truths", 1975	box 5	folder 14
Itinerary, 1990	box 5	folder 15
Scope and Contents (1992 Addition)		
"Psalm on My Illness", 1973	box 5	folder 16

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Series IV: *Ginsberg: A Biography Materials, 1943-2000*

Scope and Contents

This series consists of materials related to Barry Miles' biography of Allen Ginsberg. First, it includes ten distinct manuscript drafts of the biography itself, up to and including galleys and typeset drafts. Many of these drafts include handwritten notes and corrections. The sixth draft has extensive corrections by Ginsberg. There is also a draft of the revised edition of the biography. Additionally, a published copy of the first edition, signed and annotated throughout by Ginsberg, can be found.

Scope and Contents

The research materials are quite extensive, including typed chronologies of Ginsberg's life, and itineraries of his various travels, as well as transcribed interviews with family and friends.

Scope and Contents

Audio recordings of interviews are also in this series, part of a 10-box collection of cassette tapes containing duplicates of tapes from Ginsberg's personal collection. The cassette tapes are ordered according to Ginsberg's own organizational schema when possible. Other audio material, such as Miles' interviews with Ginsberg friends and family, are arranged alphabetically by interviewee.

Scope and Contents

There is also Miles' detailed year-by-year chronological reconstruction of Ginsberg's life, from 1943 to Ginsberg's death in 1997. These files contain contemporary newspaper clippings; selected Ginsberg

journal entries; letters regarding relevant details of Ginsberg's life; writings by Ginsberg and others from the year specified; and studies of Ginsberg and the Beats relevant to that year. Within the folder 'Year 1949' can be found photocopies of Ginsberg's early manuscript "The Fall."

Scope and Contents

Nearly all of this material is photocopied. The duplicated material is dated, in the container list, by when the originals were produced; the photocopies themselves date from the 1980s, the period when Miles was writing the biography.

Scope and Contents

This series also contains extensive correspondence, some related to the publication of the biography, but mostly a collection of Ginsberg's personal correspondence from the 1940s to the 1990s. As with the chronological material discussed above, this correspondence is almost exclusively photocopied. Also found within this series are duplicates of Ginsberg's journals from 1953 to 1980. Finally, this series contains a small collection of Ginsberg obituaries.

Title/Description	Instances	
Archive Sale, 1994	box 3	folder 13
Audio Material--Cassette Tapes		
Allen Ginsberg's Collection, 1959-1988 (137 Tapes), 1959-1988	box 28	
Allen Ginsberg's Collection, 1959-1988 (137 Tapes), 1959-1988	box 29	
Allen Ginsberg's Collection, 1959-1988 (137 Tapes), 1959-1988	box 30	
Allen Ginsberg's Collection, 1959-1988 (137 Tapes), 1959-1988	box 31	
Allen Ginsberg's Collection, 1959-1988 (137 Tapes), 1959-1988	box 32	
Allen Ginsberg's Collection, 1959-1988 (137 Tapes), 1959-1988	box 33	
Allen Ginsberg's Collection, 1959-1988 (137 Tapes), 1959-1988	box 34	
Allen Ginsberg's Collection, 1959-1988 (137 Tapes), 1959-1988	box 35	
Ball, Gordon - Whalen, Phillip--Tape 1, 1984-1986 (17 Tapes), 1984-1986	box 36	
Whalen, Phillip --Tape 2, 1986 (1 Tape), 1986	box 37	
Recordings of Allen Ginsberg, 1967-1990 (11 Tapes), 1967-1990	box 37	
Background Material and Autobiographical Precipis, circa, 1986-1988	box 3	folder 13
Childhood Notes, 1970s (2 Folders), 1970s	box 4	folder 1 to 2

Chronology, 1943-1997		
General, 1970-1980s (6 Folders), 1970-1980s	box 4	folder 3 to 8
Year-by-Year		
1943-1999 (3 Folders), 1943-1999	box 4	folder 9 to 11
1943-1997	box 4	folder 12
1944-1999	box 4	folder 13
General Notes, 1953-1980s	box 4	folder 14
Carr, Lucien, 1944s-1999	box 4	folder 15
Allen Ginsberg Novel and Conversation Transcripts,, 1944-1999	box 4	folder 16
Clippings, 1944	box 6	folder 1
1945-1999 <u>Physical Description:</u> (4 Folders)	box 6	folder 2 to 5
1949-1997		
General, 1949 (2 Folders), 1949	box 6	folder 6 to 7
"The Fall"--Notebooks, 1949	box 6	folder 8
1950-1997 <u>Physical Description:</u> (3 Folders)	box 6	folder 9-11
1953-2000 (9 Folders), 1953-2000	box 7	folder 1 to 9
1962-1999 <u>Physical Description:</u> (14 Folders)	box 8	folder 1 to 14
1976-1978 (3 Folders), 1976-1978	box 9	folder 1 to 3
1979		
General, 1979	box 9	folder 4
Allen Ginsberg--European Itinerary, 1979	box 9	folder 5
1980-1993 <u>Physical Description:</u> (6 Folders)	box 9	folder 6 to 11
1986-1997 <u>Physical Description:</u> (11 Folders)	box 10	folder 1 to 11
Collected Poems Footnotes, Undated	box 10	folder 12
Correspondence, 1943-1999		
Biography-Related, 1976-1990		
General, 1986	box 10	folder 13

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Libraries, 1976-1987	box 10	folder 14
Simon & Schuster, 1988-1990	box 10	folder 15
Ginsberg, 1943-1999		
Burroughs, William S., 1950-1999 (4 Folders), 1950-1999	box 11	folder 1 to 4
General		
1943-1950 <u>Physical Description:</u> (3 Folders)	box 11	folder 5 to 7
1951-1960 (8 Folders), 1951-1960	box 12	folder 1 to 8
1961-1978 (12 Folders), 1961-1978	box 13	folder 1 to 12
1990-1996 (9 Folders), 1990-1996	box 14	folder 1 to 9
Miles, 1966-1979	box 14	folder 10
Drafts, 1980s-2000		
First Draft		
Chapters 1-4, circa 1980s (4 Folders), 1980s	box 14	folder 11 to 14
Chapters 5-21, circa 1980s (17 Folders), 1980s	box 15	folder 1 to 17
Chapters 22-25, circa 1980s (4 Folders), 1980s	box 16	folder 1 to 4
Second Draft		
Chapters 1-3, circa 1980s (3 Folders), 1980s	box 16	folder 5 to 7
Third Draft		
Chapters 1-8, circa 1980s (8 Folders), 1980s	box 16	folder 8 to 15
Chapters 9-22, circa 1980s (14 Folders), 1980s	box 17	folder 1 to 14
Chapters 23-29, circa 1980s (7 Folders), 1980s	box 18	folder 1 to 7
Chapters 30-33, circa 1980s (4 Folders), 1980s	box 19	folder 1 to 4
Fourth Draft		
Chapters 1-2, circa 1980s (2 Folders), 1980s	box 19	folder 5 to 6
Chapter 3, circa, 1980s	box 20	folder 1
Fifth Draft 1988 (2 Folders), 1988	box 20	folder 2 to 3
Sixth Draft		
circa 1980s (4 Folders), 1980s	box 20	folder 4 to 7

circa 1980s (2 Folders), 1980s	box 21	folder 1 to 2
circa, 1980s <u>Physical Description:</u> (Oversize)	flatbox 273	
Final--Copyedited, 1988 (4 Folders), 1988	box 21	folder 3 to 6
Galleys, 1989	box 21	folder 7
Galleys, 1989 (2 Folders), 1989	box 22	folder 1 to 2
First Typeset Photocopy, 1989 (3 Folders), 1989	box 22	folder 3 to 5
Afterword, circa, 1980s	box 22	folder 6
Index, circa, 1980s	box 22	folder 7
Published First Edition, signed by Ginsberg, with marginalia, 1989	box 3	folder 15
English Edition, 2000 (2 Folders), 2000	box 22	folder 8 to 9
English Edition, 2000 (3 Folders), 2000	box 23	folder 1 to 3
Family Notes, 1980s-1999		
Naomi (Mother), 1987-1999	box 23	folder 4
Louis (Father), 1980s-1999	box 23	folder 5
Interviews--Transcribed, 1980s		
Friends and Family, circa, 1986	box 23	folder 6
Ginsberg, Allen, 1985-1986	box 23	folder 7
Interview Questions, Undated	box 23	folder 8
Journals, 1953-1980		
Scope and Contents		
(Photocopied Material)		
1953-1958 (4 Folders), 1953-1958	box 23	folder 9 to 12
1958-1964 (9 Folders), 1958-1964	box 24	folder 1 to 9
1965-1973 (8 Folders), 1965-1973	box 25	folder 1 to 8
1973-1985 (5 Folders), 1973-1985	box 26	folder 1 to 5
<i>Kaddish</i>		
Scope and Contents		
(Photocopied Material)		
Origins, 1950s-1960s	box 26	folder 6
Filmscript, Undated	box 26	folder 7

Playscript, 1972	box 26	folder 8
Obituaries, 1997-1999	box 27	folder 1
Recordings Listings and Liner Notes, 1971-1993	box 27	folder 2
Russia, Undated	box 27	folder 3
Stanford University Notes, 1999	box 27	folder 4
Vollmer, Joan, 1951	box 27	folder 5
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u> Conditions Governing Access		
Folder missing		
University of Texas Ginsberg Collection Notes, Undated	box 27	folder 6

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Series V: *Annotated Howl*, 1955-1986

Scope and Contents

In 1986, Miles edited an annotated, facsimile edition of Ginsberg's *Howl*. In addition to a number of unpublished drafts, this series contains annotations, appendices, and other materials contained within the book. There are also photocopies of Ginsberg letters and correspondence between Miles and the book publishers.

Title/Description	Instances	
Annotations, 1985	box 27	folder 7
Appendix 1: Ginsberg Correspondences, 1955-1958	box 27	folder 8
Appendices--Other, Undated	box 27	folder 9
Book Correspondence, 1985-1986	box 27	folder 10
Front Matter, Undated	box 27	folder 11
Unpublished Materials, Undated	box 27	folder 12

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