



The Wittliff Collections

Guide to the Barbara and Fred Whitehead Collection 1970–1992

Collection SWWC-024

Descriptive Summary

Creators:	Whitehead, Barbara Mathews; Whitehead, Fred, 1937-1992
Title:	Guide to the Barbara and Fred Whitehead Collection
Dates:	1970–1992
Abstract:	The collection contains several woodcuts and posters from Whitehead and Whitehead Publishing Services.
Identification:	SWWC-024
Extent:	4 boxes (19 woodblocks, 18 prints), 4 Linear Feet (1 document box; 3 small newspaper boxes; individual posters in mapcases and framed artifact storage)
Language:	English
Repository:	The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University

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Biographical Note

Fred and Barbara Whitehead's Whitehead and Whitehead Publishing Services provided artwork for book and poster illustrations as well as consultation on book production and design. Barbara Whitehead executed the designs while Fred Whitehead, also an artist, tended to the business end of the enterprise. Barbara Whitehead began her career as an illustrator in 1969 for Bill Wittliff's Encino Press after graduating from the University of Texas with a Master of Book Arts. The Whiteheads together also provided services for other Austin fine book printers David Lindsey, Thomas W. Taylor, and David Holman. Their designs have been used by the university presses of the University of Texas, Southern Methodist University and Texas Christian University. The Texas Institute of Letters granted Whitehead and Whitehead design awards twice: in 1982 for *Journey to Pleasant Hill* and in 1983 for Barbara Whitehead's book illustrations of R. G. Vliet's *Clem Maverick*. Fred Whitehead passed away July 1993 but Barbara Whitehead continues the business.

Scope and Contents

The collection contains posters, woodblocks and woodblock prints all by Barbara Whitehead. The prints include illustrations of works such as *The Good Old Boys* by Elmer Kelton, *Clem Maverick* by R. G. Vliet and *The Grands* by Carolyn Osborn. See also the Jan Reid papers, Accession number 92-136 for the bookjacket from *Redneck Rock* designed by Barbara Whitehead, and Accession No. 93-029 and 93-190 for the files on *The Grands* illustrated by Barbara Whitehead. For further information on the Whiteheads, see *The Grands* by Carolyn Osborn especially the introduction by Richard Holland and *William D. Wittliff and the Encino Press*, a bibliography compiled by Gould Whaley.

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gifts of Barbara and Fred Whitehead and Bill and Sally Wittliff, 1989-1991

Processing Information

Processed by Gwynedd Cannan, May 1995.

Physical Location

Materials may be stored off-site. Advance notice is required for use: .
<https://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research/makearesearchappointment.html>.

Preferred Citation

Barbara and Fred Whitehead Collection, The Wittliff Collections, Texas State University

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<https://www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu/research/visit/policies/publication.html>

Controlled Access Headings

- Art
- Artists -- Texas
- Arts -- Texas
- Book design
- Wood-engraving

Detailed Description of the Collection

Box	Folder	
1	1	<i>Montezuma Alley</i> woodcut, undated
1	3	Woodcut of skeletal figures, one pointing a gun at another, red annotations. Reverse side features a woodcut of a nude female figure sitting beneath a tree, undated
1	4	<i>Women and Oxen</i> woodcut, reverse side is a woodcut of a child's toy block with apples and letters, undated
1	5	Title woodblock from <i>Maveric Crew: The Life and Death of Country Music Singer</i> by R.G. Vliet, undated
1	6	Woodcut featuring a mule head and fence with text reading, "Trade in your old mule for new," on one side and, "Hot biscuits and soughum molasses," on the reverse, undated
2		The Good Old Boys title woodblock by Barbara Whitehead; reverse side features a snake and an eagle, circa 1985
2		Seashells woodblock; reverse side has additional shells and a pair of birds
2		Prose fiction of the Cuban Revolution by Seymour Wenton title woodblock; reverse side features "A Christmas Thought", circa 1975
3		Carrasco by Wilson McKinney title woodblock; reverse features a village scene and drums, circa 1975
3		Santa Claus and the Bike, woodblock; reverse features an airplane, car, floral design, and male and female symbols
3		Wood Stove and Pipe woodblock; reverse side features a tree, music notes in a pot, and a pie
4		Butterflies; reverse side features man with a gun and a field
4		Hear's Looking at You, Kid; reverse side features multiple images including a karate robe, first aid kit, grave marker "EWP," hourglass, dollar signs, and a snowflake, among others
4		Maverick Crew: by R.G. Vliet. Annotated "Vliet" in pencil: Woodcut of a group of musicians plus a guitar and a microphone stand; reverse side features an unrelated image of two people
4		Maverick Crew: Woodblocks by Barbara Whitehead for R.G. Vliet's Clem Maverick. Illustrations of a band with a guitar, fiddle, and banjo players; reverse side features oil derricks and a Royal typewriter, circa 1983