

# **Carl W. Gatter collection on Ezra Pound**

**Ms. Coll. 182**

**Finding aid prepared by Rebecca C. Smith.**

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Last updated on April 06, 2020.

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

1996

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## Table of Contents

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|  |    |
|--|----|
| Summary Information.....                         | 3  |
| Scope and Contents.....                          | 4  |
| Administrative Information.....                  | 4  |
| Controlled Access Headings.....                  | 5  |
| Collection Inventory.....                        | 6  |
| Correspondence: Letters from Ezra Pound.....     | 6  |
| Correspondence: Letters to Carl W. Gatter.....   | 6  |
| Research material on the life of Ezra Pound..... | 8  |
| Printed materials.....                           | 14 |
| Photographs and memorabilia.....                 | 14 |
| Oversize material.....                           | 16 |

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## Summary Information

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|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Repository</b>       | University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts  |
| <b>Creator</b>          | Gatter, Carl W.  |
| <b>Title</b>            | Carl W. Gatter collection on Ezra Pound  |
| <b>Call number</b>      | Ms. Coll. 182  |
| <b>Date [inclusive]</b> | 1894-1979  |
| <b>Extent</b>           | 10 boxes   |
| <b>Language</b>         | English  |
| <b>Abstract</b>         | <p>The collection contains very little original Pound material, although there are six folders of photocopied correspondence from him to various correspondents, primarily from the period when Pound was institutionalized at St. Elizabeth's Hospital. Correspondents include Pound's wife Dorothy and an early girlfriend Mary Moore. There are 22 folders of correspondence to Gatter relating to the early life of Ezra Pound. The balance of the collection comprises Gatter's research material on the life of Ezra Pound, including some printed material and photographs.</p> |

**Cite as:**

Carl W. Gatter Collection on Ezra Pound, 1894-1979, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Pennsylvania

## Scope and Contents

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Though the American poet Ezra Pound (1885-1972) was born in Idaho, he spent most of his formative years—from 1889 to 1907—living in Pennsylvania, in or around the city of Philadelphia. This period of the poet's life serves as the focal point of this collection of research material.

Carl W. Gatter has lived for many years at the childhood home of Ezra Pound at 166 Fernbrook Ave., Wyncote, Pa. As a result of this connection to the poet, Carl Gatter and his mother Elsie K. Gatter established a correspondence with Ezra Pound between the years of 1956 and 1966. During this time Carl Gatter became interested in taking what Pound called a "census report" of the poet's childhood acquaintances. Based on references in Pound's letters, Gatter began to collect printed material and photographs relating to Pound's youth in Pennsylvania. He also interviewed Wyncote residents who had known Pound as a child. In 1958, when Pound was released from St. Elizabeths Hospital, he visited the Gatter's in their Wyncote home before returning to Italy. Gatter used this visit as an opportunity to interview the poet about his early life in Wyncote, and to take photographs.

As Gatter's research on Pound's early life became known to the larger community of Pound scholars, his collection served as a resource for Pound biographers, several of whom have credited Gatter and used his photographs to illustrate their works. The culmination of this research was Gatter's collaboration with Noel Stock on *Ezra Pound's Pennsylvania*, published in 1976 by The Friends of the University of Toledo Libraries. The title page of this work reads: "Compiled for the most part from Mr. Carl Gatter's researches into original sources and documents." In fact, almost all of Gatter's significant research and photographs have been published in this work.

While this collection contains very little original Pound material, it does offer a unique resource for scholars researching the details of Pound's youth, by conveniently gathering together diverse secondary material relating to the poet's life in Pennsylvania. This collection has been reorganized with consideration for the researcher's need to quickly and easily access the most pertinent material. In order to facilitate research, and to insure proper storage, all photographs have been moved to albums at the end of the collection.

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## Administrative Information

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University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

1996

Finding aid prepared by Rebecca C. Smith.

### Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research use.

## Use Restrictions

Copyright restrictions may exist. For most library holdings, the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania do not hold copyright. It is the responsibility of the requester to seek permission from the holder of the copyright to reproduce material from the Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts.

## Source of Acquisition

Gift of Carl W. Gatter, 1976

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### FORM/GENRE(S)

- Correspondence
- Memorabilia
- Photographs
- Research notes

### PERSONAL NAME(S)

- Pound, Ezra, 1885-1972

### SUBJECT(S)

- Education
- Poetry
- Poets

## Collection Inventory

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### I. CORRESPONDENCE: LETTERS FROM EZRA POUND, 1894-1979. 6 FOLDERS.

#### Series Description

Photocopied correspondence from Ezra Pound to various correspondents, primarily from the period when Pound was institutionalized at St. Elizabeths Hospital; several letters written for Ezra Pound by his wife Dorothy; hand-written transcriptions of selected portions of letters from Pound to Mary Moore (originals now held by the Rare Book and Manuscript Library of the University of Pennsylvania); typed notes by Gatter elucidating the context of each letter, and the references they contain. Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

|   | Box | Folder |
|---|-----|--------|
| Doolittle, Margaret, 1955. 1 item (3 leaves).                     | 1   | 1      |
| <b>Gatter, Carl and Elsie, 1956-1966. 24 items ((95 leaves)).</b> | 1   | 2-5    |
| <b>Description</b>  |     |        |
| Includes letters from Dorothy Pound.                              |     |        |
| <b>Moore, Mary, 1907. 24 items (26 leaves).</b>                   | 1   | 6      |
| <b>Note</b>   |     |        |
| Partially transcribed.  |     |        |
| Ridpath, Florence, 1958. 3 items (8 leaves).                      | 1   | 7      |

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### II. CORRESPONDENCE: LETTERS TO CARL W. GATTER, 1958-1979. 22 FOLDERS.

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## Series Description

Correspondence to Carl Gatter relating to the early life of Ezra Pound. Correspondents are primarily Pound scholars seeking information, or individuals who knew Pound as a child. Also includes letters addressed to Elsie Gatter, and several drafts of outgoing responses by Carl or Elsie Gatter. Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

|   | Box | Folder |
|---|-----|--------|
| Davenport, Guy, 1963-1964. 6 items (20 leaves).                         | 1   | 8      |
| Edwards, John, 1958. 1 item (2 leaves).                                 | 1   | 9      |
| Feldman, Bronson, 1971. 1 item (1 leaf).                                | 1   | 10     |
| Flint, Diana, 1979. 4 items (12 leaves).                                | 1   | 11     |
| Gyorgy, Novak, 1974. 1 item (2 leaves).                                 | 1   | 12     |
| Heymann, David, 1973. 5 items (7 leaves).                               | 1   | 13     |
| Kodama, Sanhide, 1976. 1 item (4 leaves).                               | 1   | 14     |
| Lorch, Elsie B., 1969. 1 item (1 leaf).                                 | 1   | 15     |
| Moore, Mary [a.k.a. Mary Moore Cross], 1969-1976. 11 items (32 leaves). | 1   | 16     |
| Moore, Sam, 1969-1970. 4 items (5 leaves).                              | 1   | 17     |
| Nichols, Bruce, 1970. 2 items (4 leaves).                               | 1   | 18     |
| Norman, Charles, 1970. 1 item (2 leaves).                               | 1   | 19     |
| Place, David, 1977. 5 items (12 leaves).                                | 1   | 20     |
| Quinn, Bernetta, 1975. 1 item (2 leaves).                               | 1   | 21     |

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|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| de Rachewiltz, Mary, 1958-1976. 8 items (16 leaves). | 1 | 22 |
| Ridpath, Grace, 1970. 2 items (4 leaves).            | 1 | 23 |
| Stock, Noel, 1966-1976. 39 items (43 leaves).        | 1 | 24 |
| Todd, G. Hall, 1966. 1 item (1 leaf).                | 1 | 25 |
| Whitehead, Cintra, 1975. 2 items (4 leaves).         | 1 | 26 |
| Yoder, Clare, 1971. 2 items (4 leaves).              | 1 | 27 |
| Young, William, 1975. 1 item (2 leaves).             | 1 | 28 |

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### III. RESEARCH MATERIAL ON THE LIFE OF EZRA POUND, 1900-1978. 51 FOLDERS.

#### A. POUND'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS, 1900-1978. 38 FOLDERS.

##### Description & Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically, contains notes on individuals Pound knew in his early life, primarily those he mentioned in his letters to Carl Gatter; interviews, publications, maps, directories, and correspondence related to these individuals.

|   | Box | Folder |
|---|-----|--------|
| Ankenbrand, Frank Jr., 1971. 9 items (13 leaves).       | 1   | 29     |
| <b>Bean, Levi, 1973, [undated]. 4 items (6 leaves).</b> | 1   | 30     |
| <b>Description</b>                                      |     |        |
| Photo in album.   |     |        |

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|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| Bennet, Michael Smith, [undated]. 1 item (1 leaf).                     | 1 | 31 |
| Berger, William Henry, [undated]. 2 items (3 leaves).                  | 1 | 32 |
| Breckenridge, Hugh, [undated]. 2 items (4 leaves).                     | 1 | 33 |
| Cochran, Tommy, 1978, [undated]. 3 items (3 leaves).                   | 1 | 34 |
| Comfort, Edmund, [undated]. 1 item (1 leaf).                           | 1 | 35 |
| Corts, Anna, 1964-1976. 4 items (6 leaves).                            | 1 | 36 |
| <b>Doolittle, Frederick James, [undated]. 3 items (3 leaves).</b>      | 1 | 37 |
| <b>Description</b>   |   |    |
| Photos in album.   |   |    |
| <b>Dutton, Lucille, 1976, [undated]. 4 items (6 leaves).</b>           | 1 | 38 |
| <b>Description</b>   |   |    |
| Photo of residence in album.   |   |    |
| Eckman, Hensel, 1969-1970. 2 items (3 leaves).                         | 1 | 39 |
| Ellis, William T., [undated]. 6 items (7 leaves).                      | 1 | 40 |
| Foote, Florence, [undated]. 2 items (2 leaves).                        | 1 | 41 |
| Hackenburg, William B., [undated]. 1 item (1 leaf).                    | 1 | 42 |
| Halsey, James Biddle, 1966, [undated]. 2 items (7 leaves + 1 booklet). | 1 | 43 |
| Hare, T. Truxton, [undated]. 1 item (1 leaf).                          | 1 | 44 |
| <b>Heacock, Edward, 1964, undated. 2 items (63 leaves).</b>            | 1 | 45 |
| <b>Description</b>   |   |    |

|   |                    |    |
|---|--------------------|----|
| Photo in album.   |                    |    |
| <b>Heacock family, 1900, 1907, 1965-1971. 17 items (26 leaves).</b> | 1                  | 46 |
| <b>Description</b>  |                    |    |
| Photos in album; diplomas in oversize.                              |                    |    |
| Heyman, Katherine, undated. 2 items (2 leaves).                     | 1                  | 47 |
| Lorimer, George Horace, 1936, undated. 1 item (60 leaves).          | 1                  | 48 |
| Lovell, Mary.   | see<br>Whitechurch |    |
| <b>Moore, Mary, 1968-1969. 11 items (55 leaves).</b>                | 2                  | 49 |
| <b>Description</b>  |                    |    |
| Photos in album.  |                    |    |
| Nice, Sue, 1976. 1 item (1 leaf).                                   | 2                  | 50 |
| <b>Parry, Edward, 1973-1974. 5 items (11 leaves).</b>               | 2                  | 51 |
| <b>Description</b>  |                    |    |
| Photos in album.  |                    |    |
| <b>Polk, Adele, 1970. 3 items (3 leaves).</b>                       | 2                  | 52 |
| <b>Description</b>  |                    |    |
| Photos in album.  |                    |    |
| <b>Pound, Homer, 1973, [undated]. 11 items (69 leaves).</b>         | 2                  | 53 |
| <b>Description</b>  |                    |    |
| Photos in album.  |                    |    |
| Pound, Isabel, 1971, [undated]. 11 items (29 leaves).               | 2                  | 54 |

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|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| <b>Pound, Thaddeus and Angevine S. Pound, [undated]. 9 items (9 leaves).</b> | 2 | 55 |
| <b>Description</b>   |   |    |
| Photo of residence in album.   |   |    |
| Reed, Mai, 1969, [undated]. 4 items (8 leaves).                              | 2 | 56 |
| Scudder, John, [undated]. 2 items (2 leaves).                                | 2 | 57 |
| Smith, William B., 1975-1976, [undated]. 17 items (19 leaves).               | 2 | 58 |
| Spann, Marcella, 1970. 1 item (1 leaf).                                      | 2 | 59 |
| Vance, Fred, [undated]. 2 items (2 leaves).                                  | 2 | 60 |
| Wallis Family, 1949, 1954, 1973. 4 items (7 leaves).                         | 2 | 61 |
| Weeks, Henry or Stephen, [undated]. 1 item (1 leaf).                         | 2 | 62 |
| Weston, Frances A., [undated]. 3 items (6 leaves).                           | 2 | 63 |
| <b>Whitechurch, Margaret, [undated]. 3 items (3 leaves).</b>                 | 2 | 64 |
| <b>Description</b>   |   |    |
| Photos in album.   |   |    |
| <b>Whiteside, Frank, 1976, [undated]. 3 items (3 leaves).</b>                | 2 | 65 |
| <b>Description</b>   |   |    |
| Photos in album.   |   |    |
| <b>Williams, William Carlos, 1967, undated. 3 items (15 leaves).</b>         | 2 | 66 |
| <b>Description</b>   |   |    |
| Photographs in album.  |   |    |

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**B. POUND FAMILY RESIDENCES, CONCERNING 1890-1925. 1 FOLDER.**

**Description**

Notes, directory listings, and maps of the Pound family residences in Pennsylvania; schematic drawings of the interior of 166 Fernbrook Ave., and its furnishings.

|  | Box | Folder |
|--|-----|--------|
| Pound family residences, [concerning 1890-1925]. | 2   | 67     |

**C. EDUCATION, CONCERENING 1894-1907. 4 FOLDERS.**

**Description**

Notes on Pound's early education, at Miss Elliot's School, Cheltenham Hills School, Cheltenham Military Academy, Cheltenham High School, the University of Pennsylvania, and Hamilton College; school catalogs, class records, and student publications.

**1. PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

|  | Box | Folder |
|--|-----|--------|
| Miss Elliot's School.                            | 2   | 68     |
| Cheltenham Hills School, [concerning 1894-1897]. | 2   | 68     |

**2. HIGH SCHOOL.**

|   | Box | Folder |
|---|-----|--------|
| Cheltenham Military Academy, [1897-1901]. | 2   | 69     |
| Cheltenham High School.                   | 2   | 69     |

**3. COLLEGE AND GRADUATE SCHOOL.**

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|  | Box | Folder |
|--|-----|--------|
| University of Pennsylvania, [1901-1903 and 1905-1907]. | 2   | 70     |
| Hamilton College, [1903-1905].                         | 2   | 71     |

**D. CHURCHES. 4 FOLDERS.**

**Description**

Notes on the churches the Pound family attended, including information of church leaders, copies of meeting minutes, and copies of church newsletters.

|  | Box | Folder |
|--|-----|--------|
| Calvary Presbyterian Church, Wyncote, Pennsylvania.                                  | 2   | 72     |
| Ministry.  | 2   | 73     |
| "Wyncote Outlines" , 1893-1899.  | 2   | 74     |
| Grace Presbyterian Church, Italian Presbyterian Church, Eastburn<br>Mariners Bethel. | 2   | 75     |

**E. LOCAL HISTORY, WYNCOTE, PA. 4 FOLDERS.**

**Description**

Notes on various clubs and organizations; information on the burning of the Wanamaker mansion; maps and directories.

|                          | Box | Folder |
|--------------------------|-----|--------|
| Clubs and organizations. | 2   | 76     |
| Wanamaker's mansion.     | 2   | 77     |
| Maps and directories.    | 2   | 78     |

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Miscellaneous research notes.

2

79

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#### **IV. PRINTED MATERIALS, 1894-1986. 4 FOLDERS.**

##### **Series Description**

Pound's early writings; drafts and final copy of Gatter's articles "Ezra Pound in Wyncote" and "Wyncote Revisited;" newspaper and magazine clippings relating to Pound and his family.

Box

Folder

Ezra Pound's early publications, [concerning 1902-1909].

3

80

**Drafts of "Ezra Pound in Wyncote," and "Wyncote revisited," by Carl W. Gatter.**

3

81

##### **Description**

Based on Pound's 1958 visit.

Clippings from newspapers and magazines, regarding Ezra Pound, 1909-1986.

3

82-83

Clippings, regarding the Pound family, 1894-1928.

3

84

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#### **V. PHOTOGRAPHS AND MEMORABILIA, [1894]-1958. 3 BOXES (+ 2 ALBUMS).**

##### **Series Description**

Photographs and negatives relating to Pound; a framed tinted photograph once belonging to the Pounds; two books given to Carl Gatter by Pound and David Horton.

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**A. PHOTOGRAPHS.**

|   | Box |
|---|-----|
| <b>Pound's family and friends.</b>  | 4   |
| <b>Arrangement</b>  |     |
| Arranged alphabetically.  |     |
| <b>Contents</b>   |     |
| * Bean, Levi and Wife   |     |
| * Doolittle, Frederick J.   |     |
| * Heacock, Edward   |     |
| * Heacock, Esther and Priscilla with Pound and Olga Rudge   |     |
| * Hessler, Lewis  |     |
| * Lovell, Mary  |     |
| * Moore, Mary   |     |
| * Polk, Adele   |     |
| * Pound, Homer  |     |
| * Pound, Isabel   |     |
| * Pound, Omar Shakespear  |     |
| * Ridpath, Florence   |     |
| * Whitechurch, Margaret   |     |
| * Whiteside, Frank  |     |
| * Williams, William Carlos  |     |
| <br>  |     |
| Pound's family residences; Pound's education, [concerning 1894-1901].   | 4   |
| <br>  |     |
| Pound's education (cont.), Churches; U.S. Mint; Early Wyncote; "Wyncote revisited"<br>, [concerning 1901-1907]. | 5   |
| <br>  |     |
| Duplicate photographs.  | 6   |
| <br>  |     |
| Negatives.  | 7   |

**B. MEMORABILIA.**

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Box

Williamsburg guidebook given to Carl Gatter by Ezra Pound, 1958.

8

Square \$ book given to Carl Gatter by David Horton, 1958.

8

**"The Pergola, Amalfi" .**

9

**Description**

Framed tinted photograph once owned by Homer Pound.

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**VI. OVERSIZE MATERIAL. 1 BOX.**

Box

Clippings; college diplomas of Esther and Priscilla Heacock.

10

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