

# Guide to the Hiram Barker Papers

WA MSS S-4535



by Brooke McManus

December 2022

P. O. Box 208330  
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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	3
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Processing Information .....	4
Hiram Barker (1815-1887) .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	4
Collection Contents .....	5
Selected Search Terms .....	15

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
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**CALL NUMBER:** WA MSS S-4535

**CREATOR:** Barker, Hiram

**TITLE:** Hiram Barker papers

**DATES:** 1831-1909

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 8.59 linear feet (11 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English (Latin script)

**SUMMARY:** The collection consists of correspondence, deeds, mortgage, loan, tax, and insurance documents, invoices, notes, and other legal and financial papers related to the interests of Farmington, New Hampshire banker and businessman Hiram Barker and his estate, including real estate, a flour mill, farming, retail sales, and lumber trade.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.barkerh>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.barkerh>.

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Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Michael Vinson on the William Robertson Coe Fund No. 3, 2011.

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### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

The Hiram Barker Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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## Preferred Citation

Hiram Barker Papers. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

Folders 186-188 are not in use.

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## Hiram Barker (1815-1887)

Hiram Barker was a land speculator, banker, and retail dealer from Farmington, New Hampshire. In addition to real estate, he invested in farming, lumber, and a flour mill, primarily in the American West and Middle West. Barker was also president of Farmington Bank.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection consists of correspondence, deeds, mortgage, loan, tax, and insurance documents, invoices, notes, and other legal and financial papers related to the interests of Farmington, New Hampshire banker and businessman Hiram Barker and his estate, including real estate, a flour mill, farming, retail sales, and lumber trade. Among the correspondents are land agents, attorneys, bankers, and other business associates. Records document his work as president of Farmington Bank in New Hampshire; investments in land in the Dakota Territory, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, and Nebraska; payments for equipment, livestock, and labor, including farm work by children. Also present are a small amount of personal papers.

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## Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically by state or territory.

## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1	California - Papers (3)	1873-1875
	Dakotas 1	
b. 1, f. 2	First National Bank letters	1885 August 24-1891 November 23
b. 1, f. 3	Madison Bank letters	1885 January 6-1886 March 12
b. 1, f. 4	Brule County Bank letters	1882 January 4-1887 June 29
b. 1, f. 5	Charles N. Walker letters	1885 April 8- August 14
b. 1, f. 6	Henry and Orcutt letters	1884 December 30-1885 November 9
b. 1, f. 7	Central Dakota Mortgage Co. letters	1885 July 4-1886 March 24
b. 1, f. 8	Dakota Farm Mortgage Co. letters	1885 December 14, 16
b. 1, f. 9	Beadle County National Bank letters	1885 September 28-1886 May 6
b. 1, f. 10	Citizen's Bank letters	1883 May 17- June 1
b. 1, f. 11	A. B. Lucas letters	1884 February
b. 1, f. 12	American Mortgage and Investment Company letters	1885 November 7-1886 May 18
b. 1, f. 13	Office of County Treasurers, Beadle, Dakota letters	1884 May 6
b. 1, f. 14	Moyer & Brown letters	1888 February 6-1892 January 6
b. 1, f. 15	D. W. Butler letters	1884 December 9, 31
b. 1, f. 16	Dakota Insurance Co. letters	1886 January 9
b. 1, f. 17	Banking House of Daly & Mackay letter	1891 September 22
b. 1, f. 18	American House Rapid City letter	1885 September 21
b. 1, f. 19	United States Land Office letter	1883 April 11

b. 1, f. 20	G. E. Hussey letter	1884 March 15
b. 1, f. 21	Frank P. Cook letter	1884 June 13
b. 1, f. 22	A. H. Grossard & Co. letter	1884 December 13, 1888 August 11
b. 1, f. 23	Hiram Barker letter & papers	1885 September 11, undated
b. 1, f. 24	Envelopes - Sheriff Certificate, J. M. Long	1887 November 1
b. 1, f. 25	Envelopes - Notes, Cora Pilmaw, Cara Villamome	1886 January 1
b. 1, f. 26	Envelopes - Note, John E. Lowly	1886 May 25
b. 1, f. 27-28	Foreclosure papers, E. A. Lovell	1891
b. 1, f. 29	Sheriff's bill of sale/deed, John King	1888
b. 1, f. 30-31	Tax receipts	1898
b. 2, f. 32	Note, Sadie Fell	1896-1898
b. 2, f. 33	Sheriff's certificate, Freeland Newman	1888
b. 2, f. 34	Note, Harvey Purvine	1886
b. 2, f. 35	Note, N. M. Vice	1885
b. 2, f. 36	Note, A. T. Kensett	1898
b. 2, f. 37	Note, John Audiss	1896
b. 2, f. 38-41	Deeds, notes, loan applications, crop reports	1880-1900
b. 2, f. 42	Certificates of mortgage sales (7)	1886-1892
Dakotas 2		
b. 2, f. 43	Treasurer's sale deed (7)	1886-1887
b. 2, f. 44	Abstracts of title (10)	1884-1891
b. 2, f. 45	Dakota farm mortgages (4)	1884-1888
b. 2, f. 46	Quit claim deeds (4)	1895-1899
b. 2, f. 47-48	Sheriff's deeds (15)	1888-1900
b. 2, f. 49-50	Warranty deeds (16)	1890-1893
b. 2, f. 51	Assignments of mortgage (6)	1886-1899
b. 2, f. 52	Affidavits of publication (3)	1890-1892
b. 2, f. 53	Miscellaneous	1896-1903

b. 11, f. 319	U.S. Certificate [deed]	1888 September 22
b. 11, f. 320	Notes and coupons, Grossard	1889 March
b. 2, f. 54	Building estimate sheets	1888-1890
b. 2, f. 55	Checks and receipts (2)	1890
b. 3, f. 56-57	Invoices and statements (37)	1885-1890
b. 3, f. 58	Tax-related papers (18)	1891-1899
b. 3, f. 59	Telegram (1)	1886 March 12
b. 3, f. 60	Taxes, Brule County (38)	1899-1900
b. 3, f. 61-62	Taxes	1896
b. 3, f. 63	Envelopes (3) [empty]	1890s
b. 3, f. 64-69	Miscellaneous papers	1881-1899
b. 3, f. 70	Florida - Papers (7)	1882-1885
	Illinois 1	
b. 4, f. 71-74	Letters, B. L. Pease	1874 January 27-1890 February 17
b. 4, f. 75	Letter, Millers National Insurance	1881 March 4
b. 4, f. 76	Letter, Brown, Riley & Co.	1882 March 21
b. 4, f. 77	Letters, Chicago, Burlington & Quincy RR Co.	1882 March 21- July 26
b. 4, f. 78	Letter, Topliff and Stanwood	1882 June 5
b. 4, f. 79	Letters, Circuit Court of Chicago	1882 July 22, 1885 November 23
b. 4, f. 80	Letter, Superintendent of Public Schools	1884 June 16
b. 4, f. 81	Letter, The Mercantile Agency of Russell & Co.	1884 August 4
b. 4, f. 82	Letters, J. Frank Lawrence	1884 November 8-1886 April 15
b. 4, f. 83	Letters, D. Heenan & Co.	1884 November 12-1899 March 1
b. 4, f. 84	Letters, Mueller, Christy & Ruber	1885 August 2-1886 April 28
b. 4, f. 85	Letter, W. H. Beagle	1885 November 19

b. 4, f. 86	Letter, W. T. Burgess	1884 December 31
b. 4, f. 87	Letter, General Electric Railway Co.	1897 January 2
b. 4, f. 88	Letter, City of Chicago	undated
Illinois 2		
b. 4, f. 89-90	Statements (2)	1883-1887
b. 4, f. 91	Postcards (2)	1884 April 2-1884 April 5
b. 4, f. 92	Tuition bill (1)	1872 November 19
b. 4, f. 93	Envelope to B. L. Pease	undated
b. 4, f. 94	Certificates of Judge's Signatures (6)	1884
b. 4, f. 95	Papers, Chicago Burlington & Quincy RR Co. (20)	1882
b. 4, f. 96	Miscellaneous papers (9)	1873-1886
Iowa 1		
b. 4, f. 97-100	Letters, Citizens' Bank Hampton	1873 March 10-1894 May 9
b. 4, f. 101	Letters, Treasurers' Office	1871 January 13
b. 4, f. 102	Letters, Banking House of Stone & Smith	1872 April 21
b. 4, f. 103	Letter, Iowa Land Company	1872 March 22
b. 4, f. 104	Letter, L. P. Davis	1874 April 9
b. 4, f. 105	Letter, E. F. Fales	1882 January 12
b. 4, f. 106	Letter, Office of Farmers' Protective Association	1882 February 20
b. 4, f. 107	Letter, Amos W. Moorey	1882 April 24
b. 4, f. 108	Letter, B. T. Paul	1882 March 23
b. 4, f. 109	Letter, J. H. Lord	1882 July 7
b. 4, f. 110	Letter, Lexie Goff	1882 August 15
b. 4, f. 111	Letter, J. H. Lord	1882 August 16
b. 4, f. 112	Letter, George Stevens	1882 August 16
b. 4, f. 113	Letter, John and George Gilman	1882 August 16
b. 4, f. 114	Letter, Charles W. Hayes	August 18, 1882
b. 4, f. 115	Letter, George W. Stewart	1882 August 28



b. 4, f. 116	Letters (2), County Treasurer	1883 March 30-1883 May 21
b. 4, f. 117	Letter, Mrs. John L. Peavey	1884 February 18
b. 4, f. 118	Letter, E. A. Tuttle	1884 March
b. 4, f. 119	Letter, Security Loan & Trust Co.	1884 May 19
b. 4, f. 120	Letter, First National Bank, Charles City	1885 January 4
b. 4, f. 121	Letter, M. H. Austin	1886 June 23
b. 4, f. 122	Letter, Eastman & Hollis	1899 October 1
b. 4, f. 123	Letter, Taylor & Evans	1890 April 15
b. 4, f. 124	Letter, W. T. Barker	1900 March 12
Iowa 2		
b. 4, f. 125-127	Receipts, bills and statements (35)	1872-1899
b. 4, f. 128	Envelopes - Deed, Aaron Wall	1884-1886
b. 4, f. 129	Envelopes - Note, Daniel Keenan et al. [empty]	1885 October 20
b. 4, f. 130	Envelopes - Notes, E. H. Watkinson	1894 September 29
b. 4, f. 131	Envelopes - Quit claim deed, James A. Hawks [empty]	1897 November 24
b. 4, f. 132	Envelopes - \$107 due, John Odman [empty]	1888 August 1
b. 4, f. 133	Envelopes - Two notes, Lucy Bell [empty]	1887-1888
b. 4, f. 134	Envelopes - Citizens Bank	1884-1887
b. 4, f. 135	Envelopes - Certificate of deposit [empty]	1887 August 1
b. 4, f. 136	Envelopes - Notes, William F. Daddow [empty]	1892 February 5
b. 4, f. 137	Envelopes - Notes, William F. Daddow [empty]	1888 August 1
b. 4, f. 138	Envelopes - Notes, Anne A. Garland [empty]	1895 October 11
b. 4, f. 139	Envelopes - Notes, M. D. Goodall [empty]	1896 August 10
b. 4, f. 140	Envelopes - Note, Isaiah Hayes [empty]	1876 September 6
b. 4, f. 141	Envelopes - Note, Lorenzo Dow Bates [empty]	1886 April 1
b. 4, f. 142	Envelopes - Alex Inglis [empty]	1890 March 17
b. 4, f. 143	Envelopes - Notes, J. S. Burkhead [empty]	1888 May 3
b. 4, f. 144	Envelopes - Note, Joseph Daddow [empty]	1886 June 4

b. 4, f. 145	Envelopes - Note, Jas M. & Cain B. White [empty]	1886 June 15
b. 4, f. 146-148	Miscellaneous papers	1869-1900
Kansas		
b. 4, f. 149	Letters, Topeka Loan and Investment Company	1884 January 7-1886 May 15
b. 4, f. 150	Letters, A. Prescott & Co. Bankers	1879 September 15-1882 July 26
b. 4, f. 151	Letters, A. H. Grossard & Co.	1880 May 14- December 31
b. 4, f. 152-153	Letters, Central Bank of Kansas	1882-1886
b. 4, f. 154	Letters (2), I. E. Lambert	1882 February 24, April 10
b. 4, f. 155	Letter, Emporia National Bank	1882 April 26
b. 4, f. 156	Letter, Home Loan & Trust Co.	1882 May 24
b. 4, f. 157	Letter, B. Dore	1882 July 27
b. 4, f. 158	Letter, The Davidson Loan Co.	1883 October 19
b. 4, f. 159	Letter, Citizens Bank	1883 November 1
b. 4, f. 160	Letter, Farmers and Drovers Bank	1888 June 19
b. 4, f. 161	Letter, Thomas Osborne	1885 November 11
b. 4, f. 162	Letter, Central Loan & Land Co.	1885 December 28
b. 4, f. 163	Letter, Citizens State Bank	1890 July 18
b. 4, f. 164	Letter, C. S. McLane	1895 June 18
b. 4, f. 165-166	Miscellaneous Papers (43)	1882-1898
b. 4, f. 167	Maine - Papers (16)	1875-1907
b. 4, f. 168	Maryland - Letter (1)	1877
Massachusetts		
b. 4, f. 169-171	Letters	1873 February 21-1886 May 19
b. 5, f. 172	Boston and Maine Railroad treasurer dividends	1882
b. 5, f. 173	Chicago, Burlington and Quincy RR Co.	1881-1882
b. 5, f. 174	C. H. Venner & Company	1885

b. 5, f. 175-176	Boston papers, statements and receipts (78)	1841-1899
	Minnesota	
b. 5, f. 177-179	Letters	1882-1889
b. 5, f. 180	Papers, deeds, invoices (10)	1859-1889
b. 5, f. 181-182	Papers (12) and receipts (10)	1859-1891
b. 6, f. 183-184	Letters	1880-1886
b. 6, f. 185	Papers	1883-1891
b. 6, f. 189-192	Missouri 2 - Papers, statements, receipts, some water/smoke damage (43)	1873-1899
b. 6, f. 193	Missouri 2 - Statements (9)	1885-1897
	Nebraska 1	
b. 7, f. 194	Letter, Samuel Leininger	1880 October 19
b. 7, f. 195	Letter, George Bent	1882 February 15
b. 7, f. 196	Letter, F. D. Johnson	undated
b. 7, f. 197	Letter, Samuel Warren	1882 May 13
b. 7, f. 198	Letter, David Furbush	1882 October 4
b. 7, f. 199	Letter, Lydia Peavey	1884 December 2
b. 7, f. 200	Letter, B. Brown	1885 March 15
b. 7, f. 201	Letter, Daniel Sweeney	1885 July 14
b. 7, f. 202	Letter, Ira Nicholas	1885 July 14
b. 7, f. 203	Letter, M. H. Mean	1885 July 14
b. 7, f. 204	Letter, Samuel Durson	1885 July 28
b. 7, f. 205	Letter, C. N. Walker	1885 August 22
b. 7, f. 206	Letter, Hugh McFadden	1885 December
b. 7, f. 207	Letter, I. M. Polski	1896 May 11
b. 7, f. 208	Letter, E. J. Boblis	1899 February 23
b. 7, f. 209	Letter, W. H. Conger	1885 January 16-1886 March 5
b. 7, f. 210	Letters, Noah H. Roberts	1880 March 24-1881 September 27, undated

b. 7, f. 211	Letter, M. A. Theis	1884 October 6-1885 December 3
b. 7, f. 212	Letters, C. A. Hale	1881 January 18-October 27, undated
b. 7, f. 213	Letters, Newell [C. Newell, A. C. Newell, W. J. Newell]	1882 October 1-1885 December 11
b. 7, f. 214	Letters, Aaron Wall	1885 July 20-1886 April 27
b. 7, f. 215	Letters, Wall & Heath	1882 February 25-July 12
b. 7, f. 216	Letter, D. D. Grow	1882 June 28, August 1
b. 7, f. 217	Letters, W. H. Conger	1884 June 15-1885 December 25
b. 7, f. 218	Letters, J. E. Blackman	1885 February 9, undated
b. 7, f. 219-223	Letters, George Bickford	1882 January 1-1889 April 1
b. 7, f. 224	Unidentified	1880 December 6
Nebraska 2		
b. 7, f. 225	Envelopes - W. H. Conger letter and invoices	1898-1899
b. 7, f. 226	Envelopes - Letters, George Bickford	1883 March
b. 7, f. 227	Envelopes - Letters and statements, George Bickford	1887
b. 7, f. 228	Envelopes - Letters and statements, George Bickford	1888
b. 7, f. 229	Envelopes - Invoices, papers, redemption certificate, George Bickford (33)	1885
b. 7, f. 230	Envelopes - Invoices and papers, George Bickford (70)	1881 June 30- September 30
b. 7, f. 231	Envelopes - Invoices, papers, arbitration receipts, George Bickford (49)	1881 September 30-1882 January 1
b. 7, f. 232	November 2 - Envelopes - Invoices and papers, George Bickford (4)	1888
b. 7, f. 233	Envelopes - Letter (1) and invoices (13), George Bickford	1894
b. 7, f. 234	Envelope - Contact for French wood list	1882

b. 7, f. 235	Envelopes - Letters, John Long (5)	1897-1899
b. 7, f. 236	Envelopes - Nebraska taxes	1899-1900
b. 7, f. 237	Envelopes - Letter (1) and papers (2), George Bickford	1894
b. 7, f. 238	Envelopes - Letters (2) and invoices, George Bickford	1890
b. 7, f. 239	Envelopes - Letter (1) and papers (9), George Bickford	1888
b. 7, f. 240	Envelopes - Papers (7), George Bickford	1884 February 1- May 1
b. 7, f. 241	Envelopes - Papers (6), George Bickford	1891-1893
Nebraska 3		
b. 7, f. 242-245	Opened envelopes (9) Correspondence and legal and financial records including receipts for wages from farm laborers employed by Barker.	1882-1892
b. 8, f. 246-251	Envelopes, sealed (20) [letters, invoices, receipts]	1883-1898
b. 8, f. 252	Invoices (13)	1881-1892
b. 8, f. 253	Empty envelopes	1880-1883
Nebraska 4		
b. 8, f. 254-257	Papers, including taxes, invoices and certificate (109)	1880-1893
b. 8, f. 258	Short notes (48)	1880-1896
b. 8, f. 259-260	Papers including redemption certificates, deeds (29) Includes deeds to land from the United States government and the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Co.	1880-1894
b. 8, f. 261-262	Letters, smoke- and water-damaged (32)	1880-1881
b. 8, f. 263	Papers including tax invoices, statement, and misc. letter	1880-1896
b. 8, f. 264-270	New Hampshire 1 - Miscellaneous NH papers (260) Includes receipt for a portrait by New Hampshire artist Martha A. Hayes Safford.	1868-1899
b. 8, f. 271-275	New Hampshire 1 - Miscellaneous letters (118) [bills and receipts]	1864-1872
b. 9, f. 276-282	New Hampshire 2 - Miscellaneous NH papers (220)	1873-1899
b. 9, f. 283-289	New Hampshire 3 - Miscellaneous NH papers (260)	1882-1898
b. 9, f. 290-296	New Hampshire 4 - Miscellaneous NH papers (222)	1871-1900
b. 9, f. 297	New Hampshire 5 - Letters addressed "Dear Uncle"	1882 March 13-1886 March 12
b. 9, f. 298-299	New Hampshire 5 - NH letters (95)	1873-1898

b. 10, f. 300	New York - Papers (13)	1873-1889
b. 10, f. 301	Ohio - Papers (4)	1886-1894
b. 10, f. 302	Rhode Island - Papers (2)	1885
b. 10, f. 303	Vermont - Papers (1)	1884
b. 10, f. 304	Washington Territory - Papers (5)	1885
b. 10, f. 305-306	Miscellaneous/Unknown - Letters	1874-1886
b. 10, f. 307-310	Miscellaneous/Unknown - Unknown papers (141)	1873-1898
b. 10, f. 311-312	Miscellaneous/Unknown - Papers, smoke damaged	1871-1889
b. 10, f. 313-317	Miscellaneous/Unknown papers - Certificates and papers	1877-1909
b. 11, f. 321	Miscellaneous/Unknown papers - Printed documents	1884-1892
b. 10, f. 318	J. Hands shipping receipt for tin	1831

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Agriculture -- Economic aspects -- West (U.S.)  
-- 19th century  
Bankers -- New Hampshire  
Banks and banking -- United States  
Capitalists and financiers -- United States  
Child labor -- West (U.S.) -- 19th century  
Land speculation -- West (U.S.) -- 19th century  
Mortgage loans -- West (U.S.) -- 19th century  
Mortgages -- West (U.S.) -- 19th century  
Real property -- Dakota Territory  
Real property -- Illinois  
Real property -- Iowa  
Real property -- Kansas  
Real property -- Minnesota  
Real property -- Nebraska

### **Genres / Formats**

Deeds  
Invoices  
Promissory notes  
Tax records

### **Names**

Barker, Hiram

### **Corporate Body**

Farmington Bank (Farmington, N.H.)