

**Art Gallery of Ontario
Musée des beaux-arts de l'Ontario**

E.P. Taylor Library & Archives

**Description & Finding Aid:
Canadian Bookplate Collection
LA.SC020**

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Modified with additional information to File 1-6 by Camille McDayter, 2025

Canadian bookplate collection

Dates of creation:

[18--]-[2000?]

Extent:

179 bookplates

1 leaf of textual records : ill.

Scope and content:

Collection consists of ornamented and illustrated bookplates accumulated by the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) Library and Archives beginning in 1969. In that year, AGO librarian Sybille Pantazzi acquired the first group of items now included in the collection, and added to it in 1975 and 1978. The Library and Archives continues to augment the collection.

The bookplates in the collection were chiefly designed for Canadian book collectors, libraries and associations by Canadian, American and other artists from the 19th century to the present day. The collection includes armorial, presentation and other bookplates and 1 leaflet, and comprises various forms of prints such as engravings, etchings and woodcuts. Most of the bookplates have not been used.

Contains series:

1. 1969 accrual
2. 1975 accrual
3. 1978 accrual
4. Later accruals
5. 2025 accrual

Notes:

Source of title proper:

Title of the collection is based on contents.

Immediate source of acquisition:

The materials constituting the Canadian bookplate collection were acquired in 1969, 1975, 1978 and later by the AGO from various sources.

Arrangement:

Items are arranged within series based on accruals, then alphabetically by artists' surnames, followed by those of unidentified artists.

Language:

In English, Latin, French, Irish, Greek, and Scottish dialect

Restrictions on access:

Open. Access to Special Collections is by appointment only. Please contact the reference desk for more information.

Terms governing use and reproduction / publication:

Various copyright holders. It is the researcher's responsibility to obtain permission to publish any part of the collection.

Associated material:

The Art Gallery of Ontario holds works of art in its permanent collection by artists named in the fonds: William Walker Alexander, Timothy Cole, Ann MacIntosh Duff, Sylvia Hahn, Micah Lexier, Stanley Harrod, Alfred Harold Howard, Julius John Lankes, James Edward Hervey Macdonald, Thoreau Macdonald and Frederick Horsman Varley.

Accruals:

Further accruals are expected.

General note:

Some items have attributions and other information noted on verso.

Provenance access points:

Art Gallery of Ontario. E.P. Taylor Research Library and Archives.

SERIES 1: 1969 ACCRUAL**Dates of creation:**

[189-?]-1949

Extent:

57 bookplates

Scope and content:

Series comprises the 1969 purchase by the AGO of bookplates designed chiefly by Canadian artists between ca. 1890 and 1949. The items were mounted on construction paper, possibly after acquisition.

Bookplates designed by Alexander Scott Carter will also be found in series 3 and 4; by Stanley Harrod in series 3; by A.H. Howard in series 2; and by Leslie Victor Smith in series 3.

Notes:**Source of title proper:**

Title based on administrative notes. (File or item titles consisting of artists' names are chiefly based on inscriptions on the items.)

Arrangement:

Items are contained in three folders: 1969 accrual (A-Z); 1969 accrual (Unidentified artists 1); and 1969 accrual (Unidentified artists 2).

Language:

In English, Latin, French and Greek

Location: box 1

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX-FOLDER
William W. Alexander	1911 1918	4 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by William Walker Alexander (1869–1948) for Sir John Craig Eaton (1918), George T. Pepall, and for his own use (2: 1911).	1-1
Alexander Scott Carter	1915	2 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Alexander Scott Carter (1881–1968) for Sproatt and Rolph Architects and Henry Sproatt.	1-1
Stanley Harrod	1917	8 bookplates	1-1

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX-FOLDER
	[ca. 1920]	File contains bookplates designed by Stanley Harrod (1881–1954) for Morley Ayearst (1917), Wm. Ernest Bolton (2: ca. 1920), J.W. Chester, Vera Manfield (1917), F.W.Perry (1918) and for his own use (2: 1917).	
A.H. Howard	[190-?]	4 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Alfred Harold Howard (1854–1916) for the (Anglican) Diocese of Toronto; Trinity College, Toronto; and Westminster College, Toronto (2).	1-1
Henry Hunter	[19--]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Henry Hunter for Robert Stanley Flinn.	1-1
F.C.S.	[189-?]	9 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by an artist identified as F.C.S. for Joseph-Alcide Chaussé.	1-1
Leslie Victor Smith	1949	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Leslie Victor Smith (1880–1952) for Armand Paul.	1-1
Unidentified artists 1	[189-] [19--]	16 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by unidentified artists (or artists with indecipherable initials) for the Academy of Medicine Library, Toronto; Château de Ramezay Library, Montreal; Church of Our Lady Immaculate, Guelph, Ont. (2); McGill University Library (2); McMaster University Library (2); Royal Military College of Canada; Toronto Public Library (5); University of Toronto Library; and Western University Medical Library.	1-2
Unidentified artists 2	[189-] [19--]	12 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by unidentified artists (or artists with indecipherable initials) for George (Alderman) Bond (reproduction: original, 1845); David Russell Jack; F.W.R. Johnston; John Thomas Lee; Hugh Fraser Mackintosh (2: 1898, 1901); Louis F. Newcomb; Raoul Renault; James Leith Ross; Count R. Visart de Bury (reproduction); Alexander Smith; and G. Sidney Smith.	1-3

SERIES 2: 1975 ACCRUAL**Dates of creation:**

[19--]–1922

Extent:

13 bookplates

1 leaf of textual records : ill.

Scope and content:

Series comprises bookplates transferred from an AGO Library file on Canadian Painters and Etchers in 1975 and other items, and includes bookplates designed by Canadian and American artists between the 1880s and 1922. Series also includes a leaflet designed by J.J. Lankes.

A bookplate designed by James Edward Hervey Macdonald will also be found in series 3.

Notes:*Source of title proper:*

Title taken from administrative notes. (File or item titles consisting of artists' names are chiefly based on inscriptions on the items.)

Arrangement:

Items are contained in one folder: 1975 accrual.

Language:

In English, Latin and French

Location: box 1

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX-FOLDER
Morley J. Ayearst	1918 [19--]	3 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Morley James Ayearst (1899–1983) for Pelham Edgar (1918), James Leith Ross, and for his own use.	1-4
Timothy Cole	[19--?]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Timothy Cole (1852–1931) for Herman Theodore Radin.	1-4
A.H. Howard	1893 [19--]	5 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Alfred Harold Howard for George T. Irving, Harold Clark, Herbert Bruce, Westminster College, Toronto and for his own use (1893).	1-4
J.J. Lankes	1921 1922	2 bookplates 1 leaf of textual records : ill. File contains bookplates designed by Julius John Lankes (1884–1960) for David Edward Hand (1922) and Edee Bartlett Lankes (1921); and a leaflet advertising an exhibition of his woodcuts.	1-4
J.E.H. Macdonald	[1909?]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by James Edward	1-4

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX-FOLDER
		Hervey Macdonald (1873–1932) for the Arts and Letters Club of Toronto.	
J.A.J. Wilcox	[188-?]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by John Angel James Wilcox (b. 1835) for the American Antiquarian Society.	1-4

SERIES 3: 1978 ACCRUAL**Dates of creation:**

[18--]–1947

Extent:

25 bookplates

Scope and content:

Series comprises bookplates added to the AGO collection in 1978, including items designed by Canadian and American artists between (probably) the 1880s and 1947.

Bookplates designed by Thoreau Macdonald and Marjorie Sankey will also be found in series 4.

Notes:*Source of title proper:*

Title taken from administrative note. (File or item titles consisting of artists' names are chiefly based on inscriptions on the items.)

Arrangement:

Items are contained in one folder: 1978 accrual.

Language:

In English and Latin

Location: box 1

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX-FOLDER
Woodruff Aykroyd	[19--]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Woodruff Kerr Aykroyd (1904–1967) for Margery and Donald Tow.	1-5
Alexander Scott Carter	1926 1934	4 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Alexander Scott Carter for the Art Gallery of Toronto, Meurig Lloyd Davies (1934), Sir Joseph Wesley Flavelle (1926) and Vincent and Alice Massey.	1-5
Emily Elliott	[19--]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Emily Louise (Orr)	1-5

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX- FOLDER
		Elliott (1867–1952) for her own use.	
E.D. French	1905	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Edwin Davis French (1851–1906) for Queen's University.	1-5
Stanley Harrod	1916 1919	3 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Stanley Harrod for Holy Trinity Sunday School (1916), Newton MacTavish (1918) and Sir Edmund Walker (1919).	1-5
R. J.	1896	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by an artist identified as R.J. for W. MacDonald MacKay.	1-5
Lyon	[19--?]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by an artist identified as Lyon for the Jarvis family.	1-5
A.N. Macdonald	1915	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Arthur Nelson Macdonald (1866–1940) for William and Cornelia Greening.	1-5
Evan Macdonald	[19--]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Evan Weekes Macdonald (1905–1972) for William G. Colgate.	1-5
J.E.H. Macdonald	[1922?]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by James Edward Hervey Macdonald for Boys & Girls House, Toronto Public Library.	1-5
Thoreau Macdonald	1930 [19--]	3 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Thoreau Macdonald (1901–1989) for W. Lockhart Gordon, the Ontario College of Art (1930) and E.M. Walker.	1-5
M. Sankey	[192-?]	2 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Marjorie Sankey (b. 1891) for Alexander Scott Carter and Roy A. Pryne.	1-5
Leslie Victor Smith	1947	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Leslie Victor Smith for Ethel Greening Pantazzi.	1-5
Ida May Sutherland	[19--]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Ida Margarite Dagmar Sutherland (d. 1944) for Andrew James Bell.	1-5
Unidentified	[19--?]	3 bookplates	1-5

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX- FOLDER
artist(s)		File contains bookplates designed by unidentified artists (or artists with indecipherable initials) for Harry Eastman, Eric Phillips and B.E. (Sir Edmund) Walker.	

SERIES 4: LATER ACCRUALS**Dates of creation:**

[189-?]-[2000?]

Extent:

83 bookplates

Scope and content:

Series comprises bookplates added to the AGO collection after 1978, designed by Canadian and other artists (possibly) between the 1890s and 2000.

Notes:*Source of title proper:*

Title based on content. (File or item titles consisting of artists' names are chiefly based on inscriptions on the items.)

Arrangement:

Items are contained in four folders: Later accruals (A-M); Later accruals (Thoreau Macdonald); Later accruals (L-Z); and Later accruals (Unidentified artists).

Language:

In English, Latin, Irish, French, and Scottish dialect

Location: box 1

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX- FOLDER
Alexander Scott Carter	[195-?] 1960	3 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Alexander Scott Carter for Robert Inkerman Harris (1960) and the Toronto Board of Education (escutcheon: 2).	1-6
Ann MacIntosh Duff	[2000?]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Ann MacIntosh Duff (1925-) entitled Millennium.	1-6
C.D.F.	[19--]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by an artist identified as C.D.F. for Frederick William Gerald FitzGerald	1-6
C.A. Hager	1927	2 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by C.A. Hager for Harold A. Livingston.	1-6

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX- FOLDER
Sylvia Hahn	[194-?]	2 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Sylvia Hahn (1911–2001) for Henry John Cody and for her own use.	1-6
Stanley Harrod	1916 1927	2 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Stanley Harrod for Walter L. Gordon (1916), Sir Edmund Walker (1919) and T.F. McIlwraith (1927).	1-6
A.H. Howard	[19--?]	2 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Alfred Harold Howard for Herbert A. Bruce, and for his own use.	1-6
G.G.L.	[19--?]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by an artist identified as G.G.L. for Geoffrey Stubington.	1-6
A. Lee	1959 1961	3 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Abel Alexander Lee (1918–2010) for Emil Eerme (2: 1959, 1963); and Leida Eerme (1961).	1-6
Jean-Paul Lemieux	[19--?]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Jean-Paul Lemieux (1904–1990) for Paul Gouin.	1-6
Micah Lexier	1996	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Micah Lexier (1960–) for the Art Gallery of Ontario, incorporating the handwriting of AGO director Maxwell Anderson; Morey and Jennifer Chaplick; and AGO librarian Karen McKenzie. Note: Also includes two duplicate bookplates and descriptive label for Lexier's bookplate, added in November, 2025.	1-6
Thoreau Macdonald	[19--]	44 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by Thoreau Macdonald for The Church Home; Vernon O. Clapp (3); East York Boys' & Girls' Library; East York Public Library (2); W. Lockhart Gordon; Hope Holmested; E.R. Hunter (2); Frances Meriwether Hunter; Elizabeth and John Kerr (3); Thomas Roche Lee; Markham Township Public Library; Raymond Peringer; William E. Bigwood Memorial Library; with a set (25) of bookplates printed by the Ryerson Press, enclosed in a glassine wrapper.	1-7
J. Naha	1963	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Johann Naha (1902–1982) for Linda-Triin Eerme.	1-8

FILE OR ITEM TITLE	DATE(S)	DESCRIPTION	BOX- FOLDER
William Rueter	1978	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by William Rueter (1940–) for Larry Pfaff.	1-8
M. Sankey	[192-?]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Marjorie Sankey for Lorne A. Pierce (Queen's University Library).	1-8
H. Seehausen	[19--]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Helmut Seehausen (1913–1999) for Emil Eerme.	1-8
E. Valter	1965	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by E. Valter for Emil Eerme.	1-8
F.H. Varley	[192-?]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Frederick Horsman Varley (1881–1969) for H.L. Rous.	1-8
Leo Wyatt	[19--]	1 bookplate Item is a bookplate designed by Leo Wyatt (1909–1981) for Norman Endicott ("NE"). Attribution from note on verso.	1-8
Unidentified artists	[189-?] [19--]	18 bookplates File contains bookplates designed by unidentified artists (or artists with indecipherable initials) for John Aird; Robert Laird Borden; William Henry Breithaupt; C.H.D Clarke; Frederick W. Cumberland; Charles Trick Currelly; Emil Eerme; Frederick S.L. Ford; Dorothy B. Jamison; Bertha Margaret Jarvis; Frances Rockwell Kent; the Macmillans in Canada; Joseph McCulley; Ontario College of Art Library; George Ridout; the Sibbald Family; Edgar and Louise Stone; and Harry Sutherland.	1-9