Faye George Collection,
1940 - 2020
(MSS-024)

Finding Aid Compiled by
Orson Kingsley
and
Lenora Robinson
Volume: 7.5 linear feet (13 document boxes)

Acquisition: All items in this manuscript group were donated to Bridgewater State University. The bulk of the material was received in the autumn of 2015. A second installment of the collection was received in October of 2016.

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Faye George Collection

Biographical Sketch

Faye George is an acclaimed poet from southeast Massachusetts. She was born in Weymouth, MA in 1933. She published eight poetry collections, six in book form two in chapbook form. These include: *A Wound On Stone* (2001); the lyric verse collection *Back Roads* (2003); *Märchenhaft: Like a Fairy Tale* (2008); the historical sequence, *Voices of King Philip’s War* (2013), dramatizing the 17th century conflict between the English colonists and the Woodland tribes of southern New England, for which she was a recipient of New England Poetry Club’s Sheila Motton Prize; *World of Hard Use* (2015), containing poems of work and workers, showcased on *Poetry Daily*; and her final published work of poetry, *The Ragged Hold of Memory* (2019). Her chapbooks include *Only the Words* (1995) and *Naming the Place: The Weymouth Poems* (1996).


George spent much of her life living in Bridgewater, MA. She has two children, a son and a daughter. Her work has been published under her maiden name, Papageorge, her married name, Hennebury, and her professional name, George. She passed away April 8, 2020 at the age of 86.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of early poetry drafts, manuscripts and publications of Faye George’s poetry and information about her early, pre-published life and career. Her correspondence with editors, publishers and publications, mentors and other poets and admirers includes received correspondence and copies of her sent correspondence, documenting both parties. Of note is Series 2, which includes personal letters from previous United States Poet Laureate Daniel Hoffman. There are also newspaper clippings, postcards and flyers relating to publication releases and live poetry readings by George.

The box and folder list for Series 1: Publications, lists each individual poem written by George, along with page number, after the title of every periodical and anthology in the collection that contains her work. Series 4 had significant additions in later donations and new material has been placed at the end of initial folder group. Oversized items are located in flat-file drawers.

Related collections and material includes the Conrad Aiken Collection (a former United States Poet Laureate), and the anthologies *In the West of Ireland: A Literary Celebration in Contemporary Poetry* (1992) and *Anthology of Magazine Verse and Yearbook of American Poetry* (1980), both of which contain examples of her poetry, and Winston F. Bolton’s books *What the Air Might Say* and *Among Ruins*, both of which George helped to edit.
Series Descriptions:

  - **Sub-series 1:** Books/Chapbooks by Faye George, 1995-2019
  - **Sub-series 2:** Periodicals Containing Poems by Faye George, 1951, 1968, 1978-2018
  - **Sub-series 3:** Anthologies Containing Poems by Faye George, 1990-2016

  Series 1 contains nearly the entire canon of publications containing poetry of Faye George. The series is split into 3 sub-series based on publication type.

- **Series 2: Correspondence with Mentors and Other Poets, 1977-2019**
  - **Sub-series 1:** Daniel Hoffman, 1987-2013

  Daniel Hoffman corresponded with Faye George from 1987, after a poetry reading he gave at Bridgewater State College, until 2012, a few months prior to his death. Hoffman was born in New York City in 1923. He graduated from Columbia University (B.A. 1947, M.A. 1949) with a Ph.D. in 1956 and was a finalist for the National Book Award in 1985, a past Poet Laureate for The Poetry and Literature Center at the Library of Congress (also known as the United States Poet Laureate) from 1973-1974 and a Felix E. Schelling Professor of English Emeritus at the University of Pennsylvania.

  - **Sub-series 2:** Richard Dey, 1995-2019

  Richard Dey and Faye George began corresponding in the mid-1990’s, sharing poems, critiques and general luck or failure with publishing. Dey studied at Harvard College, where he graduated in 1973 after working as the poetry editor of *The Harvard Advocate*. He is an American poet and has written on New England and the West Indies. He has been published in *Poetry, Harvard Magazine*, and numerous other publications.

  - **Sub-series 3:** Robert Bly and Others, 1977-2016

  Faye George wrote Robert Bly, with responses, several times between 1983 and 2008 sharing poems and essays, request for a book quote and comments and photographs about Bly’s poetry reading at Dean Jr. College, Franklin, MA in 1990.

 Philip Tabakow, friend and colleague of Faye George, worked at Bridgewater State University for ten years before becoming Associate Professor of English at American University in Dubai. He wrote a review of *A Wound on Stone*.

 Kathleen McCann, friend and colleague of Faye George, was born in Weymouth, MA. She earned an MFA from Washington University. Her poetry work has been
included in former US Poet Laureate Ted Kooser’s syndicated column, “American Life in Poetry”.

Winston F. Bolton, friend and colleague of Faye George, was born in Duxbury, MA. He was a long-time technical writer and editor. He published two works of poetry that George helped edit. According to George, he has “been my primary critic, editor, mentor, and cherished friend.” Bolton passed away on April 13, 2020, only five days after George.

- **Series 3: Correspondence with Publishers, Editors, Reviewers, Poetry Reading Coordinators, etc., 1951-2015**
  (4 binders/boxes, arranged by donor in scrapbook format)

  Series 3 includes documents pertaining to publishing individual poems and manuscripts, correspondence from publishers with acceptances and rejections; follow-ups and forwarding (to other publishers) suggestions. Correspondence with fellow poets, authors and mentors; critiquing of poems and manuscripts; requesting reviews or book cover quotes. This also includes newspaper articles on George’s publishing and reading events, and flyers advertising upcoming poetry readings at libraries and book stores.

- **Series 4: Manuscripts: Originals, Revisions, Notes and Journals, Galley Proofs, 1977-2015**

  Series 4 includes manuscript drafts and revisions (including a version of *Voices of King Philip’s War* sent to Daniel Hoffman with suggested edits returned), galley proofs (finalized) for publication in journals and magazines, notebooks taken on trips with notes for future poems, notebooks of inspirational thoughts and poem drafts; all representing aspects of the poetry writing process of revising and finalizing. The series includes both published and unpublished work.

- **Series 5: Miscellaneous, including Audio/Video and Oversize, 1932, 1950-2020**

  Series 5 includes George’s first childhood books of poetry, early career writings and political activity, scholarship and fellowship applications, and recordings of interviews and poetry readings. The final folder contains her and Bolton’s obituaries.
Faye George Collection
Box and Folder List

Series 1: Publications
Sub-series 1: Books/Chapbooks by Faye George, 1995-2015

Box 1
Folder
1. Only the Words, 1995
2. Naming the Place: The Weymouth Poems, 1996
3. A Wound on Stone, 2001
5. Märchenhaft: Like a Fairy Tale, 2008
6. Voices of King Philip’s War, 2013
7. World of Hard Use, 2015
8. The Ragged Hold of Memory, 2019


9a. Reflector (Weymouth High School, listed under the name Faye Papageorge), Spring Issue, 1951
   • Spring – p. 5
   • Reflections of a Senior – p. 30
   a. A Place in the Woods – p. 127
   b. Apostolate – p. 151
    a. Quixotic – p. 8
    a. Poems – p. 2
    b. The Jacket – p. 4
    c. Amaretto di Saronno – p. 16
12. Yankee, May, 1979
    a. Welcome To This House – p. 208
    a. Hunting – p. 8-9
    a. Norfolk to Boston – p. 3
    b. The Moon Is In The Eastern Sky – p. 20
    a. Bats (Second Prize) – p. 4
    a. Fotini (Category #1 – Memorial Award, First Place) – p. 12
    b. Mermaids Do Not Sing (Category #6 – Romantic, Second Place) – p. 32
    a. Tidal Marsh, North River – p. 35
   a. When You Were a Child – p. 3
19. *Yankee*, November 1989
   a. Stubble and Husks – p. 154
   a. Falling Into the Haystack – p. 58
   b. Why the Goose Went Back – p. 59
   a. Kore – p. 212
   a. Birthday – p. 62
   b. Blood Moon – p. 63
   a. Witch – p. 12
   b. A Cry of Bells – p. 13
   a. Like Anne Shirley’s House – p. 213
   b. No One Plays the Piano – p. 214
   a. A Designer Poem – p. 27
26. *Yankee*, April 1993
   a. Backroads – p. 136
27. *Yankee*, October 1993
   a. Indian Summer – p. 44
   a. Daphne – p. 88
   a. Journal Entry (July 28, 1972) – p. 27
30. *Interim*, Vol. 12, No. 2, Fall/Winter 1993
   a. Six Times Stronger Than Steel – p. 6
   a. A Scoured Bowl (for Gwen) – p. 58
   a. Only the Words – p. 163
33. *Yankee*, July 1996
   a. Invitation – p. 26
   a. What She Looked Out Upon – p. 268
   a. The Sudden Tug of the Familiar – p. 148
   a. Plum – p. 35
   b. Night Place – p. 36
   a. My Father’s People – p. 271
38. Yankee, October 1997
   a. Tenant at Will – p. 28
   a. At This Point in Time – p. 216
   a. Breakfast at Sarni’s – p. 17
   b. Back River – p. 18
41. The Amicus Journal, Vol. 20, No.3, Fall 1998
   a. Shagbark – p. 39
42. The Amicus Journal, Vol. 20, No. 4, Winter 1999
   a. Wilderness – p. 9
43. The Onset Review, Vol. 3, No. 2, 1999
   a. The Long Train – p. 3
44. Visions International, No. 61, 1999
   a. Hammersmith Farm (Newport, September 5, 1983)
45. Poetry, Vol. 176, No. 1, April 2000
   a. The Charioteer – p. 23
   a. I Wake at Night – p. 288
   b. The Call – p. 288
   c. The Bathtub, the John, and the Sink – p. 289
   a. A Diner Closed – p. 45
   a. Free Range – p. 217
   b. Vitae – p. 218
49. Poetry, Vol. 180, No. 5, August 2002
   a. Review of A Wound on Stone by Phil Tabakow – p. 31
   a. Review of A Wound on Stone by Margaret Szumowski – p. 113
   a. Kramer’s Farm – p. 15
   a. This Thing Called Poem – p. 379
54. Ibbetson Street, Issue 13, 2002-2003
   a. Like an Insult – p. 25
55. Ibbetson Street, Issue 14, 2003
   a. Chickens – p. 16
   a. Rio – p. 49
57. South American Explorer, Vol. 80, Fall/Winter 2006
   a. On Reading Neruda – p. 53
   a. Wolf – p. 12
   a. The Beast That Cannot Learn – p. 58
   b. Good Morning, America – p. 59
   c. When I See What They Did – p. 60
   a. Bring Back the Stars – p. 24
61. *Ars Medica: A Journal of Medicine, the Arts, and Humanities*, Vol. 4, No. 2, Spring 2008
   a. Centre of Dread – p. 91
   a. The Herring Run – p. 19
   a. Nasturtiums – p. 4
   b. The Light on the Adirondack Chair – p. 5
   c. Places One Goes – p. 6
64. *Edwin E. Smith’s Quarterly Magazine*, Spring 2013
   a. Afterlife – p. 30
   b. Vehicle of Small Failures – p. 31
   c. The Ragged Hole of Memory – p. 32
   d. Interior – p. 33
   e. Highway – p. 34
   f. Autumn Garden – p. 35
   g. The While We Live – p. 36
65. *The Stories We Tell: Poems Inspired by the Exhibition* (Fuller Craft Museum & Brockton Arts), 2014
   a. Objet d’Art: Hydroplaning – p. 19
   a. Wooden Girl – p. 31
   a. The Patient – p. 1
   b. Elegy for Thalia, 1931-1999 – p. 1
   c. Saturday Morning – p. 2

**Sub-series 3: Anthologies Containing Poems by Faye George, 1990-2010**

**Box 2**
  - The Charioteer – p. 468
- *John Trumball: An Anthology in Memoriam (1756-1843)*, 1993
  - Memorandum – p. 62
- *80 on the 80’s: A Decade’s History in Verse*, 1990
  - Death in the Family – p. 66
  - Shagbark – p. 48
  - Wilderness – p. 49
• *Love Over 60: An Anthology of Women’s Poems*, 2010
  - Lares and Penates – p. 45
  - Kore – p. 121
  - The Call – p. 122
  - Fortini – p. 123
• *The Four Way Reader: Poetry/Fiction/Memoir*, No. 2, 2001
  - Amtrak – p. 188
  - The Moon Is in the Eastern Sky – p. 188
  - Norfolk to Boston – p. 189
  - Rain – p. 190
  - Welcome to this House – p. 191
  - What She Looked Out Upon – p. 191
• *Poetry To Make You Smile*, 2005
  - Like Anne Shirley’s House – p. 127

**Box 3**

• *City Lights: An Anthology of Poetry and Art*, 2009
  - The Necessity of the Bold Bleak Peaks of the Marketplace – p. 30
• *Unitarian Universalist Poets: A Contemporary American Survey*, 1999
  - Paul Took the Road to Corinth – p. 82
• *Body & Soul: Narratives of Healing from Ars Medica*, 2012
  - Centre of Dread – p. 34
• *Prayers to Protest: Poems that Center & Bless Us*, 1998
  - What If In the Beginning – p. 111
• *Orpheus & Company: Contemporary Poems on Greek Mythology* (contains a number of signatures of other poets), 1999
  - Kore – p. 152
  - Daphne – p. 189
  - The Sudden Tug of the Familiar – p. 410
• *Brilliance, Spilling: Twenty Years of Perugia Press Poetry*, 2016
  - Kore – p. 5

**Series 2: Correspondence with Mentors and Poets, 1977-2015**
(All correspondence with Faye George unless otherwise noted.)

**Sub-series 1: Daniel Hoffman, 1987-2013**

**Box 4**

**Folder**
4. Peter Potter and Donna Bradford from Wesleyan University Press and Daniel Hoffman correspondence about *A Wound on Stone* manuscript, 1988, 1992
6. Professor Van Brock correspondence (as suggested by Daniel Hoffman), University of Florida, Anhinga Press Competition, 1992
7. Daniel Hoffman correspondence about self-publishing, 1994
11. Daniel Hoffman correspondence about the publication of *Märchenhaft*, 2008
12. Daniel Hoffman correspondence about *Voices of King Philip’s War* manuscript, 2010-2011
13. Daniel Hoffman correspondence about moving, the publishing of *Voices of King Philip’s War*, illness, 2011-2012

**Sub-series 2: Richard Dey, 1995-2019**

**Box 5**

**Folder**

1. Richard Dey correspondence about poems, publishing and readings, 1995
2. Richard Dey correspondence critique of *Only the Words* chapbook, 1995
3. Richard Dey correspondence about publications and editing process, 1997
5. Richard Dey correspondence *The Books Beneath John Harvard’s Chair* (Dey), 1998
6. Richard Dey correspondence about Ragdale Fellowship recommendation, 1998
7. Richard Dey correspondence about reading at Blackthorn and Ragdale Fellowship, 1998
8. Richard Dey correspondence about poetry, publishing and Ragdale, 1998
10. Richard Dey correspondence about readings and poetry critiques, 1999
11. Richard Dey correspondence poetry exchange/critiques and postponed lunch meeting, 1999
12. Richard Dey correspondence poetry critiques, readings and Philip Tabakow, 1999
15. Richard Dey correspondence and poem, 2000
16. Richard Dey correspondence suggested edits of Dey’s poem *At Matinicus*, 2001
17. Richard Dey correspondence about *A Wound on Stone* and readings, 2001-2002
18. Richard Dey correspondence submitting poems for publication and contests, readings (including Lawrence Ferlinghetti and Donald Hall), 2003-2009
22. Richard Dey correspondence and poetry edits, 2016-2019

**Sub-series 3: Robert Bly and Others, 1977-2016**

**Folder**

25. Robert Bly correspondence about essay *The “Momentary God”* (included) and request for suggestions on another, 1985-1986
26. Robert Bly correspondence about reading at Dean Jr. College, Franklin, MA and photographs (with envelope), 1990
27. Robert Bly correspondence George requesting “blurb” for publication *Märchenhaft*, 2008
28. Philip Tabakow *To a Poet Friend on Her 80th Birthday*, 2013
29. Winston Bolton correspondence to Faye George, 1977
30. Kathleen McCann poems, undated
31. Kathleen McCann correspondence to Faye George, undated
32. Kathleen McCann correspondence from Faye George, 1990-1993
33. Pam Blevins e-mail correspondence with Faye George, 2016
34. Orson Kingsley correspondence from Faye George with explanation of the lack of Winston F. Bolton representation in her collection, 2016

**Series 3: Correspondence with Publishers, Editors, Reviewers, Poetry Reading Coordinators, etc., 1951-2015**

**Box 6**

Binder 1: 1951-2004, bulk 1980’s

Topics: Poetry reading and book signing flyers and announcements, newspaper articles, employment and retirement (Bridgewater State University), critiques, thank you cards and letters, anthology publishers requesting reprint rights, scholarships and poetry awards (including Arizona State Poetry Society, Ellen M. Shea Memorial Scholarship and Gretchen Warren Award), Bridgewater Cultural Council grant.


Publishing: *A World of Hard Use, Voices of King Philip’s War, Märchenhaft: Like a Fairy Tale, A Wound on Stone.*
Box 7
Binder 2: 1967-2003, bulk 1990’s

Topics: Anthology publishers requesting reprint rights, publishing acceptance, Bridgewater Cultural Council grant reprint request, requests for book reviews and back cover quotes, release of copyright and reprint permissions, thank you cards and letters.

Correspondence: John Williams Andrews (Poet Lore), Jean Burden and Ann Duffy (Yankee), Alan Pater (Monitor Book Company, Inc.), Elizabeth Millar (South Shore Magazine), Scott Withiam (The Onset Review), David Citino (The Journal), Stephen Meats (The Midwest Quarterly), Joseph Parisi and Helen Loathrop Klaviter (Poetry), Neal Bowers (Iowa State University, Poet & Critic and guest editor at Poetry), Diane Boller (Poetry Daily), John Black (The Carolina Quarterly), Jon Curley and Richard Howard (The Paris Review), A. Wilber Stevens (Interim).


Box 8

Topics: Publishing acceptances and rejections, anthology publishers requesting reprint rights, requests for reviews and back cover quotes, newspaper articles, thank you cards and letters, photographs.


Publishing: A Wound on Stone.

Box 9
Binder 4: 1995-2014, bulk 2000’s

Topics: Publications, newspaper articles, reviews and commentaries, poetry reading announcements, requests for reviews and back cover quotes, copyright registration, thank you cards and letters.

Correspondence: Susan Kan (Perugia Press), Edward Lodi (Rock Village Publishing), J. R. Greene, Diana Der-Hovanessian, Robert Johnson, John Burt (Brandeis University, Department of English), Jeffrey Leving (Tupelo Press), Karen Braziller (Persea Books), Ifeanyi Menkiti, Manataka American Indian Council, Richard Pickering (Plimouth Plantation), Kevin Walzer
(WorldTech Communications), Scott Withiam (*The Onset Review*), Philip Levine, Barbara Helfgott Hyett (*PoemWorks*).

Publications: *A Wound on Stone, Back Roads, Märchenhaft: Like a Fairy Tale, Voices of King Philip’s War, World of Hard Use, Naming the Place: The Weymouth Poems*.

**Series 4: Manuscripts: Originals, Revisions, Notes and Journals, Galley Proofs, 1977-2015**

**Box 10**

**Folder**

1. *Voices of King Philip’s War* portrait of Metacom (King Philip) signed by Stephen F. Smalley (the artist) with digital copy, 2012
2. *Voices of King Philip’s War* early reworked draft, 2011
3. *Voices of King Philip’s War* early draft sent to Daniel Hoffman, 2011
5. *Märchenhaft* rough draft 2, 2008
7. *A Wound on Stone* page proofs and cover art, 2001
8. *A Wound on Stone* final page proofs, 2001
9. *Naming the Place* chapbook manuscript and documentation, 1996
10. *Naming the Place* chapbook manuscript, 1996
12. Faye George poems beginning with “A”
13. Faye George poems beginning with “B”
14. Faye George poems beginning with “C”
15. Faye George poems beginning with “D”
16. Faye George poems beginning with “E”
17. Faye George poems beginning with “F”
18. Faye George poems beginning with “G”
19. Faye George poems beginning with “H”
20. Faye George poems beginning with “I”
21. Faye George poems beginning with “J”
22. Faye George poems beginning with “K”
23. Faye George poems beginning with “L”
24. Faye George poems beginning with “M”
25. Faye George poems beginning with “N”
26. Faye George poems beginning with “O”
27. Faye George poems beginning with “P”
28. Faye George poems beginning with “Q”
29. Faye George poems beginning with “R”
30. Faye George poems beginning with “Sa-Sh”
31. Faye George poems beginning with “Si-So”
32. Faye George poems beginning with “Sp-Su”
33. Faye George poems beginning with “T”
34. Faye George poems beginning with “W”
35. Faye George poems beginning with “Y”
36. Unidentified poems
37. *Voices of King Philip’s War* ready to print revision, 2013
38. *World of Hard Use*, background research of mills, 2007
39. *World of Hard Use*, manuscript, undated
41. *World of Hard Use*, later revision, 2014
42. *World of Hard Use*, early draft manuscript, undated

**Box 11**

**Folder**
1. Inspiration journal and poetry drafts, 1977
2. Inspiration journal and poetry drafts, 1978
3. Inspiration journal and poetry drafts, 1978-1979
4. Inspiration journal and poetry drafts, 1980
5. Inspiration journal and poetry drafts, 1980
6. Inspiration journal and poetry drafts, 1982
7. Inspiration journal and poetry drafts, 1982
8. Inspiration journal and poetry drafts, 1985-1987
10. Inspiration journal and poetry drafts, 1994-1998
11. Inspiration journal and poetry drafts, 2002
12. Inspiration journal and poetry drafts, 2015
13. Inspiration journal and poetry drafts, 2015
20. Early inspirations for *Voices of King Philip’s War* 1960’s, 1976, undated

**Series 5: Miscellaneous, including Audio/Video and Oversize, 1932, 1950-2015**

**Box 12**

**Folder**
1. Childhood poetry books, one collection by Robert Lewis Stevenson, 1932, undated
2. Early poetry, grade school through high school, 1940-1951
4. Bunting Institute of Radcliffe College Fellowship application, 1995
5. Ragdale Foundation Fellowship application, 1998
6. Faye George and Winston Bolton poetry reading for cable TV, 1992
7. Faye George interview/poetry reading *Around the Harbor* – Weymouth (VHS), 1996
10. *We the People* with Faye George interview, Easton, MA cable TV, 2014
11. *Voices of King Philip’s War* reading by Faye George, four DVDs, Tufts Public Library, West Bridgewater Public Library, Bristol Community College, Lakeville Library, undated, 2014

**Box 13**

**Folder**
1. Early career, classified ads, 1960-1962, undated
2. Early career, radio announcements, 1953-1955
3. Early career, College-Town, 1973-1974
5. Unity newsletter, Quincy Germantown service, editor, 1977
7. Obituaries for Faye George and Winston F. Bolton, April 2020

**Oversize Items**
- 2 identical documents for honorable mention awards to Faye Papageorge for the best poem in “The Reflector” (Weymouth High School publication), 1950
- Original pen and ink drawing for the cover of *Naming the Place*, undated
- *Naming the Place*, early proof copy, undated
- *Naming the Place*, later proof copy, undated