

Karl Barth Society of North America Records,  
1960-2005 (bulk: 1972-2003): Finding Aid

**Summary Information:**

Creator: Karl Barth Society of North America

Title and dates: Karl Barth Society of North America Records, 1960-2005 (bulk: 1972-2003)

Abstract: In the early 1970s, a group of Canadian and American scholars of Karl Barth, inspired by his son Markus Barth, founded the Karl Barth Society of North America to promote the study of Karl Barth through conferences and the establishment of a center for Barth research. This collection contains both the formal records of the organization as well as less formal materials, including documentation of conferences and Barth-related items collected by members.

Call number: 250 Luce

Location:  
Princeton Theological Seminary Libraries  
Special Collections  
Mercer St. and Library Place  
P.O. Box 111  
Princeton, NJ 08542-0111

Size: 8.3 l.f. (2 boxes)

Language(s) of material: English

**History of the Karl Barth Society of North America:**

Karl Barth, often called the most influential theologian of the twentieth century, died in 1968. Several years later, a group of theological scholars in the United States and Canada, inspired by theologian Markus Barth, created the Karl Barth Society of North America (KBSNA) to promote the study of Karl Barth's thought. This was to be done in two ways: organizing periodic conferences on topics related to Barth's theology, and establishing a research collection of Barth's writings and works about him.

Although the society lapsed into inactivity from about 1985 to 1989, the executive board and the membership have dutifully fulfilled these goals, by organizing regular conferences on a host of subjects of interest to Barth scholars, and by establishing the

Center for Barth Studies at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1997. The society continues to organize conferences and provide support to the Center.

**Description:**

The Karl Barth Society of North America Records document the activities and interests of that society as it sought to promote the study of theologian Karl Barth and his thought. This collection contains both the formal records of the organization (the constitution, minutes, newsletters, proposals, official correspondence, and papers submitted for conferences) as well as less formal material (conference advertising, two snapshots of Barth, casual correspondence, and Barth-related material from outside the society and its membership).

**Arrangement:**

General record files are arranged chronologically (in box 1), and are followed by other materials (in box 2) arranged alphabetically. Documents within folders are arranged in reverse chronological order, except where noted.

**Access and Use:**

There are no restrictions on these records; they are all open for research. Single photocopies can be made for research purposes. Permission to publish materials from these records must be requested from the archivist; researchers are responsible for determining any other copyright questions.

**Acquisition:**

This collection was gifted to Special Collections, Princeton Theological Seminary Libraries, in January 2006 by Philip Ziegler. Its accession number is 2006.2. Periodic gifts of newer records of the Karl Barth Society of North America are expected indefinitely.

**Related Materials:**

See the holdings of the Center for Barth Studies at Special Collections, Princeton Theological Seminary Libraries.

**Processing Information:**

Processed by Matthew Reeder, November 2006; finding aid written by Matthew Reeder, November 2006.

**Folder List:**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date range</b>
1	1	General	1971-1973
	2	General	1974-1979
	3	General	1980-1990
	4	General	1991-1994
	5	General	1995-2003
2	1	Audiotape of question hour with Karl Barth at Beinenberg	1967
	2	Constitution	1974
	3	Newsletter	1978-2005
	4	Photographs and postcards of Barth	1960, [circa 2000]
	5	Unpublished lectures and papers on Barth, A-Z	1975-1997