



The New York Public Library  
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture,  
Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division

Guide to the

**Earl L. Baker papers**

1947-1992

Sc MG 700

## Summary

**Creator:** Baker, Earl L., 1929-

**Title:** Earl L. Baker papers

**Date:** 1947-1992

**Size:** 2.0 linear feet (2 boxes)

**Source:** Gift of the Columbia Presbyterian Hospital Volunteers Program, September 2001.

**Abstract:** Earl L. Baker was a composer, musician, singer, writer, and orchestral librarian. The Earl L. Baker papers consists of 2 screenplays, Artabanus and Totivo, original manuscript musical scores composed by Baker and others; and research material on the West, focusing on Buffalo Soldiers and Black Indians.

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**Language of the Material:** English

**Processing note:** Accessioned by Nurah-Rosalie Jeter, January 2002.

## Creator History

Earl L. Baker was born on the Arapahoe Indian Reservation in Denver, Colorado, on December 3, 1929. From 1958-1960, Baker worked as an orchestral librarian at the Music Library of New York Public Library, and from 1964-1979, he made guest appearances, as a singer, with the New York City and Metropolitan Operas. Baker was also a member of the Harry Belafonte vocal group and the vocal contractor and coordinator for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre. He held the same position for the 1975 production of Scott Joplin's *Treemonisha*, and the 1975 Tony award winning production of Ira Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, on Broadway as well as the 1991 Japanese tour.

Baker actively collected research materials on Black Indians and their role in the U.S. military service dating to the Independence and Civil Wars. This passion culminated in two screenplays. Baker also composed music and wrote musicals, among them, *The Other Wise Man*.

## Scope and Content Note

The Earl L. Baker papers consists of 2 screenplays, *Artabanus* and *Totivo*, original manuscript musical scores composed by Baker, Antonio Carlos Gomes, and others; and research material on the West, focusing on Buffalo Soldiers and Black Indians.

**Arrangement:** Arranged into 3 series: (1) Screenplays; (2) Music; and (3) Old West research material.

## Key Terms

### Subjects

African American composers

African American musicians

African American soldiers -- West (U.S.) -- History -- 19th century

Indians of North America -- Wars -- 1866-1895

Music librarians -- United States

### Occupations

African American singers

Authors, Black

### Names

Baker, Earl L., 1929-

Baker, Earl L., 1929- -- *Artabanus*

Baker, Earl L., 1929- -- *Totivo*

## Container List

### Screenplays

- b. 1 f. 1-3 *Artabanus 1A-1C*
- b. 1 f. 4-5 "Artabanus: The Magus, a Holiday Fantasy" drafts  
Adapted from the novel *The Story of the Other Wiseman*.
- b. 1 f. 6 *The Other Wiseman* copyright research
- b. 1 f. 7-8 *Totivo*  
Two copies, one of which is a reference copy.

### Music

- b. 1 f. 9-12 Baker, Earl L  
Includes compositions and lyrics.
- b. 1 f. 13 Various composers and lyricists
- b. 1 f. 14 Freeman, H. Lawrence. "Voodoo" (Act III only)  
Gomes, Antonio Carlos
- b. 1 f. 15 "Fosca"
- b. 1 f. 16 "Maria Tudor"
- b. 1 f. 17 "Los Schiavo"
- b. 1 f. 18 "Salvator Rosa"  
Includes commemorative journal.

### Old West research material 1834-1994

Arranged alphabetically.

- b. 2 f. 1 Research file 1993-1994
- b. 2 f. 2 Arizona and the West, "Scandal in the Tenth-Fort Sill" 1874
- b. 2 f. 3 Arizona highways
- b. 2 f. 4 Article, "Stamp of the Buffalo Soldiers"
- b. 2 f. 5 Buffalo soldiers
- b. 2 f. 6 Bulletin of the Texas Archeological and Paleontological Society, "The Culture of the Comanches"
- b. 2 f. 7-8 *Chronicles of Oklahoma, selected articles* 1921-1971
- b. 2 f. 9 Fiction
- b. 2 f. 10-12 Henry O. Flipper, 2nd Lieutenant 10th Regiment U.S. Cavalry

### Magazines

- b. 2 f. 13 *Early History of San Angelo*
- b. 2 f. 14 *Fort Davis*
- b. 2 f. 16 *Fort Concho and the South Plains Journal*
- b. 2 f. 17 *Fort Concho, Its Way and Wherefore*
- b. 2 f. 18 *Fort Concho Medical History*
- b. 2 f. 19 *Fort Concho, National Historical Landmark*
- b. 2 f. 20 *Fort Concho, the Uses of Yesterday*
- b. 2 f. 21 *Oklahoma Today*
- b. 2 f. 22 *Frontier Times, selected articles* 1925-1944

Old West research material (cont.)

- b. 2 f. 23 *The Hispanic American Historical Review*, "The Seminole and Negro in Mexico" 1850-1861
- b. 2 f. 24 Holland's "Buffalo Days: A Rendezvous with Death"
- b. 2 f. 25 House of Representatives, 38th Congress, 1st Session, "Fort Pillow Massacre"
- b. 2 f. 26 *The Journal of Negro History*, "The Role of Negro Soldiers in Protecting the Indian Territory from Intruders"
- b. 2 f. 27-28 *Journal of the West*, "The Negro Soldiers on the Frontier: A Fort Davis Case Study" 1968 April
- b. 2 f. 29 *Kansas Historical Quarterly*, "Diary of a Dodge City Buffalo Hunter"  
*The Panhandle Plains Historical Review*
- b. 2 f. 30 "Plain Names"
- b. 2 f. 31 "Indian Raids on the South Plains"
- b. 2 f. 32 "The Indian Campaign on the Staked Plains" 1874-1875
- b. 2 f. 33 Various articles
- b. 2 f. 34 Pearson's "The Battle of Adobe Walls"  
*The Southwestern Historical Quarterly*
- b. 2 f. 35 "Negroes and Indians on the Texas Frontier" 1834-1874
- b. 2 f. 36 1934-1941
- b. 2 f. 37 General Ronald Slidell Mackenzie and the destruction of Buffalo Southwest
- b. 2 f. 38 "The Seminole-Negro Indian Scouts"
- b. 2 f. 39 10th Calvary (Black regiment) standards
- b. 2 f. 40 *Texas Highways*, "Buffalo Soldiers"
- b. 2 f. 41 *Texas Western Frontier* (pages 30-39) 1850-1890
- b. 2 f. 42 "Development of the Cotton Stripper" and "Fort Concho in 1877" 1959-1974  
West Texas Historical Association Yearbook
- b. 2 f. 43 Selected articles
- b. 2 f. 44 1953-1973
- b. 2 f. 45 1925-1945
- b. 2 f. 46 1934-1992
- b. 2 f. 47 "Engagements with Hostile Indians in Texas, 1868-1882" 1933 October
- b. 2 f. 48 "Discipline and Turmoil in the Tenth U.S. Calvary" 1982