Joan Bodger Fonds

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Biographical sketch: Joan Agnes Higbee was born August 31, 1923 in Oakland, California, the daughter of Joan Amphlette Corfield of Cardiff and an American naval officer, Frank David Higbee. The two met in Cardiff during World War I, and subsequently moved to Los Angeles, where Frank Higbee served in the Coast Guard and later at the Port Authority. Joan was the middle of three daughters, between Anne Elizabeth Higbee (1921-1990) and Joyce Hubert Higbee (1926-1988). The family lived in Los Angeles and Joan attended Pomona College. She interrupted her studies to join the WAC where she served as a cryptographer at the Pentagon. In 1947 she married historian John Bodger and finished her degree. Her son, Ian Corfield Bodger, was born in 1950 and her daughter, Lucy Stanton Bodger was born in 1956. The family spent an extended holiday in England traveling to the sites of English stories and fairy tales; this trip became the basis of How the Heather Looks, published in 1965 and reissued in 1999. In 1963 Lucy died of a brain tumour and John Bodger’s schizophrenia became pronounced. They divorced in 1966. Ian Bodger, also a schizophrenic, disappeared in the early 1970’s and was found in 1985. He lives near his father in Maine.

Joan Bodger was involved in the Head Start project in Nyack, New York while her children were young, and taught children’s literature at the Bank Street College of Education in New York. She also worked at the nursery school at the St. Agnes Institution, a home for unwanted and orphaned children. In all these positions, storytelling was used as a means of teaching and healing. In 1969 she was hired by the State Library of Missouri as Director of Children’s Services but was fired in the same year for defending the right of students to publish controversial material in their newspaper. She was subsequently cleared by the American Library Association Freedom Committee. This position was followed by a stint at Random House as an editor. In 1970 she traveled to Toronto to do research at the Osborne Collection and met Alan Mercer, a photographer and writer. Joan moved to Toronto as director of Mini-Skools day care centres, a position she held throughout the 1970’s. She married Alan Mercer in 1971 and lived in downtown Toronto until Alan’s death in 1985. Following their marriage Joan Bodger took a three-year course at the Gestalt Institute of Toronto and became a psychotherapist, combining therapy and storytelling. She worked with the Children’s Aid Society and others, as well as running a private practice. From 1988 to 1998 she ran yearly tours to Britain, “A Winter’s Journey to King Arthur’s Britain”.

Joan Bodger’s publications include many articles in journals and magazines. Her books for children include Belinda’s Ball (Oxford, 1981) and Clever-Lazy, the girl who reinvented herself (1979, reissued without the subtitle in 1997). The Forest Family was published in 1999. In 2000 she published her autobiography, The Crack in the Teacup. In 2000 she was diagnosed with cancer and moved to the west coast of Vancouver Island to spend her final days by the sea. Joan Bodger died in Tofino on July 4, 2002.

Custodial history: The material was packed by Daniel Ladell, personal assistant to Joan Bodger, after the author’s death and delivered in two stages. The gift to the Osborne Collection of all archival material was stipulated in her will, and was received in 2002 and 2003.
Scope and content: The Joan Bodger fonds contains materials relating to the professional and personal life of the author. There is a great deal of family history and material relating to her children and second husband, Alan Mercer. Most aspects of her varied career are covered, although there is little primary documentation for her work at Head Start, or at the Canadian nursery school chain, Mini-Skools. Nor is there a first-hand record of her training at the Gestalt Institute. However, there is a wealth of photographs and correspondence, including her letters to Esther Bromberg, and a touching record of her relationship with Alan Mercer in the cards and letters exchanged over fifteen years. There is little primary material relating to her first book, *How the Heather Looks*, but the later books are well documented with drafts, correspondence and reviews. A number of unpublished stories, articles and poems are also included. Also well represented is her career as a story-teller, including her files of stories, and documentation regarding her Arthurian tours of Great Britain, including a scrapbook and numerous photographs. One box documents her illness and death in Tofino, and the memorial service held in Toronto. Books from her library form the 5th series, including many inscribed, annotated and association copies. The 6th series consists of the contents of Joan Bodger’s computer. Those files that were not printed by the author and integrated into her other files have been printed by the archivist and placed in binders. Finally, the fonds contains many photographs as a separate series. There are photographs included with letters, but most were separate when received by the Osborne Collection and these have been grouped thematically or chronologically.

Arrangement: The material was arranged by the archivist into series as listed. There was a great deal of loose paper material received in boxes; where the original order was discernible it was maintained. Duplicate records have been culled. The final arrangement consists of 7 series: Family, Writing, Working Files, Personal, Books, Computer Files and Photographs.

Restrictions: There are no restrictions on access. Client names on documents dealing with her therapy practice have been blacked out.

Finding aid: Detailed finding aid available; file level control.
SERIES and SUB-SERIES

Series 1

1.0


Scope and content: This series documents Joan Bodger’s relationships with family members, including her parents, sisters, children, and second husband, as well as files relating to her father’s career and to the genealogy of the Higbee and Corfield families.

1.1 – 1.17 Frank Higbee and Joan Corfield Higbee

Box 1


1.2: Corfield family genealogy, undated notes and photocopies.


1.4: Photocopies and notes sent from Frank Higbee to Joan and Alan Mercer, 1970’s.

1.5: Letters from Joan Corfield Higbee to Joan Bodger, 1963-1979 and undated material.

1.6: Letter to Frank and Joan [Higbee], 1964.


1.8: Letters from Joan Bodger to her parents, 1979-1986.

1.9: Frank Higbee: Retirement; 70th birthday; 87th and 88th birthdays, 1964 -1981.

Box 2


1.11: Frank Higbee: Coast Guard


1.13 Frank Higbee: ship paintings by Betty Morrison, undated.


1.15 Frank Higbee: Distinguished Public Service Award, 1982.

1.16 Frank Higbee: Obituaries, 1986
1.17 Joan Corfield Higbee, 1892-1983.

1.18 – 1.32 **John, Ian and Lucy Bodger**

**Box 3**

1.18 Lucy Bodger, 1957-1963.

1.19 Ian Bodger, photographs


1.22 Ian Bodger: schoolwork

1.23 Ian Bodger: stories

1.24 Ian Bodger: miscellaneous

1.25 Ian Bodger: photocopies of art work

1.26 Ian Bodger: military miniatures

1.27 Ian Bodger: trip to England, 1966 (postcards).

1.28 Ian Bodger: Letters to and about, 1966.

1.29 Ian Bodger: Letters to Joan Bodger.

1.30 Ian Bodger: Letters to his grandparents.

**Box 39**

1.31 Lucy Bodger: Art work oversize

1.32 Ian Bodger: Art work (including 17 photographs).

1.33 – 1.36 **Alan Mercer**

**Box 4**

1.33 Cards to Joan Bodger from Alan Mercer, 1970-

1.34 Cards to Alan Mercer from Joan Bodger, undated.

1.35 Alan Mercer/Joan Bodger correspondence, 1970.

1.36 Alan Mercer/Joan Bodger correspondence, 1970/71.

1.37 – 1.46 **Objects, audio tapes and A/V tapes relating to family.**

**Box 38**

1.37 Framed letter and photograph from Alan Mercer, no date.

1.38 Framed photograph of Lucy and Ian Bodger.

1.39 Framed photograph of Joan Bodger as Staff Sergeant Joan Higbee, 1945.
1.40 Framed photograph of Alan Mercer, no date.

1.41 Lucy Bodger’s hat.

1.42 Monogrammed sterling silver box where Joan Higbee kept her pearls for christening ships.

1.43 Glass, with the insignia ‘Port of Long Beach CA, RMS Queen Mary’

Art Cabinet 1.44 Framed self-portrait by Ian Bodger.

Box 34 1.45 4 A/V tapes containing family material.

Box 36 1.46 4 audio tapes containing family material (red stickers)
Series 2

2.0

Writing. – 1953 – 2002. – 9 boxes of textual material.

Scope and content: This series contains files relating to Joan Bodger’s career as a writer, beginning with articles on child development. There is documentation in this series for all of her major publications, with the exception of How the Heather Looks. Also included are a number of unpublished items, including poems, that are undated and apparently written occasionally throughout her life, and one file of writings by other people. There are stories and partial stories written as part of creative writing classes, and a screenplay written for a seminar, book reviews and unpublished manuscripts, as well as material relating to a large project on the Nabateans that was never completed. The series is grouped by subject, and then in chronological order when possible.

2.1 – 2.22 Stories, essays, poems, and related material

Box 5


2.2 Article, unpublished [?], “Using photos to stimulate language’, 1968?

2.3 Poetry, 1988-1998 and undated poems.

2.4 Essay, “Green Knights and Luddites”, undated.

2.5 Letter to the editor, 1989.

2.6 Draft of a story for writing class, 1987.


2.8 Drafts of a story for writing class, “Freefall”, May 1990.

2.9 Screenplay Seminar, 1992.

2.10 Unpublished manuscript, “The Silver Palace”, no date.

2.11 Partial draft of a story, “Poulstone Court”, n. d.


2.14 Partial drafts.


2.16 Paul Patterson funeral address, 1994.


2.20 “Tales Told at Court and Castle”, 2002, photocopy of preliminary art work.


2.22 Stories, articles and poems by other writers, 1969-2000.

2.23 – 2.34 Clever-Lazy

Box 6 2.23 How the Heather Looks (1965): Reviews, correspondence, contract.


2.27 Clever-Lazy (1979): Research.


2.34 Sewing pattern for a Chinese jacket.

2.35 – 2.37 Belinda’s Ball

Box 6 2.35 Belinda’s Ball. Drafts, n.d.

2.36 Belinda’s Ball. Correspondence with publishers, 1974-1981.

2.38 – 2.51  *The Forest Family*
Box 7  2.38  *The Forest Family*. Original draft.

2.39  *The Forest Family*. Early draft.


2.41  *The Forest Family*. Copy edit number 1, 1999.

2.42  *The Forest Family*. Copy edit number 2, April 4, 1999.


2.49  *The Forest Family*. Publisher’s catalogues, 1999 and 2000.


2.51  *The Forest Family*. Correspondence.

2.52 – 2.88  *The Crack in the Teacup*
Box 8  2.52  *The Crack in the Teacup*. Drafts, chapter 1.

2.53  *The Crack in the Teacup*. Drafts, chapter 2.

2.54  *The Crack in the Teacup*. Drafts, chapter 3.


2.56  *The Crack in the Teacup*. Drafts, chapter 5.


2.60  *The Crack in the Teacup*. Drafts, chapter 9.


2.63 The Crack in the Teacup. Preliminary drafts, “King Kong’s Consent”.

2.64 The Crack in the Teacup. Drafts, chapter 12.


2.68 The Crack in the Teacup. Drafts, chapter 17.

2.69 The Crack in the Teacup. Drafts, chapter 18.

2.70 The Crack in the Teacup. Drafts, chapter 19.

2.71 The Crack in the Teacup. Drafts, chapter 22.

2.72 The Crack in the Teacup. Drafts, chapter 21-22.

2.73 The Crack in the Teacup. Drafts, entitled “Telling about Telling”

2.74 The Crack in the Teacup. Unpublished chapter, “Conjured from flowers”

2.75 The Crack in the Teacup. List of files dated 10 June 1998, with 2 floppy discs


2.77 The Crack in the Teacup. Undated draft, Chapters 1-14.


2.80 The Crack in the Teacup. Related material: copyright, dust jacket blurbs, etc. 2000

2.81 The Crack in the Teacup. Reviews.

2.82 The Crack in the Teacup. Talking Book of the Year Award, 2001.

2.83 The Crack in the Teacup. Correspondence, 2000-

Box 11  2.85 *The Crack in the Teacup.* Draft, with editor’s comments.

Art Cabinet  2.86 *The Crack in the Teacup.* Portrait of Joan Bodger by Eugene Fisk, oil on canvas, framed.

Box 38  2.87 Joan Bodger’s hat, as seen in the Fisk portrait.

2.88 *The Crack in the Teacup.* Book review, mounted on a plaque.

2.89 – 2.105 Magazine articles


2.101 Photocopies of published articles.


**2.106 – 2.110 “The Nabataeans” (unpublished novel)**

Box 13  


**2.111 – 2.112 Fan Mail**


Series 3

3.0


Scope and content: This series consists of material relating to the working life of Joan Bodger, apart from her writing. The series is grouped by topic within this broad area, and covers her storytelling career, the work with children in her early years in the United States, files relating to her short-lived job as children’s consultant for the State Library of Missouri, and her work as a Gestalt therapist. There is also a box of research files on a broad range of topics. Within each sub-group, arrangement is chronological, when possible. File names in quotation marks indicate that these are Joan Bodger’s file names – her files were maintained intact whenever possible. Financial information is mixed with her personal finances, and has been placed in Series 4.

3.1 – 3.82 Storytelling

Box 14  3.1-3.23 Stories, filed alphabetically, B – L

Box 15  3.24-3.62 Stories, filed alphabetically, M-Z, and “to be filed”

Box 16  3.63 Storytelling. Art Park (Buffalo NY), 1977?


3.68 Storytelling. Workshops given by Joan Bodger.


3.71 Storytelling. Portfolio of stories.

3.72 Storytelling. Correspondence, business cards – contact with other storytellers.

3.73 Storytelling. Dan Yashinsky.


3.75 Storytelling. Writing about storytelling.

3.76 Storytelling. King Arthur Tours.

3.77 Storytelling. Clippings.


3.79 Storytelling. Miscellaneous.

Box 40 3.81 Storytelling. Joan Bodger’s walking stick.

Box 38 3.82 Two framed drawings of the Green Knight.

3.83 – 3.111 Missouri State Library

Box 17 3.83 Missouri. Spring Conference, Children’s Services, 1968.

3.84 Missouri. “Creativity.”

3.85 Missouri. “Illustration”


3.87 Missouri. “Pop music and literature”.

3.88 Missouri. “Language (clippings)”

3.89 Missouri. “Poetry”

3.90 Missouri. “Reading”

3.91 Missouri. “Television”

3.92 Missouri. “Aggression”

3.93 Missouri. “Disadvantaged”

3.94 Missouri. “Youth”

3.95 Missouri. “Alcott, Louisa M.”

3.96 Missouri. “Mother Goose”

3.97 Missouri. “Oz”

3.98 Missouri. “Piaget”

3.99 Missouri. “Stevenson, R.L.”
3.100 Missouri. “Tolkien, J.R.R.”
3.101 Missouri. ”New Morality”
3.102 Missouri. “Mystery – Surrealism/Mysticism”
3.103 Missouri. “Myths”
3.104 Missouri. “Storytelling”
3.105 Missouri. “Mr. Arthur Bell”
3.106 Missouri. “Course Program”
3.109 Missouri. “Brooklyn Course”
3.111 Missouri. Library publications.

3.112 – 3.134 Missouri incident

Box 18

3.112 Missouri incident. Student newspaper


3.123 Missouri incident. Correspondence with Terry Shoptaugh.

3.124 Missouri incident. Joan Bodger’s notes.

3.125 Missouri incident. Correspondence with ALA, 1969.


3.128 Missouri incident. ALA – reports and correspondence.


3.131 Missouri incident. Trip to California, following resignation, 1970.


3.133 Missouri incident. Follow-up, 1999.


3.135 – 3.136 Nyack Headstart Program


3.137 – 3.138 St. Agatha’s Nursery School


3.139 Institute in Librarianship, Desmoines

3.139 Institute in Librarianship, Desmoines, 1969. The Urban child in the public library.


3.140 Bank Street Graduate Programs Division, 1969/70.

3.141 Bank Street lectures.

3.142 Hutchinson (Kansas) Public Library

3.142 Hutchinson (Kansas) Public Library, 1969.
3.143 – 3.160 Random House


Box 20

3.161 Mini-Skools, (1970?)
3.165 Mother Goose project, Children’s Aid Society, 1984-1986?
3.166 Banff Centre for the Arts, 1998.
3.169 Kaslo Workshop (Gestalt), 1997.

Box 38
3.172 Sign: ‘JOAN BODGER GESTALT THERAPIST’

3.173 – 3.188 Research

Box 21
3.185 Research. Wales, Archenfield, Travel research for Arthurian tours, 1980.
3.188 Research. Miscellaneous.

3.189 – 3.193 Films and tapes relating to work

Box 35
3.189 6 audio tapes consisting of interviews with Joan Bodger (blue stickers)
Box 36 3.190 12 audio tapes containing storytelling (green stickers).

Box 34 3.191 3 A/V tapes containing television programs on Joan Bodger.

Box 33 3.192 6 studio film tapes, and 1 VHS tape for “Lives Lived”, October 1, 1993.

Box 37 3.193 14 audio tapes relating to the “Mother Goose” and “Father Goose” projects, Children’s Aid Society.

3.194 **Album, A Winter’s Journey to King Arthur’s Britain**

Box 22 3.194 Album of photographs, promotional material and an itinerary for the 1989-1990 trip (with Ed Kiley): A Winter’s Journey to King Arthur’s Britain.
Series 4

4.0


Scope and content: This series documents Joan Bodger’s life as a friend, a tenant, a parishioner, and a patient, and it gives a sense of her daily life through notebooks and calendars. Her letters to her dear friend Evelyn Bromberg were returned to her after Evelyn’s death, and these span much of her adult life. Also included in this series is a record of her final year in Tofino, including material from the Memorial Service after her death.

4.1 – 4.9  Correspondence


  4.4 Unused cards and postcards.

Box 24  4.5 Letters from Raje Harwood, c.1980-

  4.6 Letters from Sarah Mehegan, 1982.


  4.8 Letters from friends, 1967-


4.10 – 4.21  Miscellaneous files relating to her apartment, college reunion, recipes, books, etc.  1958-2001.


  4.13 List of reference books in Joan’s library.


  4.15 Recipes

  4.16 City Park Co-operative Apartments, “Safety and Security”

4.20 Miscellaneous notes

**4.22 – 4.45 Notebooks and appointment books, 1985-1998.**

Box 26
4.31 Notebook, 1988?
4.34 Undated notebook.

Box 27
Appointment Books:
4.35 1990.
4.36 1991.
4.38 1993.
4.41 1996.
4.43 1998.
4.44 5 small undated notebooks
4.45 Miscellaneous loose notes and note pads, undated.

4.46 – 4.61 Finances
Box 28
4.48 Finances. 1967 tax return.
4.53 Finances. 1989 Business account.
4.58 Finances. 1993 tax return.
4.59 Finances. 1996 tax return.

4.62 – 4.72 Tofino
Box 29
4.62 Tofino. Copy of Clever-Lazy with an inscription from Joan to Alan Mercer.
4.63 Tofino. CD: “Joan Bodger, Tofino Friends”.
4.64 Tofino. Photographs.
4.65 Tofino. Miscellaneous.


4.67 Tofino. Poems sent by friends.

4.68 Tofino. Clippings.


4.73 – 4.79 Memorial service

4.73 Memorial service. Display panel 1.

4.74 Memorial service. Display panel 2.

4.75 Memorial service. Display panel 3.

4.76 Memorial service. Display panel 4.

4.77 Memorial service. Display panel 5.

4.78 Memorial service. Display panel 6-7.

4.79 Memorial service. Display panel 8.

4.80 Banner, presented to JB, 1982

Box 40  4.80 Banner, presented to Joan Bodger by the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, 1982.
Series 5

5.0

Books. – 1903 – 2000. – 1.5 metres of printed material and audio tapes.

Scope and content: This series consists of books owned by Joan Bodger that have an obvious connection to her life. This includes her own books, books written by friends, books about storytelling, childhood books, etc. There are also 9 commercial recordings of music and stories on tape.

5.1 – 5.74  Books from JB’s library

5.1  Frances Hodgson Burnett. The Secret Garden. New York, 1911. With the bookplate of Joan Higbee.


5.6  Joan Bodger. Belinda’s Ball. Hong Kong, 1981.


5.10  Margaret Meek, Aidan Warlow & Griselda Barton. The Cool Web, the patterns of children’s reading. Toronto, 1977. Joan Bodger’s article, “Innocence is a cop-out”, is reprinted here pp. 135-139.


5.13  A.A. Milne. Winnie-the-Pooh and Eeyore’s Tail, a pop-up picture book. New York, 1952. Lucy Bodger’s copy, with her name on the front cover, and a note that the book was given to her “by Christopher Robin’s mother – July 27, 1957”.

25


5.17  Grace Radin. *Virginia Woolf’s ‘The Years’*. Knoxville, 1981. Inscribed to JB.


Letter enclosed to JB from a friend of the author.


5.24  Susan Downe. *Between this…and this*. Spanish Onion Press, n.d. Inscribed by JB.


5.34 Diane Wolkstein and Samuel Noah Kramer. *Inana, Queen of Heaven and Earth; her stories and hymns from Sumer*. New York, 1983. Inscribed to Joan and Alan.


5.39 Dan Yashinsky. *Tales for an Unknown city; stories from one thousand and one Friday nights of storytelling*. Montreal, 1990.


5.44 Peter Seitel. *See So That We May See; performances and interpretations of traditional tales from Tanzania*. Bloomington, 1980.


5.75  Tapes (music, storytelling)
5.75  9 commercial tapes (music, tales, etc.) Box 35, yellow stickers.

Series 6

6.0


Scope and content: The contents of Joan Bodger’s computer were transferred to discs after her death, and these discs were part of the archival material received by the Osborne Collection. Files that were not printed by JB and integrated into her other files have been printed by the archivist and are included here. Not all drafts of each book were printed; the discs will be available to researchers who may wish to view them. 10 discs have been printed; the others appear to be back-ups of these files.

6.1.1 – 6.10.98  Print-out of floppy discs

Box 30  (all computer files)

Disc No. 1 – Binder 1

6.1.1  Description of address to be given at Montreal conference April 16, 17, 18. 1 page.


6.1.3  Notes on further reading [for Arthur Tour]. 5 pages.


6.1.8  Notes on Sherri Burckle case (Children’s Aid?) 1990? 20 pages.


Disc No. 2 – Binder 2

6.2.1  The Last Magic Forest, by Kathryn Kuitenbrouwer. 2001. 9 pages.


6.2.5 Comments, undated. [Tales of Court and Castle]. 10 pages.

6.2.6 II. To the Dark Tower [Tales of Court and Castle]. 7 pages.

6.2.7 VI. Ivar’s Story [Tales of Court and Castle]. 5 pages.

6.2.8 V. Pillow Talk. [Tales of Court and Castle]. 7 pages.

6.2.9 VI. Tristan Hero. [Tales of Court and Castle]. 6 pages.

6.2.10 IV. The Wedding Night. [Tales of Court and Castle]. 4 pages.

6.2.11 IV. The Roman Emperor and the Welsh Princess. [Tales of Court and Castle]. 12 pages.

6.2.12 I. Young Tristan. [Tales of Court and Castle]. 9 pages.

6.2.13 Beaumains. 3 pages.


6.2.15 The Nap of Napata. [Tales of Court and Castle]. 13 pages.

6.2.16 Prologue [Tales of Court and Castle]. 3 pages.


6.2.18 Letter to Bob and Jenny [Davis]. February 11, 1999. 4 pages.


6.2.20 Letter to Bob and Jenny Davis, n.d. 1 page.


6.2.22 Doomsday – Funeral Service. 3 pages.

6.2.23 Doomsday – Communications Tree. 6 pages.

6.2.24 Doomsday – Last Will and Testament. 10 pages.


6.2.27 Letter to David Ambrose. May 27, 1999. 1 page.


6.2.30 Letter to Ian Bodger. April 20. 2 pages.


6.2.32 Letter to Canada Post, n.d. 1 page.


6.2.35 Letter to Pat [Kennedy?], August 10, 2000. 1 page.

6.2.36 Letter to Dann Cardy, August 10, 2000. 1 page.

6.2.37 Letter to Justin Corfield, Australia. 4 pages.


6.2.40 Letter to Bob and Jenny Davis. April 7, 2000. 3 pages.


6.2.43 Letter to Jamie George. August 9, 1999. 1 page.


6.2.50 Memo to Susan Roman, ALA. 1 page.


6.2.54  Letter to Leslie McGrath, Osborne Collection. April 24, 1999. 1 page.

6.2.55  Letter to The Globe and Mail. 1 page.


6.2.61  Letter to Sheila Ray. 1 page.


6.2.64  Letter to Susan Roman, ALA. 1 page.


6.2.67  Letter to Martin Hallet, Vanier College. 1 page.

6.2.68  Letter from Daniel Ladell, for JB, to W.W. Norton (text of an email). 2 pages.

6.2.69  How I feel about my stay at Saint Michael’s Hospital. 2 pages.

6.2.70  Medical Calendar. June-July 2001. 1 page.


6.2.72  Memo to Jak. 1 page.

6.2.73  “The Potato Walk”. 7 pages.

Disc No. 3 – Binder 3

6.3.1  Gardening at City Park. 2 pages.
6.3.2 Harry Potter. 1 page.
6.3.3 Harry Potter 2. 3 pages.
6.3.5 Letter to Ontario Arts Council, 1991. 2 pages.
6.3.8 Luddites. 4 pages.
6.3.9 Rumpelstiltskin. 2 pages.

Disc No. 4 – Binder 3

6.4.2 “Kufra” [poem]. 5 pages.
6.4.3 2 poems by Dennis Lee. 2 pages.
6.4.4 Quote from Dr. Jonathan Miller. 1 page.
6.4.5 Joan Bodger bio. 1 page.
6.4.7 Letter to Richard Doucet, Link Magazine. 1 page.
6.4.9 Information for Oprah. 1 page.
6.4.10 Quill & Quire review of Teacup, September 19, 2000. 2 pages.
6.4.11 Letter to Calvin Trillin, July 17, 2000. 1 page.
6.4.13 Atwood, random stuff. 4 pages.
6.4.14 Email to Russel Goldman. 1 page.
6.4.15 Letter to CNIB, re TORGI awards. August 26, 2001. 1 page.
Disc No. 5 – Binder 3

6.5.2 Letter to Rose Najia, from Daniel Ladell, for JB. 1 page.
6.5.3 Letter to Simon Heywood, University of Sheffield. 3 pages.
6.5.4 Notes – organizing stuff. 1 page.
6.5.5 Booklist – Books about Books. 3 pages.
6.5.6 Letter to City Park Co-op Apartments, re dogs. May 5, 1999. 1 page.
6.5.7 Montreal schedule. 1 page.

Disc No. 6 – Binder 4

6.6.1 Memo to Unemployment Insurance re Adrienne Jones (therapy client). 1 page.
6.6.8 “Salmon of Wisdom” draft. 18 pages.
6.6.9 Letter to Barbara Turner-Vesselago. 2 pages.
6.6.10 Outline for Proposed Book [Teacup]. 1 page.
6.6.11 Project description – The Glacier Knocks in the Cupboard. 1 page.
6.6.12 Women’s Bodies. 3 pages.
6.6.13 Outline for Proposed Book; The Glacier Knocks in the Cupboard. 2 pages.
6.6.14 Table of contents for The Crack in the Teacup. 1 page.
6.6.15 “Sir Gawain and the Winter Hag”. 4 pages.
6.6.18 Letter to Linda Sparling, Brick Magazine. 1 page.
6.6.19 King Arthur Tours, promotional material. 3 pages.
6.6.21 Letter to Elizabeth Organ and Eugene Fisk. 1 page.
6.6.22 Credits, etc. [early 1990’s]. 3 pages.
6.6.23 Credits and works pending. [1993]. 3 pages.
6.6.24 Biographical material [early 1990’s]. 1 page.
6.6.26 Customs information re package to Ian Bodger. 1 page.
6.6.28 Letter to Sherali Thaver, Executive Producer, Discover Your World (Channel 11) re King Arthur Tours. 1 page.
6.6.30 Biographical information (storytelling). 1 page.
6.6.31 Notes: McWhinney & Metcalfe. 1 page.
6.6.33 “The Frog Prince” [poem], by Stevie Smith. 2 pages.
6.6.34 Notes for Gestalt therapy advertisement. 1 page.
6.6.35 Curriculum vitae. [early 1990’s]. 2 pages.
6.6.36 Notes: Ideas and images for Glacier novel. 1 page.
6.6.37 A Critical list of books about nursery rhymes, for Appleseed Quarterly. 2 pages.
6.6.38 Memo to Ray Gordezky, re shamanistic support group. February 16, 1993. 1 page.
6.6.40 Curriculum vitae. 2 pages.


6.6.43 Notes for “The Hidden Name Paradigm in Folklore, Novel, History, Rap”. 3 pages.


6.6.47 Home-made thank you card sent by Jim Walsh for dinner at Oliver’s Upstairs, December 1, 1991 [poem]. 1 page.


6.6.49 Letter to Employment & Immigration Canada re Adrienne Jones, Gestalt patient. 1 page.


6.6.52 Credits, etc. [Biographical information]. 2 pages.

6.6.53 Letter to Trevor Cole, Destinations Magazine, Globe & Mail from Ed Kiley. April 15, 1993. Enclosed is an article on King Arthur Tours. 8 pages.


6.6.56 Form letter from Joan Bodger and Ed Kiley re King Arthur Tours. 1 page.


6.6.60 Notes towards a film treatment. 5 pages.


6.6.63 “Money to Burn”. 4 pages.

6.6.64 “A Mummer’s Play”. 7 pages.


6.6.68 “Do you just love to organize somebody’s else’s life?” Drafts for an advertisement. 1 page.

6.6.69 “A critical list of books about nursery rhymes” for *Appleseed Quarterly*. 2 pages.


6.6.71 Letter to WNED-TV. April 18, 1993. 1 page.


6.6.73 “The Singers” [poem]. 1 page.

6.6.74 “Telegram” [partial poem]. 1 page.

6.6.75 Notes and poems. 2 pages.

6.6.76 2 poems. 1 page.

6.6.77 Poems and notes. 7 pages.

6.6.78 Notes for “The Crack in the Teacup” presentation at The Storytellers School of Toronto. 1 page.

6.6.79 Pitch: Matriarch, Queen Mary and the House of Windsor. 1 page.


6.6.81 Queries for 1993 Winters Journey…Arthur. 1 page.


6.6.87 Questions re schizophrenia/Robert Williams. 1 page.

6.6.88 Letter to Gail Winskill, Scholastic Canada. 1 page.


6.6.93 Spend93.doc. 1 page.


6.6.97 Book Title: The Glacier Knocks in the Cupboard. Poetry. 7 pages.

6.6.98 The Mysteries of Britain: What to wear on a winter’s journey. 3 pages.


6.6.100 Whereput. Where to look for stuff. 1 page.

Disc No. 7 – Binder 5

6.7.1 Letter to Katie Diver. April 5, 2000. 3 pages.

6.7.2 Note re Clever-Lazy. 1 page.

6.7.3 Closets. 1 page.


6.7.5 Notes on The Trickster, a study in American Indian mythology. 2 pages.

6.7.6 Letter to Philip Eram, City Park Apartments. 1 page.

6.7.7 “Excavate” [poem]. 1 page.
6.7.8  “Farjeon” [partial draft?]  1 page.
6.7.9  Poems. 3 pages.
6.7.10 “Sisters” [draft]. 7 pages.
6.7.11 Blurbs for flier, “Glorious Landscape”. 1 page.
6.7.12 Letter to John Hermann on his 80th birthday. 1 page.
6.7.16 Letter to Cathy Bryon-Edmond, Tourism Officer, Huddersfield. August 1, 1995. 1 page.
6.7.19 Addendum to credits. 1 page.
6.7.27 1995 inquiries about Arthur trip, as of July 27. 4 pages.
6.7.29 Bio for 1996 Pomona College reunion, with Adrienne Rich poem sent to Bette. 2 pages.
6.7.30 2 poems. 2 pages.
Disc No. 8 – Binder 5

6.8.1 Biographical information. Joan Bodger: Credits. 6 pages.

6.8.2 Biography. 1 page.

6.8.3 Biography. For Joseph Kari, Kari & Kwan, Barristers and Solicitors. 8 pages.

6.8.4 Heather biography. 1 page.


6.8.6 “Bear Family” draft. 19 pages.


6.8.8 Letter to Ian Bodger. 2 pages.


6.8.11 Letter “To whom it may concern”, re Ian’s flight to Toronto. August 1, 1998. 1 page.


6.8.23 Letter to Paul Kennedy, Ideas, CBC Radio. 1 page.


Disc No. 9 – Binder 5

6.9.1 Draft: “When I was in third grade… 7 pages.


6.9.5 “Inevitably” [poem]. 2 pages.


6.9.7 “Knee deep in story” [draft]. 5 pages.


6.9.9 Notes for a trilogy of children’s novels. October 20, 1999. 1 page.

6.9.10 Invitation to a Christmas party. 1 page.

6.9.11 “Stories in the land and in the cosmos” [promotional blurb for King Arthur tours]. 4 pages.


6.9.14 Promotional letter for Gestalt practice. 1 page.

6.9.15 Letter to Dr. John Harper [promotion for Gestalt practice]. 1 page.


6.9.17 “The Valley of the Women” [draft]. 7 pages.


6.9.20 “Some of my credits”. 1 page.

6.9.21 “That’s the way with stories” [notes]. 6 pages.
6.9.22 Notes on Luddites. 1 page.


6.9.26 Notes on first three pages of *The Crack in the Teacup*. 1 page.


6.9.28 Draft: Tristan. 16 pages.


6.9.30 List for 1994 King Arthur Tour. 1 page.


6.9.32 “Yoke Girl” [draft]. 3 pages.


6.9.34 Letter to Anne Tayler. October 9, 1995. 1 page.

**Disc No.10 – Binder 6**


6.10.2 “Cantaloupe” [poem]. 2 pages.

6.10.3 Note enclosed with CBC tape. May 29, 1998. 1 page.

6.10.4 “Miz Cockroach” [draft of a story]. 11 pages.

6.10.5 Joan Bodger. Credits. 3 pages.

6.10.6 Recipe: To Jamie from his severest critic, Joan Bodger. 1 page.


6.10.11 Draft of an ad for office help. 1 page.


6.10.13 Prospective tour, May or June 1996. Green Knights and Luddites, the class with technology in early industrial Britain. 3 pages.


6.10.15 1997 King Arthur tour – itinerary. 3 pages.


6.10.17 Joan’s own computer manual. 1 page.


6.10.19 Letter re Adrienne Jones, Gestalt client. 1 page.


6.10.23 Letter to Leo. April 7, 1998. 3 pages.


6.10.26 List, as of August 4, 1998, King Arthur trip. 5 pages.

6.10.27 [Cathy] Lowinger document – description of King Arthur trip. 2 pages.


6.10.29 Notes for judging articles, magazine awards. February 17, 1996. 4 pages.


6.10.31 List of chapters from Teacup already published in magazines or made into film. August 1, 1997. 1 page.

6.10.33 Itinerary, Arthur tour. 4 pages.
6.10.34 “Marching” [draft]. 5 pages.
6.10.35 Letter to? 3 pages.
6.10.37 List of magazines. 1 page.
6.10.40 “Mint Sauce” [draft]. 6 pages.
6.10.42 Money [list of expenses]. 26 pages.
6.10.46 Letter to Virginia Davis re King Arthur tour. 1 page.
6.10.47 Letter to The New Yorker Magazine, re “In the Belly of the Beast”. May 9, 1997. 1 page.
6.10.51 Letter to the poetry editor, New Yorker Magazine. February 26, 1996. 1 page.
6.10.52 Letter to the poetry editor, New Yorker Magazine. March 31, 1996. 1 page.
6.10.55 Text of a speech [Ontario Library Association?] 7 pages.
6.10.56 Advertisement for office help. 1 page.

6.10.57 “Cutting up an Ox” [poem]. February 3, 1997. 3 pages.


6.10.59 Note to Ken [Setterington?] March 5, 1998. 1 page.

6.10.60 Party invitation. April 17, 1996. 1 page.

6.10.61 Memo to Immigration Service, re name on passport. February 20, 1998. 1 page.

6.10.62 Letter to Pat Campbell. 2 pages.


6.10.64 Letter to Pat [Campbell]. May 9, 1997. 2 pages.

6.10.65 Dream. September 6, 1997. 1 page.

6.10.66 Partial draft, “Why the people don’t tell stories in summer”. 1 page.

6.10.67 “The Prob” [draft]. 1 page.


6.10.69 Layout: The Crack in the Teacup. 3 pages.

6.10.70 Letter to Dr. Steven Fried. November 19, 1996. 1 page.

6.10.71 Letter to Ashley Ramsgate. 2 pages.


6.10.74 Letter to Rosamond Richardson. 2 pages.


6.10.79 Safety and Security job description (notes), City Park Apartments. 5 pages.

6.10.82 Safety and Security Committee, Minutes, October 21, 1996. 2 pages.
6.10.83 Safety and Security Committee, Minutes, November 18, 1996. 2 pages.
6.10.87 Sir Gawain and the Green Knight duo [with Ken Setterington?] Script. 11 pages.
6.10.89 Memo: “to the person who keeps attacking this frame and cork board, this inoffensive inanimate object” 1 page.
6.10.91 Money – list of expenses. 1 page.
6.10.93 2 poems. 2 pages.
6.10.95 Canada Tax 1992. 7 pages.
6.10.96 Tax 93. April, 1993. 9 pages.
6.10.97 Tax 96. 1 page.
6.10.98 Taxes 95. 9 pages.
Series 7

7.0

Photographs. – [?] to 2002. – 0.5 metres of photographs and negatives

Scope and content: Joan Bodger’s photographs include family photos of her parents in their youth and members of the extended Higbee and Corfield families. There are photos of Joan and her sisters as children and adults with their own children. When possible, pictures have been grouped by subject; otherwise they have been grouped by decade. The major relationships of her life have been well documented: her family, her marriage to John Bodger, her children (including a large file of photographs of their trip to England, the basis of *How the Heather Looks*), her friends Esther Bromberg, Betty Diver and Carol McGirr in particular but a large number of others, and her relationship with Alan Mercer. Many photos are in the black and white, 5” x 7” format favoured by Alan Mercer, who very likely took and developed these pictures. Photographs relating to the King Arthur Tours are in an album and are grouped with Series 3.

7.1 – 7.24 Photographs

Box 31 7.1 Higbee family photographs, 191? – 1986.

- 94 photographs, including Frank Higbee from high school graduation to old age and Joan Higbee from the time of her marriage.

7.2 Corfield family photographs, 1897 - 1962.

- 25 photographs, including a reprint from an 1897 photograph of Joan Corfield at age 5, pictures from the 1960’s of Joan Corfield Higbee with her brother and sister, and snapshots of extended family.

7.3 Joan Higbee Bodger, 1920’s-1940’s.

- 21 photographs of Joan Bodger’s childhood and adolescence.

7.4 War Years, 1945 – 1946.

- 24 photographs of Private Joan Higbee, including some with friends and family.

7.5 Wedding to John Bodger, June 10, 1947, and honeymoon in Bar Harbor, Maine.

- 17 photographs, including formal portraits and informal snapshots of the reception and honeymoon.

7.6 John Bodger, 1940’s – 1960’s.

- photographs, 7 taken during the war (he was stationed in New Guinea), and one later photograph.

7.7 The Bodger family, 1947-1959.
191 photographs of the young Bodger family, from the time of their marriage, through the early childhood of Ian and Lucy. Some locations are noted on the back, as they moved several times in this period.

7.8 Trip to England, 1958.

163 snapshots taken during their idyllic trip to England, the basis for the book *How the Heather Looks*, including photos of Lucy and Ian with Daphne Milne, in front of Robert Louis Stevenson’s house, etc.

7.9 1960’s.

50 photographs including pictures of Lucy showing the aftereffects of brain surgery, and final pictures of the Bodger family. School pictures, visits from Grandmother Higbee, and photographs of Joan by Alan Mercer at the end of the decade are included.

7.10 1970’s.

39 photographs showing Joan at her wedding to Alan Mercer, at work, with Ian, storytelling at the Underground Railway, with her mother, etc.

7.11 Mini Skools, [1970’s]

27 photographs of the day-care centre, and of Joan in her position as director.


41 photographs of or by Alan Mercer, including 2 of his daughter, Denise.


37 photographs of Joan signing books at the Children’s Book Store: *Clever-Lazy* (1979), and *Belinda’s Ball*, with Mark Thurman, (1981).

7.14 1980’s.

18 photographs of Joan with friends and family, at the National Library of Canada, and dressed up for the Canadian Magazine Writers’ award dinner.

7.15 Storytelling walk to Bracebridge with Carol McGirr, 1982.

76 photographs documenting the walk up Yonge Street from Toronto to Bracebridge.

7.16 Sisters, 1950’s - 1980’s.

48 photographs, most of Joyce Higbee Juhl and her family, with whom Joan kept in close touch, and a reunion with what seems to be 2 nieces. Some of the pictures
were taken in Spain, where Mary Juhl-Diaz lived with her husband and two daughters, Jana and Carla.

7.17 Friends, undated.

13 photographs of friends, including Carol McGirr, Raje Harwood, and a number of unidentified subjects.

7.18 Evelyn and Jules Bromberg, [1980?]

20 photographs, one of Evelyn and Joan in front of Evelyn’s house[?], the others taken by Alan Mercer during a visit to Toronto.


11 photographs of Betty Diver, her children Chris and Katy, and Katy’s son [and husband?].


12 photographs showing Katy Diver, a potter, at her kiln.


15 photographs of Ian’s home under the freeway, where he was found in 1985, and pictures of his life in Maine.

7.22 Travel – Spain and the Middle East, 1990’s.

47 photographs documenting her trip to Jordan.

7.23 Gestalt Weekend?, 2000?

36 photographs of what appears to be a woman’s therapy workshop.


27 photographs, including her 1998 birthday celebration, visiting This Ain’t the Rosedale Library, visiting Frank Lloyd Wright’s Falling Water, and in her apartment shortly before her move to Tofino.

7.25 – 7.31 Negatives

Box 32 7.25 Miscellaneous negatives

7.26 Negatives from Maplewood, 1950’s

7.27 Unlabelled negatives

7.29 Negatives of June 1980 trip to Los Angeles (photos by Alan Mercer).
7.30 Negatives of July 1971 trip to Los Angeles (photos by Alan Mercer).
7.31 Negatives of May 1980 trip to San Pedro (photos by Alan Mercer).

Series 8

8.0 Ann Kerr Linden

8.1 Joan Bodger to AKL August 23, 1991. 7 pages.
8.2 Film Treatment The Magic Forest. 2 pages.
8.3 Joan Bodger to AKL June 28, 1992. 2 pages.
8.4 “The Old Woman Who Walks in the Park” poem. 1 page. [1993 AKL]
8.5 “Cantaloupe” poem. 1 page. n.d.
8.6 “An Elegy for the woman who used to sit in the lobby” Poem. 1 page. n.d.
8.8 Joan Bodger to AKL May 7, 1991 card. 1 page.
8.9 “The Old Woman Looks at a Daffodil” ms poem. 1 page. April 6, 1989
8.10 “Joan Bodger Mercer, whereabouts, winter 1991-2” mailing addresses. 1 page.
8.11 Joan Bodger to AKL, January 24, 1994 als double side single page with
copy of eight pages ALS to “Evelyn” N.J.)
8.12 Ian C. Bodger to Joan Bodger, three undated letters
8.13 Photos – Joan Bodger – Hiking tour from Yonge and Bloor to Bracebridge
   26 black and white 13cm *18 cm photos, no captions.
8.14 Letter from “Jan & Mark” to Joan Bodger, 3 typed pages both sides, from The