Summary

Creator: Abbey Theatre

Title: Abbey Theatre records

Date: 1910-1938

Size: 72 linear feet (items)

Source: This is a synthetic collection, created from materials acquired through gift and purchase from various sources.

Abstract: This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts, typescripts, correspondence, financial and legal documents, and a portrait.

Access: Restricted access.

Conditions Governing Use: For permission to publish, contact the Curator, The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature, (212) 930-0803


Processing note: Processed by Staff; Machine-readable finding aid created by Lynn Lobash.

Creator History

The Abbey Theatre in Dublin is an Irish theatrical company, founded in 1904 by William Butler Yeats and Lady Isabella Augusta Persse Gregory. J. M. Synge and Lady Gregory were its first directors. It is devoted to Irish drama.

Custodial History

Some of the materials were among Ria Mooney's correspondence and with Lady Gregory's
correspondence.

**Scope and Content Note**

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts, typescripts, correspondence, financial and legal documents, and a portrait. The manuscripts and typescripts include stage directions, lists of actors, extracts of reviews of performances, schedules, and other matters related to the Theatre, as well as articles, notes, and reviews by Sean O’Casey, a lecture by Alfred Wareing, and addresses by W. B. Yeats, Lady Gregory, and J. M. Synge. The correspondence, dating from 1910 to 1928, includes letters from the Theatre to Sean O’Casey, Lady Gregory, and W. B. Yeats, as well as letters relating to the Theatre between various correspondents, including Sara Allgood, Annie Elizabeth Fredericka Horniman, and Bertha June Lucas. The bulk of the collection consists of financial documents, specifically weekly returns dating from 1920 to 1931, financial statements, and lists of checks made out to various payees.

**Key Terms**

**Genre/Physical Characteristic**
Correspondence

**Names**
Abbey Theatre
Allgood, Sara, 1883-1950
Gregory, Lady, 1852-1932
Gregory, Lady, 1852-1932
Horniman, Annie Elizabeth Fredericka, 1860-1937
Lucas, Bertha June (Richardson), Mrs
Mooney, Ria, 1903-1973
O’Casey, Sean, 1880-1964
Synge, J. M. (John Millington), 1871-1909
Wareing, Alfred, 1876-1942
Yeats, W. B. (William Butler), 1865-1939
Container List

Correspondence

Outgoing

Telegram to Lady Gregory 1916 May 19 (1 item) (1 item)

3 TN to Sean O’Casey 1928 June 9 - 1928 June 30 (3 items) (3 items)
Signed J. H. Perrin

Telegram to William Butler Yeats 1913 Sept. 19 (1 item) (1 item)
Came with Lady Gregory’s papers

Incoming

In his: Holograph notebooks. Vol. 3, p. [73]

John D Sinclair. TLS to Abbey Theatre. To W. B. Yeats? 1906 June 20 (1 item)
(1 item)
Came with Lady Gregory’s papers

Related correspondence

Fred J. Harris. 2 TLS to Sara Allgood. Relates to Abbey theatre engagement of Miss Allgood 1922 June 24, 1922 July 13 (2 items) (2 items)

Annie Elizabeth Fredericka Horniman. ALS to [--?]. Relates to the Abbey theatre 1910 Dec. 7 (1 item) (1 item)

Bertha June (Richardson) Lucas. ALS to Sara Allgood. Mentions W. B. Yeats and various Abbey Theatre actors and playwrights n.d. (7 p) (7 p)

Financial & Legal Documents

Financial Documents

Financial statement for the year ending Aug. 31, 1912. Typescript 1912 (1 p) (1 p)
Came with Lady Gregory’s papers

Return for week ending 23rd Nov. [1918?]. Typescript (carbon) 1918? (1 item)
(1 item)

Returns for weeks ending Aug. 15, and Oct. 16, 1920 1920 (2 items) (2 items)

Returns for Sept. 9, 1920 1920 (1 p) (1 p)
Signed J. H. Perrin

Returns for week ending April 16, 1921. Typescript 1921 (1 item) (1 item)
Returns for week ending Aug. 26, 1922. Typescript 1922 (1 item) (1 item)

Returns for week ending March 26, 1925. Typescript (1 p) (1 p)

Checks drawn, dated Jan. 28, 1926, made out to various payees.
Typewritten list n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
Mutilated

Returns for weeks ending May 1, 8, and 15, 1926 1926 (3 items) (3 items)

Return for week ending July 17, 1926. Typescript 1926 (1 p) (1 p)
On verso of p. 2 of typescript of: Lady Gregory. ALS to George William Russell, July 24, 1926

Returns for weeks ending Aug. 7 and 21, 1926. Typescript 1926 (2 items) (2 items)

Returns for week ending Sept. 11, 1926. Typescript 1926 (1 p) (1 p)

Returns for week ending Sept. 18, 1926. Typescript 1926 (1 p) (1 p)

Returns for week ending Oct. 2, 1926. Typescript 1926 (1 p) (1 p)

Returns for week ending Oct. 9, 1926. Typescript 1926 (1 p) (1 p)

Returns for week ending Oct. 16, 1926. Typescript (carbon) 1926 (1 p) (1 p)

Returns for week ending Oct. 23, 1926. Typescript 1926 (1 p) (1 p)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 30, 1926</td>
<td>Returns for week ending Oct. 30, 1926. Typescript 1926 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Typescript</td>
<td>1 p, 1 p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 6, 1926</td>
<td>Returns for week ending Nov. 6, 1926. Typescript 1926 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Typescript</td>
<td>1 p, 1 p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 4, 1926</td>
<td>Returns for week ending Dec. 4, 1926. Typescript (carbon) 1926 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Typescript</td>
<td>1 p, 1 p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 18, 1926</td>
<td>Returns for week ending Dec. 18, 1926. Typescript 1926 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Typescript</td>
<td>1 p, 1 p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 2, 1927</td>
<td>Returns for week ending April 2, 1927. Typescript 1927 Apr. 4 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Typescript</td>
<td>1 p, 1 p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 13, 1927</td>
<td>Returns for week ending Aug. 13, 1927. Typescript 1927 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Typescript</td>
<td>1 p, 1 p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 11, 1928</td>
<td>Returns for week ending Feb. 11, 1928. Typescript 1928 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Typescript</td>
<td>1 p, 1 p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 25, 1928</td>
<td>Returns for week ending Feb. 25, 1928. Typescript 1928 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Typescript</td>
<td>1 p, 1 p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 10, 1928</td>
<td>Returns for week ending March 10, 1928. Typescript 1928 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Typescript</td>
<td>1 p, 1 p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 24, 1928</td>
<td>Returns for week ending March 24, 1928. Typescript 1928 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Typescript</td>
<td>1 p, 1 p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 14, 1928</td>
<td>Returns for week ending April 14, 1928. Typescript 1928 (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Typescript</td>
<td>1 p, 1 p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 9, 1930</td>
<td>Returns for week ending Aug. 9, 1930. Typescript 1930 (1 item) (1 item)</td>
<td>Typescript</td>
<td>3 p, 3 p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returns for unspecified performances. Mutilated n.d. (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Returns for unspecified performances. Mutilated n.d. (1 p) (1 p)</td>
<td>Mutilated</td>
<td>1 p, 1 p</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Signed A. Patrick Wilson Came with Lady Gregory's papers
### Financial & Legal Documents (cont.)

**Manuscript box (Gregory)**
- [ Provision for disposal of trust funds] in event of winding up of company. Typescript with ms. corrections in an unidentified hand n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
  - Came with Lady Gregory's papers

**Manuscript box (Gregory)**
- List of expenses for production of Lady Gregory's Workhouse ward in an unidentified hand. Manuscript n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
  - With Lady Gregory's marginal ms. note, "I am asking about this"

### Legal Documents

**Manuscript box (Gregory)**
- Charles Prestwich Scott. [Abbey theatre. Typescript of arbitration between A. E. F. Horniman and the directors of the National Theatre Society, relating to the sale of the Abbey theatre, April 29, 1911]. Directors cited are Lady Gregory and W. B. Yeats 1911 (1 item) (1 item)

**Manuscript box (Colum)**
- Agreement between Padraic Colum and the Directors of the Abbey theatre for permission to perform his play Thomas Muskerry 1911 Aug. 17 (1 p) (1 p)
  - Signed by W. B. Yeats and Padraic Colum

### Manuscripts & Typescripts

**Manuscript box**
- The Abbey stage. Holograph measurements in an unidentified hand n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
  - Accompanied by photograph of exterior of Abbey theatre the morning of the fire (1951) Came with Ria Mooney's correspondence

**Manuscript box (Gregory)**
  - Came with Lady Gregory's papers

**In his: Holograph notebooks. Vol. 7, unnumbered page at back**
  - Schedule of Abbey Theatre performances, Jan. - Aug., 1929 1929 (1 p) (1 p)

**In his: Holograph notebooks. Vol. 19, p. [84-88]**
- Sean O'Casey. [Reviews. Peter Kavanagh; The story of the Abbey theatre. Notes] and holograph draft n.d. (5 p) (5 p)

**Manuscript box (Gregory)**
- Salary list proposed. Play proposed. Manuscript n.d. (2 p) (2 p)
  - 5 p.

**Manuscript box (Gregory)**

### Typescripts

**Manuscript box (Gregory)**
- English reviews (extracts) of Abbey theatre performances in England. Typescript n.d. (3 p) (3 p)
  - Came with Lady Gregory's papers

**Cased**
- Sean O'Casey. [Articles. Ireland] Seven typescripts with the author's ms. Corrections n.d. (7 items) (7 items)

**Manuscript box (Gregory)**
- Rules and regulations. Typescript (carbon) with Lady Gregory's ms. note n.d. (3 p) (3 p)
  - With envelope with Lady Gregory's ms. note: "Abbey fragment from Henderson's desk, given me 1929."
Manuscript box.

[Schedule of performances, June 12-17, 1922] Typescript n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

Statement for year ending 28th February 1914. Typescript n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

With: Lady Gregory and W. B. Yeats. TLS (copy) to the editor of the Irish Times. Abbey theatre, Dublin, Sept. 1914

W. B. Yeats, Lady Gregory, and J. M. Synge (?) [Abbey theatre. Address] Typescript with Lady Gregory’s (?) ms. corrections. Address delivered to Abbey company over division of Abbey funds at Sept. 23, 1905, meeting n.d. (2 p) (2 p)

Portraits

Cased

Sara Allgood. Album of photographs. Contains 63 pieces, including Abbey theatre players, Lady Gregory, Lennox Robinson and Sir Roger Casement n.d. (1 v) (1 v)