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
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)

Incoming

Sean O’Casey. AL (draft) to the Abbey Theatre (?) n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

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)

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)
Financial & Legal Documents (cont.)

Manuscript box

Manuscript box (Gregory)
Returns for unspecified performances. Mutilated n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
Signed A. Patrick Wilson Came with Lady Gregory's papers

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

List of expenses for production of Lady Gregory's Workhouse ward in an unidentified hand. Manuscript n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

Cheques, undated, made out to various payees. Typewritten list n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
With Lady Gregory's marginal ms. note, "I am asking about this"

Legal Documents

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)

Manuscripts & Typescripts

Manuscripts

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

Came with Lady Gregory's papers

In his: Holograph notebooks. Vol. 7, unnumbered page at back

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)

Salary list proposed. Play proposed. Manuscript n.d. (2 p) (2 p)

Manuscript box (Gregory)

Typescripts
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manuscript box (Gregory)</th>
<th>Manuscripts &amp; Typescripts (cont.)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Typescripts (cont.)</td>
<td>English reviews (extracts) of Abbey theatre performances in England.</td>
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<td>Typescript n.d. (3 p) (3 p)</td>
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<td>Came with Lady Gregory's papers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cased</td>
<td>Sean Ó'Casey. [Articles. Ireland] Seven typescripts with the author's ms. Corrections n.d. (7 items) (7 items)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manuscript box (Gregory)</td>
<td>Rules and regulations. Typescript (carbon) with Lady Gregory's ms. note n.d. (3 p) (3 p)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
|                         | With envelope with Lady Gregory's ms. note: "Abbey fragment from Henderson's desk, given me 1929."
| Manuscript box | 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 |
| Manuscript box | 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               | 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) |