



The New York Public Library  
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

**Joshua Logan correspondence and ephemera**

1920-1989

\*T-Mss 2000-031

Processed by Mary Ellen Rogan.

## Summary

**Creator:** Elliott, Jean

**Title:** Joshua Logan correspondence and ephemera

**Date:** 1920-1989

**Source:** Gift, Sweat, Mrs. Robert J, 10/--/2000

**Abstract:** The Jean Elliott - Joshua Logan correspondence consists of letters written by Joshua Logan to Jean Elliott, his cousin. The letters span 1920 to 1989 (including letters written to his widow, Nedda Harrigan Logan), and illuminate Logan's career and family life. Of special note is a note written in 1920 by the 12 year-old Joshua, thanking his cousins for a pleasant summer visit. The ephemera consists of photographs, programs, and clippings collected by Jean Elliott about her cousin, including childhood snapshots of Joshua and his sister, and a 1943 Army portrait. Programs include tributes to Joshua Logan.

**Access:** Some collections held by the Dance, Music, Recorded Sound, and Theatre Divisions at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in **the NYPL's online catalog** for detailed location information. For general guidance about requesting offsite materials, please consult:  
<https://www.nypl.org/about/locations/lpa/requesting-archival-materials>

**Conditions Governing Access:**

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**Preferred citation:** Jean Elliott-Josh Logan correspondence and ephemera, \*T-Mss 2000-031, Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

**Processing note:** Processed by Mary Ellen Rogan.

## Creator History

Joshua Logan, director, playwright and producer of stage, screen and television, was born Joshua Lockwood Logan in Texas in 1908. Educated at Princeton University he also studied in Moscow with Constantin Stanislavsky. During World War II he served in the Army Air Corps with a rank of Captain. Logan made his New York debut in 1932 in the play *Carrie Nation*, playing the character Mart Strong. He quickly turned to directing and producing, directing *Camille* in Boston in 1933. His best known productions include *I Married an Angel*, *Knickerbocker Holiday*, *Charlie's Aunt*, *This Is the Army*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Mister Roberts*, *South Pacific*, *The Wisteria Trees*, *The World of Susie Wong* and *Mr. President*. His film credits include *Picnic*, *Bus Stop*, *Sayonara*, *South Pacific*, *Tall Story* and *Ensign Pulver*. Joshua Logan received the Pulitzer Prize with Rodgers and Hammerstein for the musical *South Pacific*. He died in 1988 at the age of 80.

## **Custodial History**

The Jean Elliott - Joshua Logan correspondence and ephemera was donated by Mrs. Robert J. Sweat in October 2000. The correspondence is between Jean Elliott, Joshua Logan's cousin and Joshua Logan.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The Jean Elliott - Joshua Logan correspondence and ephemera consists of letters written by Joshua Logan to Jean Elliott, his cousin. The letters span 1920 to 1989 (1989 letters are to his widow, Nedda Harrigan Logan) and tell of Logan's career and family life. Of special interest is the 1920 letter which is a thank you from a young Logan for a pleasant summer visit to his cousins. The ephemera in the collection consists of photographs, programs and clippings collected by Jean Elliott about Joshua Logan. The photographs include early images of Joshua Logan and his sister and a 1943 portrait of him in his army uniform. Programs include tributes to Joshua Logan.

**Arrangement:** Series I: Correspondence Series II: Ephemera

## **Key Terms**

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Clippings  
Correspondence  
Photographs  
Programs

### **Subjects**

Motion picture industry -- California -- Los Angeles  
Theater -- New York (State) -- New York

### **Names**

Elliott, Jean  
Logan, Joshua

## Container List

### Series I: Correspondence 1920-1989 (9 folders)

The correspondence includes letters written by Joshua Logan to his cousin, Jean Elliott. Personal and professional matters are often discussed. Of special note is a childhood letter written by Joshua Logan to his cousins thanking them for an enjoyable visit.

Chronological

- b. 1 f. 1 Correspondence / Joshua Logan June 2, 1920 (1 folder (1 letter))
- b. 1 f. 2 Correspondence / Joshua Logan August 1939 (1 folder (1 letter))
- b. 1 f. 3 Correspondence / Joshua Logan 1944-1949 (1 folder (2 letters))
- b. 1 f. 4 Correspondence / Joshua Logan 1950-1952 (1 folder (4 letters))
- b. 1 f. 5 Correspondence / Joshua Logan 1953-1956 (1 folder (7 letters, 1 telegram))
- b. 1 f. 6 Correspondence / Joshua Logan September 12, 1961 (1 folder (1 letter))
- b. 1 f. 7 Correspondence / Joshua Logan 1973-1979 (1 folder (2 letters, 5 postcards))
- b. 1 f. 8 Correspondence / Joshua Logan 1980-1984 (1 folder (6 letters))
- b. 1 f. 9 Correspondence / Joshua Logan 1985-1989 (1 folder (8 letters, 1 card, 1 postcard))

### Series II: Ephemera ca. 1918-1989 (8 folders)

The ephemera series consists of clippings, photographs and programs documenting Joshua Logan's life and career. The clippings tell of his professional success noting such productions as *Mr. Roberts*, *South Pacific* and *The Wisteria Trees*. The bulk of the clippings however, are biographical, relating the life and social whirl of Joshua Logan and his wife, Nedda Harrigan Logan. Photographs in the series include childhood pictures of Logan and his sister as well as a portrait of him in his World War II uniform. Programs are mainly for tributes to Joshua Logan.

- b. 1 f. 10 Clippings / Joshua Logan 1940-1949 (1 folder)
- b. 1 f. 11 Clippings / Joshua Logan 1950-1959 (1 folder)
- b. 1 f. 12 Clippings / Joshua Logan 1960-1969 (1 folder)
- b. 1 f. 13 Clippings / Joshua Logan 1970-1979 (1 folder)
- b. 1 f. 14 Clippings / Joshua Logan 1980-1989 (1 folder)
- b. 1 f. 15 Clippings / Joshua Logan (1 folder)
- b. 1 f. 17 Programs / Joshua Logan (1 folder)
- b. 16 Photographs of Joshua Logan and his family (1)  
Photographs of Joshua Logan and his family. Includes portraits of Joshua Logan, photographs of him and his sister Mary and a picture of Logan, his wife and children and friends.