



The New York Public Library  
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

**Wayne F. Maxwell papers**

1940s-2005

\*T-Mss 2002-033

Compiled by Valerie Wingfield, 2014

## Summary

**Creator:** Maxwell, Wayne F., 1939-2000

**Title:** Wayne F. Maxwell papers

**Date:** 1940s-2005

**Size:** 4.4 linear feet (12 boxes)

**Source:** Donated by M. David Samples, 1996 to 2006.

**Abstract:** Wayne F. Maxwell (1939-2000) was an actor, director and playwright who performed on Broadway, Off-Broadway, and in regional theaters. Occasionally, he appeared on commercial television, and film. The collection, dating from the 1940s to 2005, mostly holds scripts. Other material includes: photographs, scrapbooks, theater programs, correspondence, and audio recordings.

**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:**

Inquires regarding audio/visual materials in the collection may be directed to the Billy Rose Theatre Division ([theatre@nypl.org](mailto:theatre@nypl.org)). Audio/visual materials will be subject to preservation evaluation and migration prior to access.

**Conditions Governing Use:** The author/creator retains copyright of materials. For information on obtaining permission to publish, contact the Theatre Division at [theatre@nypl.org](mailto:theatre@nypl.org).

**Preferred citation:** Wayne F. Maxwell papers, \*T-Mss 2002-033. Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

**Processing note:** Compiled by Valerie Wingfield, 2014 The collection was housed in acid free boxes

and containers.

### **Creator History**

Wayne F. Maxwell (1939-2000) was as an actor, director and playwright. Maxwell worked mainly in theater appearing on Broadway, Off-Broadway, in and regional theaters. Occasionally, he worked in television and film.

Maxwell's interest in theater began in his hometown of Tulsa, Oklahoma which would lead him to pursue a career as a professional actor. During his career, Maxwell sometimes collaborated with his partner M. David Samples, a stage director. During the late 1950s, they worked in the regional theaters of Hudson Valley, New York.

Other collaboration followed: including on the play *The Beheading* written by Thomas (Catherine) Muschamp, and *Ruffles First Lay* written by Maxwell. He also wrote two children's books that were published posthumously. Maxwell died in Los Angeles, California in 2000.

### **Custodial History**

The collection was maintained by M. David Samples. The Wayne F. Maxwell papers were separated from the M. David Samples papers in 2014.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The Wayne F. Maxwell papers, 1940s-2005, document his performing arts career mostly on Broadway, Off-Broadway and in regional theaters. Scripts comprise the bulk of the collection with several written by him.

This collection mostly reflects how Maxwell assiduously documented his career. There are four scrapbooks of photographs, programs, and reviews of Maxwell's performances from his middle school years to his time as a professional actor. The remainder of the collection is printed matter, some correspondence (mostly congratulatory), commercial photographs from plays, and two juvenile books.

### **Key Terms**

#### **Occupations**

Actors  
Authors, American  
Directors (performing arts)  
Playwrights

#### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Clippings  
Correspondence  
Photographs  
Scrapbooks  
Scripts (documents)

Theater programs

**Subjects**

Theater -- 20th century

Theater -- New York (State)

**Names**

Samples, M. David

## Container List

- b. 1 f. 1 Biographical Information [1940s-2005]  
Scripts
- b. 1 f. 2 *Bissell, Richard. Say Darling* 1959
- b. 1 f. 3 Blake, E. Untitled Play 1969
- b. 1 f. 4 *Burrill, Edgar W. Master Skylark* circa 1950s-1990s
- b. 1 f. 5 *Dunphy, Jack. The Gay Apprentice* 1960
- b. 1 f. 6-8 *Fugard, Atholl. The Blood Knot* 1968
- b. 1 f. 9 *Gagliano, Frank. The Library Raid* 1960
- b. 1 f. 10 *Giddings, Elaine. The Story of the Bible* circa 1950s-1990s
- b. 1 f. 11 *Gogol, Nikolai. The Gamblers* 1980
- b. 2 f. 1 *Hammond, Robert. Solitaire* circa 1950s-1990s
- b. 2 f. 2-3 *Ketron, Larry. Quail Southwest* 1977  
Two annotated versions.
- b. 2 f. 4-5 *Lipsky, Eleazar. Insufficient Evidence* 1977
- b. 2 f. 6 *Littlewood, Joan. Oh What a Lovely War!* 1963
- b. 2 f. 7 *Martin, Jane. One More Step* circa 1950s-1990s  
Maxwell, Wayne F
- b. 2 f. 8 *Ruffles First Lay* circa 1940s-1990s
- b. 3 f. 1 *Ruffles First Lay* circa 1940s-1990s  
Another annotated version.
- b. 3 f. 2 *There Could Be a Santa Claus* circa 1940s-1990s
- b. 3 f. 3-4 *There Isn't Any Santa Claus* circa 1940s-1990s  
Two annotated versions.
- b. 3 f. 5 *There Must Be a Santa Claus!* circa 1940s-1990s
- b. 3 f. 6 *The Tomato* circa 1940s-1990s
- b. 3 f. 7 *The Y!* 1971  
Annotated version.
- b. 4 f. 1-2 *The Y!* 1971
- b. 4 f. 3 *Volpone* circa 1940s-1990s
- b. 4 f. 4 *Miller, Arthur. A Memory of Two Mondays* 1955
- b. 4 f. 5-6 *O'Neill, Eugene. Diff'rent* 1961  
Two annotated versions.
- b. 4 f. 7 *O'Neill, Eugene. The Long Voyage Home* circa 1950s-1990s
- b. 4 f. 8 *Pendlebury, Robert. Manifest Destiny* 1976
- b. 4 f. 9 *Pettinelli, Frances. The Tenants' Association* 1976
- b. 5 f. 1 *Reel, Arthur. Candide* circa 1950s-1990s
- b. 5 f. 2 *Reel, Arthur. Heart of Darkness* circa 1950s-1990s
- b. 5 f. 3 *Saint-Exupery, Antoine de. The Little Prince* circa 1950s-1990s

Scripts (cont.)

- b. 5 f. 4 *Schiller, Rose Leiman. The Underground Bird* 1967
- b. 5 f. 5 *Shore, David. "Bait" for Law and Order* 1998
- b. 5 f. 6 *Shyre, Paul. Ah Men* 1981
- b. 5 f. 7-8 *Shyre, Paul. A Whitman Portrait* 1967  
Two annotated versions.
  
- b. 5 f. 9 *Taylor, Samuel. She Went That Way* circa 1950s-1990s
- b. 5 f. 10 *Taylor, Tom. Our American Cousin* circa 1950s-1990s
- b. 6 f. 1 *Wallace, Nancy. The Girl and the Mountain* circa 1950s-1990s
- b. 6 f. 2 *Wallop, Douglas. Stover at Yale* 1957
- b. 6 f. 3 *Whedon, John. Decision* 1961
- b. 6 f. 4 *Whedon, John. U.S. Grant* 1959
- b. 6 f. 5 *Wilder, Thornton. The Matchmaker* 1957
- b. 6 f. 6 *Wincelberg, Shimon. Katakai* 1958
- b. 6 f. 7 *Television Scripts* 1960s  
Assorted.
  
- b. 6 f. 8 *Unidentified Play* circa 1950s-1990s

Programs and Other Printed Matter

- b. 6 f. 9-11 *Theater Programs* 1950s-1960s
- b. 7 f. 1-4 *Theater Programs* 1960s-1970s
- b. 7 f. 5-6 *Theater Programs. Maxwell and Samples* 1958-1959
- b. 7 f. 7-10 *Articles Regarding Maxwell* 1950s-1970s
- b. 7 f. 11 *Juvenile Publications* 2003-2005
- b. 7 f. 12 *Correspondence* 1960s-1970s
- b. 7 f. 13 *Notebook* [1940s-2005]

Photographs

- b. 8 f. 1 *The Beaver Coat* 1977
- b. 8 f. 2 *The Beheading* 1972
- b. 8 f. 3 *Blue Denim* 1959
- b. 8 f. 4 *The Boy with a Cart* 1959
- b. 8 f. 5 *Compulsion* 1958
- b. 8 f. 6 *The Dark at the Top of the Stairs* 1957
- b. 8 f. 7 *Diff'rent* circa 1950s-1970s
- b. 8 f. 8 *Five Finger Exercise* circa 1960
- b. 8 f. 9 *Gallery of Characters* circa 1970
- b. 8 f. 10 *The Happiest Millionaire* 1959
- b. 8 f. 11 *The Happy Hunter* circa 1972
- b. 8 f. 12 *Katakai* 1956
- b. 8 f. 13 *The Knack* circa 1950s-1970s
- b. 8 f. 14 *Lillian* circa 1950s-1970s
- b. 8 f. 15 *Look Homeward Angel* circa 1950s-1970s
- b. 8 f. 16 *Loss of Roses* 1959

Photographs (cont.)

- b. 8 f. 17 *The Matchmaker* 1957
- b. 8 f. 18 *Night of the Auk* circa 1950s-1970s
- b. 8 f. 19 *On the March to the Sea* circa 1950s-1970s
- b. 8 f. 20 *Pictures in the Hallway* circa 1950s-1970s
- b. 8 f. 21 *Quail Southwest* circa 1950s-1970s
- b. 8 f. 22 *Romonoff Juliet* 1959
- b. 8 f. 23 *Room Service* circa 1950s-1970s
- b. 8 f. 24 *You Can't Take It With You* circa 1978
- b. 8 f. 25 *A Whitman Portrait* 1967
- b. 8 f. 26 *You Touched Me!* circa 1950s-1970s
- b. 8 f. 27 Unidentified photographs from plays circa 1950s-1970s
- b. 8 f. 28-30 Publicity Photographs 1960s-1970s
- b. 8 f. 31 Assorted Photographs [1940s-2005]

Scrapbooks

- b. 9 f. 1 1940s-1950s
- b. 10 f. 1 1950s
- b. 11 f. 1 1950s
- b. 12 f. 1 1950s-1970s