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Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

James Barton papers

1890s-1990s (bulk 1911-1962)

*T-Mss 1996-028

Compiled by Diana Bertolini, December 2012

Summary

Creator: Barton, James, 1890-1962

Title: James Barton papers, 1890s-1990s (bulk 1911-1962)

Size: 15.75 linear feet (47 boxes)

Source: Donated by Kathryn M. Barton, 1996.

Abstract: James Barton (1890-1962) was an American actor, singer, dancer and comedian in vaudeville, theatre, film and television. The James Barton papers document the career and personal life of James Barton through production files, scripts, sheet music, photographs, scrapbooks, contracts, publicity materials, correspondence, and personal ephemera.

Access: Collection is open to the public. Library policy on photography and photocopying will apply. Advance notice maybe required.

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Preferred citation: James Barton papers, Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: This collection arrived sorted very roughly by format; that arrangement has been maintained as much as possible, and reordered either in alphabetical or chronological order.

Related collections

James Barton Collection of Non-commercial Sound Recordings. Performing Arts Research Collections - Recorded Sound, New York Public Library.

Creator history

James Barton (1890-1962) was an American actor, singer, dancer and comedian in vaudeville, theatre, film, and television. Barton was born in Gloucester City, New Jersey, into a theatrical family. His parents James Barton Sr. and Clara Barton were vaudeville performers who also managed their own repertory company. James Jr. made his debut as a child in a scene with his father and would spend the rest of his life performing.

After many years touring and appearing regionally, Barton hit the big time when he was cast in *The Passing Show* of 1919, produced by Broadway's reigning king, Florenz Ziegfeld. His star continued to burn bright on Broadway for the next decade or so, with roles in operettas such as *The Last Waltz* (1921), and *The Rose of Stamboul* (1922), the musical comedy *Dew Drop Inn* (1923), and revues such as *The Passing Show* of 1924, *No Foolin'* (1926) and *Sweet and Low* (1930).

Barton was mainly a comic song and dance man in these shows, famous for his drunk act, a soft shoe dance routine, which he would revive throughout his career. Barton's truly American dance style was unique in combining the dances from his own Irish-American background with dance moves he learned from African-American performers he had worked with in burlesque and vaudeville.

However, he was also a serious dramatic actor. In 1930 he starred in Arthur Hopkins' Pulitzer Prize winning play *Moonshine*. The culmination of the first phase of Barton's Broadway career was his starring role as Jeeter Lester in Jack Kirkland's blockbuster play, *Tobacco Road* (1933). Barton was not the original Jeeter, but after taking over from Henry Hull in 1934, Barton became the most celebrated Jeeter. He played the role on and off for the next 5 years, clocking in over 2,000 of *Tobacco Road*'s 3,100 performances.

In the mid-1930s, Barton also flirted with a film career. He had starring roles in *Captain Hurricane* and *His Family Tree*, both in 1935, and a few other supporting roles, but failed to achieve movie superstardom.

Back on Broadway, Barton starred in one of many failed attempts to revive the dying musical form, the revue. Alexander Cohen's *Bright Light* of 1944 folded after only four performances. A more satisfying stage role came along in 1946, when Barton was hired by the Theatre Guild for a small role in Eugene O'Neill's *The Iceman Cometh*. Shortly before the play opened, he was promoted to the lead role of Benjamin Hickman (Hickey), in what would be the greatest dramatic role of his career.

Barton went back to films for a few years appearing in dramas *The Time of Your Life* (1948) and *The Scarf* (1951); musicals *The Daughter of Rosie O'Grady* (1950), *Wabash Avenue* (1950), and *Golden Girl* (1951); and the comedy *Here Comes the Groom* (1951).

In 1951 Barton returned to New York for another stage triumph in the musical *Paint Your Wagon*. Barton starred as California gold prospector Ben Rumson. The show had music by Frederick Loewe, book and lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner, and choreography by Agnes DeMille. Despite a widely praised score, some critics felt that the tone of the book was too dark for a musical comedy, but all agreed that Barton was wonderful. Lerner had written the role for him and even created a spot (following his song "In Between") for Barton's legendary drunk dance.

After a break in the early 1950s, following a period of illness, Barton did a lot of television work, appearing in several episodes of *Lux Video Theatre* (1952-1956), *Kraft Theatre* (1954-1957), and *Naked City* (1959-1961), and individual episodes of other shows as well. He also did a few films here and there like *The Naked Hills* (1956) and *Quantz* (1957). On a brief hiatus in New York he starred in the short-lived comedy *The Sin of Pat Muldoon* (1957), which featured Elaine Stritch. His final film role was a brief comic bit in Arthur Miller's *The Misfits* (1961).

In 1912, Barton married Otilia Kleinicke, though they separated after a few years. Later he married dancer Kathryn Mullin (known on stage as Kathryn Penman). Barton and his second wife were an extremely devoted couple for the 35 years they spent together. He died of a heart attack in Mineola, New York on February 19, 1962. Kathryn Barton died in the mid 1990s.

Scope and content note

The James Barton papers represent the career and personal life of American actor James Barton. The Productions Series consists of scripts and publicity materials from the theatre film and television productions James Barton performed in from the late 1890s until his death in 1962. The Sheet Music series contains scores for songs Barton performed and other popular songs of the day. Photographs include professional and candid shots of Barton, productions he appeared in, his wife Kathryn, his family, and other friends and colleagues. The Personal Files include an address book, drafts and notes for an autobiography, correspondence, diaries, membership cards, various notes and miscellany and files pertaining to professional organizations of which Barton was a member, most notably, the Lambs Club. Contracts and clippings documenting Barton's life and career are also present in the Contracts series, the Clippings Series and in the Scrapbooks series.

In addition to James Barton's papers, this collection also includes materials collected by his wife Kathryn Barton (née Mullin/Penman) for thirty years after his death. Most of this pertains to James Barton, but some of it pertains to Kathryn Barton.

One box of memorabilia including make-up, nose molds, wig base, combs and mirrors, and a single spat, has been separated to the T-Cabinet and will be available to researchers on request.

Arrangement

The James Barton papers are organized into the following series:

Series I: Productions, 1890s-1968
Series II: Sheet Music, 1911-1959
Series III: Photographs, ca. 1900-1962
Series IV: Personal Files, 1910s-1990s
Series V: Contracts, 1910s-1960s
Series VI: Clippings, 1900s-1980s
Series VII: Scrapbooks, 1905-1962

Key terms

Subjects

Dance -- United States -- 20th century
Motion pictures -- United States -- 20th century
Television -- United States -- 20th century
Theater -- New York (N.Y.) -- 20th century
Vaudeville -- United States -- 20th century

Occupations

Actors
Dancers

Names

Barton, James, 1890-1962
Barton, Kathryn Mullin

Special formats

Clippings
Contracts
Photographs
Scores
Scrapbooks

Scripts

Container list

Series I: Productions, 1890s-1968 (7 boxes)

This series is largely made up of scripts and sides. Other production files present in this series are call sheets, schedules, publicity materials, programs, posters, flyers and occasionally correspondence or box office sheets. Photographs, contracts and clippings pertaining to productions can also be found in their respective series. All correspondence, including that which pertains to productions, will be found in Personal Files. Arranged in alphabetical order, by show title

Script only, unless otherwise noted

- b.1 f.1 *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, 1959
- b.1 f.2 *A Bargain with God*, 1953
- b.1 f.3 *The Barker*, undated
- b.1 f.4 *The Big Break*, undated
- b.1 f.5 *Bright Lights of 1944*, 1944 (Programs only)
- b.1 f.6 *Burlesque*, undated
- b.2 f.1 *Captain Hurricane*, 1935 (Publicity materials and call sheet only)
- b.2 f.2-3 *The Daughter of Rosie O'Grady*, 1948-1949
- b.2 f.4 *Death of a Salesman*, 1948
- b.2 f.5-6 *Dew Drop Inn*, 1923, undated (Publicity materials and script)
- b.2 f.7 *Diz Must Be der Plaze*, 1955
- b.2 f.8-9 *The Drunkard*, 1933, 1945, undated (Program, invitation and script)
- b.3 f.1 *Either End of the Gun*, undated
- b.3 f.2-3 *Finian's Rainbow*, 1947, 1959 (Programs and script)
- b.3 f.4-5 *Free and Equal*, 1942 (Programs and script)
- b.3 f.6 *Fun with Dunn*, 1944
- b.3 f.7 *Funny Man*, 1937
- b.3 f.8 *The Girl from Nantucket*, 1945 (Programs and correspondence only)
- b.3 f.9 *Here Comes the Groom*, 1951 (Call sheet only)
- b.3 f.10 *His Family Tree*, 1935 (Publicity materials only)
- b.36 f.2 *His Family Tree*, 1935 (Poster)
- b.3 f.11-12 *The Iceman Cometh*, 1947, undated (Program and script)
- b.3 f.13 *The Jim Barton Show*, undated
- b.3 f.14 "Joey" Series, 1958
- b.4 f.1-2 *Knickerbocker Holiday*, 1940, undated (Program and script)
- b.4 f.3 *The Last Waltz*, 1931
- b.4 f.4 *Mad Dog or Those Good Old Days*, 1952-1954 (Scripts and correspondence)
- b.4 f.5 *The Man from Mars*, undated
- b.4 f.6 *Man on a White Horse*, undated
- b.4 f.7 *Mandingo*, undated
- b.4 f.8 *The Mirical of Doc Johnson*, 1956
The word "miracle" is misspelled in the title.
- b.4 f.9-10 *The Misfits*, 1960, 1961 (Premiere invitation and script)

Series I: Productions, 1890s-1968 (cont.)

- b.4 f.11 *The Naked City*, 1958, 1959
- b.5 f.1-2 *One Man in a Million*, undated (Script and poster)
- b.5 f.3-4 *Paddy*, 1938
- b.5 f.5-7 *Paint Your Wagon*, 1950-1968
Scripts, programs, flyers, box office reports and other production files
- b.5 f.8 *The Passing Show*, 1919 (Program only)
- b.5 f.9 *Peck's Bad Boy*, 1911 (Call sheet only)
- b.5 f.10 *Peep*, 1955
- b.5 f.11 *The Pest*, undated
- b.5 f.12 *The Prison of the Castle D'if*, undated
- b.6 f.1 *The Real McCoys*, 1955
- b.6 f.2 *The Rifleman*, 1959
- b.6 f.3 *The Shepherd of the Hills*, undated
Premiere invitation and Barton hair sample
- b.6 f.4 *The Sophie Tucker Story*, undated
- b.6 f.5 *Strike Me Pink*, 1934 (Programs and call sheet)
- b.6 f.6 *The Tall Tales of Uncle Jim*, undated
- b.6 f.7 *Tennessee's Partner*, undated
- b.6 f.8-10 *The Time of Your Life*, 1947, 1948, undated (Scripts and program)
- b.6 f.11-12 *Tobacco Road*, 1938-1944 (Scripts and programs)
- b.6 f.13 *27 Wagons Full of Cotton/Lord Byron's Love Letter*, undated
- b.7 f.1 *U.S. (Sam) Grant*, 1939
- b.7 f.2 *Wabash Avenue*, 1949 (Production credits list)
- b.7 f.3-4 *When Summer Comes*, undated (Scripts and flyers)
- b.7 f.5 *The Window Washer*, undated
- b.7 f.6-8 Various Productions, 1920s-1960s
Script fragments, programs and call sheets
- b.7 f.9-10 Vaudeville and Personal Appearances, 1890s-1940s
Programs, flyers and publicity materials. Includes Barton's parents James Barton and Clara Barton

Series II: Sheet Music, 1911-1959 (11 boxes)

This series contains sheet music for over 160 songs. Some of these songs were performed by Barton in stage and film productions. Many were used in his vaudeville acts, or perhaps submitted to him for that use. This rich collection of songs, ranging from the familiar to the obscure, will be a valuable resource for those interested in early and mid-twentieth century American popular song. Arranged in alphabetical order, by song title

- b.8 f.1 "Abraham Lincoln", 1942
- b.8 f.2 "Ain't Got Nothing Now", undated
- b.8 f.3 "Algazaner", undated
- b.8 f.4 "Alexander's Ragtime Band", 1938

Series II: Sheet Music, 1911-1959 (cont.)

- b.8 f.5 "All Right, Louie, Drop the Gun", 1949
- b.8 f.6 "Along Tobacco Road", 1930s
- b.8 f.7-8 "Annabelle Lee", 1927, 1943
- b.9 f.1-2 "Annabelle Lee", 1927, 1943, undated
- b.9 f.4 "Baby, Who's Your Headache Now?", undated
- b.9 f.5 "Ballet No. 5", undated
- b.9 f.6 "Ballin' the Jack", 1932
- b.9 f.7 Barton Crazy Dance, undated
- b.9 f.8 Barton Dance (Faust), undated
- b.10 f.1 "Beau Night in Hotchkiss Corners", 1941
- b.10 f.2 "Boogie Woogie", 1942, 1943
- b.10 f.3 "Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?", 1932
- b.10 f.4 "Caledonia", 1945
- b.10 f.5 "Christopher Columbus", 1938
- b.10 f.6 "Clarabelle", undated
- b.10 f.7 "Cobble Stone", undated
- b.10 f.8 "Constantinople", 1928
- b.10 f.9 "Cyrano de Bergerac", undated
- b.11 f.1 Dance Medley, 1939
- b.11 f.2 "Dance of the Hours", 1911
- b.11 f.3 "Destiny", 1912
- b.11 f.4 "Diane", 1927
- b.11 f.5 "Dollie", undated
- b.11 f.6 "Don't Take My Breath Away", 1923
- b.11 f.7 "Everything Happens for the Best", 1951
- b.11 f.8 "Ev'ry Time I Pick a Sweetie", undated
- b.11 f.9 "Experience", undated
- b.11 f.10 "Fabricatin' Phil", undated
- b.11 f.11 "Far-Away Love", 1949
- b.11 f.12 "Fare Thee Well Annabelle", 1934
- b.11 f.13 "Feudin' and Fightin'", 1947
- b.11 f.14 "For Me and My Gal", 1945
- b.11 f.15 "Forgetting You", 1928
- b.12 f.1 "Forty-Second Street", undated
- b.12 f.2 "Four Million Stars", undated
- b.12 f.3 "Get Yourself a New Broom", 1933

Series II: Sheet Music, 1911-1959 (cont.)

- b.12 f.4 "Ghost Dance", 1911
- b.12 f.5 "Goin' to Heaven on a Mule", undated
- b.12 f.6 "Green River", undated
- b.12 f.7 "Happy New Year to You", 1959
- b.12 f.8 "Hasta Manana", 1924
- b.12 f.9 "He May Be Your Good Man Friday", undated
- b.12 f.10 "Heidi", 1949
- b.12 f.11 "Honey", undated
- b.12 f.12 "Hottest Gal in Tennessee", undated
- b.12 f.13 "How Come You Do Me Like You Do", 1924, 1942
- b.13 f.1 "I Ain't Mad at You", 1947
- b.13 f.2 "I Can Tell a Vision", undated
- b.13 f.3 "I Can't Give You Anything But Love", 1946, undated
- b.13 f.4 "I Don't Want Any Labor in My Job", 1949
- b.13 f.5 "I Had a Hat", 1951
- b.13 f.6 "I Hope I Don't Meet Molly (On the Day I Marry Flo)", 1928
- b.13 f.7 "I Still See Elisa", 1951-1959
- b.13 f.8 "I Wonder Where My Baby is Tonight", 1925
- b.13 f.9 "I'd Do Anything for You", 1929
- b.13 f.10 "I'll Shed No Tears Over You", 1951
- b.13 f.11 "I'm All Dressed Up with a Broken Heart", undated
- b.13 f.12 "I'm Sorry Sally", 1928
- b.13 f.13 "In Between", 1951
- b.13 f.14 "In Old Vienna", undated
- b.13 f.15 "In the Evening", 1928
- b.13 f.16 "Is You Is", 1944
- b.13 f.17 "It's My Night to Howl", 1934
- b.13 f.18 "I've Been Floating Down the Old Green River", undated
- b.14 f.1 "(John Coventry) The Lonely One", undated
- b.14 f.2 "Keep 'Em Guessing", 1949
- b.14 f.3 "Kelly's a Soldier Now", undated
- b.14 f.4 "The King's Horses", 1930, 1931
- b.14 f.5 "The Last Waltz", 1921
- b.14 f.6 "The Law Is Comin' fer You, Paw", 1948
- b.14 f.7 "Laugh Clown Laugh", undated
- b.14 f.8 "Lawd, You Made the Night Too Long", undated

Series II: Sheet Music, 1911-1959 (cont.)

- b.14 f.9 "Mama Had a Papa", 1925, undated
- b.14 f.10 "Mazuma", 1922
- b.14 f.11 Medley, undated
- b.14 f.12 "The Memphis Blues", 1950
- b.14 f.13 "Mindin' My Bus'ness", 1923
- b.14 f.14 "Minnie Ha Ha", undated
- b.14 f.15 "Morning Kisses", 1923
- b.14 f.16 "Mr. T. Pocket Blues", undated
- b.14 f.17 "My First Sweetheart", 1928
- b.14 f.18 "My Man", undated
- b.14 f.19 "My Own True Love and I", 1949
- b.14 f.20 "My Sweet Hunk o' Trash", 1949
- b.14 f.21 "My Sweetie Went Away", 1923, 1932
- b.15 f.1 "The Night the Bottle Hit Him on the Head", undated
- b.15 f.2 "A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square", 1950
- b.15 f.3 "No Accounts", undated
- b.15 f.4 "No Labor in My Job", undated
- b.15 f.5 "Ol' Man Devil", 1933
- b.15 f.6 "On the Road to Mandalay", 1907
- b.15 f.7 "One More Time", 1931
- b.15 f.8 "La Paloma", 1911
- b.15 f.9 "Parade of the Wooden Soldiers", undated
- b.15 f.10 "The Party at the Firehouse", 1949
- b.15 f.11 "Peace, Sister, Peace", 1949
- b.15 f.12 "Peer Gynt Suite", 1925
- b.15 f.13 "Pell Mell Dear", 1944
- b.15 f.14 "Phil the Fluter's Ball", 1937
- b.15 f.15 "Pistol Packin' Mama", 1943
- b.15 f.16 "Play That Barber Shop Chord", 1910
- b.15 f.17 "Polly", 1924
- b.15 f.18 "A Porter's Love Song", 1930, 1958
- b.15 f.19 "The Pullman Porters on Parade", 1903
- b.15 f.20 "Put Your Arms around Me, Honey", 1937
- b.15 f.21 "Rhapsody", undated
- b.15 f.22 "Rock-A-Bye Your Baby with a Dixie Melody", 1946
- b.15 f.23 "Roll On, Mississippi, Roll On", undated

Series II: Sheet Music, 1911-1959 (cont.)

- b.15 f.24 "Rumba Boogie", 1946
- b.15 f.25 "Rumbaland Album", 1930
- b.16 f.1 "Saint Louis Blues", 1914
- b.16 f.2 "Shabby Genteel", undated
- b.16 f.3 "Shake Hands with a Millionaire", 1933
- b.16 f.4 "Shake the Hand of the Man", 1947
- b.16 f.5 "Shallowmay", 1949
- b.16 f.6 "She's a Home Girl", 1928
- b.16 f.7 "Snowflakes in July", undated
- b.16 f.8 "Soup Song", undated
- b.16 f.9 "Spanish Dance", undated
- b.16 f.10 "The Spell of the Blues", undated
- b.16 f.11 "Spread Some Lovin'", undated
- b.16 f.12 "Stars and Stripes Forever", undated
- b.16 f.13 "Swanee River Blues", undated
- b.17 f.29 "Sweet and Low", 1930
- b.17 f.1 "Sweet Rosie O'Grady", 1923
- b.17 f.2 "Sweet to Mah Feet", undated
- b.17 f.3 "That's the Kind of Man for Me", 1931
- b.17 f.4 "Theatrical Budget", 1923
- b.18 f.1 "Thoughtless", 1943
- b.17 f.5 "The Tinker Song", undated
- b.17 f.6 "Tin Pan Parade", 1927
- b.17 f.7 "To You and Yours a Merry Christmas", undated
- b.17 f.8 "The Toymaker's Dream", 1929
- b.17 f.9 "Tuxedo Junction", undated
- b.17 f.10 "Wait 'til the Clouds Roll By", undated
- b.17 f.11 "Waitin' for the Evening Mail", undated
- b.17 f.12 "Wandrin' Star", 1951
- b.17 f.13 "Wash Me Mother", undated
- b.17 f.14 "Washington--Lincoln--Grant", undated
- b.17 f.15 "Way Down South where the Blues Began", 1932
- b.17 f.16 "We're on God's Side", 1942
- b.17 f.17 "What Do Other Folks Do?", 1951
- b.17 f.18 "When Sweet Susie Goes Steppin' By", 1928
- b.17 f.19 "Whoop-Ti-Ay", 1951

Series II: Sheet Music, 1911-1959 (cont.)

- b.17 f.20 "When I Take My Sugar to Tea", 1931
- b.17 f.21 "When the Gang's All Gone", 1936
- b.17 f.22 "When You See Lucy", 1930
- b.17 f.23 "Where Is My Gal", undated
- b.17 f.24 "While I Played My Spanish Guitar", 1927
- b.17 f.25 "Why Can't You Love That Way?", 1929
- b.9 f.3 "Why Do They All Die at the End of a Classical Dance", 1921
- b.17 f.26 "Why Do They All Die at the End of a Classical Dance", 1921
- b.17 f.27 "Why Don't You Do Right", 1942
- b.17 f.28 "The Wolf is on the Loose Again", 1951
- b.18 f.2 "Yeller Dog", undated
- b.18 f.3 "Yes, I Love You, Honey", 1931
- b.18 f.4 "You Can't Lose a Broken Heart", 1949
- b.18 f.5 "You Can't Take My Dreams from Me", 1951
- b.18 f.6-7 "You Made Me Love You", 1959, undated
- b.18 f.8 "Young at Heart", 1954
- b.18 f.9 Miscellaneous , 1932, undated
- b.18 f.10 Various Lyric Sheets, undated
- b.18 f.11 Various Fragments, undated

Series III: Photographs, ca. 1900-1962 (6 boxes)

This series consists of professional and candid photographs of James Barton. There are publicity shots, production stills, live performance shots, and rehearsal and on-set candids from Barton's stage film and television work. Also present are posed full body and head shots, and a smaller number of candids of Barton, his wife Kathryn Penman, his family (many of whom were also performers) and various friends and associates.

Productions (Arranged in alphabetical order by show title)

- b.19 f.1 *Adventures in Paradise*: "Hill of Ghosts", 1961
- b.19 f.2 *Captain Hurricane*, 1934-1935
- b.36 f.3 *Captain Hurricane*, 1934-1935
- b.19 f.3-5 *The Daughter of Rosie O'Grady*, 1950
- b.20 f.1 *Finian's Rainbow*, 1959
- b.20 f.2 *Frontier Circus*: "The Clan MacDuff", 1962
- b.20 f.3 *Golden Girl*, 1951
- b.20 f.4 *His Family Tree*, 1935
- b.36 f.4 *His Family Tree*, 1935
- b.20 f.5 *The Iceman Cometh*, 1946
- b.20 f.6 *Knickerbocker Holiday*, 1940

Series III: Photographs, ca. 1900-1962 (cont.)

Productions (cont.)

Kraft Theatre

- b.20 f.7 "The Big Break", 1957
- b.20 f.8 "Boys Will Be Boys", 1955
- b.20 f.9 "A Christmas Dinner", 1955
- b.20 f.10 "One Man in a Million", 1955
- b.20 f.11 "Summer's End", 1955
- b.46 *Make It Snappy*, 1923
Three foot long panorama of cast on the beach at Atlantic City
- b.20 f.12 *The Misfits*, 1960
- b.20 f.13 *Moonshine*, 1930
- b.20 f.14 *The Naked Hills*, 1956
- b.20 f.15 *Paint Your Wagon*, 1951
- b.36 f.5 *Paint Your Wagon*, 1951
- b.20 f.16 *The Passing Show*, 1919
- b.20 f.17 *Quantez*, 1957
- b.20 f.18 *The Scarf*, 1950
- b.20 f.19 *Schlitz Playhouse*: "The Sail", 1953
- b.20 f.20 *The Shepherd of the Hills*, 1941
- b.21 f.1 *The Sin of Pat Muldoon*, 1957
- b.21 f.2 *Studio One in Hollywood*: "The Tale of St. Emergency", 1956
- b.21 f.3 *The Time of Your Life*, 1947
- b.21 f.4 *Tobacco Road*, 1933, undated
- b.36 f.6 *Tobacco Road*, 1930s
- b.21 f.5 *The Under Dog*, 1932
- b.21 f.6 *Wabash Avenue*, 1950
- b.21 f.7 *The Whole Show*, 1934
- b.21 f.8 *Yellow Sky*, 1948
- b.21 f.9 Unknown Productions, 1910s-1960s
- b.21 f.10 Solo Performances-Live, 1920s-1950s

Photographs of Barton, undated

- b.22 f.1 Arrow Beer Endorsement
- b.22 f.2 Barton with wife Kathryn "Kay" Barton
- b.22 f.3-4 Candids
- b.22 f.5 Headshots
- b.36 f.7 Headshots
- b.22 f.6 Posed Shots

Series III: Photographs, ca. 1900-1962 (cont.)

- b.22 f.7-9 Family and Friends, undated
Includes photographs of Barton's parents, his uncle John Barton and other relatives, his wife Kathryn, and various friends and associates
- b.36 f.8 Family and Friends, undated (Kathryn "Kay" Barton)
- b.23 f.1-2 Family and Friends, undated
- b.23 f.3 Pets, Sports, Houses and Boats, undated
- b.23 f.4 Theatres, undated
- b.36 f.9 Unknown, undated

Series IV: Personal Files, 1910s-1990s (12 boxes)

- b.25 f.4 Address Book, circa 1950
- b.25 f.5-6 Barton Biography Drafts and Notes
Correspondence (Arranged in chronological order)
The correspondence mostly pertains to Barton's acting career. It includes letters about contractual negotiations, good luck and congratulatory telegrams and some interesting letters from impresarios Florenz Ziegfeld and Charles Dillingham critiquing Barton's performances. There is also an exchange regarding an official reprimand from Actors' Equity, which Barton received while appearing in Tobacco Road.
- b.23 f.5-6 1910s-1930s
- b.24 f.1-6 1920s-1960s
- b.25 f.1 Undated
- b.25 f.2-3 Kay Barton, 1970s
Diaries (Arranged in chronological order)
- b.26 f.1-5 1947-1955
- b.27 f.1-6 1956-1963
- b.28 f.1-6 1964-1976
- b.29 f.1-3 1976-1982
- b.29 f.4 Membership Cards, undated
Notes and Miscellany
- b.29 f.5 James Barton, 1920s-1960s
- b.30 f.1 Kathryn Barton, 1960s-1990s
Professional Organizations (Arranged in chronological order)
The Materials on professional organizations consist of programs, scripts, invitations, menus, posters and photographs from benefits, memorials, salutes and other events. The bulk of these materials are from the Lambs Club, though other institutions represented include the Boosters' Club, ANTA (American National Theatre and Academy), the Hollywood Chapter of Catholics, the Ziegfeld Club Inc., the Catholic Actors' Guild of America, the Negro Actors Guild of America, and the Actors' Fund.
- b.30 f.2-5 1920s-1960s
- b.45 The Lambs Award, 1957
- b.46 The Lambs Posters and Photograph, 1961

Series IV: Personal Files, 1910s-1990s (cont.)

Professional Organizations (cont.)

- b.31 f.1-2 1970s, undated
- b.35 f.6 Religious Notebook (Kathryn Barton), undated

Series V: Contracts, 1910s-1960s (2 boxes)

This series provides a comprehensive history of Barton's career, with contracts from the 1910s to the 1960s. If looking for contracts from a particular production, they will be found in the folder(s) covering the date span that production falls under. Arranged in chronological order.

- b.31 f.3-7 1910s-1930s
- b.32 f.1-8 1930s-1960s, undated

Series VI: Clippings, 1900s-1980s (4 boxes)

This series documents Barton's career and personal life through clippings from American newspapers and magazines from the 1900s to the 1980s. Both national and local publications are present here. After Barton's death in 1962, his wife, Kathryn Barton, continued to collect clippings pertaining to him and her, his career, and his collaborators. If looking for clippings pertaining to a particular production, they will be found in the folder(s) covering the date span that production falls under. Clippings will also be found in Series VII: Scrapbooks. Arranged in chronological order.

- b.33 f.1-5 1900s-1950s
- b.36 f.1 1950s
- b.34 f.1-4 1950s-1960s
- b.35 f.1-4 1970s-1980s, undated

Series VII: Scrapbooks, 1905-1962 (11 boxes)

Scrapbooks, containing clippings, photographs, and ephemera, represent Barton's career and life from his early vaudeville career in 1905 to his death in 1962. Arranged in chronological order.

- b.47 f.1-4 1905-1921
- b.37 1911-1938
- b.38 1914-1935
- b.35 f.5 1930s
- b.39 1933-1938
- b.40 1936-1947
- b.41 1939-1951
- b.42 1940-1952
- b.43 1948-1952
- b.44 1951-1962
- b.45 1952-1962