



The New York Public Library
Jerome Robbins Dance Division

Guide to the

Morton Baum papers

1945-1968

(S) *MGZMD 349

Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2014

Summary

Creator: Baum, Morton, 1905-1968

Title: Morton Baum papers

Date: 1945-1968

Size: .42 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Gift of an unknown donor.

Abstract: Morton Baum (1905-1968) was a New York tax lawyer who helped to draft legislation that created the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA). The Morton Baum papers (1945-1968) contain documents concerning the creation of NYSCA, as well as a small amount of material relating to Baum's other public service activities.

Conditions Governing Use: The author/creator retains copyright of materials. For information on obtaining permission to publish, contact the Dance Division at dance@nypl.org.

Preferred citation: Morton Baum papers, (S) *MGZMD 349. Jerome Robbins Dance Division, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2014 Original order was maintained.

Creator History

Morton Baum (1905-1968) was a New York tax lawyer who was active in various arts organizations, notably the New York City Center, of which he was a co-founder. He was a member of the City Center executive committee beginning in 1943, and became chairman in 1966. Baum helped to draft legislation which created the New York State Council on the Arts.

Scope and Content Note

The Morton Baum papers (1945-1968) contain correspondence, clippings, drafts of legislation, notes,

and other documents concerning the creation of the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA). NYSCA materials chiefly date from 1957 to 1963 and include correspondence with Senator MacNeil Mitchell, who introduced the bill creating NYSCA, and John MacFadyen, executive director of NYSCA. A draft of a 1945 bill to create a temporary commission to study state cultural resources, along with notes on the bill and the commission, is also present. The collection holds a small amount of material relating to other organizations with which Baum was involved.

Key Terms

Names

New York State Council on the Arts

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1-9 NYSCA 1945-1963
- b. 1 f. 10-11 Miscellaneous Correspondence 1946-1950, 1967-1968