Descriptive Summary

Title: George Freedley Papers, ca. 1861-1971
Collection ID: *T-Mss 2003-052
Creator: Freedley, George, 1904-
Extent: 29.5 linear feet, 52 boxes (5 vols., 1 oversize folder
Abstract: Papers of George Freedley, author, educator, theatre critic, librarian and founder of the Theatre Collection of the New York Public Library.
Languages Represented: English

Administrative Information
Source: The collection was donated to the Billy Rose Theatre Division and to the Manuscripts Division of the New York Public Library by George Freedley. The two sets of papers have been integrated and are now organized as one collection.
Access: Collection is open to the public. Photocopying prohibited. Advance notice may be required.
Biographical Note

George Reynolds Freedley, author, librarian, lecturer, educator, and theatre critic was born September 5, 1904 in Richmond, Virginia. He was the son of George Jacoby Freedley and Maude A. Reynolds. Freedley graduated from the University of Richmond in 1925. He studied at Yale University, where he was a student of George Pierce Baker from 1926 to 1928, and received his Master of Fine Arts in drama in 1936. After leaving Yale in 1926 Freedley worked in the theatre in various capacities, including three years as an assistant technical director and a stage manager of the New York Theatre Guild. As an actor, Freedley appeared in *The Grey Fox* (1928), *The Camel Through the Needle's Eye* (1929), and *Everything's Jake* (1930). Freedley began his career at the New York Public Library in the picture collection. When David Belasco's papers were donated to the library with the stipulation that they be made available to the public, Freedley was selected to organize them and the Theatre Collection was born. Beginning in 1931 as "librarian in charge", Freedley was appointed curator of the Theatre Collection in 1938. Except for a brief absence from 1948 to 1950 when he took a position as Chief Play Reader for A & S Lyons, Freedley retained his curatorial post at the library until 1965 when poor health made it necessary for him to change his status to that of a consultant to the Collection.

During his tenure at the library Freedley also pursued his work on behalf of theatre history and theatre librarianship through numerous professional affiliations. He established the Theatre Library Association and served as its president from 1937 to 1963. He also served on the board of the American National Theatre and Academy (ANTA) from 1946 to 1964. Freedley gave his time and expertise to many organizations promoting international cultural exchange including the International Federation for Theatre Research and the Société Universelle du Théâtre. He was a delegate to the UNESCO Theatre Conference in Paris (1948) where the International Theatre Institute was established. Other organizational affiliations included: American Educational

Freedley wrote frequently on the theatre, theatre education and theatre librarianship. He was a regular columnist for Playbill and the dramatic critic (1938-1947), book editor and drama feature writer (1947-1967) for the Morning Telegraph (New York). He was also a reviewer of theatrical books for Publisher's Weekly. Freedley's monographs include The Lunts: a Biography (1957), Simon Lissim: a Biography (1949), A History of Modern Drama (with Barrett H. Clark, 1947), and A History of the Theatre (with J.A. Reeves, 1941). In 1960 Freedley published a memoir of his cat: Mr. Cat, and he also wrote More Mr. Cat in 1961. During his lifetime Freedley was honored many times receiving the Kelcey Allen Award in 1956 and the Theta Alpha Phi Educational Award in 1957. He also accepted a Tony on behalf of the Theatre Collection in 1956. George Freedley died on September 7, 1967.
Scope and Content Note

The George Freedley Papers span the years 1861 to 1971 with the bulk of the material ranging from 1935 to 1966. The papers consist of correspondence, writings, clippings, biographical material, research materials, photographs, scrapbooks and miscellaneous items documenting Freedley's career as a librarian, lecturer and writer. The papers also include a collection of greeting cards from theatrical personalities.

George Freedley's involvement with the theatre began during his college days and continued as the focus of his work for the ensuing 40 years. This focus was evident in his endeavors including the Theatre Collection, his writings, reviews, speaking engagements and organizational affiliations, and is documented in this collection. Freedley was known and respected by a wide range of theatre professionals from Broadway to the academic community, both here and in England. The collection includes letters from actors, producers, designers, critics, and writers, including Carl Theodore Dreyer, Hallie Flanagan, Rosamond Gilder, Lillian Gish, Phyllis Hartnoll, Simon Lissim, Flora Robson and John Van Druten. It also contains material relating to Freedley's work in organizations such as ANTA, the International Theatre Institute and the National Theatre Conference to promote theatre scholarship and international cultural exchange. Freedley also worked on projects to identify and describe theatre collections throughout the world and to make that information available to researchers.
Organization
Series I: Correspondence
  o Sub-series 1 - General
  o Sub-series 2 - Individuals
  o Sub-series 3 - *A History of the Theatre*
  o Sub-series 4 - *A History of Modern Drama*
• Series II: Writings
• Series III: Projects
• Series IV: Organizations
• Series V: Personal Papers
  o Sub-series 1 - Personal Papers
  o Sub-series 2 - Date Books
• Series VI: Clippings
  o Sub-series 1 - Clippings re: Freedley
  o Sub-series 2 - Clippings by Freedley
• Series VII: Photographs
• Series VIII: Greeting Cards
• Series IX: Scrapbooks
  o Sub-series 1 - New York Public Library
  o Sub-series 2 - Miscellaneous Scrapbooks
• Series X: Bound Volumes
• Series XI: Oversized Materials
Series Descriptions/Container List

Series I - Correspondence, 1924-1967
8 boxes, 11 folders

Chronological

The files are almost exclusively incoming letters documenting personal and professional matters, including letters relating to two of Freedley's books.

Sub-series 1: General correspondence, 1924-1967
6 Boxes, 13 Folders

Chronological

General correspondence includes personal and professional correspondence from Freedley's friends and colleagues. Freedley corresponded with a great number of writers, producers, critics, scholars, actors, and other theatre professionals. The correspondence includes references to drama in America and England, discussion of various theatre awards, social engagements, reference requests, and requests for help in finding work or in critiquing a manuscript. Among writers the collection includes letters from Edward Albee, Robert Anderson, Lewis John Carlino, Marc Connelly, Dina Forbes-Robertson, James Leo Herlihy, Herbert Kubly, Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee, Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, Gertrude Norman, Phillip Pruneau, Elmer Rice, Dodie Smith, Gerard Willem Van Loon, and Thornton Wilder. Producers and directors who corresponded with Freedley include F. Ray Comstock, Cheryl Crawford, Hallie Flanagan, Margo Jones, Elia Kazan, John Reich, and
Henry Schnitzler. The collection also includes letters from the actors Mady Christians, Eva Condon, Tamara Daykarhanova, Grace Elliston, Lillian Gish, Sam Jaffe, Eva Le Gallienne, Alfred Lunt, Mary Martin (one letter describes her experiences in *South Pacific* in London in 1947), Laurence Olivier, Flora Robson, Tonio Selwart, and Blanche Yurka. Scholars, theatre historians, and critics include Julius Bab, John Beaufort, William G.B. Carson, George Eells, John Gassner, Rosamond Gilder, Phyllis Hartnoll, Burns Mantle, Allardyce Nicoll, Kenneth Tynan, and Willela Waldorf. Other correspondents include Marta Abba, Simon Lissim, Erwin and Maria Piscator, and Lee Simonson. Some of the most frequent correspondents in the general correspondence are Phyllis Hartnoll, a writer and editor at Oxford University Press, Rosamond Gilder, Flora Robson, and Gertrude Norman.

b. 1 f. 1 General correspondence, 1924 June 12-1932 Dec. 13

b. 1 f. 2 General correspondence, 1933 Jan. 5- Dec. 28
Includes letters from Isabel Wilder, Lillian Gish.

b. 1 f. 3 General correspondence, 1934 Jan. 15-Dec. 3

b. 1 f. 4 General correspondence, 1935 Jan. 10-Dec. 30

b. 1 f. 5 General correspondence, 1936 Jan. 29-Dec. 23
Includes a letter from Alfred Lunt.

b. 1 f. 6 General correspondence, 1937 Jan.3-June 28

b. 1 f. 7 General correspondence, 1937 July 14-Dec. 30

b. 1 f. 8 General correspondence, 1938 Jan. 3-Mar. 24
Includes letters from Lillian Gish, Walter Hampden, Alfred Lunt, Jo Mielziner, Thornton Wilder.

b. 1 f. 9 General correspondence, 1938 Apr. 4-Aug. 30

b. 1 f. 10 General correspondence, 1938 Sept. 2-Dec. 22
Includes letters from Lillian Gish and Thornton Wilder.
General correspondence, 1939 Jan. 2-Apr. 6
Includes a letter from Lillian Gish.

General correspondence, 1939 Apr. 7-Aug. 14
Includes letters from Lillian Gish, Carlotta O'Neill.

General correspondence, 1939 Aug. 17-Dec. 31
Includes letters from Edna Ferber and Lillian Gish.

General correspondence, 1940 Jan. 15-Apr. 23
Includes a letter from Lillian Gish.

General correspondence, 1940 May 7-Sept. 25

General correspondence, 1940 Oct. 1-Dec. 31
Includes a letter from Thornton Wilder.

General correspondence, 1941 Jan. 2-Apr. 24
Includes letters from Isabel Wilder, Eva Le Gallienne, Jo Mielziner.

General correspondence, 1941 May 2-July 28

General correspondence, 1941 Aug. 2-Dec. 31

General correspondence, 1942 Jan. 5-Mar. 29
Includes a letter from Dawn Powell.

General correspondence, 1942 Apr. 1-Aug. 28

General correspondence, 1942 Sept. 5-Dec. 28

General correspondence, 1943 Jan. 6-June 23

General correspondence, 1943 July 1-Dec. 31

General correspondence, 1944 Jan. 4-Apr. 28
Includes a letter from Oscar Hammerstein.

General correspondence, 1944 May 5-June 30
Includes letters from Katharine Cornell, Alfred Lunt, Richard Rodgers, Cornelia Otis Skinner.

General correspondence, 1944 July 4-Sept. 25

General correspondence, 1944 Oct. 2-Dec. 28

General correspondence, 1945 Jan. 3-Apr. 27
Includes a letter from Lillian Gish.

General correspondence, 1945 May 3-July 25

General correspondence, 1945 Aug. 5-Oct. 30
Includes a telegram from Tennessee Williams.
General correspondence, 1945 Nov. 11-Dec. 31

General correspondence, 1946 Jan. 2-Mar. 31
Includes letters from Mary Martin and Tyrone Guthrie.

General correspondence, 1946 Apr. 1-June 29
Includes 2 letters from Carl Van Vechten.

General correspondence, 1946 July 2-Oct. 31

General correspondence, 1946 Nov. 4-Dec. 31
Includes a letter from Charlton Heston.

General correspondence, 1947 Jan. 2-Feb. 28
Includes a letter from Mary Martin.

General correspondence, 1947 Mar. 3-May 31

General correspondence, 1947 June 2-Aug. 28

General correspondence, 1947 Sept. 3-Sept. 30

General correspondence, 1947 Oct. 2-Oct. 31

General correspondence, 1947 Nov. 1-Dec. 31
Includes a letter from Isabel Wilder.

General correspondence, 1948 Jan. 2-June 6
Includes a letter from Thornton Wilder.

General correspondence, 1948 July 16-Dec. 31
Includes letters from Dorothy Gish and Joshua Logan.

General correspondence, 1949 Jan. 19-July 29

General correspondence, 1949 Aug. 10-Dec. 28

General correspondence, 1950 Jan. 2-Feb. 27

General correspondence, 1950 Mar. 1-Apr. 27

General correspondence, 1950 May 5-July 15
Includes a letter from Ruth St. Denis.

General correspondence, 1950 July 17-Oct. 31
Includes a letter from Lillian Gish.

General correspondence, 1950 Nov. 2-Dec. 29
Includes letters from Lillian Gish and John Gielgud.

General correspondence, 1951 Jan. 3-Feb. 26

General correspondence, 1951 Mar. 5-May 10
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Includes/Includes Letters</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 4 f. 5</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1951, May 12-July 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 4 f. 6</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1951 Aug. 1-Oct. 10</td>
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<td>Includes a letter from Helen Hayes.</td>
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<td>b. 4 f. 7</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1951 Oct. 11-Dec. 19</td>
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<td>Includes letters from Lincoln Kirstein and Alfred Lunt.</td>
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<td>b. 4 f. 8</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1952 Jan. 1-Mar. 20</td>
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<td>Includes letters from Lincoln Kirstein, Mary Martin, Cornelia Otis Skinner.</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 4 f. 9</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1952 Apr. 2-July 31</td>
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<td>Includes a letter from Joshua Logan.</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 4 f. 10</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1952 Aug. 1-Sept. 23</td>
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<td>Includes a letter from Oscar Hammerstein.</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 4 f. 11</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1952 Oct. 4-Dec. 31</td>
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<td>Includes letters from Lincoln Kirstein, Joshua Logan, Kenneth Tynan.</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 4 f. 12</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1953 Jan. 6-Dec. 14</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Includes a telegram from Jean Renoir and a letter from Lillian Gish.</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 4 f. 13</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1954 Apr. 8-1955 Dec. 28</td>
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<td>Includes letters from Joan Fontaine, John Gielgud, Hermione Gingold.</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 4 f. 14</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1956 Jan. 4-Dec. 14</td>
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<td>Includes letters from Marta Abba and Alfred Lunt.</td>
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<td>b. 4 f. 15</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1957 Jan. 28-1958 Mar. 23</td>
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<td>b. 4 f. 16</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1958 Apr. 2-July 31</td>
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<td>Includes a letter from Kenneth Tynan.</td>
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<td>b. 4 f. 17</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1958 Aug. 8-Dec. 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 5 f. 1</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1959 Jan. 2-Feb. 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 5 f. 2</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1959 Mar. 1-Mar. 31</td>
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<td>Includes letters from Ralph Bellamy, Eva Le Gallienne and Alfred Lunt.</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 5 f. 3</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1959 Apr. 1-Apr. 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 5 f. 4</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1959 May 1-May 30</td>
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<td>Includes a letter from Helen Hayes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 5 f. 5</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1959 June 3-June 30</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Includes a letter from Marta Abba.</td>
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<td>b. 5 f. 6</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1959 July 2-July 29</td>
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Includes a letter from Marta Abba.

b. 5    f. 7
General correspondence, 1959 Aug. 3-Aug. 30

b. 5    f. 8
General correspondence, 1959 Sept. 2-Sept. 30

b. 5    f. 9
General correspondence, 1959 Oct. 1-Oct. 31
Includes a letter from Cornelia Otis Skinner.

b. 5    f. 10
General correspondence, 1959 Nov. 1-Nov. 27

b. 5    f. 11
General correspondence, 1959 Dec. 1-Dec. 30
Includes a letter from Lillian Gish.

b. 5    f. 12
General correspondence, 1960 Jan. 3-Jan. 29
Includes a letter from Robert Anderson.

b. 5    f. 13
General correspondence, 1960 Feb. 1-Feb. 28
Includes letters from Marc Blitzstein and Richard Rodgers.

b. 5    f. 14
General correspondence, 1960 Mar. 1-Mar. 31
Includes a letter from Jo Mielziner.

b. 5    f. 15
General correspondence, 1960 Apr. 1-Apr. 30
Includes a letter from Marta Abba.

b. 5    f. 16
General correspondence, 1960 May 3-May 31
Includes letters from Alan Dent and Lillian Gish.

b. 5    f. 17
General correspondence, 1960 June 1-June 29
Includes letters from Archibald MacLeish and Kenneth Tynan.

b. 5    f. 18
General correspondence, 1960 July 2-July 31
Includes a letter from Paul Newman.

b. 5    f. 19
General correspondence, 1960 Aug. 2-Aug. 29
Includes a letter from James Leo Herlihy.

b. 5    f. 20
General correspondence, 1960 Sept. 4-Oct. 31
Includes letters from James Leo Herlihy and Alfred Lunt.

b. 5    f. 21
General correspondence, 1960 Nov. 11-Dec. 31

b. 6    f. 1
General correspondence, 1961 Jan. 6-Feb. 28
Includes letters from Lillian Hellman and James Leo Herlihy.

b. 6    f. 2
General correspondence, 1961 Mar. 1-Apr. 20
Includes two letters from Laurence Olivier.

b. 6    f. 3
General correspondence, 1961 May 1-June 30
Includes letters from Edward Albee, Tyrone Guthrie, James Leo Herlihy.

b. 6    f. 4
General correspondence, 1961 July 2-Aug. 26
Includes letters from Edward Albee and James Leo Herlihy.
b. 6 f. 5  General correspondence, 1961 Sept. 5-Oct. 31

b. 6 f. 6  General correspondence, 1961 Nov. 1-Dec. 27
Includes a letter from Tyrone Guthrie.

b. 6 f. 7  General correspondence, 1962 Jan. 2-Feb. 24
Includes a letter from Jo Mielziner.

b. 6 f. 8  General correspondence, 1962 Mar. 3-May 31

b. 6 f. 9  General correspondence, 1962 June 5-Aug. 31
Includes letters from Lewis John Carlino and Laurence Olivier.

b. 6 f. 10  General correspondence, 1962 Sept. 4-Oct. 31

b. 6 f. 11  General correspondence, 1962 Nov. 1-Dec. 30
Includes letters from Edward Albee and Lillian Gish.

b. 6 f. 12  General correspondence, 1963 Jan. 1-Feb. 27
Includes letters from William Inge, Garson Kanin, Elia Kazan, Alfred Lunt.

b. 6 f. 13  General correspondence, 1963 Mar. 2-Apr. 29
Includes letters from William Inge and Alfred Lunt.

b. 6 f. 14  General correspondence, 1963 May 1-July 29
Includes letters from Lewis John Carlino, Tyrone Guthrie, Lillian Hellman.

b. 6 f. 15  General correspondence, 1963 Aug. 2-Sept. 28

b. 6 f. 16  General correspondence, 1963 Oct. 10-Dec. 30

b. 6 f. 17  General correspondence, 1964 Jan. 1-Mar. 31
Includes letters from Robert Anderson and Elia Kazan.

b. 6 f. 18  General correspondence, 1964 Apr. 10-July 30
Includes letters from Hume Cronyn, Cornelia Otis Skinner.

b. 7 f. 1  General correspondence, 1964 Aug. 6-Dec. 30
Includes letters from William Inge, Jessica Tandy.

b. 7 f. 2  General correspondence, 1965 Jan. 4-Mar. 30
Includes letters from Alfred Lunt and Jo Mielziner.

b. 7 f. 3  General correspondence, 1965 Apr. 4-June 28
Includes a letter from Thornton Wilder.

b. 7 f. 4  General correspondence, 1965 July 8-Dec. 31
Includes a letter from James Leo Herlihy.

b. 7 f. 5  General correspondence, 1966 Jan. 21-Mar. 29
Includes a letter from Lillian Hellman.
General correspondence, 1966 Apr. 1-June 26
Includes letters from Lillian Hellman, Elia Kazan, Carson McCullers, Isabel Wilder.

General correspondence, 1966 July 3-Aug. 31
Includes letters from Elia Kazan, Jo Mielziner.

General correspondence, 1966 Sept. 2-Dec. 28
Includes letters from Garson Kanin, Elia Kazan, Thornton Wilder.

General correspondence, 1967 Jan. 4-July 13

General correspondence, undated

General correspondence, undated
Includes letters from Charlton Heston, Celeste Holm, George S. Kaufman.

General correspondence, undated

General correspondence, undated

Sub-series 2: Correspondence - Individuals, 1940-1967
1 box, 5 folders

By name and then chronologically

The series contains letters from Fitzroy Davis, Carl Theodore Dryer and John Van Druten. The Fitzroy Davis correspondence also includes manuscripts, diary entries and miscellaneous papers that Davis sent to Freedley. Manuscripts include chapters from a book Davis was writing on Conrad Veidt. Miscellaneous papers include ephemera, and also a file on *The Wedding* by Stanislaw Wyspianiski. Davis performed in a production staged by IATSA in Chicago in 1962.

Davis, Fitzroy 1958; 1959 Jan. 13-Dec. 18

Davis, Fitzroy, 1960 Jan. 4-Nov. 25

Davis, Fitzroy, 1961 Jan. 5-July 30

Davis, Fitzroy, 1961 Aug. 3-Dec. 5
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 7 f. 18</td>
<td>Davis, Fitzroy, 1962 Feb. 14-Dec. 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 8 f. 1</td>
<td>Davis, Fitzroy, 1963 Jan. 3-Dec. 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. 8 f. 2</td>
<td>Davis, Fitzroy, 1964 Jan. 6-Oct. 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 8 f. 3</td>
<td>Davis, Fitzroy, 1965 Jan. 10-Sept. 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 8 f. 4</td>
<td>Davis, Fitzroy, 1966 Jan. 1-Dec. 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 8 f. 5</td>
<td>Davis, Fitzroy, 1967 Jan. 23-Sept. 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 8 f. 6</td>
<td>Davis, Fitzroy, Transcripts of diary entries, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 8 f. 7</td>
<td>Davis, Fitzroy, Conrad Veidt manuscript, chapters 3-7, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 8 f. 8</td>
<td>Davis, Fitzroy, Conrad Veidt manuscript - appendices, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| b. 8 f. 9 | Davis, Fitzroy, *The Wedding*, 1962  
Production notes and miscellaneous materials. |
| b. 8 f. 10 | Davis, Fitzroy, Miscellaneous Papers, undated |
| b. 8 f. 11 | Davis, Fitzroy, Miscellaneous writings, undated |
| b. 8 f. 12 | Davis, Fitzroy, Miscellaneous writings, undated |
| b. 8 f. 13 | Dreyer, Carl Theodore, 1949 June 29-1952 Aug. 21 |
| b. 8 f. 14 | Dreyer, Carl Theodore, 1959 Apr. 19-1966 May 31 |
| b. 8 f. 15 | Van Druten, John, 1940 Mar. 15-1943 Sept. 24 |
| b. 8 f. 16 | Van Druten, John, 1944 Jan. 2-1945 Apr. 18 |
| b. 8 f. 17 | Van Druten, John, 1946 Feb. 12-1954 Apr. 22 |

**Sub-series 3: Correspondence re: A History of the Theatre, 1939-1967**  
7 folders

**Chronological**

Correspondence with professors, librarians and publishers concerning illustrations, text and other aspects of the work. The bulk of the papers pertain to the original work published in 1941, with one folder of material on the 1967
edition. Correspondents include Frederick J. Kiesler, Frederick H. Koch, Louis E. Laflin, Jr., Elemer Nagy, Franz Rapp, Henry Schnitzler and Domenico Vittorini.

b. 9  f. 1  
A History of the Theatre, 1939 Dec. 13-1940 Sept. 28
b. 9  f. 2  
A History of the Theatre, 1940 Oct. 1-Dec. 9
b. 9  f. 3  
A History of the Theatre, 1940 Dec. 10-30
b. 9  f. 4  
A History of the Theatre, 1941 Jan. 2-30
b. 9  f. 5  
A History of the Theatre, 1941 Feb. 1-Dec. 16
b. 9  f. 6  
A History of the Theatre, 1942 Jan. 21-1945 Apr. 18
b. 9  f. 7  

Sub-series 4: Correspondence re: A History of Modern Drama, 1942-1946
4 folders

Chronological

Correspondence with contributors and publisher regarding content, payment, publication deadlines, style, corrections, etc. Correspondents include Mildred Adams, Barrett H. Clark (co-editor), Harry W. L. Dana, Alrik Gustafson, Elemer Nagy, Franz Rapp, Henry Schnitzler, and Domenico Vittorini.

b. 9  f. 8  
A History of Modern Drama, 1942 June 11-Dec. 29
b. 9  f. 9  
A History of Modern Drama, 1943 Jan. 6-Nov. 11
b. 9  f. 10  
A History of Modern Drama, 1944 Jan. 13-Nov. 16
b. 9  f. 11  
A History of Modern Drama, 1945 Jan. 3-1946 Apr. 28

Series II: Writings, ca. 1940-1967
8 boxes, 15 folders
Alphabetical by title

The series includes typescript copies of many of Freedley's columns for the *Morning Telegraph* and for *Playbill*. Also included are chapters, correspondence and reviews for *A History of Modern Drama* and a *History of the Theatre*. The material relating to *Mr. Cat* and *More Mr. Cat* includes holograph and typescript versions of the manuscript and the foreword to *Mr. Cat* written by Lillian Gish.

b. 9 f. 12
*Broadway Cavalcade*, 1967
Unpublished work written with Edwin Bronner.

b. 9 f. 13
*Broadway Cavalcade*, undated
Unpublished work written with Edwin Bronner.

b. 9 f. 14
*Broadway Playhouses* - Outline and correspondence, 1941-1942

b. 9 f. 15-17
*Broadway Playhouses*-Research notes, undated
3 folders

b. 10 f. 1-3
*Broadway Playhouses*-Research notes, undated
3 folders

b. 10 f. 4-6
*A History of Modern Drama*-Typescript, ca. 1947
3 folders

b. 10 f. 7
*A History of Modern Drama*, English-Irish chapter - First draft, undated

b. 10 f. 8-9
*A History of Modern Drama*, English-Irish chapter - First revision, undated
2 folders

b. 10 f. 10-11
*A History of Modern Drama*, English-Irish chapter - Second revised copy (incomplete), undated
2 folders

b. 10 f. 12-13
*A History of Modern Drama*, Index, ca. 1947
2 folders

b. 11 f. 1
*A History of Modern Drama*, Play lists - American before 1920, undated

b. 11 f. 2-3
*A History of Modern Drama*, Play lists - American after 1920, ca. 1944
2 folders

b. 11 f. 4
*A History of Modern Drama*, Play lists - Austrian, undated
b. 11 f. 5  
*A History of Modern Drama*, Play lists - Bulgarian, Dutch, Belgian, Albanian, ca. 1946

b. 11 f. 6  
*A History of Modern Drama*, Play lists - English A-J, undated

b. 11 f. 7  
*A History of Modern Drama*, Play lists - German, undated

b. 11 f. 8  
*A History of Modern Drama*, Play lists - Hebrew, Yiddish, 1946

b. 11 f. 9  
*A History of Modern Drama*, Play lists - Hungarian, undated

b. 11 f. 10  

b. 11 f. 11  
*A History of Modern Drama*, Play lists - Rumanian, Polish, undated

b. 11 f. 12  
*A History of Modern Drama*, Play lists - Scandinavian, undated

b. 11 f. 13  
*A History of Modern Drama*, Play lists - Spanish, Italian, undated

b. 11 f. 14  
*A History of Modern Drama*, Publicity and reviews, 1947

b. 11 f. 15-19  
*A History of the Theatre* - First draft (folders 1-5), undated  
5 folders

b. 12 f. 1-5  
*A History of the Theatre* - First draft (folders 6-10), undated  
5 folders

b. 12 f. 6-12  
*A History of the Theatre* - Revised typescript (folders 1-7), undated  
7 folders

b. 13 f. 1-5  
*A History of the Theatre* - Revised typescript (folders 8-12), undated  
5 folders

b. 13 f. 6-11  
*A History of the Theatre* - Final copy (pages 1-424), undated  
6 folders  
Typescript

b. 14 f. 1-7  
*A History of the Theatre* - Final copy (pages 425-931), undated  
7 folders  
Typescript

b. 14 f. 8  
*A History of the Theatre* - Clippings, ca. 1940-1941

b. 14 f. 9  
*A History of the Theatre* - Corrections, ca. 1947

b. 14 f. 10  
*A History of the Theatre* - Publicity and miscellany, ca. 1940-1950

b. 14 f. 11  

b. 14 f. 12  
*The Lunts* - Clippings and publicity, 1957-1958

b. 14 f. 13-14  
*Mr. Cat* - Original manuscript (typescript), 1960
2 folders
Includes foreword by Lillian Gish in her own hand.

b. 15 f. 1  
*Mr. Cat* - Holograph manuscript, undated

b. 15 f. 2  
*Mr. Cat* - Typescript, undated

b. 15 f. 3  
*Mr. Cat* - Reviews and publicity, 1960-1961

b. 15 f. 4  
*More Mr. Cat* - Holograph manuscript, ca. 1962

b. 15 f. 5  
*More Mr. Cat* - Typescript, ca. 1962

b. 15 f. 6  
*More Mr. Cat* - Correspondence and miscellany, ca. 1962

b. 15 f. 7  
*More Mr. Cat* - Reviews and publicity, 1962

b. 15 f. 8-9
"Off Stage and On" (column), 1949-1950

2 folders

b. 15 f. 10-15
*Playbill* (column), ca. 1945 Nov.-1947 Apr.

6 folders
Typescript copies of Freedley's column for *Playbill*.

b. 16 f. 1  
*Playbill* (column), ca. 1947 May-June
Typescript copies of Freedley's column for *Playbill*.

b. 16 f. 2  

b. 16 f. 3  
*The Stage Today*, 1944 Oct.-Nov.

b. 16 f. 4  
*The Stage Today*, 1944 Dec.

b. 16 f. 5  
*The Stage Today*, 1945 Jan-Feb.

b. 16 f. 6  
*The Stage Today*, 1945 Mar.- Apr.

b. 16 f. 7  
*The Stage Today*, 1945 May-June

b. 16 f. 8  
*The Stage Today*, 1945 July-Aug.

b. 16 f. 9  

b. 16 f. 10  

b. 16 f. 11-13  
*The Stage Today*, ca. 1946

3 folders

b. 16 f. 14-15  
*The Stage Today*, ca. 1946-1947

2 folders

b. 17 f. 1-4  
*The Stage Today*, ca. 1946-1947
Series III: Projects, 1932-1959
2 boxes, 10 folders

Alphabetical by project.

This series contains papers and surveys relating to Freedley's work. Projects include the National Theatre Conference survey, the Saturday Review of Literature survey and the World Theatre Microfilm project through which Freedley hoped to begin a cooperative project to make microfilm of various theatre items from libraries throughout the world available on film. The National Theatre Conference survey was conducted by Freedley and Rosamond Gilder to gather information on theatre books and collections in public, private and university libraries. The information was used in their book: Theatre Collections in Libraries and Museums: An
International Handbook, published in 1936. In 1948 Freedley gathered information from college, university and civic theatres to write an article for the Saturday Review of Literature. The respondents often included programs and brochures.

The Cellar and the Well, 1950

G. Maillard Kesslere Collection, 1951-1953

International Theatre Celebration - Rosamond Gilder Award, 1959 June 23-Dec. 23
2 folders

National Theatre Conference Survey - Form letters, ca. 1933-1934

National Theatre Conference Survey - Lists of participants, ca. 1933-1934

National Theatre Conference Survey - Preliminary report, 1934

National Theatre Conference Survey - Correspondence, 1933-1934
2 folders

National Theatre Conference Survey - Correspondence, 1936

National Theatre Conference Survey - Austria, 1933-1938

National Theatre Conference Survey - China, Japan, 1935-1937

National Theatre Conference Survey - England, France, 1933-1936

National Theatre Conference Survey - Germany, Sweden, Holland, Russia, 1933-1934

National Theatre Conference Survey - Italy, Spain, Turkey, 1933-1937

National Theatre Conference Survey - Mexico and South America, 1932-1934

Saturday Review of Literature Survey, 1948
6 folders
Includes information on many local theatres including the Tryout Theatre, University Civic Theatre, Carolina Playmakers, Little Theatre of Shreveport, Kendall Community Playhouse and the Cape Playhouse.

Saturday Review of Literature Survey - University theatres, 1948
Includes programs and other printed material from Cornell University.

World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1954 Mar. 18-Dec. 30
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 20 f. 3</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1955 Jan. 14-Feb. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 20 f. 4</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1955 Feb. 15-Mar. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 20 f. 5</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1955 Mar. 10-24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 20 f. 6</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1955 Mar. 29-Apr. 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 20 f. 7</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1955 Apr. 15-May 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 20 f. 8</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1955 May 13-June 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 20 f. 9</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1955 June 14-July 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 20 f. 10</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1955 Aug. 3-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 20 f. 11</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1955 Aug. 30-Dec. 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 20 f. 12</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1956 Jan. 31-Dec. 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 21 f. 1</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1957 Jan. 2-June 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 21 f. 2</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1957 June 10-Dec. 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 21 f. 3</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Correspondence, 1958 Jan. 9-Nov. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 21 f. 4</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Lectures and articles, 1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 21 f. 5</td>
<td>World Theatre Microfilm Project - Miscellaneous Papers, 1955-1957</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Series IV: Organizations, 1934-1966**

17 folders

Alphabetical by the name of the organization

The files contain correspondence and printed matter. Although Freedley served as an officer in many of these organizations, the files do not contain a full record of his activities, but instead contain random and minimal documentation. Among the organizations are the American Educational Theatre Association, American National Theatre and Academy (ANTA), Columbia University, New York.
Drama Critics Circle and the Theatre Library Association.

b. 21 f. 6  American Educational Theatre Association, 1958-1963
b. 21 f. 7  American National Theatre and Academy - Correspondence, 1947-1951
b. 21 f. 8  American National Theatre and Academy - Correspondence, 1952-1953
b. 21 f. 9  American National Theatre and Academy - Correspondence, 1959-1965
b. 21 f. 10 American National Theatre and Academy - Printed matter, ca. 1960
b. 21 f. 11 Cherry Grove Art Project, 1949-1950
b. 21 f. 12 Columbia University School of Library Service - Notes and lectures, ca. 1959-1962
b. 21 f. 13 International Federation for Theatre Research - Correspondence, 1957-1958
b. 21 f. 14 International Federation for Theatre Research - Correspondence, 1959 Jan. 7-July 30
b. 21 f. 15 International Federation for Theatre Research - Correspondence, 1959 Aug. 4-1960 Dec. 13;1964;1966
b. 21 f. 16 International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), 1959-1964
b. 21 f. 17 International Theatre Institute, 1948-1963
b. 21 f. 18 National Theatre Conference, ca. 1934-1960
b. 21 f. 19 New York Drama Critics Circle, 1941-1947
b. 21 f. 20 New York Drama Critics Circle, 1948-1965
b. 22 f. 1  Shaw Society of America, 1946-1952
b. 22 f. 2  Theatre Library Association, ca. 1938-1966
b. 22 f. 3  Miscellaneous, ca. 1959-1967

Series V: Personal Papers, ca. 1861-1967
16 folders, 5 volumes

By subject and format

Papers include correspondence, ephemera, biographical
information and date books. They are organized in two sub-series: Sub-series 1: Personal papers Sub-series 2: Date books.

**Sub-series 1: Personal Papers, 1861-1967**
16 folders

Personal papers include biographical information, family papers, ephemera, membership cards, workmen's compensation insurance claims and material relating to Freedley's speaking engagements and conferences he attended. Family letters from the 1860s are among the oldest materials in the collection.

- **b. 22 f. 4** Biographical material, ca. 1947-1964
- **b. 22 f. 5** Certificates/Awards, ca. 1957-1962
- **b. 22 f. 6** Conferences, ca. 1947-1960
- **b. 22 f. 7-8** Ephemera, undated
  2 folders
- **b. 22 f. 9** Estate - Gifts to the New York Public Library, ca. 1962-1966
- **b. 22 f. 10** Family Papers, ca. 1867-1946
  Includes a marriage certificate for Samuel Freedley and Sue Jacoby (1867). Also includes a confirmation certificate for George Jacoby Freedley (1899) and his obituary (1946).
- **b. 22 f. 11** Family papers - Correspondence, 1861-1946
  Includes a letter to Samuel Freedley from his brother Henry, written from Fort Lancaster, Texas, March 19, 1861.
- **b. 22 f. 12** Membership cards, 1955-1967
- **b. 22 f. 13** New York Public Library - Compensation and insurance, 1962-1967
- **b. 22 f. 14** Speaking engagements - Agencies, ca. 1946-1950
  Speaking bureau publicity.
- **b. 22 f. 15** Speaking engagements - Lectures and interviews, ca. 1942-1955
- **b. 22 f. 16** Speaking engagements - Programs and publicity, 1945-1949
Sub-series 2: Date books, 1958-1966
1 box (5 volumes)

Chronological


Series VI: Clippings, 1924-1971
14 folders

Chronological

Clippings by and about George Freedley.

Sub-series 1: Clippings re: George Freedley, 1933-1971
7 folders

Chronological

Clippings about George Freedley.
Clippings - New York Public Library Staff News, 1941-1966

Sub-series 2: Clippings by Freedley, 1924-1962
7 folders

Chronological

These clippings include miscellaneous articles, book reviews, theatre reviews and promotional blurbs written by Freedley. The clippings for 1924 were published in Richmond, Virginia during Freedley's college years.

Series VII: Photographs, ca. 1880-1956
7 folders

By subject

This series includes family photographs of Freedley as a child, of his parents and other family members. Also included are photos of Freedley as an adult, inscribed photos, a few production shots, and 2 folders of unidentified individuals and locations.
b. 24  f. 18
Inscribed photographs, 1930-1950
Signed photographs of Kate Drain Lawson, Maurice D. Colbourne, Abraham Mandelstam, Mary Vaughan.

b. 24  f. 19
Production photos, ca. 1926-1962
Includes Maurice Evans as Hamlet, Fitzroy Davis and Stuart Vaughan in The Wedding and George Freedley in Sham.

b. 24  f. 20-21
Miscellaneous (Unidentified),
2 folders

Series VIII: Greeting cards, ca. 1920-1963
16 boxes

Chronological

Series includes mostly Christmas cards, many of them from theatrical personalities. Not all of the cards are addressed to Freedley and it is not clear how the collection was created. The collection includes cards from many of Freedley's colleagues and friends and also from artists such as Agna Enters, Bob Hope, Lillian Gish, Simon Lissim and others.

Many of the cards also have theatrical themes.

b. 25  f. 1-9
Greeting cards, ca. 1920-1949
9 folders

b. 26  f. 1-8
Greeting cards, ca. 1940-1949
8 folders

b. 27  f. 1-9
Greeting cards, ca. 1940-1949
9 folders

b. 28  f. 1-9
Greeting cards, ca. 1940-1949
9 folders

b. 29  f. 1-10
Greeting cards, ca. 1940-1950
10 folders

b. 30  f. 1-9
Greeting cards, ca. 1949-1951
9 folders

b. 31  f. 1-9
Greeting cards, ca. 1951-1953
9 folders

b. 32  f. 1-8
Greeting cards, ca. 1953-1954
8 folders
Greeting cards, ca. 1955-1956
8 folders

Greeting cards, ca. 1956-1958
9 folders

Greeting cards, ca. 1958-1959
8 folders

Greeting cards, ca. 1959-1960
9 folders

Greeting cards, ca. 1960-1963
10 folders

Greeting cards, ca. 1962-1969
9 folders

Greeting cards, ca. 1960-1969; undated
9 folders

Greeting cards, undated
4 folders

Series IX: Scrapbooks, 1904-1957
3 boxes and 5 volumes

Chronological

Scrapbooks compiled by Freedley containing clippings and ephemera.

Sub-series 1: New York Public Library, 1904-1957
2 boxes (3 volumes

Clippings and ephemera relating to the New York Public Library, the Theatre Collection and George Freedley.

New York Public Library, 1904-1943
2 volumes

New York Public Library, 1944-1957
1 volume

Sub-series 2: Miscellaneous Scrapbooks, 1922-1954
7 volumes
Chronological

Scrapbooks pertain to George Freedley's work and interests and contain clippings, programs, announcements, ephemera and occasional correspondence.

b. 43
Miscellaneous scrapbooks, 1924-1941
2 volumes

b. 44
Miscellaneous scrapbook, 1922-1947
1 volume
Vol. 3

b. 45
Miscellaneous scrapbook, 1940-1945
1 volume
Vol. 4

b. 46
Miscellaneous scrapbook, 1946-1957
1 volume
Vol. 5

b. 47
Miscellaneous scrapbook, 1947-1951
1 volume
Vol. 6

b. 48
Miscellaneous scrapbook, 1952-1954
1 volume
Vol. 7

Series X: Bound volumes, 1927-1958
2 boxes (7 volumes)

Chronological

Bound volumes of *Playbill* containing Freedley's column and one volume of bulletins from Yale University School of Fine Arts

b. 49
*Playbill*, 1946
3 volumes

b. 50
*Playbill; Yale bulletins, 1927-1958*
4 volumes
Series XI: Oversize materials, ca. 1886-1963
1 box and 1 folder

By format

Oversize photographs and printed matter. Box 52 is in the Rose Building map cases. Please consult a librarian for access; advance notification will be required.

b. 51
Oversize material, ca. 1948-1963
Photograph of Freedley attributed to Richard Avedon, photograph of Mr. Cat, greeting card from Tunc Yalman, copy of ANTA's *Chapter One* with an article by Freedley, and Freedley's membership invitation to the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Office of Cultural Affairs for the City of New York.

b. 52
Oversize material (in Rose Building map case), 1886; 1947
George Jacoby Freedley's degree from Swarthmore (1886) and Ripon College Second Century Program poster (1947).

Separated Material

**Ephemera: *T-Cabinet***

- **Box 1**
  - Framed needlework- harlequin figures with sequins. "Phyllis Hartnoll Xmas 1962" (approximately 8 x 10)
  - Metal tray with Asian design: "75th Time/The Telephone Girl/Louis Mann/Clara Lipman" (approximately 11 x 3 1/2)
  - Inscribed pewter mug. "The Players/George Freedley Open House/April 12, 1962"
  - Souvenir metal figure of Chinese character with hat that opens and closes: "A Trip to Chinatown/Hoyts Madison Square Theatre/Feb. 24 /90" (approximately 4 1/2 inches high)
  - Green glass vase with fluted rim. (approximately 3 inches high)
  - Souvenir metal steer head on pedestal: "A Texas Steer/Bijou Theatre/Tues. May 23, 1893" (Base is 3/3)
  - NYPL medal, 1961
  - Souvenir metal elephant on pedestal: "De Wolf Hopper Opera Company/Broadway Theatre" (Base is 4 x 2)
  - Metal bust of Major Bowes (Approximately 5 1/2 inches high)
  - Porcelain statue: "Kean as Richard III"

- **Box 2**
  - Small case (leather?) in two pieces decorated with small raised stamps (Approximately 2 ½ x 4)
o Reproduction of Hans Holbein portrait mounted on wood. (Approximately 4 1/2 x 6)
o Metal dish with cat figures (Approximately 7 x 4 1/2)
o Metal plaque with portraits of William Shakespeare, Max Reinhardt, and Harry, Jack and Albert Warner
o Wooden bench: "Tory Hill Mtg House" (8 inches long)
o Sterling silver lighter
o Engraved silver spoon from Actors Fund Fair
o Souvenir glass paperweight: "Hoyt's Madison Square Theatre/350th Performance/ A Trip to Chinatown"
o Glass paperweight with picture of Lillian Russell
o Wooden and metal plaque: "Theta Alpha Phi National Award for Distinguished Contribution to Educational Theatre/George Freedley/1956" (Approximately 9 x 12)
o Souvenir metal cup (top is missing): "Peter Dailey in Country Sport/Bijou Theatre/100th Performance/March 19, 1894" (Approximately 4 inches high)
 メタールディッシュ・キャットフィギュア
メタルプレート・シャークレ・マックス・レイミントン・ハリー・ジェク・アルベート・ウェンバー
ウッドベンチ："トーリーヒルミーティングハウス" (8インチ)
ステルリング・シルバーライター
エングラフ・シルバースプーン・アクトス・ファン・フェア
ソーヴィニール・ガラス・ペーパーウェイト："ホイト・マディソン・スクエア・シアター/350周年記念/ア・トリップ・トゥ・チナタウン"
ガラス・ペーパーウェイト・リリアン・ルーサー
ウッド・アンド・メタル・プレート："シータ・アルファ・ファイ・ナショナル・アワード・フォア・ディスティンクツド・コントリビューション・トゥ・イディュケーショナルシアター/ジョージ・フリードリー/1956" (約9 x 12)
ソーヴィニール・メタル・カップ（トップが欠けています）："ピーター・デイリー・イン・カントリースポーツ/ビジュールシアター/100周年記念/1894年3月19日" (約4インチ)
フレームペンインク・ドローング・トム・フンク (?)、作成され、が使われていなかった、"セアシュアンドリサーチ" (ウィリアム・K・ジンサー作) (約7 x 8フレーム)
フレーム・ケルシー・アレン・アワード・ジョージ・フリードリー、1956年4月2日 (約13 1/2 x 11)
チャールズ・マンスフィールド・メタル・プレート・イン・ウッド・フレーム (約9 1/2 x 11 1/2)

- Box 3
  - Carved wooden tomahawk (?) (Approximately 24 inches long)

- Box 4
  - Plaster bust of Dan Leno marked "Stead Collection (Broken)
  - Green ceramic tile: "Madison Square Theatre/1882" (Broken) (6 1/2 x 6 1/2)


**Photographs: "A" and "B" Files**

- Lajos Zilahy, author of *The Angry Angel* ; three photographs (bw, 8 x 10) filed in Theatre Collection Photograph Files B.
- Boris Karloff, one photograph (bw, 5 x 7), filed in Theatre Collection Photograph Files A.