



The New York Public Library
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

Betty and John Wharton papers

1917-1978

*T-Mss 2007-011

Summary

Creator: Wharton, Betty

Title: Betty and John Wharton papers

Date: 1917-1978

Size: 2.5 linear feet, (6 boxes and 1 oversized scrapbook)

Abstract: The Betty Wharton Papers contain photographs, programs, scrapbooks and correspondence documenting the careers of Ms. Wharton and her husband. Ms. Wharton's papers include photographs, scrapbooks and programs from 1917-1947. The papers of her husband, John F. Wharton, include business correspondence and papers from 1962-1978, and a theatrical scrapbook from 1921-1922.

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>

Preferred citation: Betty and John Wharton papers, Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library

Creator History

Betty Wharton, actress, was born in 1911 in Pasadena, California. She made her acting debut at age 7 in a Los Angeles production of PENROD. She moved to New York in 1934 and appeared on the Broadway stage in numerous productions including: THE SKY'S THE LIMIT, BROTHER RAT, THE PRIMROSE PATH, CAFE CROWN and CHARLEY'S AUNT.

John F. Wharton, Betty's husband, practiced law in New York City from the 1920s through the 1970s, with a special focus on theatrical law.

Scope and Content Note

The Betty Wharton Papers contain photographs, programs, scrapbooks and correspondence documenting the careers of Ms. Wharton and her husband. Ms. Wharton's papers include photographs, scrapbooks and programs from 1917-1947. The papers of her husband, John F. Wharton, include business correspondence and papers from 1962-1978, and a theatrical scrapbook from 1921-1922.

Arrangement: I. Betty Wharton Papers; II. John F. Wharton Papers

Key Terms

Occupations

Actresses -- United States

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Photoprints

Programs

Scrapbooks

Subjects

Theater -- New York (State) -- New York

Names

Wharton, Betty

Anderson, Maxwell, 1888-1959

Rice, Elmer, 1892-1967

Sherwood, Robert E. (Robert Emmet), 1896-1955

Wharton, John F. (John Franklin), 1894-1977

Playwrights' Producing Company