

Finding Aid for Hazel Stephens Collection

Date range: 1929-1964

Finding aid created by: Elizabeth Jones-Minsinger, July 2017

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Extent: 0.1 linear feet

Abstract: The Hazel Stephens Collection contains ephemera about theater in the Ardens as well manuscript materials regarding Frank Stephens, Arden Day, and the Arden Club.

Accession number: 2017.00.018

Language: Materials entirely in English

Acquisition Information: Found in collection

Access Restrictions: The collection is open for research.

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Cite as: [item], folder, Hazel Stephens Collection, Arden Craft Shop Museum

Historical and Biographical Note:

Edith Hazel Stephens was born in Bayonne, New Jersey on October 11, 1894. Her father, William, was the brother of Arden founder Frank Stephens. Hazel Stephens lived and worked in Washington, D.C. and New York, New York during the 1920s, but was a frequent summer visitor to the Ardens. She settled permanently in Arden, Delaware in 1942. She became the proprietor of the Pig-n-Whistle, an apartment house, gift shop, and social gathering place. Stephens frequently boarded actors who performed at Ardentown's Robin Hood Theatre, including Anthony Perkins. Hazel Stephens died in Arden on August 13, 1964.

Scope and Content:

The Hazel Stephens Collection contains ephemera about theater in the Ardens as well manuscript materials regarding to Frank Stephens, Arden Day, and the Arden Club.

Most of the materials in the Hazel Stephens Collection relate to local theatrical productions, especially those taking place in the Ardens. The collection includes programs, newspaper clippings, and advertisements about the Robin Hood Theatre, Arden Repertory Players, and the Laurence Ludwig Theater Group. It also contains clippings about various theatrical productions in Wilmington and Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The Hazel Stephens Collection also includes a typewritten manuscript entitled "The Seekers: A Morality Play for Children." A handwritten notation at the top of the first page identifies the play as a work by Frank Stephens. The play provides a parable about land ownership and bureaucracy.

Finally, this collection contains a 1962 letter from Stephens to the community on behalf of the Arden Day Committee and the Arden Club's meeting minutes from 1964.

Subjects:

Robin Hood Theatre (Arden, Del.)
Stephens, Frank, 1859-1935
Arden Club (Arden Del.)
Theater
Theaters--Delaware

Container List:

	Hazel Stephens Collection
F1	Robin Hood Theatre, 1933-1964 and undated
F2	Arden Repertory Players, 1929
F3	Laurence Ludwig Theatre Group, 1929 and undated
F4	Miscellaneous theatre, 1929-1964
F5	Frank Stephens morality play, undated
F6	Arden Day, 1962
F7	Arden Club, 1964