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Moreland Stevens Family Papers

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Moreland Stevens Family Papers MSS.2012.09.20

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Language of Material: English

Contributing Institution: SJSU Special Collections & Archives

Title: Moreland Stevens Family Papers

Source: Moreland Stevens

Identifier/Call Number: MSS.2012.09.20

Physical Description: 2.0 boxes

Date (inclusive): 1880-2011

Date (bulk): bulk

Abstract: The Moreland Stevens Family Papers consists of newspaper clippings, photographs and letters donated by the Stevens family. The collection documents Edwin Stevens, a stage and film star, whose career spanned from the 1890's to the 1920's and Alice Biddle Moreland. Stevens' reviews of his plays, a film strip, headshots and his personal letters are included in the collection. Stevens is related by marriage to Moreland who was the University of Oregon's first female graduate. This collection includes a photo journal of her trip to Asia in the 1880's. The main themes of this collection are theater, actors, the silent film era, female graduates, American tourism in Asia, and photography.

Physical Location: Vault 1, Range 22, Bay 17

Scope and Content of Collection

The Moreland Stevens Family Papers documents the lives of Charles Edwin Stevens and Alice Biddle Moreland. This collection tracks both Edwin Stevens' personal life and professional life as a stage and silent film actor during the early 20th century and Alice Biddle Moreland's trip to Asia in the 1880's.

Arrangement: This collection is arranged into two series: Series I: Alice Biddle Moreland Photo Journal and Series II: Edwin Stevens Papers.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into two series: Series I: Alice Biddle Moreland Photo Journal and Series II: Edwin Stevens Papers. Both series are arranged chronologically.

Preferred Citation

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Access

The collection is open for research.

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Processing Information

Processed by: Monika Lehman Reviewed by: Danelle Moon Date completed: 2014 Encoded by: Monika Lehman Date encoded: 2015

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Theater Programs

University of Oregon

Travel

silent films

Actors

Women -- Education (Higher) -- 20th century

Motion pictures

Theater Periodicals

Moreland Stevens

Series 1: Alice Biddle Moreland Photo Journal 1880

Physical Description: 1 Box

Scope and Contents

Alice Biddle Moreland was the University of Oregon's first female graduate. She was born in Oregon in 1854. She graduated from Oregon State University when she was just 16 years old, completing her degree in three years. She married a professor named William Moreland in 1870 and together they had a daughter named Esther. Years later, Esther Moreland Leithold wrote her mother's biography "And This Is Our Heritage".

Series I contains a photographic album of Alice Biddle Moreland's travels through Asia in the 1880's. She visited China and Japan and took many photographs which are included in this album. Many of the photographs have been colored since they were printed and included are panoramic photographs.

It was unusual for women to travel abroad especially in Asia and in the 1880's thus this collection provides valuable insight into what a middle class white woman might have seen of Asian culture during that time.

This series is arranged chronologically by date.

Folder 1: Photo Album

Series 2: Edwin Stevens Papers 1876-2001 1976- 1977

Scope and Contents

Edwin Stevens was born in San Francisco in 1860. Stevens acted in over 45 films between 1916 and 1925. He also directed several films and wrote screenplays. He died in 1923 at the age of 63.

Series II documents Edwin Stevens' personal and professional life as a stage and silent film actor. The series includes his personal letters to his family while he was working on films and rehearsing plays, newspaper clippings of his performances, negatives of the film "The Yellow Menace" and a short biography written by his great grand-nephew Moreland Leithold Stevens. Also included are two issues of "The Theater", a magazine for playgoers, from 1908. Edwin Stevens is featured on the cover of the November issue. Photographs are dated from 1920-1922, though the majority are undated.

This series is arranged chronologically by date.

Folder 1: Edwin Stevens Photographs 1876-1922

Folder 2: Edwin Stevens Newspaper Clippings 1890-1971

Folder 3: Edwin Stevens Family Letters 1911-2001

Folder 4: Edwin Stevens Periodicals 1908