



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Community Life TV Soap Operas Collection

NMAH.AC.0108

Robert Harding, archivist

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Community Life TV Soap Operas Collection
Date:	1952-1983
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0108
Creator:	National Museum of American History (U.S.). Division of Cultural and Community Life
Extent:	1.5 Cubic feet (5 boxes)
Language:	English .
Summary:	The collection includes scripts and films related to soap operas. Included are the 1982 script from the first episode of "Capitol," autographed by the cast; the projected story line for "As The World Turns" for 1957; and three 16mm reels from "As The World Turns."

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Immediate source of acquisition unknown.

Provenance

The television soap opera scripts were acquired by the Division of Community Life (now the Division of Home and Community Life) as part of the History of American Entertainment Collection. The collection was transferred from the Division of Home and Community Life (now Division of Cultural and Community Life) to the Archives Center in 1984.

Separated Materials

Materials at the National Museum of American History

Artifacts in the Division of Cultural and Community Life (now the Division of Culture and the Arts) include:

"As the World Turns"

Apron (See accession:1984.0198.03)

Globe (See accession: 1984.0198.04)

Thank you card (See accession: 1984.0198.05)

"Edge of Night"

Miniature carousel (See accession: 1984.0202.01)

Gold pocket watch (See accession: 1984.0202.02)

"Search for Tomorrow"

Apron (See accession:1984.0208.01)

Scissors (See accession:1984.0199.01)

Black straw mourning hat (See accession:1984.0199.02)

"The Guiding Light"

Coffee pot (See accession:1984.1098.01)

Housecoat (See accession: 1984.0198.02)

Also included are six posters from "Soap Opera Festivals" in several cities (See accession: 1983.0726.05)

Processing Information

Processed by Robert S. Harding, archivist, 1984; revised Robert S. Harding, archivist, 1996.

Preferred Citation

Community Life TV Soaps Collection, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Scope and Contents

The collection includes scripts and films related to soap operas. Included are the 1982 script from the first episode of "Capitol," autographed by the cast and the projected story line for "As the World Turns" for 1957. Also included are three 16mm reels from "As the World Turns."

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into two series.

Series 1: Scripts, 1952-1983

Series 2: Moving Image Materials, 1951-1963

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Soap operas -- 1970-1990
Television
Television programs

Types of Materials:

16mm films

Motion pictures (visual works) -- 20th century

Scripts (documents)

Container Listing

Series 1: Scripts, 1952-1983

Box 1, Folder 1	"Another World", 1964 May 4
Box 1, Folder 2	"As the World Turns," (projected story line), 1956 December 3
Box 1, Folder 3	"As the World Turns", 1957 January 30
Box 1, Folder 4	"As The World Turns", 1957 April 1
Box 1, Folder 5	"As The World Turns", 1968 May
Box 1, Folder 6	"As the World Turns", 1983 July
Box 1, Folder 7	"As The World Turns" (script #3153), undated
Box 1, Folder 8	"Capitol," The Hour, teleplay, 1982 March 5
Box 1, Folder 9	"The Edge of Night" and script for commercials, 1956 April 30
Box 1, Folder 9	<p>The Edge of Night script #21 [script], 1956 April 30 1 Item (Ink on paper; 11.1" x 8.3".) Creator: Vendig, Irving, 1902-1995 (head writer) Language: English. Notes: AC0108-0000001 (AC Scan) First page of script.</p> <p>Topic: The Edge of Night (Television program) Soap operas</p> <p>Genre/Form: Scripts (documents)</p>
Box 1, Folder 10	"The Guiding Light," episode #1325, 1952 June 30

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Series 2: Moving Image Materials, 1951 - 1963

Reel OF 108.1 As the World Turns, 1962 March 11
1 Reel (black and white, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm; 1100 feet)

Reel OF 108.2 As the World Turns, 1962 August 7
1 Reel (black and white, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm, 1100 feet)

Reel OF 108.3 As the World Turns, 1963 March 11
1 Reel (black and white, composite optical soundtrack, print; 16mm, 1100 feet)

Video MV108.4 The First Hundred Years (1952 May 14)/The Guiding Light, 1953 January 27
1 Videocassettes (BetacamSP) (From 3/4" Umatic which was returned to Procter & Gamble; Betacam SP)
Notes: Composite reel created by Procter & Gamble containing single episodes of two soap operas, The First Hundred Years (1952 May 14) and The Guiding Light (1953 January 27). Includes television commercials for Ivory Soap, Duz laundry soap, Tide, and Crisco.

Video OV 108.5 Search for Tomorrow, 1951 September 3
1 Videocassettes (U-matic) (From original 16mm black and white composite optical track kinescope. ; 3/4" U-Matic)
Notes: The first episode of Search for Tomorrow which aired 1951 September 3 on CBS. Includes television commercials for Spic & Span and Joy. Duration 15 minutes

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