Guide to the Community Life
TV Soap Operas Collection

NMAH.AC.0108
Robert Harding, archivist

1984 May
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Collection Overview

Repository: Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title: Community Life TV Soap Operas Collection
Identifier: NMAH.AC.0108
Date: 1952-1983
Extent: 1.5 Cubic feet (5 boxes)
Language: English

Collection is in 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 to the Archives Center in 1984.

Related Materials

Materials at the National Museum of American History

Artifacts in 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

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

Restrictions
Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use
Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

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  The Edge of Night script #21 [script], 1956 April 30
1 Item (ink on paper; 11.1" x 8.3").

Image(s)

Image(s)

Vendig, Irving, 1902-1995 (head writer)
First page of script.

Local Numbers
AC0108-0000001 (AC Scan)

Topic:  Soap operas
        The Edge of Night (Television program)

Genre/  Scripts (documents)
Form:

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 track print ; 16mm)
16mm black and white composite optical track print

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

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

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)
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)
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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