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Reference Code: University Archives 902 Alumni Papers

Name and Location of Repository: Special Collections. Lane Library. Georgia Southern Univ. Armstrong Campus. 11935 Abercorn Street Savannah GA 31419-1997.


Language and Scripts of Material: English

Preferred Citation: Shirley Hoffman Papers. Georgia Southern University, Armstrong Campus, Lane Library. Special Collections. Savannah GA, 31419-1997. Box 902/Folder number.

Extent: .5 linear foot. Manuscript box and oversized folder

Name of Creators: Shirley Hoffman, Carlson R. Thomas

Accession Number: 04-3

Collection processed by: Caroline Hopkinson

Latest revision of Finding Aid: June 2010

Biographical History (2.7): Shirley Bell Hoffman graduated Armstrong Junior College with the class of 1951. Ms. Hoffman was Drama Club Secretary 1949-1950; Assistant to Director of the Masquers, 1950-1951; and part of the Savannah Playhouse, 1949-1950. In addition to her work as assistant to the Director, Hoffman participated in Armstrong productions as actor, stage crew, stage manager and electrician. Hoffman went on to become a professional writer.

Scope and Content Note: 27 photographs and programs from about ten plays produced by the Savannah Playhouse of Armstrong College under the direction of Carlson R. Thomas (1947-1951) form the bulk of Hoffman's papers. In four letters that accompany the collection Hoffman describes people, events and places she remembers from her Armstrong career during 1949-1951. In this letter Hoffman states some of the material which was "before my time" she received from Carlson Thomas. Hoffman donated the collection in response to a request published in Armstrong Magazine by Dr. Janet Stone around 1994. Dr. Stone deposited the material in the University Archives at about the time it was established, 2000.

Descriptors:
College theater—Georgia—Savannah
Armstrong Atlantic State University—Students
Theater—Georgia—Savannah—History

Named Persons:
Hoffman, Shirley Bell
Thomas, Carlson R.
Beecher, W. Orson

Named Corporations:
Armstrong College of Savannah
Savannah Playhouse of Armstrong
Armstrong Masquers (Savannah, GA)
**Organization and Arrangement:** Order imposed by archivist. Arrangement is in four series, photographs and programs are in chronological order by year of performance. Numbers are to folders in one manuscript box and one oversized folder.

   Letters written in 1994 by Hoffman describe the collection and recount memories, mainly of drama activities, but also other Armstrong Junior College experiences, places and faculty during 1949-1951. Measured drawing of Savannah Playhouse Stage, stage plans for *I Remember Mama* and drawings of lighting controls of the Savannah Playhouse.

2. Notebook pages of diagrams of Savannah Playhouse stage and lighting, 1949?

   Photographs of productions by the Savannah Playhouse. In many the subjects are identified.

4. *Winterset.* 1948. 1 photograph. See also Oversized folder 1.
5. *I Remember Mama.* 1949. 2 photographs

   From Savannah Playhouse and one (The Mikado) from Armstrong Masquer's

11. *Life with Father.* 1948
12. *The Importance of Being Earnest.* 1948
14. Savannah Drama Festival 1949
15. *Green Grow the Lilacs.* 1949?
16. Savannah Theatre Festival 1949?
17. *Angel Street.* 1949
18. *The Taming of the Shrew.* 1949
19. *I Remember Mama.* 1949
20. The Savannah Playhouse Season 1949-1950
22. *The Barretts of Wimpole Street.* 1950
23. *The Mikado.* 1951


25. Miscellaneous
   Armstrong College Commencement Program June 1951, Poster for *The Drunkard* by Savannah Opera House, Post card advertising *My Sister Eileen* drawing by Thom?

Oversized Folder 1: *Winterset* and *My Sister Eileen.*
   Large photographs of production.