

Stewart Bell Jr. Archives
Handley Regional Library & Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society
P.O. Box 58, Winchester, Virginia 22604
Tel.: (540) 662-9041, ext. 17 • Email: archives@handleyregional.org
Website: www.handleyregional.org/archives

Empire Theatre Collection
Collection Number: 494 WFCHS

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS: Collection is open to all researchers.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING REPRODUCTION AND USE: Restrictions may apply concerning the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult a member of the archives staff for information concerning these restrictions. The user assumes all responsibility for identifying and satisfying any claimants of copyright. Some materials may require special handling.

PROCESSING INFORMATION: Processed by Lorna M. Loring. Last updated December 12, 2023.

ACCESSION NUMBER(S): 2023.018 WFCHS

EXTENT: 0.21 linear feet

CREATOR: Empire Theatre (Winchester, Va.)

DATE: 1909-1927

SCOPE AND CONTENT: The Empire Theatre Collection contains programs, promotional calendars, and an and an envelope with the theater's home address.

material from the Empire Theater, which operated in Winchester, Virginia from 1909 to 1927. The collection includes news articles, programs, promotional calendars, and an envelope.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL: The Empire Theatre opened in early June 1909 and was located at the northwest corner of North Cameron Street and Rouss Avenue. The theatre featured vaudeville, silent movies, and light opera, until it was destroyed by fire in July 1912. The owner, J. Henkel Henry, rebuilt the structure and it was reopened on Christmas Day in 1913. In 1927 the theatre was sold to the Shenandoah Valley Theater Corporation and renamed the Capitol Theater.

RELATED MATERIAL: The Harry Dunn Collection, 129 WFCHS, contains a scrapbook of photographs of performers at the Empire Theatre.

IMMEDIATE SOURCE OF ACQUISITION: Materials acquired as gifts from several donors.

CONTAINER LIST:

BOX 1

Envelope, addressed to R. B. Moore, 1927

Programs, Folder 1

- "The Glorious Girl," under the auspices of the Robt. Y. Conrad Post American Legion, undated
- San Carlo Grand Opera Company
- "The Prisoner of Zenda"
- "The Three Musketeers"
- "Seventeen"
- Elk's Minstrels, B.P.O.E. No. 867, March, 1923

Programs, Folder 2

- "Trail of the Lonesome Pine", January 9, 1913
- "Bought and Paid For" September 26, 1913
- "Hearts Aflame", November 5, 1913
- "Strongheart," November 8, 1913
- "The Rose Maid", April 23, 1914
- "Creatore Grand Opera Co." Giuseppe Creatore, Conductor, February 16, 1920
- "Breaking the Engagement," undated

Promotional calendars, 1923 (2 copies)