Harrison Ford Papers: Finding Aid

Finding aid prepared by Aubrey Adams, April 13, 2011.
The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens
Manuscripts Department
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San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2129
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URL: http://www.huntington.org
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Overview of the Collection
Title: Harrison Ford Papers
Dates (inclusive): 1904-1954
Collection Number: mssFord Harrison papers
Creator: Ford, Harrison, 1894-1957.
Extent: 212 items in 1 box
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department
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Abstract: This collection contains the papers of silent film and stage actor Harrison Ford (1884-1957). The majority of the material relates to Ford's finances, and includes correspondence with and documents of the Internal Revenue Service, receipts, personal account ledgers, expense books, one contract, and state tax documents from New York.
Language: English.
Access
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item]. Harrison Ford Papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.
Provenance
Cataloger's Note
The Library of Congress Authority heading for Harrison Ford gives his birth year as 1894, though the cataloger's research suggests that he was in fact born in 1884. The earlier birth date better corresponds with the facts of Ford's career trajectory, particularly his Broadway debut as an adult in 1904.
Biographical Note
Harrison Ford (1884-1957) was a leading American actor in silent film and on Broadway. Ford began his acting career on Broadway in 1904, and in 1915 moved to Hollywood, California, where he spent nineteen years acting in silent films. In 1934, Ford returned to the stage, performing at the Pasadena Playhouse and Little Theater of the Verdugos in Glendale, California. Ford was hit by a car in front of his house in Glendale in 1951 and never recovered fully from the injuries he sustained in the accident. He died in 1957.
Scope and Content
This collection contains the papers of silent film and stage actor Harrison Ford. The majority of the material relates to Ford's finances, and includes correspondence with and documents of the Internal Revenue Service, receipts, personal account ledgers, expense books, one contract, and state tax documents from New York. It also contains tax-related receipts from Ford's employers stating the amount he earned for the fiscal year and fiscal-related correspondence with his attorney, Claude I. Parker. There is some correspondence related to the casting and players associations of which he was a member, in both California and New York, as well as some personal correspondence including a series of letters from a Mrs. G. P. G. of San Francisco, California. The artifacts include a photograph in a frame (possibly of Ford), a seal, six Forest Service buttons, and a small tin containing four small miscellaneous items including charms.
Arrangement
Arranged by item type.
Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Huntington Library's Online Catalog.
Subjects
Actors -- California -- Los Angeles.
Actors -- New York (State) -- New York.
Motion picture industry -- California -- Los Angeles -- History -- Sources.
Theater -- New York (State) -- New York -- History -- 20th century -- Sources.

Forms/Genres
Financial records -- California -- 20th century.
Letters (correspondence) -- California -- 20th century.

Additional Contributors
United States. Internal Revenue Service.

Box 1  Correspondence, Documents, and Ephemera
Folder 1  Correspondence (1924-1954). 19 items. Includes newspaper clippings, a photograph and a program.
Folder 2  Correspondence with Casting and Players Associations (1924-1930). 10 items.
         Includes financial statements.
Folder 3  Correspondence from Claude I. Parker, Attorney at Law (1925-1928). 13 items.
         Includes tax returns/forms and note.
Folder 4  Correspondence from Mrs. G. P. G. (1949). 15 items.
Folder 5  Ephemera: Artifacts [undated]. 13 items.
Folder 6  Expense books (1925-1927). 3 items.
Folder 7  Internal Revenue Service Documents (1919-1931). 48 items. Includes correspondence from the IRS as well as Harrison Ford.
Folder 8  Miscellaneous (1904-1929). 29 items.
Folder 9  Receipts, Cancelled Checks and Expense Notes (1920-1932). 49 items.
Folder 11  Work Contract with Ray Carroll Kapleau (1922, Sep. 9). 1 item.