

Charles Zuber papers on the history of theater in Cincinnati

Ms. Coll. 1281

Finding aid prepared by Kelin Baldrige.

Last updated on April 03, 2017.

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2017 April 1

Table of Contents

Summary Information.....	3
Biography/History.....	4
Scope and Contents.....	4
Administrative Information.....	4
Controlled Access Headings.....	5
Collection Inventory.....	6
I. Typescript draft of articles on the history of theater in Cincinnati.....	6
II. Notes on the history of the Cincinnati theater.....	6
III. Typescript of a history of theater in Cincinnati, parts 1-3.....	7

Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Zuber, Charles, 1872-1938
Title	Charles Zuber papers on the history of theater in Cincinnati
Call number	Ms. Coll. 1281
Date	circa 1937
Extent	0.5 linear feet (1 box)
Language	English
Abstract	Charles Zuber (1872-1938) was a sports writer for the <i>Cincinnati Times-Star</i> from 1895 to 1910 who intended to write a definitive history of early Cincinnati theater events. This collection includes a heavily annotated typescript draft of his articles on the history of theater in Cincinnati; notes from his research on the topic; and a more polished typescript, possibly a finished version designed to become a complete history.

Cite as:

Charles Zuber papers on the history of theater in Cincinnati, circa 1937, Ms. Coll. 1281, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Pennsylvania

Biography/History

Charles Zuber, the son of German immigrants who lived in Kentucky, was a sports writer for the *Cincinnati Times-Star* from 1895 to 1910. He also appears to have written articles for *Sporting Life*, including at least one infamous article relating to Native American integration in baseball. After ending his career (possibly being dismissed by publisher Taft) as a sports writer in 1910, Zuber became a press agent for several theaters, the Cincinnati Baseball Club, and the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce. He wrote sporadically for the *Cincinnati Times-Star* about theater in Cincinnati and intended to write a definitive history of early Cincinnati theater events.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes a heavily annotated typescript draft of his articles on the history of theater in Cincinnati; notes from his research on the topic; and a more polished typescript, possibly a finished version designed to become a complete history. The annotated typescript drafts of the articles are ordered chronologically by the date in history that they concern, from a brief history pre-1820 to a more comprehensive history of the years between 1820 and 1854. The notes are his personal, handwritten and typewritten notes concerning theater in Cincinnati between 1830 and 1854. Finally, the more polished typescript provides a cleaner view of his history. It is possible to see Zuber's focus on subjects ranging from plays and performances, specific theaters, and actors (including Edwin Forrest) to the effects of theater on war to the involvement of African-American and women actors. It is unclear if this circa 1937 work is actually complete (Zuber died in 1938) or that it was ever published. There are references made in the *Cincinnati Inquirer* in 1948 to Zuber's "history of early Cincinnati theater events," but there are also indications that a copy of Zuber's writing (probably identical to this one) was sold to the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio and may have been consulted for the 1948 reference.

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2017 April 1

Finding aid prepared by Kelin Baldrige.

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research use.

Use Restrictions

Copyright restrictions may exist. For most library holdings, the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania do not hold copyright. It is the responsibility of the requester to seek permission from the holder of the copyright to reproduce material from the Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Source of Acquisition

Gift of Ernest J. Wessen, Midland Rare Book Company, 1954.

Controlled Access Headings

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Drafts (documents)
- Notes
- Typescripts

SUBJECT(S)

- Actors
- Theater
- Theater--Ohio--Cincinnati
- Theater--United States
- Theater--United States--History--19th century

Collection Inventory

I. TYPESCRIPT DRAFT OF ARTICLES ON THE HISTORY OF THEATER IN CINCINNATI, CIRCA 1937.

	Box	Folder
1820-1829.	1	1
1830-1832.	1	2
1842-1843.	1	3
1844-1845.	1	4
1846-1847.	1	5
1848.	1	6
1850.	1	7
1851.	1	8
1852-1853.	1	9
1854.	1	10

II. NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF THE CINCINNATI THEATER, CIRCA 1937.

	Box	Folder
--	-----	--------

1830-1841.	1	11
1842-1845.	1	12
1850.	1	13
1854.	1	14

III. TYPESCRIPT OF A HISTORY OF THEATER IN CINCINNATI, PARTS 1-3, CIRCA 1937.

	Box	Folder
Part 1.	1	15
Part 2.	1	16
Part 3.	1	17