Inventory of the Booth Tarkington Collection  
(Collection #70)

The Brick Store Museum  
Kennebunk, Maine

Compiled by J. Butler, Manuscript Curator  
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Physical Description:

This collection of Booth Tarkington material, including 132 copies of his many books, was compiled by Harlan D. Taylor. Taylor was one of the founding members of the Kenneth Roberts Centennial Commission. He helped amass their holdings (Collection #67, BSM), and through that work became interested in and familiar with the work of Booth Tarkington, another Kennebunkport author.

This collection gives the Brick Store Museum a matching Tarkington collection of books like the Commission’s Roberts’ collection. This collection includes many editions of each title, as well as volumes autographed by Tarkington, his wife, or his secretary, Betty Trotter.

There are Tarkington biographies and bibliographies, copies of some of his plays, magazines with articles by him, and books with contributions by Tarkington.

Also included are a number of important Tarkington bits of memorabilia – a photo framed with Booth Tarkington letter, the copy of the United States Coast Pilot, 1903, that was probably kept on the Regina, Tarkington’s Kennebunkport vessel/studio, etc.

This collection, added to the Booth Tarkington material that came in with Collection #67 and Tarkington material already owned by the Brick Store Museum, gives the Museum a significant Tarkington collection. Great collections exist elsewhere, but this is a fine small collection that will make it possible to examine and remember the work of the Pulitzer Prize-winning author who chose Kennebunkport as his second home and befriended the Kennebunks’ Kenneth Roberts.

The books are shelved together. There are only two boxes of materials. Artifacts are stored separately.

The accession number for this collection is 1992-56.
Box and Folder Breakdown:

Box 1:

Folder 1:  Letter from S. Tarkington removed from CHERRY (1992-56.85.2)  
Heritage Club brochure (1992-56.55.2)  
Booklet announcing the One-By-One edition of the novels of Booth Tarkington.  
Doubleday, Doran & Co., no date (1992.56.145)  
Letter, S. Tarkington to Gracia [Thirkell], no date (1992-546.146)  
Letter, Donalda Arentz to H. Taylor, 9/23/1984, and clipping relating to Booth Tarkington medal supposed to be part of this collection (1992.56.147)  
Miscellaneous newspaper clippings

Also in Box 1:  Case that held above medal (medal missing when collection came to the Brick Store Museum)  
Framed photo of Booth Tarkington, tinted (1992-56.149)  

Playbooks:  
Bimbo the Pirate (1992.56.151)  
Station YYYY (1992-56.152)  
The Wren (1992-56.158)  
Seventeen (1992-56.157)  
The Ghost Story (two copies) 1992-56.153 & 154)  
Clarence (1992.56.156)  
An Overwhelming Saturday (1992-56.155)


*The American Magazine*, April 1927, with “Marriage” by Booth Tarkington (1992-56.136)  

Pictorial Review, December 1938, with “Uncertain Mrs. Collicut” by Booth Tarkington (1992-56.139)

Saturday Evening Post, June 3, 1933, with “What the Lady Said to the Policeman,” by Booth Tarkington (1992-56.140)

Folder 1:

Cover only SEP, Nov. 9, 1940. “The Man of the Family” by Booth Tarkington listed on cover (1992-56.142)


Stored Elsewhere:

Recording, “Seventeen,” a musical comedy by Booth Tarkington. 33 ½ long playing. No date. (1992-56.141) Metal Case, Drawer Two

Addition to Box 1, Folder 1:

Playbill, the new Kennebunkport Playhouse, Garrick Players, 1940
Program, Pasadena Playhouse, Eight Hit Plays by Booth Tarkington, 1943.

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