



ArchivesSpace

National Christmas Tree Collection

An inventory of National Christmas Tree at DC Public Library

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on March 26, 2018.

English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Stage

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Summary Information

Repository:	Stage
Title:	National Christmas Tree Collection
ID:	088
Date [inclusive]:	1923-1969
Physical Description:	0.25 linear feet; 1 box
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	English

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Biographical / Historical

The first Christmas Tree lighting ceremony in Washington, DC occurred during the Woodrow Wilson administration in 1913 at the U.S. Capitol. The first tree lighting at the White House occurred at the Ellipse in 1923 during the Calvin Coolidge administration. The tree lighting ceremony moved from the Ellipse to Sherman Park from 1924 to 1933. In 1934 the tree was moved to Lafayette Park and the ceremony continued there until 1939 when it was returned to the Ellipse. From 1941 to 1953 the tree was located on the grounds of the White House. In 1954 it was permanently moved to the Ellipse and the ceremony has taken place there since.

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Scope and Contents

The collection consists of correspondence, speeches, invitations, parking passes, sheet music, clippings, and photographs regarding the history and raising of the National Christmas Tree. Also included in this collection are materials related to the Christmas Pageant of Peace, which began in 1954.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Stage

Custodial History

The collection has been in the DC Community Archives since 1983.

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Collection Inventory

Series 1		
Title/Description	Instances	
Christmas Carols (sheet music), 1926	Box 1	Folder 1
Clippings, 1937-1969	Box 1	Folder 2
Correspondence, 1940-1963	Box 1	Folder 3
History, 1957	Box 1	Folder 4
Passes and Tickets, 1947-1960	Box 1	Folder 5
Photographs, 1950	Box 1	Folder 6
Programs, 1923-1965	Box 1	Folder 7
Speech, 1938	Box 1	Folder 8

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