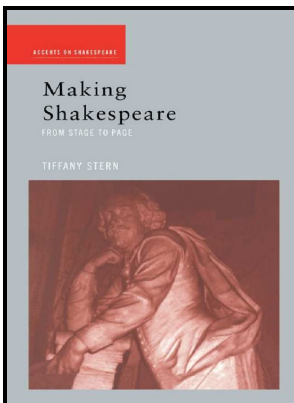


# Playhouse wills, 1558-1642 - an edition of wills by Shakespeare and his contemporaries in the London theatre

Manchester University Press - Playhouse wills, 1558



Description: -

-  
Wills -- England -- London.  
Theater -- England -- London -- History -- 17th century -- Sources.  
Theater -- England -- London -- History -- 16th century --  
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Colección Clásicos del pensamiento

The Revels plays companion library Playhouse wills, 1558-1642 - an  
edition of wills by Shakespeare and his contemporaries in the London  
theatre

Notes: Includes bibliographical references (p. xiv-xv) and index.  
This edition was published in 1993



Filesize: 15.77 MB

Tags: #The #six #signatures

## Playhouse wills, 1558

The larger questions is where are there ANY signatures or examples of personal writing in his entire life? Nelson, professor of English from UCal Berkeley, a paleographer by training. I looked once at about 1000 original wills in the Public Record Office, now The National Archives, and most are signed on every sheet.

## 9780719030161: Playhouse Wills: 1558

We argued for months on HLAS about the signatures. Again I refer to Detobel on this. That is always the incongruity and the mystery.

## 9780719030161: Playhouse Wills: 1558

Certainly no lettered person would have made such a bad job of it. If the signature had been used to attest the document, it would have been signed in the body of the document, not on the tabs holding the seals. The wills not only offer vital historical evidence but are also important human documents, testaments to the social, financial, religious and sentimental lives of Shakespeare's contemporaries.

## Playhouse wills, 1558

You can find the signatures of important people from that time online. I suggest anyone interested in the signatures read it.

## Playhouse Wills, 1558

It is a collection of over one hundred wills left by those who participated in the life of the theatre - from actors and dramatists to carpenters and costumiers. No, the kind of scrawls we see today did not exist then. No one has ever questioned whether or not he wrote these versions of his

surname himself.

### **Playhouse wills, 1558**

Of the wills reprinted here, one third were newly discovered, and many of the rest printed for the first time from the original wills, thus preserving the vacillations and abandoned intentions of the testators. In each case, the signature is fluid, full, and highly literate.

### **The six signatures**

An odd fellow, that Will. The wills not only offer vital historical evidence but are also important human documents, testaments to the social, financial, religious and sentimental lives of Shakespeare's contemporaries. Odd that this paragon of English literature left no works written in his own hand, nor books, bequeathed to his children.

### **The six signatures**

Signatures had the same role then that they have now. Shakespeares examples above seem to follow this model. They do not have to represent every letter of a name.

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