

Collection Summary

ID Number: MSS 084

Title: Colleen Moore Collection

Extent: 1 Box

Span Dates: 1930s

Language: English

Geographic Location: New York

Abstract: The Colleen Moore Collection consists of paper dollhouse cutouts from Ultman, NY from 1937.

Historical Notes: Colleen Moore (1899-1988) was born Kathleen Morrison on August 19, 1899 in Port Huron, MI. From a young age, Morrison enjoyed watching films and kept a scrapbook of articles about her favorite actors and actresses. Her uncle, Walter C. Howey, editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, requested help from director D.W. Griffith to help her get a start in the movie industry. She received her first break in 1917 in *The Savage* and by 1927, she was a top box-office draw and a highly paid actor. Moore's transition to "talkie" films from silent films was successful and retired after *The Scarlett Letter* (1934). She came out of retirement in 1980 for the television mini-series *Hollywood*. She was known for her "Fairy Castle" dollhouse. As she was always passionate about dolls, she and her father had decided to design a huge, beautiful dollhouse to end all huge, beautiful dollhouses. It had nine square feet and was built and furnished by professional carpenters and interior designers. An intricate work of art, it featured thirteen fairytale-themed rooms complete with gorgeous miniature furniture, hand-painted murals, teeny paintings, and even a tiny library with miniature books signed by famous writers of the day. No expense was spared—real gold, diamonds, and other trimmings were used to make it as beautiful as possible. Today, Colleen's dollhouse has its own exhibit in Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry and is seen by 1.5 million visitors a year." Moore passed away on January 25, 1988.

- **Sources:** [Internet Movie Database \(IMDb\): Biography](#); [Silent-ology: Colleen Moore, America's Favorite Flapper](#)

Selected Search Terms

Keywords: Artists; American History

Related Materials: Arts and Entertainment; History; Photographs; Publications; Related Materials -- 1901-1950; Related Materials -- n.d.; Special Collections

Administrative Information

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Contents	Date	Container	Location
<i>Dollhouse Cut-Outs</i> Booklet	n.d.	Box 1, Folder 1	RL 3027
Photograph [001]	1937	Box 1, Folder 2	RL 3027