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Frederic Morton papers 11.MWalB02715

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Brandeis University

415 South St.

Waltham, MA

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Summary Information

Repository:	Brandeis University
Creator:	Morton, Frederic
Title:	Frederic Morton papers
ID:	11.MWalB02715
Date [inclusive]:	1947-1965
Physical Description:	3.5 Linear Feet 5 hollinger boxes, 1 record center box
Language of the Material:	English

Preferred Citation

Frederic Morton papers, Robert D. Farber University Archives & Special Collections Department, Brandeis University

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Biographical / Historical

Frederic Morton (1924-2015) was an American writer. Born into a Jewish family in Vienna, his family fled post-Anschluss Austria in 1939, settling in New York. In America, Morton studied English literature, and published his first novel in 1947; he gained fame with *The Rothschilds*, a history of the banking family, published in 1962. He became an important New York literary figure, and worked as a journalist and critic for a number of publications. In total Morton published a dozen books, both fiction and nonfiction, many dealing with his native Austria; he became a celebrated figure in his native country during the later stages of his life. He died during a return trip to Vienna in 2015.

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Content Description

This collection consists primarily of materials related to the early writing career of Frederic Morton, dating from 1947-1965. These include manuscripts and typescripts of several of his published books (Asphalt & Desire, The Esthetic Implications of William Empson's Criticism, The Schatten Affair, The Hound, The Darkness Below and The Witching Ship); correspondence with and historical research on the Rothschild family (the subject of his best-known work); various essays and articles written by Morton for Esquire, Playboy, The Atlantic Monthly and other periodicals; and published copies of his books, including translations. The collection is unprocessed. A preliminary inventory is available in Special Collections.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Access to the collection is in accordance with the policies of the Robert D. Farber University Archives & Special Collections Department, Brandeis University. Please contact the department for more information.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Novelists, American -- 20th century
- Rothschild family