ABSTRACT - Harold Calvin Tedford, Wake Forest Faculty and Department Chair, Director of the Wake Forest University Theatre, retired

Audiotapes to Z. Smith Reynolds Library
Abstract by Anne R. Phillips

Named for Dr. Harold Tribble. Tedford is Arkansas native; Ph.D., 1965, Louisiana State University. At national meeting, met Dr. Franklin Shirley, who invited Tedford to apply for Wake Forest faculty position.

August 1965, joined Wake Forest faculty as theatre director; office on 6th floor of ZSR Library. Theatres on 7th and 8th levels of the library. Theatre-in-the-round on 7th floor.

Tedford and wife, Josie, helped make costumes. Carolyn Sandlin Fullerton coached students in speech for plays. Student set designers at WFU and to other cities.


Tedford started Friends of the Theatre for greater budget and to honor theatre arts on campus.

Margaret Truman broke ground for Scales Fine Arts Center, using the same shovel her father had used to break ground for the new Wake Forest campus.

Scales Fines Arts Center completed; last play in the library performed. Ceremonial taking down of the ancient purple curtain used on the old Wake Forest College campus and used in the ZSR theatres. Curtain carried from ZSR to the rehearsal room at new Scales Fines Arts Center. Sandy Ellis, Baptist minister bottled the theatre ghost and took it to the new theatre.

Nationally-known guests to campus: Rosemary Harris, honorary doctorate from Wake Forest, “loved the new theatre;” Julie Harris; Michael Bennett, director of “Ballroom,”: “I WANT this theatre in New York!”

Plays Tedford directed; accomplishments.
See Attachments:


2. MIELZINER title page from Henderson book and Xeroxed pages 276 and 277, with photo of Jo Mielziner and Harold Tedford, page 277.

N.B. See caption under photograph, p. 276, of the Wake Forest theatre:

"Close to his heart and ideals Jo's design for the Little Theatre at Wake Forest University (shown here). He returned to the intimate proscenium theatre he had first envisioned for the Pittsburgh Playhouse. Simple, unadorned except by natural materials. The Wake Forest Theatre stands today as his most successful monument in theatre architecture." (Courtesy of Harold Tedford and the Wake Forest University Theatre)