

Special collections in Oxford college libraries

The libraries of the 44 colleges and halls of the University of Oxford contain a wealth of special collections, including printed books, manuscripts, and archives. Some of the more significant are listed in this guide, with further information often available on college websites.

College librarians will be happy to advise on your research. **Please contact the library in advance of any visit**, by email or telephone, as most college libraries lack the resources to accommodate visitors who arrive without an appointment.

Contact details for all college libraries, including those without fuller entries below, are available at <http://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/colleges>. The Oxford Archivists' Consortium has compiled information on college archives at <http://www.oxfordarchives.org.uk/>.

In addition to the present guide, a detailed, if inevitably dated, overview of colleges' special collections is Paul Morgan, *Oxford libraries outside the Bodleian: a guide*, 2nd ed. (Oxford: Bodleian Library, 1980). It is out of print, regrettably, but should be available in libraries.

A substantial number of early printed books in colleges, but by no means all, are catalogued on SOLO, Oxford's library catalogue: <http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>. In addition to SOLO, it will often be necessary to refer to bibliographical tools such as ESTC (<http://estc.bl.uk/>) and its printed predecessors, STC and 'Wing'.

Several colleges have commissioned catalogues of their manuscripts in recent years. The clearest directory, with references to Coxe's 19th-century catalogue of college manuscripts, is provided by the

Bodleian Libraries at <http://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/medieval-sc>.

If you have a general question about special collections for Oxford's college librarians, please email the Chair of the Committee of College Librarians, currently Liz Kay, Brasenose College, at liz.kay@bnc.ox.ac.uk.

Committee of College Librarians, October 2017.

All Souls College

The Codrington Library has over 50,000 books printed before 1800. The majority have been catalogued on SOLO, but the work is still ongoing.

The Library holds 115 manuscripts pre-1550: the main strengths in this collection are psalters, Bibles, law, and medicine. The post-1550 manuscripts consist mainly of the manuscripts belonging to the Luttrell/Wynne family and relate to parliamentary affairs.

The Library also houses the papers of Charles Richard Vaughan (1774–1849), traveller and diplomat at Madrid and America. The archives of the college are extensive: the catalogue of the archives can be seen in the Codrington and in the Special Collections Reading Room at the Bodleian Library.

More information is available on the Codrington's LibGuide: <http://ox.libguides.com/allsouls>

Balliol College

The special collections include over 400 medieval manuscripts, important nineteenth- and twentieth-century historical and literary manuscripts, about 10,000 early printed books (pre-1800), and nearly 100,000 post-1800 books. The nearly 200 medieval manuscripts donated to the Fellows' Library by William Gray, a 15th-century Bishop of Ely, form 'by far the finest, as well as the

largest, private collection to survive in England from the Middle Ages'. Balliol's modern papers include significant literary and personal collections of Robert Browning, Matthew Arnold, Arthur Hugh Clough, Gerard Manley Hopkins, Grahame Greene, and more than eighty other individuals and families with Balliol connections.

The printed books acquired by the college during its lifetime cover a wide range of subjects, including literary and early scientific works, but some bequests are of particular interest, including those of the book collector Sir Thomas Wendy in 1677, of Nicholas Crouch, student and fellow of the college from 1632 to his death in 1690, and the clergyman and antiquary George Coningsby in 1766. The library of the influential Master Benjamin Jowett is also held, as is a comprehensive collection of works by and about the poet Algernon Charles Swinburne, and Paget Jackson Toynbee's collection of early editions of Dante, Machiavelli, and others Italian writers.

Balliol's special collections are open by appointment in the Historic Collections Centre at St Cross Church, Holywell. Information about the collections and access to St Cross can be found at <http://www.balliol.ox.ac.uk/about-balliol/Library>

Brasenose College

Brasenose College Library holds an interesting collection of antiquarian books and manuscripts dating back to the sixteenth century. It is believed that by the mid-sixteenth century Brasenose owned in excess of 100 volumes and now holds around 2,500 books published before 1641, approximately 83 of which are incunabula. Many of these were chained until 1780 when a major refurbishment took place.

In addition to these are around 10,000 items which make up the Stamford Collection which contains an eclectic range of books mostly dating between 1640 and the late 1700's. The core of the Stamford collection consists of bequests, most of which reflect the libraries of former Principals of the College, from the period of the Civil War, the Commonwealth and the Restoration on into the

eighteenth century. These are currently being catalogued onto SOLO.

The College also has a substantial collection of books written by, and about, members of BNC past and present. The books range from modest pamphlets and anecdotal tales of yesteryear to major works such as Foxe's *Book of Martyrs* and a copy of the 3rd edition of *The Anatomy of Melancholy* presented by Robert Burton.

Christ Church

The library has grown largely by gift. The many special collections include:

Wake bequest

William Wake, Archbishop of Canterbury (1657–1737), left to Christ Church his printed book collection (some 5,500 volumes), his Greek manuscripts, his official and personal papers in 31 volumes, and his collection of coins (now on deposit in the Ashmolean).

Orrery bequest

Charles Boyle, 4th Earl of Orrery (1676–1731), left to Christ Church his printed books and also his scientific instruments, including the original orrery which bears his name (now on deposit in the Museum of the History of Science).

Allestree Library

Richard Allestree, author of *The whole duty of man*, left his library in 1681 to his successors in the post of Regius Professor of Divinity. In 1946, Christ Church took over the administration of this library, which is still housed over the South Cloister, just as Allestree left it.

Morris bequest

In 1648 John Morris, Regius Professor of Hebrew, left his books to his successor, with in addition an annuity of £5 for the purchase of further works in Hebrew.

Robert Burton's library

Burton, author of *The anatomy of melancholy*, bequeathed the residue of his library (c. 500 volumes) to Christ Church after the Bodleian had had first choice.

Aldrich bequest

Henry Aldrich (1648–1710), Dean of Christ Church, left to the college his collection of prints and drawings (now part of the collections in the Picture Gallery), some 3,000 books and pamphlets, including many Quaker, Civil War and Commonwealth tracts bought from Francis Bugg, and his fine collection of early printed and manuscript music.

Goodson bequest

Richard Goodson (c. 1655–1718) and his son, also Richard (1688–1741), were both successively Professors of Music, and each left a substantial collection of music, to add to Aldrich's volumes.

Pamphlets

In 1722, Lewis Atterbury, brother of Francis (Dean, 1711–1713), gave to Christ Church almost 4,000 pamphlets.

Icelandic collection

Frederick York Powell (1850–1904) bequeathed about 800 volumes of Scandinavian and Icelandic literature, almost all of which are currently on deposit in the English Faculty Library.

Thai collection

84 volumes, mostly in the Thai language, presented by Rama VI (1881–1925), King of Siam and a commoner of Christ Church 1900–1901, were deposited in the Bodleian in 1967.

Gibbs collection

This good collection of liturgical texts, especially English Books of Common Prayer, was formed by Kenneth Gibbs (1856–1935), sometime Archdeacon of St Albans, and presented by his widow in 1946.

Brady collection

Francis Bridgford Brady presented in 1977 his collection of English theatrical ephemera, including much on juvenile theatre.

Driberg papers

Tom Driberg, Labour MP, gave to Christ Church his papers, which fill 5 filing cabinets.

Portal papers

Papers of Viscount Portal of Hungerford, Chief of the Air Staff during the Second World War.

Phillimore papers

Letters and other papers relating to the Phillimore family, chiefly Sir Robert Phillimore, ecclesiastical lawyer and friend of Gladstone (on deposit at Christ Church).

Greek resistance newspapers

A small collection of newspapers published 'underground' in Greece, 1943–1944, given by Eric Grey.

Carroll collection

Manuscripts, books, pamphlets and ephemera relating to Lewis Carroll and Alice Liddell.

Corpus Christi College

The special collections include over 500 manuscripts, and an estimated 20,000 early printed books, both foreign and English titles, including 282 incunabula. Over 10,000 of the printed titles have so far been catalogued onto SOLO. Other items are listed in online databases such as ESTC and ISTC, as well as in printed bibliographies such as STC, Rhodes, and Wing.

The manuscript collection has been built up since the foundation in 1517 through donations, mostly by College members. Consequently, it covers a wide range of texts, bindings, artwork, and

provenances. Most of the over 300 medieval manuscripts are listed in Coxe's *Catalogus codicum MSS. qui in collegiis aulisque Oxoniensibus* (Oxford, 1852) v.2, but this should be used with caution. New descriptive catalogues have been published of the Greek and Western medieval manuscripts (2011), and the Hebrew manuscripts (2016). Digital versions of some Corpus manuscripts are available on the Early Manuscripts at Oxford University website (<http://image.ox.ac.uk/>). The collection is strong in holdings of antiquarian manuscripts relating to both local and national history, especially the extensive collection of the seventeenth century historian William Fulman.

The early printed collection was largely assembled in the first 170 years after the foundation, and like the manuscript collection this was largely through the generosity of college members. It includes printed books dealing with contemporary classical and theological studies given by the founder, Richard Fox (1447/8-1528), a statesman cleric, and by John Claymond (1467/8-1536), the first President. Important theological donations of the 17th century came from John Rainolds (1549-1607), President 1598-1607 and his successor as President, John Spenser (1558/9-1614). Brian Twyne (1581-1644) bequeathed c.750 titles including rare ephemeral English printed works concerned with astrology, farriery, medicine, botany, and the light reading of the time, as well as books on antiquarian matters and Greek studies. Other 17th century donations include political and religious tracts from Richard Samwayes (1614/15-1669) and John Rosewell (d.1684), Headmaster of Eton, who gave over 1,000 items. In the 18th century the college received a donation of c.2,300 items from Thomas Turner (1645-1714), President 1688-1714, including pamphlets and theological treatises; scientific and medical books bequeathed by William Creed (1658/9-1711) and Cuthbert Ellison (1677/78-1719); and a collection of some 900 volumes of Italian history and topography, including 31 volumes of sketches and drawings, formed by Henry Hare, third Baron Coleraine (1693-1749) and his father.

The philosophical collection of Shadworth Hodgson (1832-1912) came to the college in the early 20th century. There is a small but growing collection of works by alumni; other curiosities include the printed fragments removed from bindings and arranged in albums by R.G.C. Proctor and J.G. Milne in the 1890s. The Bridges Collection of over 500 books, plus personal letters belonging to old member and Poet Laureate Robert Bridges (1844-1930) was given to Corpus by his family in 2008.

The College Archive holds more than 10,000 items, including administrative and legal records (e.g. deeds of the site, accounts etc.), estate records (e.g. deeds, surveys, court rolls and maps dating from the 13th century onwards) and formal and informal records of College activities, such as records of library benefactions.

Exeter College

Exeter College Library holds 76 medieval manuscripts all of which are catalogued in Andrew Watson's *'A Descriptive catalogue of the medieval manuscripts of Exeter College Oxford'* (OUP, 2000). There are also 170 later manuscripts, which include religious and legal works. There are 10,000 early printed books (pre-1800) including 77 incunabula, and 20,000 post-1800 books. About one third of the pre-1800 material is catalogued on SOLO. The range of subjects covered in the special collections is wide, including medical and theological material and works of travel and natural history, some of which reflect the College's close ties to the West Country. Exeter has a number of items which belonged to William Morris, including Morris' own copy of the Kelmscott Chaucer. There is also an extensive archive which holds documents dating back to the foundation of Exeter College in 1314.

Green Templeton College

Green Templeton College's special collections are housed in a Library at 13 Norham Gardens. This house is the former home of Sir William Osler, one of the greatest physicians in the history of medicine, Sir George Pickering and Sir Richard Doll.

The Library contains the following collections: books by or about William Osler and his contemporaries; books on the history of medicine, leprosy and dermatology; and books on the history of Oxford medicine including the history of the Radcliffe Infirmary and the story of Penicillin. All of the books in the Library can be found on SOLO.

The Library is open by prior appointment only. Anyone wishing to use the Library should email library@gtc.ox.ac.uk in the first instance.

Harris Manchester College

The general antiquarian printed holdings are extensive, reflecting the college's growth out of the dissenting academies in the north of England. One of the cornerstones of the library is the enormous tract collection which consists of many thousands of pamphlets printed in the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries. The contents are strongly Unitarian and include some extremely rare items not to be found elsewhere. The collection has generally been bound up in chronological order which gives the reader an excellent idea of the ebb and flow of Nonconformist thought over several centuries as the discussions change, grow, and fade over time. An extremely interesting feature of the tract collection which has yet to be documented in any comprehensive fashion is previous ownership, which should prove invaluable to scholars working in the field of textual transmission.

The catalogue of our archives is available online and may provide some interesting items for a research project:

<http://www.hmc.ox.ac.uk/pages/default.asp?id=20&sID=135>

Hertford College

Hertford's antiquarian collection reflects the college's varied history, as its collection is built upon those of its predecessors Hart Hall and Magdalen Hall. The main source of early accessions was donations from members, and the seventeenth and eighteenth century collections were dominated by economics and geography titles, as

well as a number of theological, classical and natural science texts. Many of the books donated to Magdalen Hall are recorded in a benefactor book, which is now part of Hertford's archives. At least 90% of the collection is not catalogued on SOLO and is listed on site in a card catalogue and printed catalogue. Hertford's manuscripts are kept in the Bodleian.

Jesus College

The college's traditional association with Wales is reflected in the Celtic Library, a research collection of 8,500 books, many from the library of the medieval historian Charles Plummer (1851–1927). As well as the college's administrative documents, the Archives hold private papers such as those of the popular historian J.R. Green (1837–1883).

The 11,500 early printed books in the Fellows' Library (mostly on SOLO) include noteworthy scientific and medical books from the 1648 bequest of Lord Herbert of Cherbury. Jesus's best-known old member is T.E. Lawrence 'of Arabia' (1888–1935) whose thesis on Crusader castles is kept in the Library.

The college's medieval manuscripts are housed in the Weston Library. The Celtic manuscripts have been digitised at Digital.Bodleian, including the Red Book of Hergest, source of the tales of the Mabinogion.

Keble College

The historic collections include the personal library, correspondence and papers of John Keble, one of the early leaders of the Oxford Movement, and bequests of early printed books and manuscripts from Victorian benefactors who were influenced by High Church idealism or associated with the College. Consequently the collections are significant for research into the history and literature of the Oxford Movement and for early printed liturgical and devotional books and manuscripts.

Lady Margaret Hall

LMH has a small but distinctive collection of rare books, nearly all received by donation. There is a strong component of books and pamphlets relating to the English Civil War, an excellent collection of antiquarian French works including a set of the first edition of the Diderot *Encyclopédie*, and a good collection of early 20th century fine presses. Information about some of the collections is available online at http://ox.libguides.com/lmh/rare_books.

Linacre College

Linacre College houses the library of the philosopher Gilbert Ryle, which he bequeathed to the college, along with some of his papers. Many of the books are heavily annotated by Ryle. All the books are catalogued on SOLO and may be consulted by appointment with the Librarian (library@linacre.ox.ac.uk). For more information on the Gilbert Ryle Collection see <http://www.linacre.ox.ac.uk/facilities/library/gilbert-ryle-collection>.

Lincoln College

Lincoln College's collection of over 14,000 early printed books is housed largely in the Senior Library. The collection has been acquired mainly through gifts and bequests from members of the College and covers a wide range of subjects including theology and patristics, Bibles, classical languages, literature and philosophy, law and English literature. The books from the Senior Library are currently being catalogued onto SOLO.

Among the important benefactions, many of which are recorded in a donors' book for the 17th and 18th centuries, are: 18 incunables given by Edmund Audley, Bishop of Salisbury (d. 1524); books from the scholarly libraries of Richard Kilby (1560-1620) and Thomas Marshall (1621-1685), both Oxford Christian Hebraists and Rectors of Lincoln; large bequests from Gilbert Watts, James St Amand and William Vesey; and two books from the Chapel Royal in bindings done for Charles II and donated by Nathaniel Crewe (1633-1721). The Senior Library is particularly strong in its collections of

Hebraica and Judaica (now fully catalogued onto SOLO), Civil War pamphlets (77 volumes containing over 2,000 tracts from the bequest of Thomas Marshall), 17th and 18th century English drama and works to do with John Wesley and the early history of Methodism.

Coxe records the College's collection of 120 Latin manuscripts and 37 Greek, including important donations by the College's founder, Richard Fleming, and his nephew Robert Fleming, who bought many of his manuscripts from the bookshop of Vespasiano da Bisticci in Florence. Later acquisitions include a collection of early commonplace books. Since 1892 the manuscripts have been deposited in the Bodleian where they can be consulted.

Magdalen College

Magdalen's special collections include around 20,000 volumes, most of them printed before 1800. There are many more titles than that since many volumes contain multiple tracts, pamphlets, or small books. Most have been catalogued on SOLO, but not all; the uncatalogued material is mostly pre-1700 English, so it is always worth checking directly for items in that category. There are about 275 medieval manuscripts.

Highlights include the Goodyer Collection of early botanical books, Nicholas Gibbard's medical books, much of Bishop John Jewel's library, Arthur Throckmorton's gift of continental imprints, and a representative collection of books written by Magdalen authors. Magdalen also has growing modern special collections of Oscar Wilde and T.E. Lawrence.

The College's archive holds uninterrupted records of the College's administration, estates, and finances from the foundation (1458) to current.

Mansfield College

From its theological foundation, there is an inheritance of research material for the study of English and Welsh Nonconformity, a collection of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century books, and a small but significant antiquarian collection. In addition the College Archive is also held in the Library and reflects the history of the College through minute books; reports and magazines; architectural plans and drawings; photographs and staff ephemera.

Merton College

<http://www.merton.ox.ac.uk/library-and-archives/>

Printed Books

The pre-1900 library holdings at Merton reflect the academic curriculum and related interests of members of the college, with particular strengths in 16th-cent medicine and law, and tracts of the 16th-18th cent. The general rare book collection comprises ca 14,000 titles. These include 114 incunabula; ca 5900 books printed 1500-1700, ca 3,000 18th-cent. books. Pre-1815 imprints are catalogued on SOLO. There is an ongoing project to re-catalogue the 19th-century books and 20th-century books that are part of named special collections (see below).

Medieval Manuscript Books

The majority of the 326 manuscript books were part of the college library before 1600. The collection reflects the university curriculum and the academic interests of fellows of the college. A descriptive catalogue of the medieval manuscripts and of most of the manuscript fragments removed from book bindings in the 20th century was published in 2009.

College Archives

The Merton archives comprise administrative records of the college and its estates, and papers created by a number of former members. Records of the college proper begin with the foundation statutes of 1264, bursarial accounts from 1277, and decisions of the governing

body from 1483. Records of college estates include deeds, surveys, court rolls and maps, and date from the twelfth century onwards. The college owned estates in Oxfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Surrey, Leicestershire, Yorkshire, County Durham and Northumberland, among others.

Significant Collections including material in several media

Beerbohm Collection

Drawings, correspondence, and books from the library of the artist and critic Max Beerbohm (1872–1956)

Brenchley Collection

Publications by T.S. Eliot (strong on works that appeared in periodicals and journals).

Merton Blackwell Collection

Family and business papers of the Oxford booksellers and publishers, c19 to mid-c20.

Neil Ritchie Sitwell Collection

Works (primarily printed editions) by Edith, Osbert, and Sacheverell Sitwell, along with a few autograph manuscripts and ephemera, bequeathed by Neil Ritchie (1919-2012), bibliographer of Sacheverell Sitwell.

Sandy Irvine Collection

Personal papers and documentation of the 1924 Everest expedition on which George Mallory and Andrew (Sandy) Irvine lost their lives.

New College

New College holds 30,000 pre-1850 volumes, including 335 incunabula. Cataloguing on SOLO of all New College holdings is now totally complete and appropriate items are also to be found in ESTC. All antiquarian volumes have copy specific notes and these are being added to on a continual basis.

There are c. 360 medieval manuscripts, most of which are listed in Coxe's *Catalogus codicum MSS. qui in collegiis aulisque Oxoniensibus* (Oxford, 1852). It should be noted that manuscripts cannot be listed on SOLO but the production of a new comprehensive catalogue is now underway.

Since its foundation in 1379, New College has built up a considerable archive of historical material relating to the foundation of the college as well as the running of the college and its estates up to the present day. The archive also houses a number of special collections, including personal papers donated to the College by the families of former fellows and alumni.

Nuffield College

The G.D.H. Cole Collection forms the main core of the Nuffield collection and is an extensive early modern collection in all things 'political', including labour history. It includes significant collections on William Cobbett, Daniel Defoe, and William Morris, plus extensive trade union and political party material.

Archives and 'modern political' papers include the collections of Frederick Lindemann (Lord Cherwell), William Cobbett and Lord Nuffield, amongst others. Please see the Library website for a full searchable list.

Oriel College

Oriel's historic archive includes an early benefaction book and correspondence with the leaders of the nineteenth-century Oxford Movement; some early printed books; some medieval manuscripts, and a substantial eighteenth-century collection bequeathed by Edward, fifth Baron Leigh (1742–1786).

Pembroke College

Pembroke has a small collection of manuscripts, with a significant proportion on medical subjects. Seven of these can be found at <http://digital-collections.pmb.ox.ac.uk>, along with our 15th century Bohemian Book of Hours. Other MSS include a manuscript copy of Sir Thomas Browne's *Religio Medici* and a personal log book from the Master of HMS Victory.

The original library books, the core collection of which was given to the college by Bishop John Hall (Master 1664-1710) are mostly on theological and classical subjects. The H.W. Chandler collection includes early editions of Aristotle and other philosophers, many in interesting bindings, and the Samuel Johnson collection has both antiquarian and modern books and journals, include several copies of the first edition of the *Dictionary*. The Blackstone collection includes varying editions of his *Commentaries* alongside works responding, reproducing or commenting on them. In addition, the archive contains manuscript material by Blackstone and Johnson, including his *Prayers and Meditations* and two of his undergraduate essays.

Pusey House

Pusey House Library and Archive is a 19th century library specialising in English Church History and Anglo-Catholic theology.

The library contains 75,000 books and pamphlets dating from the 15th–21st centuries, most of which are kept on open shelves. A large 19th-century pamphlet collection covers a wide variety of Victorian concerns: the Tractarian Movement; art, literature, Darwinism and science; Oxford controversies; religious controversies in the British

colonies; and social work and church life in London parishes. The 20th century pamphlet collection is equally wide-ranging, but is particularly important for the history of ecumenism, including links with churches in Eastern Europe under communism.

The archive covers 19th-21st century Anglican history, and its papers relating to the Oxford Movement are of international importance. In addition to the papers of the House and of Dr Pusey himself, the archive contains the records of a number of Anglo-Catholic societies; communities of Anglican monks and nuns; and letters and papers of notable Anglicans.

Pusey House currently has about 5% of its books listed on Solo. Card catalogues of books and pamphlets can be consulted in the Library, and images of the monograph card catalogue can be consulted online at <http://puseybooks.blogspot.co.uk/>. A selection of archive catalogues has been uploaded to <http://puseyarchives.blogspot.co.uk/>.

Queen's College

Early printed books

The Library's historic book collections fall into two categories. First, there is a large collection of research material that the Library has accumulated over the last several hundred years. The collection is particularly strong in classics, philosophy, theology and church history, tracts and proclamations, ecclesiastical law, early medicine, mathematics and British regional history.

The second collection is formed from large benefactions of rare and antique books in many different subjects, including many rare items of bibliographical interest covering travel and topography, architecture, and natural history, among other subjects. 95% of our pre 1820 monograph material has been catalogued onto SOLO. Nineteenth century material is currently mainly searchable via a card catalogue in the Library but progress is being made on adding this to SOLO.

Manuscripts

The Library is rich in medieval and post-medieval manuscripts. Those acquired by the mid-19th century are described in Coxe, *Catalogus codicum MSS Collegii Reginensis* (Oxford, 1852), reprinted as *Catalogue of the manuscripts in the Oxford colleges* (1972). The collection is particularly strong in theology, heraldry, medieval bindings, post-medieval antiquarian collections, and the history of the College and University. An on-line catalogue of the College's medieval manuscript collection can be found at <http://www.queens.ox.ac.uk/library/special-collections/medieval-manuscripts/>

Peet Library

The Peet Library is a specialist collection of Egyptology material which is maintained and updated by the Queen's College Library. It was donated by Sir Alan Gardiner in memory of Thomas Eric Peet (1882–1934).

Regent's Park College

The Angus Library & Archive is the leading world class collection for Baptist and Nonconformist history and heritage. It comprises over 70,000 items dating from the late fifteenth century onwards, including: printed books, pamphlets, journals, church and association records from the late 17th Century onwards, church histories, maps, photographs, manuscript letters, and many other artefacts.

The Baptist Union of Great Britain and the Baptist Missionary Society also house most of their archives in The Angus, with items such as the papers of missionaries dating back to the late 18th Century: William Carey, Andrew Fuller, Joshua Marshman, William Ward, Timothy Richard and William Knibb. It also holds photographs, minutes, correspondence, and other documents covering missionary fields such as China, India, Congo and the West Indies.

The David Nicholls Collection, based on the private collection of Britain's foremost Haiti expert, comprises some 4,000 volumes, of which about a quarter deal specifically with Haiti, the Dominican Republic and other Caribbean territories, with an additional focus on liberation theology.

Many of our printed books are now on SOLO, with many of our archive material now available on ADLIB. A list of our candidate papers and church records can be found on our website <http://theangus.rpc.ox.ac.uk>

St Anne's College

The Handover bequest is a small collection (approx. 350 items) of books and journals on printing, book design, typography, publishing, and the book trade. Most items are 20th century and British. Phyllis Handover was a student at St Anne's and worked with Stanley Morison at *The Times*. From Marjorie Reeves (1905-2003, History Fellow at St Anne's) we have a collection of books and papers mostly related to her work on 12th-century mystic Joachim of Fiore. Hazel Eardley-Wilmot (1910-1998), former student, writer on post-war Czechoslovakia and on Ancient Exmoor, left a small collection of published works, drafts, and correspondence. Helen Flint (1952-2000), former student, novelist and poet, left a similar collection to do with her writing and teaching. The College archives include correspondence, press cuttings, and printed reports relating to College history and particularly the campaign for women's degrees at Oxford. There is also a collection of artistic depictions of Saint Anne.

St Cross College

No special collections.

St Edmund Hall

The Old Library collection comprises c. 4,500 books, dating mainly from the sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries. The principal collections within the Library are the works of Thomas Hearne (antiquarian, 1678-1735), the works of John Oldham (poet, 1653-

1683), and books on the early Church of England evangelical movement. Overall, the collection is particularly strong in the theological field, but also includes works of geography and geology, many atlases, 17th and 18th century editions and translations of the Classical authors, and much on the history of the University.

St Hilda's College

St Hilda's has the Maconchy Archive: the papers of the Irish composer, Elizabeth Maconchy (1907–1994). This contains almost all the manuscripts of her compositions as well as some printed scores, programmes, press cuttings, and some correspondence. Many of the composer's works have been published by Chesters, but we are the only source for some of the pieces. In addition, the Library holds a small but significant collection of rare books and prints. The collection is mostly made up of donations, most notably by Dorothea Beale (1831-1906), the founder of the college, and of books that were part of the Library's original collection. It comprises two incunabula, forty 16th century books, ninety-two 17th century books, ca. two hundred 18th century books and ca. one hundred thirty 19th century books, twenty maps, and a few miscellaneous items such as letters and prints. With regards to the subject matter, the collection is miscellaneous, with strengths in history, classics, and literature. Subject specific strengths are:

- The children's book collection, which consists of ninety-one children's books in English, all from the late nineteenth century to the first half of the twentieth century.
- A collection of twenty maps of Oxford and the surrounding area from between the 17th and the 19th century.

St Hugh's College

St Hugh's rare collection houses about 3500 volumes with the earliest printed in the late 15th century. It is an eclectic collection, tilted heavily towards the humanities, and with the majority being received as a result of donations from ex-principals, fellows, former students and others. Notable donations include rare books on art and Italian history, valuable 19th and 20th century limited editions on ornithology, and modern French literary works signed by French writers including the Nobel

Prize winners Roger Martin du Gard (1881-1958) and André Gide (1869-1951).

St John's College

The special collections at St John's span manuscripts, printed books, and personal papers, as well as several interesting artefacts. The manuscript collections range from the Anglo-Saxon period to the 20th century, comprising c. 400 items, many of which are medieval, but also including Greek, Arabic, Hebrew, and Ethiopic items, as well as a Gujarati navigational chart.

The printed books in the special collections number some 20,000, with several incunabula, amongst which are a set of eleven Caxtons, the most notable of which is a contemporary hand-coloured second printing of Chaucer's *Canterbury tales*. Other notable collections of printed books are the Bulwer-Thomas collection of works on the history of science, a collection of 20th century *livres d'artiste* (books as art works), and the classics library of A.E. Housman.

The Library also holds the working library and personal papers of the poet, critic, and author Robert Graves, and, by virtue of his friendship with Graves, the archive of Spike Milligan, including original typescripts of, and drawings from, his war memoirs. Artefacts include the 16th century founder's chest, a cannonball, the walking stick Archbishop Laud used on his trip to the scaffold, and a micrographic portrait of Charles I.

Somerville College

Somerville's special collections include:

- The library of John Stuart Mill
- The library, papers, and watercolours of the 19th-century novelist and Egyptologist Amelia Blandford Edwards
- Correspondence and papers of Percy Withers, Vernon Lee (Violet Paget), Margery Fry, Myra Verney, Muriel St Clare Byrne, Margaret Mann Phillips, and Margaret Kennedy

- A collection of Vera Brittain's books, papers, and memorabilia bequeathed by her literary executor Paul Berry
- Books by and belonging to Robert Bridges bequeathed by Helen Darbishire, augmented by subsequent benefactions
- Research papers of Edward Lear's biographer Vivian Noakes, including copies of a large number of his letters.

University College

- Univ's special collections consist of around 11,000 early printed books and over 200 manuscripts. The collection includes the following:
 - The Browne Library, a good example of an 18th-century gentleman's general collection
 - The Alport collection of mainly modern first editions
 - The Robert Ross Memorial Collection (of material relating to Oscar Wilde and his circle)
 - The papers of Clement Attlee
 - The College's manuscripts and the Attlee Papers are deposited in the Bodleian Library. A proportion of the College's scientific books are housed in the Museum of the History of Science Library.

Wadham College

Wadham College's collections are divided into two separate areas. Persian and Arabic printed books and manuscripts are held in one collection, and the main collection of other materials separately. The main collection is organised by donor, and there are several large collections. Philip Bisse gave a collection of over 2,500 volumes of Continental printed theology in 1613 as soon as the library was built. The Godolphin collection of around 1450 books came to college in 1720. It is mostly Spanish, on historical and theological subjects, and was amassed by Sir William Godolphin and Charles Godolphin. In 1771 Alexander Thistlethwayte bequeathed around 1700 books to Wadham; a varied collection, especially strong in European literature. This was followed rapidly by the 3500 volumes bequeathed by Richard Warner in 1775, a mixed and very rich collection especially strong in English literature but also containing botanical and other scientific works. In 1783 around 950 works arrived from Samuel Bush, largely made up of eighteenth century theology with some literature. In 1867 the Wiffen Collection of books and manuscripts arrived, largely relating to Protestantism in Spain.

Worcester College

Worcester's special collections include:

- Clarke collection of architectural drawings (by Inigo Jones and Nicholas Hawksmoor) and prints
- Eland collection of modern architectural books
- Over 1,000 early modern plays
- Civil War papers and pamphlets
- Pottinger collection of nineteenth-century pamphlets