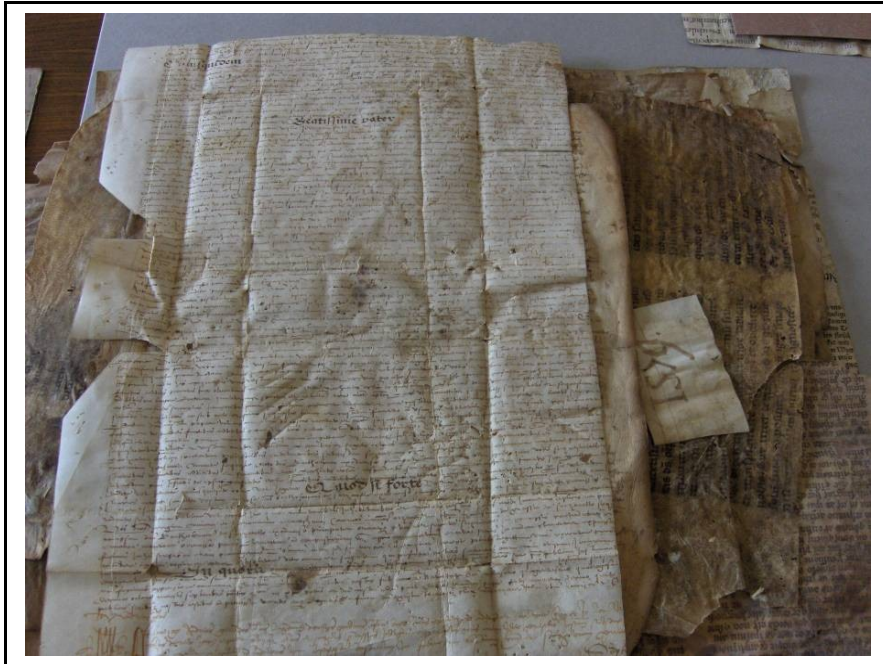


Library and Information History Group
Newsletter
Winter 2010



Manuscript fragments (binder's waste) from the seminary library, Montefiascone, Italy

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION HISTORY NEWSLETTER

The official newsletter of the Library and Information History Group, a special interest group of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)

Series 4, no. 20, Winter 2010

ISSN 1744-3180

CONTENTS

<u>LIHG COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2010.....</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>LIHG MEMBERS EVENTS 2010.....</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>LIHG NEWSLETTER COPY DATES 2010/2011.....</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>LIHG NEWSLETTER ISSUE DATES 2010/2011</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>SEMINARS ON THE HISTORY OF LIBRARIES: AUTUMN & SPRING 2011 TERMS.....</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>2010 PANIZZI LECTURES.....</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS.....</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>THE MONTEFIASCONE PROJECT.....</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA.....</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>CONTENTS AND ABSTRACTS.....</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>LIBRARY & INFORMATION HISTORY 26 (3) 2010.....</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>WEB RESOURCES FOR THE HISTORY OF LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION.....</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>CAN YOU HELP WITH MY PROVENANCE QUERY?.....</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>EXHIBITIONS.....</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>FORTHCOMING EVENTS.....</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>CALLS FOR PAPERS.....</u>	<u>23</u>

NEWS FROM THE CHAIR

Already at the time of writing (in early September) there is a hint of Autumn in the air, and our AGM in November suddenly doesn't seem that far away. I hope to see a good turnout of members for the AGM. We are holding this at Ridgmount Street and will be following the business meeting with a member event, with a discussion panel and open forum considering what use library and information history is. In these straitened times, with pressure on jobs and services, libraries struggling for survival, is history an unnecessary luxury or does it take on new significance? Can we use the experience of history to inform actions today? Can a greater understanding of library and information history contribute to continuing professional development for 21st century librarians and information scientists? Can we tap into public interest in heritage and use the value of our historic buildings and collections to ensure their continuing existence and enhance the communities they serve? Our panel will include a newly qualified librarian, a practising professional working in an historic library, and a senior figure with long experience in the field, and it promises to be a lively debate. Come along and make your views heard. Put Tuesday 9 November in your diaries now. It will be an afternoon meeting.

Plans are underway for our 2011 conference, and although the venue and date are still to be confirmed, it is not too soon to be thinking about contributions. We will be taking the topical theme of "Libraries under threat". If you have an idea for a presentation which you would like to discuss, please get in touch. Further details and a formal call for papers will appear on the website and be posted on lis-libhist as soon as the conference arrangements are finalised.

Kathryn McKee

km10007@cam.ac.uk

01223 339393

LIHG COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2010

9 November 2010

CILIP HQ, Ridgmount Street, London

Committee meeting, LIHG AGM and member event

The meeting for committee members will begin at 12:00. The AGM will

be open to all members starting at 2pm. The members' event, a discussion forum on the general importance of library and information history, will begin at 2.30pm. Observers are welcome at all committee meetings, but please inform the secretary, Miriam Walters beforehand if you intend to attend in case space is limited. E-mail: Miriam2.Walters@uwe.ac.uk

LIHG MEMBERS EVENTS 2010

26 October 2010

Dr. Keith Moore from the library of the Royal Society will speak to members of the Aberystwyth Bibliographic Group. This coincides with the 350th anniversary of the Royal Society. LIHG members would be welcome to join the ABG for this meeting. The meeting will be held in the Drwm at the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth at 6.30p.m.

Visitors from LIHG are welcome to attend the meeting free of charge, and to dine with the speaker afterwards if they wish – the usual cost is around £14 per person. Those wishing to stay for dinner should contact Timothy Cutts on 01970 632980 or tjc@llgc.org.uk.

9 November 2010

CILIP HQ, Ridgmount Street, London
Committee meeting, LIHG AGM and member event

See notice above for further details.

Please see the LIHG website for more information on forthcoming events: <http://www.cilip.org.uk/specialinterestgroups/bysubject/history>. The website also includes online access to the group's newsletters, from 2004 to the present.

LIHG NEWSLETTER COPY DATES 2010/2011

- Spring 2011: 21 January 2011
- Summer 2011: 20 May 2011

LIHG NEWSLETTER ISSUE DATES 2010/2011

- Spring 2011: 7 February 2011
- Summer 2011: 6 June 2011

Copy should be sent to the new Newsletter Editor: Renae Satterley, Middle Temple Library, Middle Temple Lane, London, EC4Y 9BT r.satterley@middletemple.org.uk. The Newsletter would specially benefit from receiving updates, exhibitions, articles, etc... from outside of London.

Reminder: you can receive monthly email bulletins from the LIHG with updates on events, news, and notification of when this newsletter appears on our website. Register on the CILIP website, and in the ebulletins section of your profile tick to receive news from CILIP.

SEMINARS ON THE HISTORY OF LIBRARIES: AUTUMN & SPRING 2011 TERMS

A series of research seminars, which are freely open for anyone to attend, has been organized by the Institute of English Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London.

Venue: Senate House, Malet St., London, WC1E 7HU.

Meetings will take place monthly during term-time on Tuesdays at 17.30. Most meetings will take place in Room G 37, Senate House, except for the one on 2 November (indicated below).

Seminar convenors: Giles Mandelbrote (Librarian and Archivist, Lambeth Palace Library); Dr. Keith A. Manley (The National Trust/Institute of Historical Research); Professor Simon Eliot (Institute of English Studies); Professor Isabel Rivers (Queen Mary); Professor Henry Woudhuysen (University College).

The seminars are jointly sponsored by The Institute of English Studies, The Institute of Historical Research, and LIHG.

October 12 2010: Dr. Nigel Ramsay (University College, London): *Libraries for Schools, Hospitals and the Professions in Medieval and Tudor England*.

November 2 2010: Renae Satterley (Middle Temple Library): *The Library of Robert Ashley (1565-1641) of the Middle Temple*

In 1641 Robert Ashley bequeathed his substantial library of ca. 4,000 items, in order to re-establish a library at Middle Temple, one of the four Inns of Court. This collection, which remains intact at Middle Temple, is an important example of an early modern

gentleman's library. This talk will provide an overview of its contents, provenance of items, and discuss its place in the history of London libraries.

This seminar will take place at Middle Temple Library, Advocacy Suite, at 17.30. Refreshments will be available. Anyone wishing to attend should notify the convenors at: keith.manley@sas.ac.uk.

November 30 2010: Professor David McKitterick (Trinity College, Cambridge): *Libraries at risk*

Several recent cases have drawn attention to the fragility of libraries as we know them - both large and small. In a world of changing attitudes to books, as well as perennial problems of cash shortage, how can library historians in particular contribute to a debate that will become even more urgent in the next few years?

February 1 2011: Rev. Gerard Moate (Dedham, Essex): *The Mildenhall mystery: the search for the lost library of William Burkitt (1650-1703)*

March 1 2011: Professor Isabel Rivers (Queen Mary), Rose Dixon, and Kyle Roberts (both Centre for Dissenting Studies, Dr. Williams's Library): *Old books and new technologies: the Dissenting Academy Libraries project, 1720-1860*

The Dissenting Academy Libraries Project aims to analyse and compare the libraries of the principal Congregational, Presbyterian and Baptist academies in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century England, focusing particularly on the use of books by students. An important part of the project is the creation of a Virtual Libraries System which uses twenty-first century library software to represent the holdings and loans of these historic libraries. In this paper, the project's postdoctoral research fellows will describe how this system has been constructed, outline some of their most striking findings, and explain the implications of digital resources for library history.

2010 PANIZZI LECTURES

London Booksites: Places of Printing and Publication before 1800

A series of three lectures by Professor James Raven at 18.15 in the Conference Centre, British Library, Euston Road. Admission is free, but these events are not ticketed and seats will be allocated on the night on a first come, first served basis.

This series of lectures offers fresh perspectives on the early modern and eighteenth-century book trade in England. London dominated this industry, but relatively little has been known about the commercial environments in which books were published. Using a range of new illustrative and topographical evidence, James Raven will reconstruct the different communities of London printers, booksellers and their associates, reassessing working practices and the changes brought to different neighbourhoods.

James Raven FSA FRHistS is Professor of Modern History at the University of Essex and Director of the Cambridge Project for the Book Trust.

Lecture One: Wednesday 27 October 2010, 18.15 – 19.30

Antient Shops and Conversible Men

The first lecture will revisit ancient book trade sites from Westminster, St Paul's Churchyard and London Bridge to Fleet Street and the emergent district of Little Britain at the end of the seventeenth century. Many traditional locations, including Paternoster Row, came to host new businesses and new social activities.

Lecture Two: Wednesday 3 November 2010, 18.15 – 19.30

Versatility and the Gloomy Stores of Literature

The second lecture will show how the transformation in publishing capacity (from the Strand to Cornhill) relates to different sites of production and to different ways of making books public. Booksellers found new opportunities to alter shops and operations, and the working environment brought new challenges and difficulties.

Lecture Three: Wednesday 10 November 2010, 18.15 – 19.30

Industry, Fashion, and Pettifogging Drivellers

This final lecture examines changing activities in both ancient and newly built parts of London in the eighteenth century. The siting of bookshops and printing houses allowed sharing and support; and trade was boosted by nearby markets and services. Increased industry also brought fresh participants, not all of whom won approval.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 12 June 2010: Professor Rodney Paul Sturges was awarded an OBE (Officer of the Order of the British Empire) for services to libraries in the UK and overseas. Professor Sturges has been involved in many aspects of international librarianship throughout his career. More information about Professor Sturges' career is available from IFLA, at: <http://www.ifla.org/en/news/former-faife-chair-paul-sturges-receives-obe-award>.

- 15 October 2010: The submission deadline for the 2010 Katharine Kyes Leab & Daniel J. Leab American Book Prices Current Exhibition Awards, given annually in recognition of excellence in the publication of catalogs and brochures that accompany exhibitions of library and archival materials, as well as for electronic exhibitions of such materials. The prizes are administered and awarded by the ALA/ACRL/RBMS Exhibition Awards Committee. For full information about entering, see the submission page at: http://www.rbms.info/committees/exhibition_awards/submissions/rules.shtml, which includes links to pdf forms that can be filled in online, saved, printed, and e-mailed in one operation.

- Professor Jonathan Rose has announced that Drew University (Madison, New Jersey) has launched its new MA/PhD program in History and Culture, which includes a concentration in the History of the Book. Financial aid is available for qualified students. Further information is available at: <http://www.drew.edu/grad.aspx>.

THE MONTEFIASCONI PROJECT

Montefiascone is a small town perched on the highest point of an extinct volcano, 100km north of Rome. The Diocese of Montefiascone was created by Pope Urban V in 1369 and was later joined with Corneto. In 1666 Cardinal Paluzzo Altieri founded a small seminary in Montefiascone for just a few seminarians. In 1687 Marco Antonio Barbarigo (1640-1706) was elected Cardinal and appointed Bishop of Montefiascone and Corneto. He came from a noble Venetian family, and was determined to repair the neglect of his predecessors. He built a large seminary and was able to attract famous professors from abroad. Michael Moore from Dublin, a graduate of the Sorbonne, was the first

Rector and Professor of Theology, and also taught Greek and Hebrew. Guillelme Bonjour from Toulouse was the first Professor of Sacred Scripture, and Giuseppe Rossi taught Latin and rhetoric. Students came from all parts of Italy and other countries to study at the seminary.

An important feature of the seminary was its library, for which Barbarigo built a handsome long room with a vaulted ceiling, walls painted in trompe l'oeil, and bookcases made of walnut. The earliest inventory of the contents of the library, drawn up in 1692-3, contains almost 300 books, many of which are still present. At his death in 1706, Cardinal Barbarigo left many books for the library. Some of these date to the 15th century, and belonged to his Venetian ancestors, one of whom, Pierfrancesco Barbarigo, had been the principal investor in the Aldine press. In general, the books acquired by Barbarigo were bound in typical Italian style of limp parchment or parchment on board, sometimes gilded but more often left plain. Barbarigo also set up a printing press in Montefiascone, which printed works by the seminary professors and students. Its first printed works date from 1697 and it continued until the early twentieth century. The building which housed the press can be seen opposite the gate into the seminary, with 'TYPOGRAFIA' written on its façade.

However, the success of the seminary did not continue for long after Barbarigo's death. The 'super-congregazione' was abolished which resulted in economic disaster. The number of students was reduced to forty and the seminary was closed from 1744 to 1747 during the War of the Austrian Succession. With the intervention of Pope Benedict XIV and the appointment of a new Cardinal Bishop and new professors, the seminary flourished again. Giuseppe Garampi (1776-1792) was nominated Cardinal Bishop on 20 May 1776. He came from a noble family in Rimini, and introduced a new teaching syllabus. Where the library had previously contained theology and works on canon law, books of secular learning and education were now added, including scientific and geographical works.

returned to France at the invitation of Napoleon, and was appointed Archbishop of Paris in 1810. He also added to the library's collection, and many books retain his bookplate.

The seminary was again restored with the personal intervention of Pope Pius VII, and the Garampi syllabus was reintroduced. After the diocese

was divided in 1854, the seminary continued to function until 2005, when the building was closed and the teaching moved to the regional seminary. Part of the building is still used as a local high school.

In the 19th century the library became mostly obsolete and was shut up. A new library was created and some older books were transferred. Books came from other libraries, there were donations, book moves, and some vanished entirely. The library now contains about 5,000 volumes, mainly theological in content, but also covering local history, agriculture, medicine, law, astronomy and literature. One of the treasures of the library is a 15th century manuscript bound in the Greek style, possibly in Venice. It contains three commentaries on Aristotle, and one of its scribes has been identified as having worked at the printing establishment of Aldus Manutius.



Cheryl Porter is Manager of Conservation and Preservation at the Thesaurus Islamicus Foundation in Cairo. She has been Director of the Montefiascone Project since its inception. In 1988, together with Nicolas Barker, she visited the Library and began to organise a programme of conservation by recruiting conservation students to work towards saving the books. In August of that year, the books were cleaned, vacuumed, dusted, or treated for mould etc., and in 1989, repair work was carried out. In the following years, usually in August, with volunteers, some structural restoration took place, the collection was moved to the Refectory, the bathrooms above the library were closed (which had caused major water damage), and pigment analysis and humidification of the parchments took place. Over the years, problems in the building have included deteriorating plaster, mice, dead rats, bats, worms, moths, and the ever-present mould. The Montefiascone Project started to attract the attention of conservators, bookbinders and preservation officials from Europe and overseas, and classes began to be held each year in August, for four weeks. Each week is devoted to a particular topic - e.g. 'book handling and refurbishment', 'early binding structures', 'history of parchment making'. In August 2010, 'Medieval Pigments', 'Introduction to Islamic book structure', 'The Biccherne of Siena' (painted account books), and 'Paper Bindings of Montefiascone' classes were added.

Julianne Simpson (Wellcome Trust) began the cataloguing of the library and the organising of library volunteers in 1994. Regarding the



cataloguing work carried out in 2010, a team of three (including myself) checked the existing catalogue index cards and added these details plus any provenance notes to a new, project-specific database, recently created by Julianne. This work is ongoing, and is expected to take a number of years. More information about the project, the library and the study programmes can be found at the Montefiascone Project website: <http://monteproject.co.uk/en/>. On a personal note, I was delighted to be part of the project this year and contribute to the cataloguing work. I must sincerely thank Cheryl

Porter and Julianne Simpson for giving me the opportunity to do so. Enjoying the fine weather, food and drink was simply an added bonus!

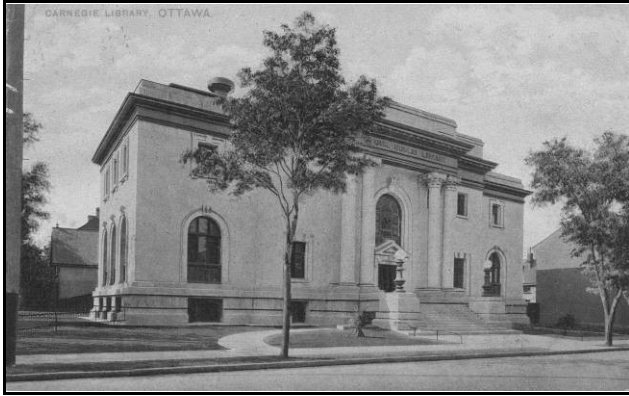
Shauna Barrett
LIHG Events & Membership Secretary
Subject Librarian for Anthropology
University College London Library Services

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN OTTAWA, ONTARIO, CANADA

Books and reading featured quite early in the development of the small, 19th century outpost of Ottawa: the first reading rooms (one in French, one in English) opened in 1838; three years later, a circulating library appeared, followed in 1847 by a branch of the Mechanics Institute. Ottawa was thrust onto the national stage in 1857, when Queen Victoria chose the city as a national capital; the railway had reached the city only two years previously and the Parliament would not be completed for another 19.

Ottawa joined the new Province of Ontario in 1867, and the idea of free public libraries gained momentum after the passage of the Free Libraries Act in Ontario in 1882 and the establishment of the Ontario Library Association in 1900. In 1899, Prime Minister Sir Wilfred Laurier declared that he would make Ottawa “the centre of intellectual life of this country”. This is where Andrew Carnegie stepped in. In 1901, the city of

Ottawa, with a population now of 58 000, wrote to Carnegie, asking for “financial support” to build a library. Carnegie replied almost immediately, pledging \$100 000 to build the library. Ottawa was among the earlier cities to request Carnegie funding; he had approved the first Canadian library grant to Windsor, Ontario, earlier the same year.



Five years later, the library opened, built in the Classical revival style with Indiana limestone and local freestone. Once visitors ascended the main staircase, they were met by “floors of crushed marble, red-oak finishing, [and a] bronze-edged staircase” giving way to a “stained-glass window honouring several authors” (Jenkins, Phil. *The library book: an overdue history of the Ottawa Public Library, 1906-2001*, p. 3). At the back of the main floor was a separate stack room, which was closed to the public, a policy which some libraries were already beginning to abolish. However, the decision to create a children’s reading room was rather exceptional: “children’s library services had been recognised in a very few of the early Carnegie libraries” so far (Beckman, Margaret. *The best gift: a record of the Carnegie libraries in Ontario* Beckman, p. 164).

Carnegie himself was present for the official opening on April 30, 1906, and most of Ottawa came out to see the millionaire philanthropist. Carnegie stood in front of a building that had cost approximately \$200 000 and provided approximately 30 000 square feet of space for Ottawa’s readers (Jenkins, p. 13). An eleventh hour panic erupted on opening day when Ottawans discovered that the carving above the entrance to the library, which was supposed to read “The Carnegie Library,” mistakenly read “Ottawa Public Library.” The problem was quickly solved by the strategic draping of a Union Jack. Standing below the flag, Carnegie gave a short speech and then toured the “magnificent structure”. The public followed, causing such a mess that the library opened late the next day in order to tidy up, including replacing foliage that people had stolen!

By 1912, circulation at the Carnegie library “had exceeded the quarter million mark,” and the library continued to distinguish itself in children’s services especially, collaborating with local schools, developing

cataloguing and circulation systems for children, and issuing “teacher’s cards” with extended borrowing privileges (Jenkins, p. 24 and Beckman, p. 164). By 1913, Ottawa had already outgrown its Carnegie. The Carnegie Corporation, in keeping with their policy of providing money to build branches rather than to expand a main library, funded the West Branch, now named Rosemount, which opened in 1918.

Over the subsequent decades, the Carnegie library system as a whole continued to flourish and expand without Carnegie funds. The Rideau Branch opened in 1934, and the South Branch (now named Sunnyside) in 1951; the first mobile library was established in 1953. Meanwhile, by 1952, circulation exceeded half a million. In 1954, the Provincial Inspector of Public Libraries, Angus Mowat (father of Canadian writer Farley Mowat), called for the Carnegie library to be torn down, as its archaic design had been “rendered dysfunctional by time and city growth” (Jenkins, p. 51). The Carnegie was given a temporary stay of execution in the coming years (although a report in 1953 declared it “dangerous”), and was even renovated (Jenkins, pp. 53, 57, 59).

In the years leading up to and following Canada’s centennial in 1967, the country experienced a rush of construction, and attention turned once again to the old Carnegie Library. During this period, several Ontario Carnegies were demolished because of similar concerns about lack of space, lack of accessibility, and floor strength (*The Carnegie Libraries of Canada; Funerary heritage at risk*, p. 9). Moreover, with its location in Ottawa, “the capital city with the greatest diurnal temperature range in the world,” the library was already showing signs of “premature weathering” (Jenkins, p. 60). In March 1970, the situation came to a head when architect George Bemis presented his sketches of a building designed in the Brutalist style. The new Main Library opened on May 9th, 1974, with the stained glass window from the Carnegie Library installed in a place of honour overlooking the main lobby; eight years later, OPL celebrated its Diamond Anniversary in the same lobby. Main and its 8 sister branches gained 24 more siblings in 2001 after the City of Ottawa amalgamated with eleven other municipalities. The Main Library now serves four times the population it was built to accommodate. Plans are currently underway for a new Central Library; a Draft Functional Building Program was presented to the library board in June 2009 and the search is on for a suitable site close to the new transit system which is in the planning stages.

Ottawa is now the fourth-largest city in Canada and one of the fastest growing cities in North America. The Ottawa Public Library currently ranks fourth in terms of number of locations among Canadian libraries, and third in terms of circulation. Visitors to Ottawa today can find two vestiges of the old Carnegie Library: the stained glass window at the Main Library, and the pillars from the Carnegie, now residing in a local park.

In his opening speech at the Pittsburgh library in 1895, Andrew Carnegie spoke of libraries as a “great educative institution, lasting for all time” (Nasaw, David. *Andrew Carnegie*, p. 523). Presumably even then he knew that the seeds he had planted, the seeds of a public library system in Great Britain, North America, and elsewhere, would continue to grow for generations. Meanwhile, as the plans for a new Central Library in Ottawa are developed, the cornerstone of the original Mechanics Institute sits on the librarian’s desk in the Ottawa Room of the Main Library, ready for its next home.

Alexandra Yarrow
Supervising Librarian
Rideau Branch, Ottawa Public Library

CONTENTS AND ABSTRACTS

Library & Information History 26 (3) 2010

Collectors and Collecting for the Raffles Museum in Singapore: 1920–1940 – Brendan Luyt, *School of Communication & Information, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore*

Scholars interested in the place of the museum in society have not neglected the collections that make up the rationale for that institution's existence. They have also begun to study the process of collecting itself. Both collections and collectors are now seen as integrally bound together with curators, trustees, and the wider public in social networks that create an encompassing framework for their work. This article illustrates the social nature of the collecting process for a major regional colonial museum. Through the use of the preserved correspondence of one of its foremost pre-war directors, it shows how collecting relationships were created and maintained through the use of a number of resources: money, institutional authority, specimen exchange, expert knowledge, library facilities, and the space of the museum itself.

'The Habits and Institutions of Englishmen': Using the Pamphlet and Small Book Collections of Two New Zealand Research Libraries – Patricia Thomas, *Institute of Communication Design, Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand*

Two quite substantial New Zealand library collections were gifted or bequeathed to the nation in the early years of the twentieth century. These were the private library of Dr Thomas Hocken of Dunedin and the 'gentleman's' library of Alexander Turnbull of Wellington. Both collections contain the artefacts of the country's pre-colonization history and documents that relate to the forging of a nation-state. Each reflects the collection practices of their original owners, both of whom were acutely interested in material regarding New Zealand. This article picks out from each collection specific examples of the material associated with 19th century emigration from Britain to New Zealand. Its focus is not a listing of the descriptive passages in these texts for prospective middle-class colonists on the soil, climate, and economic advantages. It searches instead for the rhetorical strategies in order to extract a sense of the underlying emotional dimensions of the emigration decision. The texts give the twenty-first century researcher a way of retrieving contemporary discourses of 19th century life.

The History of Library and Information Activities in Cuba: The Relationship with its Constitutional Periods – N. Pérez-Matos and Juan Carlos Fernández-Molina, *Biblioteca Nacional, Cuba & Facultad de Comunicación y Documentación, Universidad de Granada, Spain*

The information sciences and the events that shape them cannot be separated from the political and socio-economic conditions of the environment in which they take place. Given this understanding, this paper tries to describe the history and evolution of library and information science activities in Cuba within the different constitutions that have governed the country as a frame of reference. The result is an analytical chronology of the Cuban history of library and information science based on its correlation with the constitutional history of the nation.

WEB RESOURCES FOR THE HISTORY OF LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION

- New book published: *Privilege and Property, Essays on the History of Copyright*, edited by R. Deazley, M. Kretschmer and L. Bently (Cambridge: Open Book Publishers, 2010). Fifteen leading academics discuss the changing state of intellectual property across the world. From its nascent forms to the present day, this book shows how copyright has affected education and creativity. The volume is a companion to a new online resource, *Primary Sources on Copyright (1450-1900)*, funded by the AHRC. It is available at www.copyrighthistory.org, a digital, open access archive of material related to copyright. The book is available for free, in its entirety, online; it may also be purchased. For further details see: <http://www.openbookpublishers.com/product.php/26/1/privilege-and-property--essays-on-the-history-of-copyright>.
- The SHARP (Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing) has been redesigned, and is now available at : <http://www.sharpweb.org/>. It includes a new search function listing resources for 'Library History'.
- The PaxCat Project Gallery: Bringing peace archives to life. Thirty-six colourful images with stories to tell. Including African links, poison milk, witches and weavers, protest marches and Aldermaston prehistory. Available at: <http://www.tinyurl.com/paxcatexhib>. The PaxCat Project catalogued archives of peace activists and organisations gathered by Commonweal Library at the University of Bradford. The full catalogues are available on the Archives Hub: <http://archiveshub.ac.uk/>.

CAN YOU HELP WITH MY PROVENANCE QUERY?

The Consortium of European Research Libraries (CERL) has maintained an interest in provenance studies since its Annual Seminar held in Edinburgh in 2004, published as *Books and their owners: Provenance information and the European cultural heritage*.¹ The CERL web site (www.cerl.org) has a section on provenance resources which

¹ *Books and their owners: Provenance information and the European cultural heritage* (David Shaw, ed.). Papers presented on 13 November 2004 at the CERL conference hosted by the National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh. CERL Papers V. London, Consortium of European Research Libraries, 2005.

includes lists of significant publications and links to internet resources where provenance problems can be researched.

One development which followed from this was an extension of the CERL Thesaurus to include provenance names. The Thesaurus was originally designed to hold multiple forms of names (in Latin and a variety of European languages and spellings) from the authority files of European libraries for names of authors (personal and corporate) to provide assisted searching for the Consortium's Heritage of the Printed Book Database (HPB, formerly Hand Press Book Database). The Thesaurus also includes names of printing towns and printers and booksellers found in printed books of the period up to the mid-19th century. These files are under constant development and provide a very useful resource for cataloguers and printing historians which is freely available via the CERL web site.

In the past four or five years, the personal and institutional names have been extended to include names of former owners of books, contributed in the form of files of provenance names extracted from online catalogues. When a search is made for a provenance name, the Thesaurus offers a link back to the catalogues containing records for books owned by that person or institution. At present there are records from sixteen projects from six different countries. As this resource grows in size, it presents an important contribution to provenance research by gathering together data dispersed in many different collections. You are invited to contact the Consortium to offer a file of your own provenance data.

CERL's most recent venture in this field is a sort of provenance agony aunt, intended to help with such pleas as 'I've got this really nice inscription, if only I could read the name or identify the coat of arms'. The 'Can You Help?' service started out as a simple web page on which queries (and answers) could be displayed. The problem with this was that it depended on me to edit the page each time a new message arrived. Since the beginning of 2010, 'Can You Help?' is now a Web 2.0 facility which allows users to log on and post queries or propose identifications for queries already displayed. The queries (with images) and the discussions are available to all, whether logged in or not. In the seven or eight months since the new service started, over sixty queries have been posted, of which over 20% have been successfully solved; most of the others have received some discussion without (yet) reaching

a conclusion.

It is inevitable with provenance research that some queries will always remain unidentifiable. You are invited to have a look at the queries which have been posted and to add any of your own. It is easiest for first-time users to navigate via the main provenance page at <http://www.cerl.org/web/en/resources/provenance/main> and to look at the (brief) help page. To contribute to 'Can You Help?', you must first create a login (which I have to approve as moderator); you can then post comments or add a new query. It is best to have a photograph to illustrate your query; you need to insert a link for the image from your institution's web site or from a site such as Flickr. The rest is just a question of typing explanatory text in boxes. Please contact me if I can help further.

David Shaw
Former Secretary of CERL
Canterbury, Kent

EXHIBITIONS

6 September – 16 December 2010

Superheroes in Court! Lawyers, Law and Comic Books
Rare Book Exhibition Gallery, Level L2, Lillian Goldman Law Library,
Yale Law School, 127 Wall St., New Haven, Connecticut

Lawyers have played both fictional and real-life roles in the 80-year history of the comic book industry, and their story is told in this exhibition. The guest curator is Mark S. Zaid, Esq., a Washington, D.C. attorney who specializes in national security law. Much like his comic-book heroes, Zaid has an alter-ego as a comic book collector and dealer. He is also an advisor to the Overstreet Comic Book Price & Grading Guides and a co-founder of the Comic Book Collecting Association. Almost all of the items on display come from Zaid's personal collection. Comics include one depicting Superman on trial for murder, and one of the earliest comics to feature a lawyer on the cover ("Mr. District Attorney", 1942). Other items document the legal battle over rights to Superman, efforts to censor comic books in the 1950s, and copyright issues. Highlights of the exhibition will appear in installments in the Yale Law Library Rare Books blog, at: <http://blogs.law.yale.edu/blogs/rarebooks/default.aspx>.

16 September – 5 December 2010

The Wonders of Creation: Manuscripts of the Bavarian State Library from the Islamic World

Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Ludwigstr. 16, 80539

Open 10.00 to 17.00, Monday to Friday; 10.00 to 19.00, Thursday;
13.00 to 17.00, Saturday and Sunday

With a series of exhibitions and events entitled 'Changing views: 100 years after the exhibition Meisterwerke muhammedanischer Kunst', numerous cultural institutions in Munich are commemorating the one-hundredth anniversary of this legendary exhibition in 2010 <http://www.changing-views.de>. With more than 3.500 objects on display, this exhibition was the thus far largest and most extensive collection of Islamic art ever to be seen. In the context of this famous and epochal exhibition, the Royal Court and State Library in Munich displayed its first exhibition of 262 oriental manuscripts. Continuing the tradition of 1910, the Bavarian State Library presents a choice selection of Islamic manuscripts, looking back on the one hand on the library's exhibition with a collection of precious objects from the original presentation in the FFCrstensaal, and, on the other hand, displaying valuable new acquisitions of the last 100 years in the so-called 'Schatzkammer' (treasury). Among the 82 exhibits are magnificent Koran manuscripts and prayer books, well-known illustrated Arabic manuscripts, outstanding Persian and Turkish miniatures, high-grade calligraphies and selected samples of special book-making techniques. An exhibition catalogue is available in German and English.

20 September 2010 – 17 December 2010

Heresy and Error: the Ecclesiastical Censorship of Books, 1400-1800

Elizabeth Perkins Prothro Galleries, Bridwell Library at Southern Methodist University, 6005 Bishop Blvd., Dallas, Texas, USA

From its inception the early Christian Church sought to suppress books believed to contain heretical or erroneous teachings. With the development of the printing press, Christian authorities in Europe became increasingly aware of the need to control the mass production of unfamiliar and potentially unacceptable texts. Initially, censorship of the press was enforced locally. However, with the spread of the Protestant Reformation, the Catholic Church required a more centralized and organized approach. Thus, the Council of Trent ratified the *Index librorum prohibitorum*, which listed individual banned titles as well as

authors whose writings had been condemned outright. Catholic officials also published lists of expurgations, which identified specific passages to be deleted from every copy of an edition. From the 16th century well into the 19th, the censorship of books remained a primary, if not entirely effective, means of eradicating heresy and error.

It is unusual for Bridwell Library to showcase its damaged volumes. In this exhibition, however, it is necessary to focus not on handsomely preserved rare books, but on the historical evidence offered by the intentional alteration and suppression of books by Christian censors during past centuries. Of the sixty-two books and broadsides in this exhibition, thirty-seven were prohibited, enduring either physical expurgation or the threat of destruction. The remainder are publications that assisted the Church in its battle against heresy and error: several are indexes of prohibited books or expurgations, while others were written in defense of ecclesiastical censorship. Combined, the exhibited books and broadsides contribute to a fuller understanding of the role of post-publication censorship in the religious controversies of the past.

A fully-illustrated online version of the exhibition will be available at:

<http://smu.edu/bridwell/specialcollections/Heresy&Error/Heresy.Intro.htm>

16 October 2010 – 2 April 2011

Small World: Travel in Wales and Beyond

National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, Wales

Open 9.30 to 18.00, Monday to Friday; 9.30 to 17.00, Saturday

The history of travel and exploration in Wales and beyond through images, journals, text and items from the Library's unique collections. A list of related events is available at: <http://www.llgc.org.uk>.

12 November 2010 – 3 April 2011

Evolving English: One Language, Many Voices

British Library, 96 Euston Road, London

Opening hours to be confirmed

This is the first exhibition to explore the English language in all its national and international diversity. Iconic books and manuscripts will be set alongside engaging everyday texts to show the many social, cultural and historical strands from which the language is woven.

Treasures such as the only surviving manuscript of Beowulf, Shakespeare 'quartos', the King James Bible, Dr Johnson's dictionary

and recorded speech by Pankhurst, Churchill, Gandhi and Mandela will be on show— together with posters, lists of slang, early newspapers from around the world, trading records, comics, adverts, children's books, dialect recordings, text messages and web pages.

Drawing on our sound collections the exhibition will explore how English is spoken in the UK, from rural dialects to urban youth speak, and celebrate English as it is spoken by 1.8 billion people around the world. An interactive and media-rich exhibition, it will emphasise how, from the very beginning, English has been shaped by the different cultures and languages with which it came into contact.

19 November 2010 – 20 March 2011

Heroes and Kings of the Shahnama

Chester Beatty Library, Dublin Castle, Dublin 2, Ireland

Open 10.00 to 17.00, Tuesday to Friday; 11.00 to 17.00, Saturday;
13.00 to 17.00, Sunday

The Shahnama, or Book of Kings, is the Iranian national epic that relates the glorious and often gory feats of the heroes and kings of pre-Islamic Iran. Derived from the oral history of Iran and compiled in written form in the eleventh century by the poet Firdawsi, the tales of the Shahnama have been popular both within and beyond the borders of Iran for more than a millennium. While many of its tales are steeped in legend and tell of the killing of dragons and divs, others derive from recorded history, such as the stories of Alexander the Great, known to Persians as Iskandar. The Library holds twenty-five complete and fragmentary copies of the Shahnama, produced in both Iran and India between the 14th and 19th centuries, and folios from each of these will be on display. The exhibition opens in November 2010 and celebrates the 1000th anniversary of the poet Firdawsi's completion of the text in the year 1010.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

5 November 2010

Virtual Visits to Lost Libraries: Reconstruction of and access to Dispersed Collections [CERL 2010 Annual Seminar]

Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark

This seminar is jointly organised by CERL and LIBER's Steering Committee for Heritage Collections and Preservation. It is a public event, and there is no charge. Pre-inscription is required: please register at secretariat@cerl.org. The seminar will feature speakers from a variety of European libraries. The full programme and summaries of papers are available at:

http://www.cerl.org/web/en/services/seminars/main#annual_seminars.

6 – 8 November 2010

Eighth International Conference on the Book

St. Gallen, Switzerland

Plenary speakers will include some of the world's leading thinkers and innovators in the areas of publishing, editing, librarianship, printing, authoring and information technologies, as well as numerous paper, colloquium and workshop presentations by researchers and practitioners. The 2010 Book Conference will also feature a Special Publishing Panel entitled *The Digital Sphere: Opportunity for Growth or Existential Threat?*

St. Gallen is home to the renowned Abbey of St. Gall, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Its library houses the oldest collection of books and manuscripts in Switzerland, with pieces dating back to the 8th century. All library books are available for public use, and most recently, a virtual library was created to provide access to the medieval codices of the Abbey Library of St. Gallen. The hall itself, designed in classic Rococo style, is considered to be one of the most beautiful, non-sacred, examples of this style in Switzerland and abroad. Conference participants will have the opportunity to tour the library.

This is a conference for any participant in the world of books - authors, publishers, printers, librarians, IT specialists, book retailers, editors, literacy educators and academic researchers.

Further information is available at:

<http://booksandpublishing.com/Conference-2010/>

CALLS FOR PAPERS

1 November 2010

Historic Libraries in Context, The Derry & Raphoe Diocesan Library: Past, Present and Future. The University of Ulster, Magee Campus, 6 – 8 June, 2011

This conference, organized by the University of Ulster, coincides with the conclusion of the Derry & Raphoe Diocesan Library Project, a 3.5 year project, to conserve and publicize a collection heretofore relatively unknown to modern scholarship. The aim of the conference is to engage with bibliographers, historians and conservators, each with their own understanding of book culture, to identify future avenues for research within the collection, and within similar collections in general. We hope to generate an interdisciplinary discussion about the current and possible future uses of such libraries and the curatorial and preservation issues that have been raised over the course of the project. Submissions for papers (to be presented at the conference and with a possibility to be published as peer-reviewed post-prints) are requested to address the following topics and themes: The role of the diocesan (or cathedral library), then and now; the Irish book trade and the antiquarian book trade (especially in the second half of the 17th century); preservation and access. The conference organizing committee welcomes submissions from all relevant disciplines, and from approaches that are theoretical or practical, case-studies or of general application. Please send an abstract of no more than 350 words to Jennifer Jarvis, Project Director, at j.jarvis@ulster.ac.uk. Submissions will be accepted until November 1st, 2010 and prospective speakers will be notified within 10 days thereafter. More information about the project can be found on our website, www.derryraphoelibrary.org.

1 November 2010

State Library Agencies: A Special Issue of Libraries & The Cultural Record

Libraries & The Cultural Record, a peer-reviewed journal of history published by the University of Texas Press, invites submissions for a special issue devoted to exploring historical perspectives on state library agencies in the United States.

Submissions should be based on original research utilizing appropriate sources, including archival materials. Articles must provide a coherent

narrative and analysis that situate state library agencies in the broader context of the state environment in which they operate. Submissions should not have been previously published or currently submitted for publication elsewhere. Completed articles should be approximately 7,000 words including notes.

Further information (including submission requirements and information about the journal) is available at: <http://sentra.ischool.utexas.edu/~lcr/submissions/index.php>.

13 December 2010

The Intellectual Culture of the British Country House 1500-1700

A Multi-Disciplinary Conference Hosted by the Centre for Early Modern Studies at the University of Sussex 13-15 July 2011. The Centre for Early Modern Studies at the University of Sussex is seeking proposals for individual papers or panels that address any aspect of this theme. Topics might include: the nature of the country house library; the intellectual networks associated with libraries and houses; the culture of book collecting and borrowing; libraries as regional centres; education in the country house; the book as a work of art; architecture of libraries; houses as intellectual projects; writing on houses; reading groups; the production of texts from country houses; country house culture across the British Isles; manuscript circulation; gardens as intellectual projects; royal progresses; material objects in country houses; hospitality; the impact of the civil war on country house culture.

The organizers are Matthew Dimmock & Margaret Healy. Please send abstracts of papers (no more than 200 words) or panel theme and list of speakers with titles, institutional affiliation and abstracts to Simon Davies (s.f.davies@sussex.ac.uk) by 13 December 2010. Further information available at: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/cems/newsandevents/house>.