

Some Jewels in the Crown

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This is an edited version of a report prepared for the Libraries Committee in August 1996.

No library in the world can afford to buy everything its readers would like and Australian scholars have in the past been frequently disadvantaged by their isolation from the great collections of the world. Although our library is no different from others in wanting more than it can buy, we have been fortunate enough, through the support of the University, private benefactors and the Friends of the Baillieu Library to be able to acquire some very important additions to our collections.

The University of Melbourne Library annually devotes about \$400,000 from the equipment grant¹ to its research resources. In addition to this funding, the Department of History enjoys two very considerable bequests, the Henry Arthur Pitt Memorial Bequest and the John Foster Bequest, which bring in about \$250,000 per year. Rare book acquisitions are funded principally from the Ivy May Pendlebury Bequest (with an income between \$15,000 and \$20,000 a year), the Library Endowment and a variety of smaller bequests dedicated to this purpose.

What follows is a selective listing of some of the major purchases of the last two years.

1. "Equipment" here refers to books and serials in print and electronic form.

Architecture

Interest in architecture extends over several Faculties of the University, with researchers from many disciplines using architectural material. Our recent acquisitions reflect the diversity of their interests.

The British Library Map Catalogue on CD-ROM. Reading, Primary Source Media, 1996.

This publication brings together all 19 published volumes of the British Library's catalogues of printed and manuscript maps, as well as the automated file of acquisitions since 1974. The topographical collections described include printed and manuscript atlases, maps, charts and town plans, views and photographs from all over the world; King George III's 50,000-item topographical collection, in which are found significant numbers of topographical and architectural drawings and views; the Crace collection of plans of London (of which the Library holds a microform reproduction) as well as celestial and terrestrial globes.

The Conway Library Index on CD-ROM. London, Emmett, 1996.

The Conway Library in the Courtauld Institute of Art is the world's most comprehensive collection of architecture-related visual material, including annotated photographs of architecture, sculpture, medieval arts and illuminated manuscripts from Europe, North Africa and the Americas. The Library holds this collection on microfiche. The CD-ROM index lists every building, location and architect in the Conway Library, permitting complex searches of

the data base and providing references to the microfiche images.

Jokaku samurai Yashiki Kozushu. Shibundo, 1995.

A major resource for the study of Japanese architectural and urban history, this 11-volume compilation of old plans and technical drawings of castles and samurai palaces makes available for the first time many of the original technical drawings and plans made by architects and planners working for the Tokugawa shogunate and the most powerful regional daimyo. It will be particularly useful for the research of the Professor of Japanese on the architecture and development of cities in the 17th century.

R.I.B.A. Drawings Collection. London, World Microfilms, 1980-

The drawings collection of the Royal Institute of British Architects dates from the foundation of the Institute in 1834. Essentially national in character, it represents the full range of British architectural draughtsmanship, reflecting the best work of all periods from the late Gothic to the present. While English drawings predominate, there is a fair sampling also of works from other countries. The Library has most recently purchased Phase Q of this lengthy series, having already acquired Phases A to P. The architects covered in this latest series are Anthony Salvin, Edwin Harold Sedding, John Pollard Seddon, Edmund Sharpe, Richard Norman Shaw and William Simpson, all working between 1840 and 1914.

Asian Studies

The appointment of a new Professor of Chinese has provided the impetus for the acquisition of some much-needed Chinese material not focussed on language and literature.

Library of Congress microfilm on China

A number of series have been ordered, including:

Chinese press summaries and related publications 1944-1950; *Press summaries of the US Consulate General, Hong Kong* 1950-; *Chung-yang yen-chiu-yüan li-shih yü-yen yen-chiu-so chi-k'an* 1928-57; *Yen-ching hsüeh-pao* 1927-51; *Yü-kung pan-yüeh-k'an* 1934-37; *Pei-ching ta-hsüeh she-hui k'o-hsüeh chi-k'an* 1922-43 and *Ta kung pao*. These journals and newspapers of the Republican period from 1911 to 1949 are key titles for this period, covering both local and national material.

County Gazetteers

Two series, amounting to 86 volumes in all, have been ordered:

China local gazetteers series. *Kuang-hai Province. Series 1 and 2* and *Current Kuang-hei County Gazetteers*. Both series are published by Ch'eng Wen.

Australian

The Library's Australiana holdings are among the most important in the country. Our recent acquisitions demonstrate our readers' interest in the newest as well as the oldest Australian material.

Australian Bureau of Statistics. *IRDB : The Integrated Regional Database*. Canberra, 1996

Providing a regional insight into Australia, the CD-ROM contains a broad range of ABS time series data from its key economic and social collections and data from selected government agencies.

A second voyage round the world, in the years MDCCLXXII, LXXIII, LXXIV, LXXV. By James Cook, Esq. Commander of His Majesty's Bark The Resolution. Undertaken by order of the King, and encouraged by a parliamentary grant of four thousand pounds. Drawn up from authentic papers. London, 1776.

The "Cambridge Cook" was last account of Cook's voyages which the Library lacked. The Library Endowment and Friends of the Baillieu Library funded acquisition. This anonymous, surreptitious account of Cook's second voyage was published a year before the official account. It was a highly controversial account and the *Monthly* review of October 1776 lists some 15 incidents all pronounced by Cook himself to be false. The copy comes from the libraries of the Earl of Wharncliffe and the Hon. Stuart Wortley, whose bookplates it bears.

Law

Lawyers have traditionally relied heavily on printed sources. The electronic dissemination of information is revolutionising legal research and the Library has invested heavily in the new information media.

Complete Legal Research System on CD-ROM. Sydney, LBC Information Services, 1995-

This new service, for which the Library is licensed to permit 20 concurrent users, comprises *The Laws of Australia*; *The Australian Digest*; *Australian Legal Monthly Digest* and *Australian Case Citor*.

Life Sciences

Medical research relies heavily, of course, on fast access to recent material and the Library supports its readers through access to electronic databases and current publications. Interest in older medical material, however, remains high, notably among historians

of medicine, social scientists and those concerned with ethical and philosophical issues.

American Medical Periodicals 1797-1900. Reading, Research Publications

This project reproduces over 2,000 19th century medical periodicals from the holdings of the National Library of Medicine and other major American institutions. The collection details the introduction of anaesthesia in surgery, improvements in diagnosis and therapeutics, the development of public health, "alternative" medicine and debates between practitioners.

A number of costly reference works have been ordered included:

Dictionary of Natural Products. London, Chapman and Hall, 1994. 8 volumes

Encyclopedia of Molecular Biology and Molecular Medicine. Weinheim, VCH, 1996- 6 volumes

Music

The Library has exceptional holdings of unpublished music manuscripts from the great British repositories in microform which are listed in detail in the *Guide to Microform Collections in the University of Melbourne Library*, compiled by Elizabeth Wakefield and published in 1989 (available from the Library, price \$15). We have recently complemented them with *Music from Dutch libraries*, published in Lisse by MMF Publications. Rare musical compositions for the period before 1820 have been filmed from the collections in Dutch repositories, including the Toonkunst Library in Amsterdam, the University Library in Utrecht and the Music Department of the Haags Gemeentemuseum. The series ordered cover *Concertos before 1820*; *Orchestral Music before 1820* and

Vocal Music before 1820.

Social Sciences and Humanities

History of Science and Technology

The most significant boost to the University's impressive resources in the history of science of recent months is arguably the trade-in of *Landmarks of Science* on microcards for the microfiche version. This extremely valuable series had become progressively harder to use as the only machine on which it could be read became less and less reliable. The new format, from which it is possible to print, will revitalise the usefulness of the collection. It is hoped that full cataloguing for the individual items will also soon be added to the national bibliographic record, providing subject and title access as well as the author

access presently available through the Card Catalogue.

Landmarks of Science reproduces first editions (and later ones if notable changes were made) of notable scientific works from the beginning of printing until the early 19th century. Biographies, histories of science and early scientific textbooks are included as well as translations of notable works into English.

The Hartlib Papers. Godstone, UMI, 1995

Samuel Hartlib (c.1600-1662) was known as "the great Intelligencer of Europe". A friend and collaborator of Milton and Marvell, he was also the patron of Comenius and Robert Boyle as well as the early American scientists John Winthrop Jr and George Starkey. The Library's acquisition is a CD-ROM text and image database of Hartlib's papers in Sheffield University Library.

They include 25,000 pages of correspondence, working papers, treaties and diaries, providing a digitised image of the manuscript linked to a transcription, so that the user can move from one to the other.

Two interesting smaller microform acquisitions are:

The Henry Dreyfuss Archive. London, Mindata, 1996

Dreyfuss worked between 1929 and 1969. His design archive is held at the Cooper-Hewitt Museum, New York, and includes drawings, blueprints, photographs, sketches and correspondence. His output ranged from the 20th Century Limited to the Hoover vacuum cleaner and Polaroid camera. The microform comprises 6,000 images.

A Pictorial History of Science, Industry and Medicine. London, Mindata

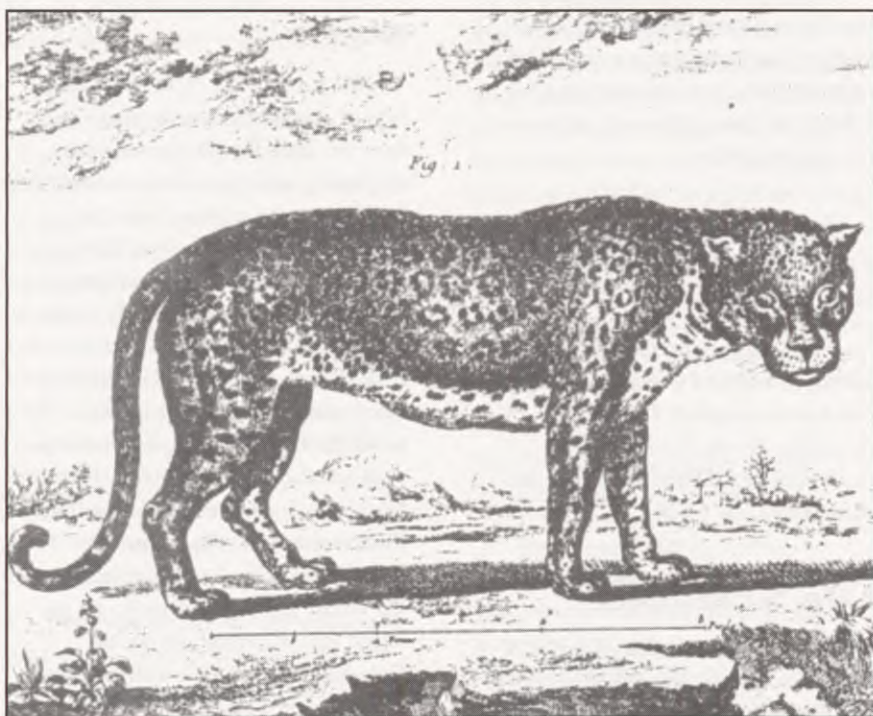
The Science Museum was the first of the world's museums of science, technology and industry. The 17,000 photographs in this project include photographs of the most important items in the collection as well as images from documentary and other sources, so that, for example pictures of sailing ships from Greek vases are included as well as images from ancient Egyptian tombs.

Language and Literature

English

The information revolution has had its most obvious impact in science and technology, but researchers in the humanities and notably medievalists have been quick to recognise the potential of the new developments. The Library is fortunate in being able to acquire an a wonderful example of this.

The Exeter Manuscript of Old English Poetry will be a resource which exists only in the University of



From *Landmarks of Science*.

Melbourne and the University of Exeter. It consists of the 30 to 40 cd-roms from which the single cd-rom of the colour facsimile of the manuscript will be produced. The original scanned images will be of the highest quality, permitting closer scrutiny than can be achieved even when dealing with the manuscript itself. This acquisition is made through the good offices of Dr Bernard Muir, whose 2-volume *The Exeter Anthology of Old English Poetry* was launched in 1995 in the Baillieu Library.

Other interesting acquisitions in the last 18 months for the study of English literature include:

Orinda: the Literary Manuscripts of Katherine Philips (1632-1664). Reading, Adam Matthew, 1996. This collection includes four manuscripts from the National Library of Wales, one from the Folger Shakespeare Library and material from the Bodleian and Worcester College libraries.

Renaissance Commonplace Books from the Huntington Library. Reading, Adam Matthew, 1996. The common-

place book held a central place in the culture of the Renaissance when printed books, although available, had largely not yet replaced the manuscript. The sample included in this collection comprises the legal commonplace books of Thomas Egerton (Lord Chancellor and Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal), the speeches, poems and letters of Sir Nicholas Bacon (the statesman father of Francis Bacon), the devotional commonplace book of Elizabeth Hastings, Countess of Huntington, the notebook and diary of Sir Edward Dering and 8 Tudor and Stuart miscellanies, including works by Jonson, Sidney, Raleigh, Earle and Wotton.

Virginia Woolf Manuscripts from the Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection at the New York Public Library. Woodbridge, Research Publications, 1993. This extensive collection includes diaries, manuscripts, reading notebooks and correspondence.

French

Dictionaries and encyclopaedias are especially suited to cd-rom technology, which permits fast, flexible searching of a large body of information. Some time ago the Library bought the *Robert Electronique*, which reproduces the *Grand Robert de la Langue Française*. A recent acquisition, of interest to all 18th century scholars, demonstrates the application of this technology to a prolific author.

Voltaire Electronique. Cambridge, Chadwyck-Healey, 1996. This database will include, as well as the 24 volumes of the Voltaire Foundation's printed edition of Voltaire's *Oeuvres Complètes* all his other texts already prepared in electronic form by the Foundation but not yet printed. The final Voltaire Foundation edition is expected to comprise 100 volumes. Each volume is edited by one or more specialists. The cd-rom version will be updated as the final versions appear in print, thus permitting varied and flexible searches of the entire

database.

Politics and government

The greatest developments in recent years in research resources for politics have been computer-based, either through internet access or on cd-roms. The archival characteristics of these media (and consequently their permanent research usefulness) is yet to be established. The Library has continued, therefore, to build the collection in both print and microform as well.

Europe

Britain

Index to the House of Commons Parliamentary Papers on CD-ROM 1801-1995. Cambridge, Chadwyck-Healey, 1996-

A single CD-ROM index, updated annually, provides flexible access to two centuries of British parliamentary papers. Access can be through category, paper number, subject heading, title keyword, subject keyword, all keywords, paper title, session, paper type or chairperson.

European Union

The Library has received all official publications of the European Union from 1995, including EUROSTAT. Some titles are held prior to this date. The *Debates* of the European Parliament are held in microform from 1972 onwards and the *Historical Records of the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community* are held from 1946 to 1961.

Eurocat on CD-ROM. Cambridge, Chadwyck-Healey, 1993-

This is a catalogue of community publications and documents as well as selected texts published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, updated quarterly. Except in the case of legislation in force, where records of pre-1985 material are included, it covers material published since the beginning



From *A Pictorial History of Science, Industry and Medicine*.

of 1985. It is compiled from 4 databases, CATEL, the database used by the Office to update its catalogues and index the *Official Journal*, CELEX, the official database of European Union law, SCAD, including records of legislation, etc., and ABEL, giving tables of contents of the *Official Journal* L series. It incorporates EUROVOC, the Community's nine language thesaurus.

Germany

Komitee für Grundrechte und Demokratie e.V. is a group of leftwing intellectuals and researchers, founded in 1979, with a focus on questions of human rights in the former Federal Republic of Germany. It acts as a centre of criticism of German politics and business management. Most of its publications are produced outside the mainstream booktrade in Germany and are therefore not widely held outside that country. The Library was fortunate in being able to acquire one of only 6 complete sets on offer of the Komitee's publications from its establishment in 1979 to the end of 1994. The offer of this material to the Library demonstrates the regard in which its collections in modern European politics are held, at a period in which other Australian research libraries are greatly reducing their acquisitions.

The Middle East

Considerable acquisitions have been made from the Pitt Bequest, at the request of the Department of History for material of interest to political scientists working on the Middle East. Many of these have been from the offerings of Archive Editions Limited, which are drawn from material in the Public Record Office, London, the India Office and Oriental collections of the British Library, the universities of Cambridge, Durham, Exeter and Oxford as well as the US Department of State. In all the



From the *Historical Records of the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community*.

Library has acquired over a dozen of these collections, in over 100 volumes.

Arabian Boundaries: Primary Documents 1853-1963. Farnham Common, Archive Editions, 1988.

To be complete in 36 volumes (of which 26 have been received) this project provides documents and maps detailing the history of national boundaries and political relations in the Arabian Peninsula during the last two centuries. The documents reproduced include treaties, letters, summaries, telegrams, memoranda and notes, describing negotiations, agreements, disputes, incursions and claims.

Arabian Gulf Oil Concessions 1911-1952. Farnham Common, Archive

Editions, 1989. 12 volumes.

This publication contains documents from the India Office, London, recording the negotiations and agreements for the first land-based oil concessions in Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the Trucial States and Muscat and Oman.

Iran-Iraq Border 1840-1958. Farnham Common, Archive Editions, 1989. 11 volumes.

The period under review covers three principal phases of diplomatic activity, each resulting in the signature of treaties defining or modifying the boundary: the Second Treaty of Erzerum in 1847, the Constantinople Protocol of 1913 and the Tehran Treaty of 1937.

It is more common for large bodies of archival material to be made avail-

able in microform and the Library has bought 8 of the National Security Archive projects published by Chadwyck-Healey Limited of Cambridge. The National Security Archive at The George Washington University has built a vast collection of contemporary declassified national-security information. The documents are accompanied by highly-sophisticated catalogues and indexes. As well as the projects described below and under United States, the Library has bought collections dealing with the Berlin crisis of 1958 to 1962 and Afghanistan from 1973 to 1990.

Iraqgate. Saddam Hussein, U.S. Policy and the Prelude to the Persian Gulf War, 1980-1994. Cambridge, Chadwyck-Healey, 1995.

This collection of documents from the National Security Archive, Washington, reproduces on microfiche almost 2,000 documents on nearly 10,000 pages. It brings together documents from almost every federal agency involved in US-Iraq policy and the scandal involving the Banca Nazionale Del Lavoro. The collection focuses on the economic issues at play and includes UK records as well as those of US agencies.

Iran: the Making of U.S. Policy 1977-1980. Cambridge, Chadwyck-Healey, 1990.

Another project from the National Security Archive, this collection extends from the Carter Administration's dealings with the Shah to the beginning of the hostage crisis.

South Africa

The Library has long supported South African studies and an earlier issue of the *Library Journal* acknowledges our debt to the Drakensberg Trust in this area. The new technologies play their part here, too, in making information available.

South Africa: the Making of U.S. Policy, 1962-1989. Cambridge,



From *Iraqgate. Saddam Hussein, U.S. Policy and the Prelude to the Persian Gulf War, 1980-1994.*

Chadwyck-Healey, 1991 contains over 12,000 documents, describing US behaviour in relation to the UN sanctions against South Africa, which ranged from support to violation. Illustrating a foreign policy lacking in strategy and driven by reaction to events, the collection also deals with all major events relating to South Africa, from the Sharpeville massacre to the Reagan administration and US-South African support for the rebels in Angola.

Apartheid on CD-ROM. Leiden, IDC, 1996. Based on the collections of the Mayibuye Centre, an organisation concerned with apartheid, popular resistance and the social life and culture of South Africa, this project provides 50 digitised publications, 2,000 photographs, video clips and audio tapes as well as government documents.

Soviet Union

The cataclysmic changes in the former Soviet Union were accompanied by a policy of permitting far greater access than before to its documentary history. The project described below is part of a much larger one which aims to reproduce the most significant documents from the Soviet Union's three major archives. The total project will require between 7,000 and 10,000 reels of microfilm.

Fond 89: The Soviet Communist Party on trial. Cambridge, Chadwyck-Healey, 1996

This is a joint publication of the State Archival Service of Russia (Rosarkhiv) and the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace. The 3,000-odd documents, mostly memoranda or reports to the Central Committee of the Communist Party, extend from 1919 to 1992. They were specially declassified for the Constitutional Court hearing into President Yeltsin's decision, promulgated on 6 November 1992, to ban the Communist Party. They were selected principally to prove that the Party had acted unlawfully in its disregard for human rights and offer an extraordinary insight into the life of the USSR just before the collapse of the one-party state.

United States

Congressional Masterfile 2. Bethesda, CIS, 1970-

This CD-ROM publication provides a flexible index to all congressional reports, documents, published hearings and committee prints since 1970. The database will also provide a legislative history of any public laws enacted since 1970. *Congressional Masterfile 1*, which the Library also holds, covers publications from 1789 to 1969.

U.S. Intelligence Community: Organization, Operations and Management, 1947-1989. Cambridge, Chadwyck-Healey, 1990.

This collection from the National

Security Archive, contains organization and function manuals, unit histories and internal directives, providing a valuable insight into the workings of the US espionage establishment. Also on order is *U.S. Espionage and Intelligence, 1947-1995*. Cambridge, Chadwyck-Healey, 1996.

U.S. Military Uses of Space, 1945-1991. Cambridge, Chadwyck-Healey, 1991.

Including 15,000 pages of documents, this collection provides a detailed record of the US space programme, covering military space programmes, space policy and space weaponry the end of World War II to Desert Storm.

U.S. Nuclear Non-proliferation Policy, 1945-1991. Cambridge, Chadwyck-Healey, 1992

Includes over 2,600 government documents, either unclassified but previously unpublished or recently declassified, from the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to the 1989 exporting scandals.

Rare Books

Our scholars are not wholly taken up with electronic or microform resources, however, and as well as the bread-and-butter printed materials, the Library continues to buy exceptional books.

Cambridge in books and pictures

Two years ago the Library purchased, at a very favourable price, the private collection of Dr. Pierre Gorman relating to Cambridge. Most of the books concern the University, although there are a number dealing with the town and the county. At about 600 titles, this was a considerable collection and it has now, largely through personal donations from Dr Gorman, grown to over twice that size. The Library has, on occasion, bought books on Dr. Gorman's recommendation to supplement his generous support. Titles purchased include a long run of the University's Calendar and several editions of Kelly's directories of

Cambridgeshire.

The Library last year accepted the gift of several hundred pictorial representations of Cambridge, including maps, prints and original art works, from Dr. Gorman. Some of these are to be displayed in the School of Graduate Studies. While it is not planned to add to the pictorial collection, it forms a valuable adjunct to the printed works and is in itself of considerable art historical importance.

Schöeffer Bible

Undoubtedly the star rare book acquisition of recent years, the Library's purchase of John Gartner's copy of the 1472 Biblia latina, printed in Mainz by Peter Schöeffer adds enormously to the Library's resources in early printed material. Acquisition was funded by the Library Endowment and the Henry Arthur Pitt Memorial Bequest. All too few examples of early printing are available for study in Australian libraries and this acquisition was enthusiastically supported by historians from several Victorian universities.

The connection with Mr Gartner is also pleasing, since the Library was fortunate enough to have been given his collection of the output of The Hawthorn Press, together with much associated ephemera, before the Ash Wednesday bushfire which destroyed his house and all of his library.

This account of some of the Library's most important acquisitions of research materials of the last two years is necessarily a partial one. Space does not permit a fuller description and even the most notable rare book acquisition of 1996, the Vallance Collection of historical geology, will have to wait for a future issue of the *Library Journal*. ♦

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