

2009 Newsletter

Special Collections

This edition of the newsletter reports a coming of age. It is now 25 years since the government allocated the papers of the first Duke of Wellington to the University under the national heritage legislation. An exceptional collection in itself, it also proved a catalyst for developing the Special Collections at Southampton. We marked the occasion in a number of ways, and it was a privilege to give my own inaugural lecture as part of the celebrations. We are mindful that Wellington is central to a run of bicentenaries, from the battles of the Peninsular War through to the commemoration of Waterloo in 2015, and plans are in hand that will enable our collections to play a significant role in these events. Besides our annual Wellington Lecture, the first of these will be a major Wellington Congress in 2010.

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The impact collections make depends as much on communication as on physical presence. Some of that communication takes place in traditional archival terms, through cataloguing and description, but other facets involve taking the message out and about more widely, through exhibitions, teaching, conferences and lectures. The newsletter reports on these activities, from engagement in teaching at Southampton through to the displays of our gallery and other events, including a meeting in Vilnius for European archivists with Jewish collections. The Special Collections Division also looks at archives more generally, what they document, how they work, and ways of filling gaps in the record in areas of interest to us. We are pleased to report a new example: a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund will enable us to interview some of those who came to Southampton as children in 1937, exiles from the Spanish Civil War, and to preserve those recordings alongside the very scanty physical documentation that typically comes with refugees.

This newsletter ranges more widely in other respects. Besides its Special Collections Division, other parts of the University of Southampton Library system hold distinctive collections. Part of our work is to ensure that these are equally accessible to researchers, and we report on collections associated with two other Divisions within the system, the Winchester School of Art Library and the National Oceanographic Library.

Chris Woolgar | Head of Special Collections

Wellington Studies IV

In November 2008, the University published the fourth volume in its *Wellington Studies* series. The volume contains 14 essays based on papers given at the Third Wellington Congress in Southampton in 2006. The collection starts with the opening keynote lecture of the Congress, by the late Professor Peter Jupp, 'Continuity and change: British government and politics, 1770-1850', comparing Wellington's government of 1828-30 with longer-term patterns in British politics, the result of Professor Jupp's researches over many years on the detail of British government, its processes and procedures, in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. In the second essay, Professor Bruce Collins turns to an examination of 'Siege warfare in the age of Wellington', looking at sieges in India and the Peninsular War. Antonio Juan Calvo Maturana examines Queen Marie Louise of Spain, the treatment of queens consort in Europe in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, and the pattern of historiography. Two papers then focus on the Peninsular War, Rory Muir writing on 'Politics and the Peninsular army',

and Charles Esdaile, on 'Guerrillas, bandits, adventurers and commissaries: the story of John Downie'. Another pair of papers looks at images of the Duke. Susan Jenkins discusses 'Sir Thomas Lawrence and the Duke of Wellington: a portraitist and his sitter', while Richard Gaunt reviews the Duke and caricature. The next group of papers focuses on Wellington, politics, foreign affairs, protestantism and Catholic emancipation. Clive Willis illuminates Britain's return to the Peninsula, in 'Wellington and the Clinton expedition to Portugal, 1828-30'; Andrew Lambert discusses 'Politics, administration and decision-making: Wellington and the Navy, 1828-30'; Shirley Matthews considers pamphlet literature sent to the first Duke

in an essay on Catholic emancipation and national identity; Kathryn Beresford reviews Wellington as hero and villain during the Emancipation crisis, looking at the Duke's duel with the Earl of Winchelsea; and Douglas Simes investigates the Ultra Tory press and the Wellington administration. In the two final essays in the collection, Robert Morton writes on the standing of the Duke of Wellington as seen at Queen Victoria's coronation, and Chris Woolgar considers records of conversations with Wellington.

The volume is priced at £10, and is available from the Special Collections Division (postage and packing £2 per copy extra). For enquiries, please contact Archives@soton.ac.uk

Los niños: a Heritage Lottery Fund project

The Heritage Lottery Fund has awarded the University of Southampton, in partnership with Hampshire Archives and Local Studies, a grant of £47,000 for a project under its Your Heritage scheme. Led by Dr Alicia Pozo-Gutierrez and Professor Chris Woolgar, the project will record 30 life story interviews to document an important facet of the Spanish Civil War and its consequences. Approximately 4,000 children came to Southampton in May 1937 by boat from Santurzi/Santurce, the port of Bilbo/Bilbão, fleeing the war, and the experiences of these niños will form the core of the project. They were part of a movement which saw some 20,000 children leave the war zone, dispersed to countries across Europe and overseas. The Spanish Second Republic was established in 1931, with an ambitious agenda to eliminate deeply-rooted social and cultural inequalities. The republican programme encompassed land and education reform, improved rights for women, restructuring the army, and granting autonomy to Catalonia and the Basque Country. Threatened by far-reaching change, diverse political groupings aligned themselves in the so-called 'two Spains'. The ensuing civil war lasted three years, with Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy helping one faction, Communist Russia the other, with Chamberlain's Britain leading a policy of appeasement among Western democratic nations. In this bitter conflict, there was a third Spain, which did not want to take up arms, but to live in peace. War, hunger, revolution, counter-revolution, denunciations, persecution, summary trials and executions, and mass repression often resulted in the disintegration of family and community life, desolating a country and forcing thousands of its people into exile.

The project will look at the experiences of the children who came to Southampton and the UK, their lives here, the question of return to the Iberian peninsula, and the complex questions that arise from transnational migration in time of conflict. The interviews will be carried out by volunteers. The project will create a touring exhibition, an archive of interviews, a website with an on-line gallery, a printed publication and a DVD for use in schools. For further information, contact Alicia Pozo-Gutierrez (apg@soton.ac.uk) or Chris Woolgar (cmw@soton.ac.uk).



Children climbing on board a boat bound for Southampton



Camp for the niños at Stoneham

Printed collections news

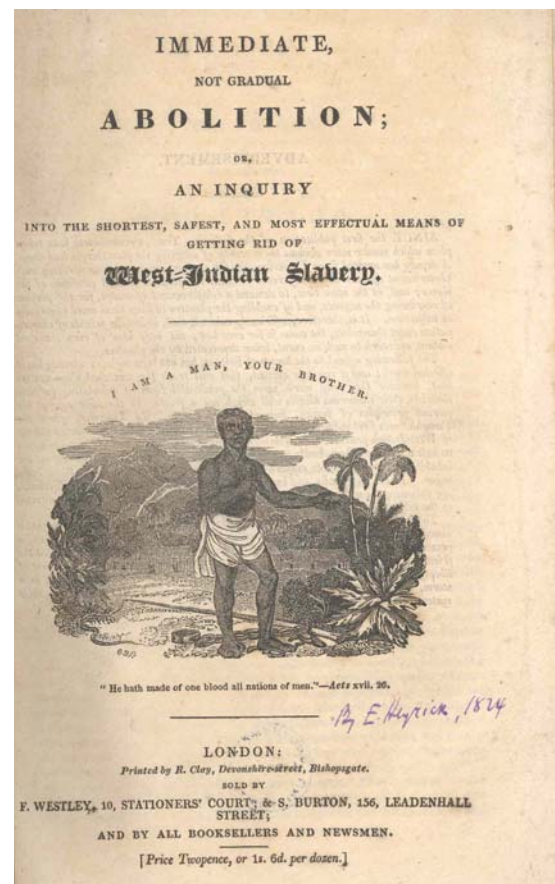
The Hartley Library has been engaged in a re-cataloguing project to extend the coverage of WebCat, the online catalogue of printed books (www.southampton.ac.uk/library), by ten years to include all accessions since 1970. A number of smaller Special Collections were added to stock in the 1970s and these have been included in the project.

The Oates Collection (c.650 volumes) consists of books bought from the Oates Memorial Library at The Wakes, Selborne in 1971. The Library had been set up by Robert Washington Oates in the 1950s, primarily to commemorate his relatives Frank Oates (1840-75), a naturalist and explorer, and Captain Lawrence Oates (1880-1912), a member of Scott's Antarctic Expedition. The material acquired by the University Library includes eighteenth-century books from the Oates family collection, nineteenth-century and twentieth-century publications on travels in Africa, particularly in Rhodesia (an area in which the University Library formerly specialised as part of a collaborative acquisitions scheme), and eighteenth-century and nineteenth-century pamphlets on slavery and the West Indies. The material on slavery is especially important, complementing items held in the Wellington Pamphlets collection and the microfilm of the Society of Friends Anti-Slavery Collection.

The Rosicrucian Collection (c.170 volumes) came to the University Library in 1977 from the trustees of Gerald Alexander Sullivan (1890-1942) of the Rosicrucian Order Crotona Fellowship. It includes publications of the Fellowship's Bohemian Press and copies of the plays by Gerald Sullivan, writing as Alex Mathews. There are books on theosophy, mesmerism and alchemy and early editions of works by those associated with Rosicrucian groups such as Francis Bacon and Robert Fludd. The Crotona Fellowship was based at Somerford near Christchurch in the 1930s. Its members studied occult sciences and esoteric subjects and performed in the plays Sullivan staged at the Christchurch Garden Theatre. The Fellowship survived for only a few years after the death of Gerald Sullivan in 1942.

The Wheler Library (c.100 volumes), the parish library of Basingstoke, came to Southampton in 1976. Most of the books are seventeenth-century theological publications, which were bequeathed to the parish by Sir George Wheler (1651-1724). Wheler had been vicar of Basingstoke from 1685 to 1694, later becoming a canon at Durham Cathedral. The collection also includes some later additions, amongst which there are a number of publications by Granville Sharp (1735-1813), the slavery abolitionist.

These valuable collections now will be more accessible as a result of this project.



The Portuguese telegraph

2010 marks the bicentenary of the construction of the Lines of Torres Vedras, a massive defensive fortification built on Wellington's orders to prevent French forces reaching Lisbon. As part of the commemoration celebrations, the municipalities along the Lines have restored

part of the works and have recreated a working copy of the manual telegraph or semaphore system that Wellington used. Telegraph systems had been in use on the Continent through much of the eighteenth century and the Duke employed them on at least four occasions during the Peninsular



War. In 1810, he needed to communicate rapidly along the Lines and back to Lisbon. In order to do this, he adopted a manual telegraph derived from British naval systems both in terms of construction and in its use of Home Popham's *Marine Vocabulary*, the guide to naval signalling, published in 1800 and 1803. Two of the code books used by Wellington's forces, along with other documentation, survive in the archives at Southampton and have been important in allowing us to understand how the telegraph was constructed and functioned. Although the code numbers for messages like 'I have sprung my bowsprit but cannot fish it at sea' are unlikely to have had any functional utility around Torres Vedras, the addition of further codes, giving local place names, shows that these documents were well used operationally. The reconstruction of the telegraph was completed in November 2008 by the Museu Municipal at Torres Vedras and the Portuguese navy, and it is shown here on Mount Socorro, with a test loading of balloons.



RSS *James Cook* at National Oceanographic Centre, Southampton

Archives of the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton

The Archives and Special Collections of the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, are located within the National Oceanographic Library. As well as a fascinating insight into the history of marine science in the United Kingdom, the collection also provides data and information which are relevant to research scientists today.

The HMS *Challenger* Expedition, 1872-6, a 68,890 nautical mile circumnavigation voyage, was the first expedition from the UK to be devoted to marine research, laying the foundations of oceanography as a scientific discipline. The National Oceanographic Library holds a collection of lantern slides from the expedition and the archive of the Challenger Society for Marine Science, founded in 1903 to promote the study of oceanography. The original figurehead of HMS *Challenger* greets visitors at the entrance of the National Oceanography Centre.

The Discovery Investigations (Committee), established in 1924, was the UK's next most important revival of scientific oceanographic research since the *Challenger* Expedition. The venture, named *Discovery* after Captain Scott's ship and 'Investigations' from the investigative work into whaling, studied all aspects of oceanography in the Southern Ocean, and in particular the Antarctic whaling industry. The National Oceanographic Library holds part of the original library of the Committee including international expedition reports and rare books dating back to the late 1890s. The research ships of this period were *Discovery*, 1925-7, Captain Scott's old ship, and Royal Research Ship (RRS) *William Scoresby*, 1926-38, named after the Arctic explorer. The ships primarily carried out whale marking, but also undertook scientific investigation in the Southern Ocean, the Antarctic waters, the South Atlantic, the eastern Pacific Ocean and the Indian Ocean. RRS *Discovery II*, built in 1929, was the first purpose-built oceanographic research ship and surveyed Antarctic waters and the Southern Ocean.

In 1949 the National Institute of Oceanography was established with staff drawn from the Discovery Committee and the Admiralty Research Laboratory. Ultimately forming a collaborative centre between the Natural Environment Research Council and the University of Southampton at the National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, in 2005, the organisation underwent a number of name changes, relocations and reorganisations in the interim. Over this period there were a number of research ships in commission: RRS *William Scoresby* until 1950 and RRS *Discovery II* until 1962, replaced by the new *Discovery* the following year. The new RRS *Discovery*, which is still in operation, was joined in 1973 by RRS *Challenger* and in 1983 by RRS *Charles Darwin* (decommissioned in 2006). The newest research vessel, RRS *James Cook*, was commissioned in 2007.

The archive includes collections of administrative papers, minutes, correspondence, scientific data and ships' log books from the 1870s onwards. The Challenger Society material also contains the 'Bibliography of the Marine Fauna (1758-1907)' a card catalogue begun in 1904, and a set of the *Challenger Reports*. Lantern slides and photographic prints and negatives from the expeditions can be found among the Discovery Investigations (Committee) collection and film and moving pictures of scientific cruises and projects, 1950-90s, are extant in more recent accessions.

For further details or to arrange a visit to the Archives of the National Oceanography Centre please contact nol@noc.soton.ac.uk

Jane Stephenson



Archive accessions

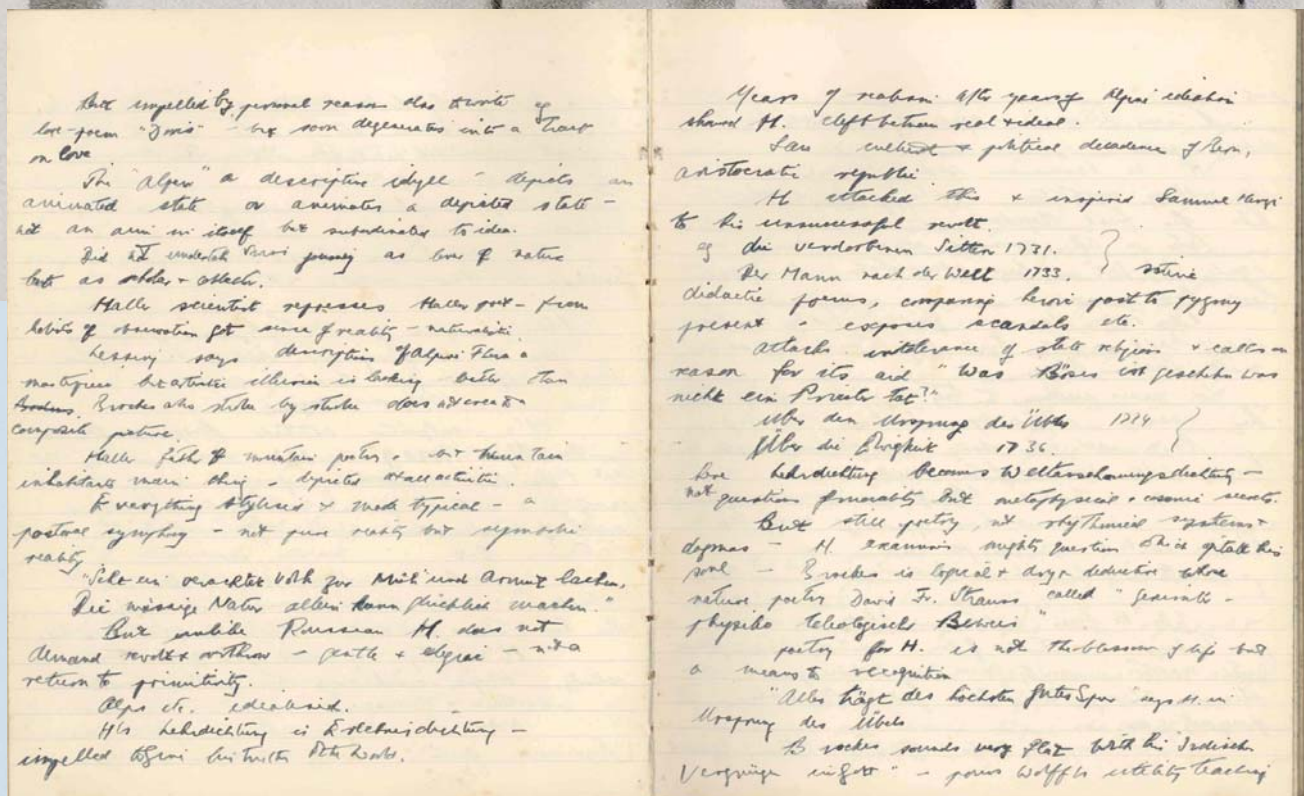
Most recent archival accessions have added to the holdings on Anglo-Jewry, although there have been some notable additions that supplement other areas. In particular, the University has acquired two small collections supporting the Broadlands archives, namely correspondence of Prince Louis of Battenberg, first Marquis of Milford Haven, with Baroness Malortie, 1896-1918, and letters from Constantine Henry Phipps, first Marquis of Normanby, British ambassador to Paris, to Henry John Temple, third Viscount Palmerston, July-August 1848. The latter were written at a time of unrest and revolution in Europe and concern the French proposition for joint mediation in Italy.

The Special Collections Division also has received a collection of material compiled by J.C. Allen, 1934-9, 1980s-90s, relating to the German actor Conrad Veidt (1893-1943). Veidt, who made around 100 films in his short career, was a veteran of the inter-war German film industry, before moving to Great Britain and then the United States of America when the rise of Nazism in his homeland made his situation untenable. He is well known for roles in such films as *The Cabinet of Dr Caligari*, *The Thief of Baghdad* and *Casablanca*.

Notable amongst the new Anglo-Jewish collections are papers of two individuals: William Frankel and Lionel Kochan. William Frankel (1917-2008) was the editor of the *Jewish Chronicle* between 1958 and 1977, transforming it from what has been described as a somewhat dull communal newspaper into a controversial but vibrant national one. Frankel was the second of three sons of Isaac Frankel, a stallholder in Petticoat Lane, London, and his wife Anna, both of whom were immigrants from Galicia. He was excluded from military service on health

grounds, and instead obtained a law degree at the London School of Economics, which was evacuated to Cambridge during the Second World War, and, in 1944, he was called to the bar. Frankel worked as a barrister for a decade before joining the *Jewish Chronicle* as its general manager in 1955. In 1958 he replaced John Shaftesley as editor and remoulded the newspaper. He introduced the first by-line, brought in columnists, younger journalists and expanded the newspaper's coverage. In 1961, Frankel broke news of the 'Jacobs' affair' — the resignation of Rabbi Dr Louis Jacobs as lecturer of Jews' College, London, following Chief Rabbi's Brodie's refusal to honour an unwritten agreement and appoint him as Principal — and week after week he took up Jacobs' cause in the *Jewish Chronicle*. He was one of the founders of the New London Synagogue established in 1964 as a spiritual home for Jacobs. Frankel retired as editor of the *Jewish Chronicle* in 1977, although he remained a director until 1995. In retirement he continued as a contributing writer to other newspapers and was editor of the annual Survey of Jewish affairs, 1982-92. He was President of the Mental Health Review appeals tribunal, 1978-9; chair of the Social Security Appeal Tribunal, 1979-89; Vice President of the Institute of Jewish Affairs from 1993; and President of the Israel Fund, 1997 onwards. Frankel was awarded a CBE in 1970. His archive, which contains correspondence, papers, photographs, travel files, press cuttings, pamphlets, 1940s-2004, includes material for the American Jewish Committee, the Anglo-Jewish Association, New West End Synagogue and the United Jewish Educational and Cultural Organisation.

Lionel Kochan (1922-2005) was an expert on central Europe and Russia and one of the most significant Jewish historians



MS378
student
notebook
of Lionel
Kochan

since the Second World War. He came to academia late, having worked both as a publisher and a journalist. Kochan was born into an assimilated Polish-Jewish family in north-west London, where his father was a Hatton Garden jeweller. He won a scholarship to Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, where he read modern languages and after graduation in 1942 he worked in the Intelligence Corps, serving in Germany and Belgium. After the war he obtained a degree in Russian Studies and then a doctorate from the London School of Economics. He worked for a number of publishers and was a journalist for the *Jewish Observer* and the *Middle East Review*. With a family to support, Kochan belatedly turned to academia. He was a lecturer at Edinburgh University, 1959-64; Senior Lecturer and then Reader in European Studies at the University of East Anglia,

1964-9; Bearsted Reader in Jewish History, Warwick University, 1969-88; President of the Jewish Historical Society of England, 1980-2; and President of the Society for Jewish Study, 2001-5. His archive collection includes extensive research material, manuscripts of his writings, both academic and journalistic, and correspondence.

A further accession has brought additional administrative papers for the Jewish Policy Research Centre. Among these was a small but very significant series of papers for the British Section of the World Jewish Congress. Filling in a gap in the sequence of the existing archive for 1943, this material is of importance for the information it contains on the situation of the Jews in Poland and includes correspondence from the Red Cross in Geneva.

Dante Gabriel Rossetti at Broadlands: a newly discovered photograph

New research on the Broadlands archives has uncovered a group photograph which documents Dante Gabriel Rossetti's association with the Cowper-Temples.

In the Whig politician William Cowper-Temple, and his second wife, Georgina, née Tollemache, the Pre-Raphaelite artist and poet Dante Gabriel Rossetti found loyal friends and patrons. Their acquaintance, which began in the mid-1860s, when William Cowper-Temple was a junior minister (Chief Commissioner of Works and Buildings) with responsibilities which included the aesthetic improvement of the capital's royal parks, and restoration of royal palaces, developed into a friendship which the aristocratic Cowper-Temples prized. As private patrons, they commissioned him to paint copies of several of his works, and they built up a small collection of his sketches. It was his advice that led them to ditch the conventional chintz and Minton ornaments and remodel their London house in the latest, Aesthetic, style.

Georgina, whose striking looks had captivated the young John Ruskin in Rome in 1840, was eulogised by Rossetti for the 'noble beauty of her Christ-like character', when their house at Broadlands in Hampshire provided him with a welcome refuge from noisy workmen at his studio in 1876. He wanted his friend Theodore Watts-Dunton to see Georgina, describing her as 'my most womanly and most queenly hostess', praising her to

another for 'ineffably womanly goodness' and telling his mother she was 'simply an angel on earth'. William Cowper-Temple, stepson and heir to Lord Palmerston (and widely rumoured to be the late premier's natural son), if less radiantly angelic on the surface, was 'no less so in fact'.

At the start of August 1876, Rossetti had come for a brief visit, but this was extended for almost a month. Accompanied by his friend George Hake, he brought the painting of the *Blessed Damozel* — a copy of which William had commissioned as a present for his wife — to work on. Rossetti read William Wordsworth's poems and those of his own sister Christina to his hostess, and she stayed while he painted. As she noted in her diary, he sketched her 'commonplace old head'. He also made sketches of babies for the *Damozel* and studies of Georgina's friend Georgina Holme Sumner, who was to figure in a number of his sketches of stately Roman matrons.

Rossetti avoided the ecumenical religious conference which had become an annual event at Broadlands since 1874, but was accorded 'the utmost toleration... as an entirely foreign substance'. An album of autographs and photographs, and verse by Rossetti ('In the shadow of | That living mystic tree, | Within whose secret growth the Dove | Is sometimes felt to be...') and others, from this conference, was put up for auction in 1973, and has disappeared from view.



Until now, there has been no other visual record of Rossetti's extended visit beyond his sketches and work on the *Damozel*. New research on the Cowper-Temple papers, part of the Broadlands archives in the Special Collections, has uncovered a group photograph which includes the Cowper-Temples and some of their Cowper and Tollemache relations and guests, taken in the open air, around the Ionic columns of the entrance to Broadlands. It unfortunately lacks a complete key or date, but the presence of the Cowper-Temples' adopted daughter Juliet, as a young girl, places the photograph in the mid-1870s. One of the ladies wears a prominent crucifix, but otherwise the photograph does not seem to relate to the religious conference itself. Jane Cowan, one of the co-editors of *The Correspondence of Dante Gabriel Rossetti* believes that Rossetti is 'almost certainly' one of those present in the photograph. If this is the case, and it is Rossetti who is positioned on the margin of the photograph, he looks ill. His eyes half shut, he resembles rather an ailing Charles Dickens or Napoleon III, than the dark-eyed Pre-Raphaelite of his earlier self-portraiture. The August heat, insomnia, and the impact of his addiction to chloral, possibly explain his appearance.

Rossetti left in late August with the 'two Georges' (Hake and Sumner), his chloral intake not reduced, to Mrs Cowper-Temple's dismay. He gave the predella for the *Damozel*, depicting the earthly lover amid beeches, to the Cowper-Temples in gratitude for their hospitality. When he died in April 1882, Georgina told his sister Christina Rossetti that 16, Cheyne House — Rossetti's London home — had been a 'gate of heaven'. When William Cowper-Temple, ennobled as Lord Mount Temple, died in 1888, the gift to the nation of Rossetti's haunting *Beata Beatrix*, which Mount Temple had acquired in 1866, was a fitting memorial to a friendship.

Dr James Gregory



Special Collections outreach

In recent years there has been a growing appreciation of archive holdings within universities as a 'special' factor that distinguishes them from their counterparts. The skills and expertise of special collections staff are often employed for the value they add to the student educational experience and there also has been growing provision of facilities for the use of original material. The Special Collections Division was fortunate to have a secure seminar room added to its accommodation in the Library remodelling of 2004. This has enabled the Division to develop further work with the student community, both undergraduate and postgraduate, and has provided a way of embedding this work much more successfully within institutional structures.

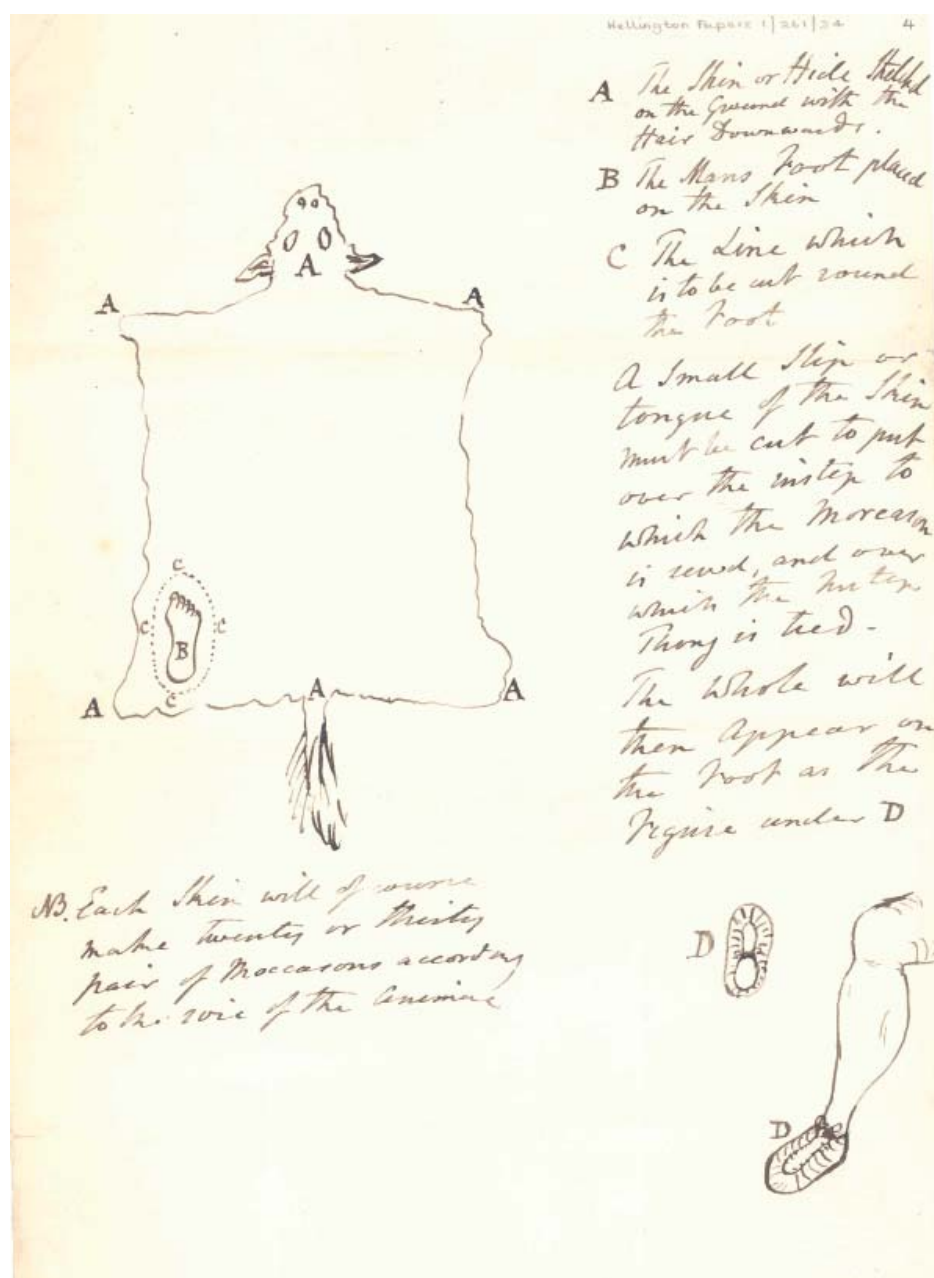
The Special Collections Division engages students and researchers with the collections in a number of different ways. In common with other institutions, introductory sessions are provided on the use of archives, on sources, and on palaeography. This is a natural part of an archivist's work and we do this on both an informal basis and as a component of the university's teaching structure, with marked assignments or taught sessions on manuscript or rare book sources part of a number of courses, in Archaeology, English, Music, Jewish Studies, History and Applied Art.

For History students at Southampton their introduction to archives occurs in the first year; and they can choose to become increasingly involved as they progress through their course. All first year historians attend a lecture on archives as part of the "history and its sources" module, followed by small group tours of the archive accommodation. A piece of set work forms a marked assignment in the second semester. This introduction to archives breaks down barriers and, from anecdotal evidence, helps when students come again in subsequent years. A major piece of work for the second year historians is a group project, which focuses on original sources. A large proportion of the topics studied centre on the Special Collections and, since 2007/8, members of the Division's staff have acted as tutors. The group project assignments include essays (individual and group), a group presentation of research and a public outcome — an exhibition, a publication or website, for example. The project demands a great deal from the students in terms of managing their work, using new resources as well as learning to work together as a group. It also involves the students directly with archives and, as a result, they are encouraged into further research on collections for third year dissertations, some again under our supervision, and into special subject and 'alternative history' courses that draw significantly on the collections. Special Collections staff lead one of the latter, on food and cooking.

At MA level, we again offer sessions on the collections, but also teach modules on courses; and at PhD level, we may act as supervisors for projects with an association with our collections. The Special Collections continues to look at new ways of extending its educational activities. We have done some work with local schools, using our exhibition facilities. New possibilities, targeted beyond the University community, offer themselves in the appointment of an outreach officer for the Parkes Institute, for Jewish Studies, undertaking educational work for a much wider constituency.

History student

In this academic year, Special Collections' staff supervised two projects that focus directly on aspects of the career of Arthur Wellesley, first Duke of Wellington: the first, the battle of Talavera and its aftermath; the second, considering his involvement in the passing of the Catholic Emancipation Act.



Wellington, the battle of Talavera and its aftermath

July 2009 marks the bicentenary of the battle of Talavera. Celebrated as a great victory in the United Kingdom, it was a personal vindication for Wellington, so recently the subject of controversy over the Convention of Cintra, who was rewarded with the title Viscount Wellington of Talavera. Yet the triumph of Talavera came at a heavy cost — 5,400, or about a quarter, of the British forces and 7,000 French troops were killed or wounded. George III was not the only one who 'deeply laments that success, however glorious, has been so dearly bought'. In his poem marking the victory, John Wilson Croker talks of the 'new and horrid face of war' as well as 'the country's pride in Talavera's victory'.

The aftermath of this victory only served to illustrate how the Talavera campaign, which promised so much, delivered so little. On the military side, the battle was followed by retreats and new setbacks: problems with supplies and logistics left the British army suffering privation and sickness; discontent undermined confidence in Wellington; Anglo-Spanish relations remained difficult; and, by August 1809, the French were in a stronger strategic position than previously. These problems were exacerbated by a variety of political and diplomatic ones. Chief among these were the vexed issues of subsidies for Spain and political and social reform. It was in this arena that Wellington was to fight his battles, militarily, diplomatically and politically, as he strove to lead the allied forces to victory against the resources of Napoleon's France.

Instructions for making a moccasin sent to Wellington as a means of dealing with the lack of shoes available to the British soldiers [MS 61 Wellington Papers 1/261/34]

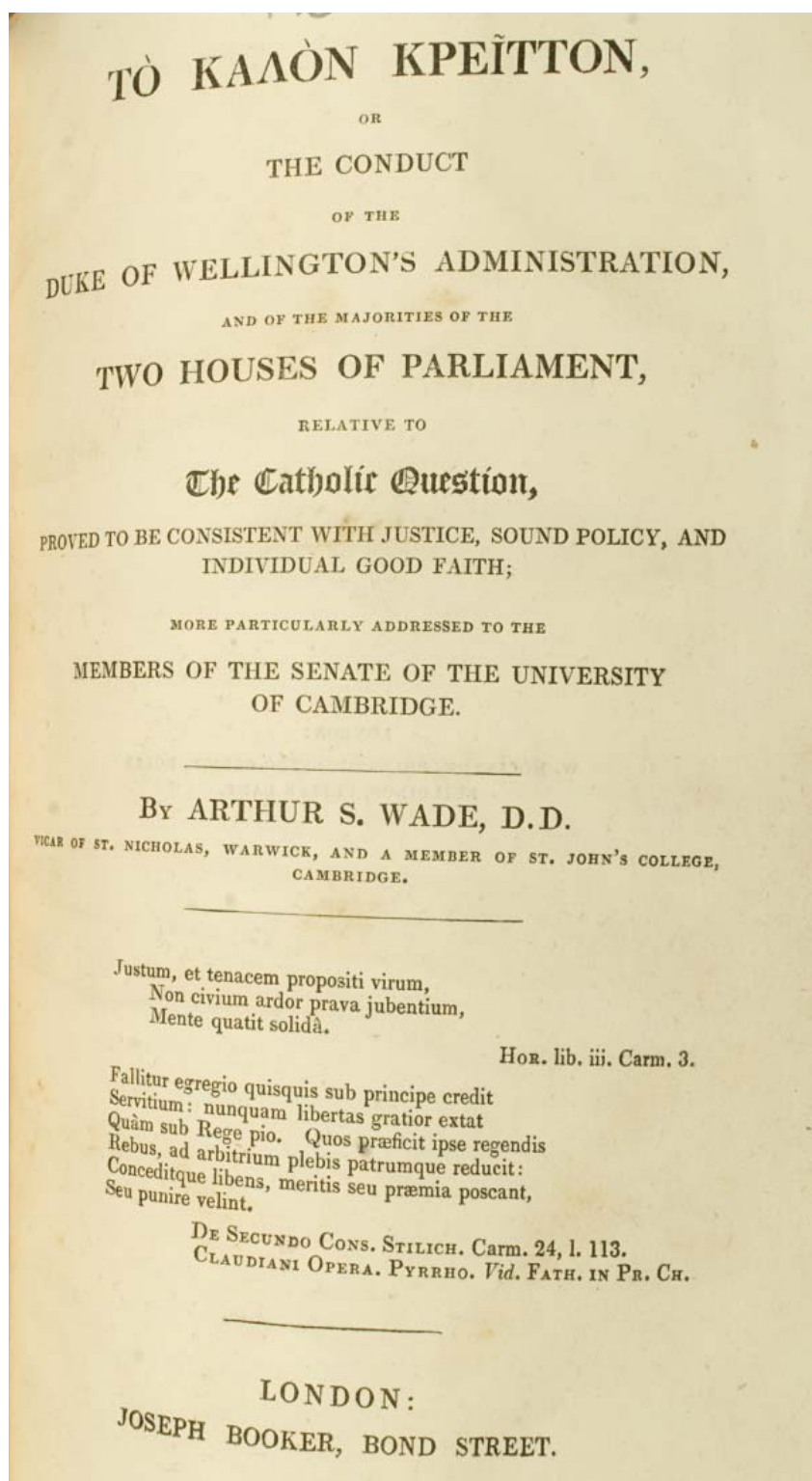
group projects

The Duke of Wellington, Sir Robert Peel and the Catholic Emancipation Act

The controversial and troublesome issue of Catholic emancipation had been bubbling since the Union with Ireland at the beginning of the nineteenth century. The problem was brought to a head in July 1828 when Daniel O'Connell was elected in the County Clare by-election by 2057 votes to 982: as a Roman Catholic, O'Connell was unable to take his seat in the House of Commons. O'Connell was also leader of the Catholic Association which he used to galvanise great popular support for Catholic emancipation in his native Ireland. By ignoring recent events the government ran the risk of mass revolt in Ireland, possibly even civil war. However, the extension of liberties to Roman Catholics was not even considered as a possible solution by many in authority in the government and Established Church.

The Tory government succeeded in passing the Catholic Emancipation Act in April 1829, but at great cost, and the administration fell the following year. The Act was pushed through by the Prime Minister (Wellington) and his Home Secretary (Peel): for many Tory Anglicans, this was an unforgivable betrayal. Sir Robert Peel had long been regarded as the leader of the anti-Catholic resistance and was grossly and personally abused for his involvement. So too, was the Duke of Wellington, who fought a duel with one of his most insulting critics, Lord Winchilsea, at Battersea Fields.

As a result of the Act, Catholics were able to enter both Houses of Parliament and, excluding the monarchy itself, to hold any public office except that of lord chancellor and lord lieutenant of Ireland. However, O'Connell's Catholic Association was suppressed and the impact of the Catholic electorate significantly reduced in Irish county elections by raising the minimum qualification for the vote from land worth 40s p.a. to £10.



Wellington Pamphlet 190 relating to Catholic emancipation

Wellington, his papers and the nineteenth-century revolution in communication

Chris Woolgar's inaugural lecture as Professor of History and Archival Studies was given on 20 November 2008, as part of the celebrations to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the allocation of the first Duke's papers to the University of Southampton under the national heritage legislation.

The Wellington Papers are remarkable in a number of ways. The early nineteenth century marked the great age of government by correspondence and the scale of the collection, some 100,000 items, is indicative of this change. Wellington's lifetime saw

major changes in the archival record: collections from the first years of the reign of George III are very different in their nature from those of the mid-nineteenth century; later archives are much larger, the range of correspondents wider. Why should this be so? The lecture traced patterns in correspondence, the development in government of parallel systems of communication, using private letters to transmit information that might be inconvenient in official form. Wellington wrote extensively, as a way of working through his own thoughts. At the same time, part of the scale of the archive is the result of a major social change, to a 'postal culture'. Anyone who had an opinion of interest or a scheme to promote wrote to the Duke. One of the reasons why they did so was because they could: education increased literacy, and the reform of the postal system in 1840 reduced the cost of sending letters, with quite dramatic results. In 1839, some 82.5 million letters were delivered in the UK. The following year, with uniform penny postage, the number had doubled; and it had grown fivefold by the time of the Duke's death in 1852. At the same time, the pattern of correspondents changed: it was now possible to address complete strangers with ease. 'Junk mail' quickly formed a major component in postal traffic. Women were a significant group among those using the post, raising questions of morality and suitability. Wellington's correspondence shows some of these changes, although the peaks in volume match those when he was in office. He was punctilious in replying to correspondence, a habit which cannot have reduced his postbag. Politicians in the first half of the nineteenth century expected to do the business of government themselves, by their own hands. At the same time, nineteenth-century governments struggled to control and understand the volume of information.



A copy of the lecture can be downloaded from http://www.southampton.ac.uk/archives/about_us/CWInaugweb.pdf

The Twentieth Wellington Lecture

Professor Richard Holmes' lecture, *In the footsteps of Wellington*, provided a fitting close to the day's twenty-fifth anniversary celebrations. A military historian, broadcaster and author, Richard Holmes is currently Professor of Military and Security Studies at Shrivenham. Among his numerous publications is a biography of the Duke of Wellington.

A relaxed, witty and authoritative speaker, Richard Holmes led his very willing audience on a journey following in the wake of the younger son of an impoverished Irish peer who was to rise to become a national hero. While this was a familiar path, the journey itself was an interesting one and it was a consummate performance, with fascinating insights and a masterly use of anecdotes.

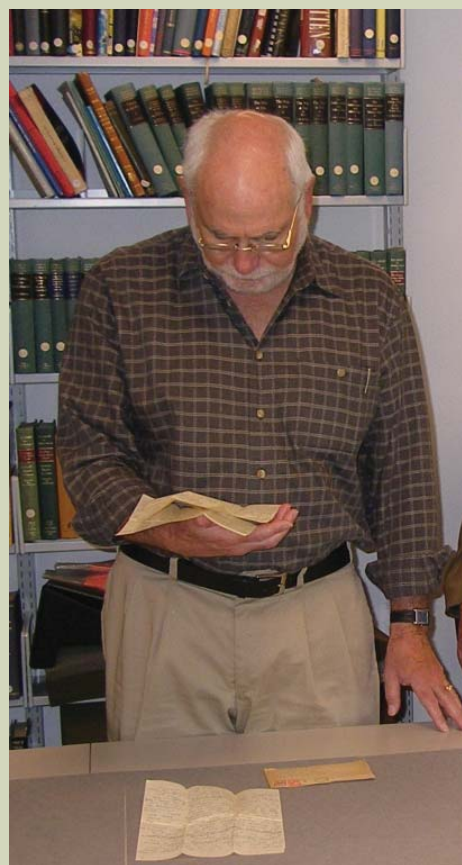
Wellington the young man, spurred on to make his name and a fortune after rejection as an unsuitable match, Wellington the strategist and soldier, and Wellington the

statesmen were just some of the aspects covered in this wide-ranging lecture. It was often the small details that were the most fascinating: the contents of the library Wellington took with him on his journey to India and how far this reading influenced his development as a strategist, or the irony that he undertook his initial military training in France.

The lively question and answer session that followed the lecture spoke volumes for the enthusiasm, interest and knowledge of the audience. This was an accessible introduction to the Duke of Wellington and his rise to prominence, perfectly pitched, and obviously appreciated by, the crowd that packed the Turner Sims Concert Hall.



left to right: Professor Nick Fosskett, Professor Richard Holmes, Professor Bill Wakeham, Vice Chancellor of the University of Southampton, Professor Chris Woolgar, Marquis of Douro



Professor Todd Endelmann views Anglo-Jewish archives on display in the Special Collections

Whatever Happened to British Jewish Studies?

Parkes Institute conference, 15-16 July 2008

In the late 1970s and 1980s a new generation of scholars of British Jewry emerged coming from a range of disciplines, primarily history, English literature and cultural studies. Some pursued higher degrees and went into academic careers and others went into various aspects of the heritage industry. With this energy and a new critical, more inclusive approach to British Jewish studies, a new journal, *Jewish Culture and History* was launched in 1998. To mark the tenth anniversary of the founding of the journal, as well as the 150th anniversary of the emancipation of the Jews in England, the Parkes Institute hosted a reflexive workshop conference on the past, present and future of British Jewish studies focusing on the modern era. It brought together established scholars in Britain, the USA and Israel as well as a younger generation working in

this field, exploring what happened to the study of new areas such as gender, culture and representation, anti-Semitism and Jewish/non-Jewish relations, migration and settlement, the experience of children and education, the capital and the provinces, intellectual and religious history and many others.

One of the key issues was the context in which to place British Jewish studies and whether comparative approaches — either to other groups within Britain or to other Jewish communities outside it — were appropriate and helpful. It was clear from the conference that this was still a dynamic area of study and the debates about context only confirmed its significance. It is hoped that some of the proceedings will appear in a special edition of *Jewish Culture and History*.

Professor Tony Kushner



Chris Woolgar in Vilnius

Jewish archives in Europe

In September 2008, Chris Woolgar, the Head of Special Collections, set off to Vilnius to meet a group of archivists from across Europe who have charge of collections of archives relating to the Jewish community. There were some 25 archivists in all, from organisations ranging from the Alliance Israélite Universelle in Paris, to the municipal archives of Novi Sad, the Central State Historical Archives in L'viv and the archives of the federation of Hungarian Jewish communities. The themes of the meeting, sponsored by the Rothschild Foundation Europe, were to establish ways of securing the preservation of Jewish collections, their description, resource discovery and access. Vilnius — Vilna, the Jerusalem of the north — is especially rich in its Jewish heritage. It also epitomises many of the challenges for those who look after it. Jewish archives are a reflection of the pattern of life of Jewish people: archives are scattered throughout the diaspora; and in addition, they are not necessarily where the centres of Jewish population now lie. The Jewish community will appear in official records, and the preservation of these materials is usually covered by the official record-keeping mechanisms of the country. But the life of community and its activities are less well documented, especially where established archival networks deal principally with official materials alone.

Jewish archives are frequently transnational archives: Jewish organisations commonly have an international complexion, and their archives may now be located in several continents. Papers of individuals are sometimes similarly distributed. The enforced dispersal of cultural resources has hit the Jewish archival record particularly hard, and it is not now obvious where to look for some sorts of materials. People have also

been dispersed: the records that come with refugees are usually minimal, although occasionally migration does take place with substantial records from other countries. In looking at the Jewish archival record generally, some categories of material have survived less well. For example, business records are much less well represented than those of organisations or individuals. These were all key areas for discussion. Other questions included cultural ones, the handling of liturgical materials, for example, data protection and the rights of individuals, and building confidence among the community in public archival repositories. The challenges of language and palaeography vary from country to country: in the UK most Jewish archives of the eighteenth to twentieth centuries are written in English (although there are some significant exceptions); elsewhere one may encounter a wide range of languages: Hebrew, Yiddish, certainly, but also many other languages, especially where one is dealing with families and friends dispersed across the world. Access to archives also presents challenges and another international dimension. Frequently those who want access to Jewish archival materials are not a local community, and the records in which they are interested may also not have been a priority for processing. Digital media have an especial facility for use across large distances, but there are many questions about creating sustainable solutions, and how, in turn, investment in them might be balanced with more routine, yet essential, activities for the preservation of collections.

Questions like these gave the meeting in Vilnius much to discuss. It concluded with a commitment to improve discussion and dialogue between institutions and to develop a forum for the exchange of information and ideas about Jewish collections.

CAS training day

On 22 October 2008, the University of Southampton Special Collections hosted a day session for the Catholic Archives Society (CAS) on arranging and describing archive collections. While the Division regularly organises conferences and lectures, this training day was a new venture for staff. The fourteen attendees came from a variety of backgrounds: all but one worked in some form of Catholic archive. Two participants had recently commenced their first jobs since qualifying as professional archivists; others had been working in the sector for some years but with minimal professional training or support. CAS was founded in 1979 to promote the care and preservation of records of dioceses, religious foundations, institutions and societies of the Roman Catholic Church in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. While the society endeavours to provide advice and support for its members, this sector is still severely under-resourced.

After a brief introductory and welcome session, the day started by looking at the theory behind archival arrangement and description before addressing the more practical aspects of sorting material and producing lists. We finished the day with a discussion on how computers and the internet affect how archives are described and made available. These are wide-ranging and complicated topics and it would be easy to fill months with lectures, discussions and practical exercises. Our aim was to fit the most salient points into a few hours and so we chose to focus on making practical suggestions that the attendees could employ in their own archives without the necessity of employing another member of staff, buying expensive equipment or redesigning their accommodation, all luxuries that these institutions rarely have.

The audience was enthusiastic and responsive throughout the day and we received positive feedback following the event. From the perspective of Special Collections staff, the training day provided us with an interesting challenge. We see the potential for development in this area, in the form of day events and short courses on a variety of archive theory and collection-focused topics.

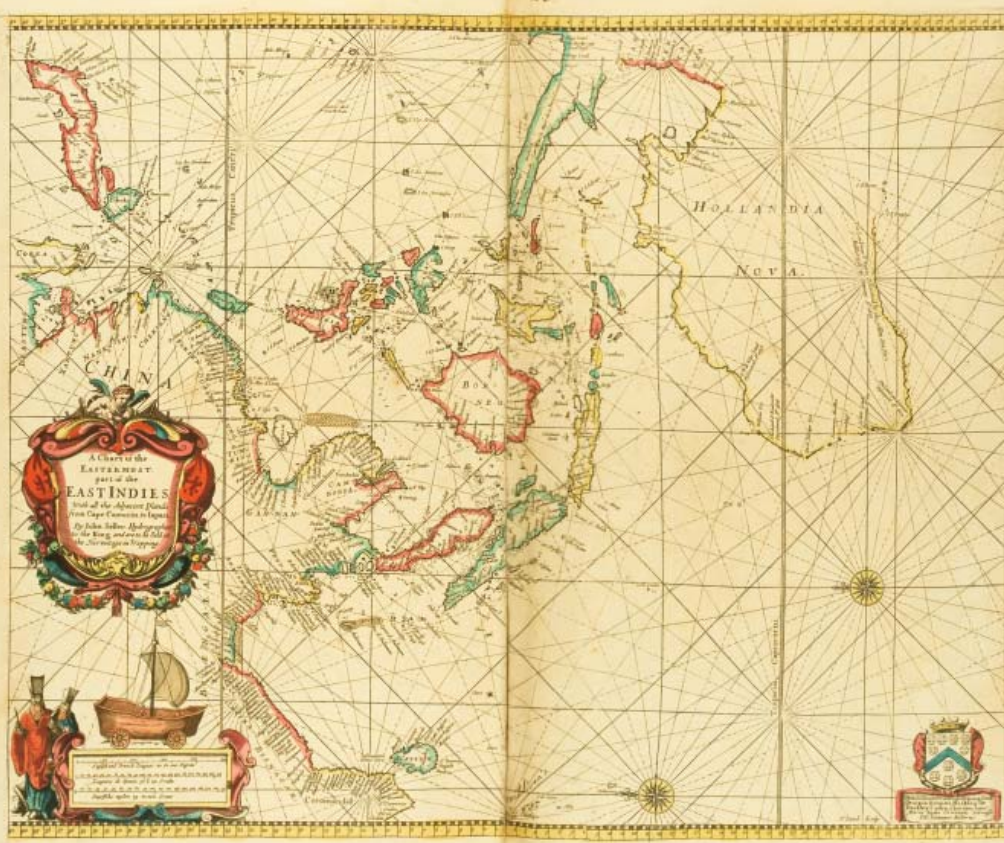


Chart of the East Indies

‘A Most Laborious Undertaking’: The art of maps and map-making

The Special Collections Gallery’s first exhibition of 2008 featured maps from its collections, showing the development of mapping in the West, with a focus on topographical mapping. As well as maps of Europe, sections encompassed maps of Asia, Africa, America and Australia. Maps are today familiar objects; but the notion that the world might be portrayed in this way, that maps should be widely available and understood by all, is both comparatively recent and culturally specific. If topographical mapping, often detailed and with a local focus, now dominates our perception of the world, other ways of representing it have been commonplace in the past. Picture maps, present in a number of cultures, typically combine topographical information with some form of bird’s-eye view, perhaps from an oblique angle, or one taken from many different perspectives, some fictional. Maps of this kind were sometimes combined with representational symbols as well. In Western European tradition, world maps (or *mappae mundi*) go back to ancient exemplars, as epitomes of knowledge about the world, based on theology. Other cultures also combined theoretical knowledge of the world with schematic representation.

In the West, local topographical maps were unusual before 1500 — most descriptions of the countryside were verbal rather than

visual — but became more common in the sixteenth century. They encapsulated a new way of seeing, paralleling other major changes in perception. In the medieval West, for example, artists saw their subjects from an allegorical or symbolical point of view, and the Renaissance brought to them a perspective that was more natural, like a photograph. A direct representation of the countryside might be made cartographically, firstly as a picture, and secondly, using devices or symbols, much like shorthand, which became accepted conventions for expressing features of topography. At the same time maps took on other features which we now expect, with scales and a regular pattern of orientation. Artistic decoration, often architectural, mythological or fantastic in inspiration, filled borders or cartouches.

The growth of map-making in the West, from the sixteenth century onwards, was intimately linked, on the one hand, to technological developments which facilitated the means of surveying and the production of accurate representations; and on the other, to a new curiosity for knowledge about the world. It is not insignificant that this form of description appears at a time when the West discovered it was part of a wider world and at a point when it was especially interested in visual culture.



In the loop: the renewal of knitting

With knitting once again enjoying a huge surge in popularity, the relevance and renewal of this craft was celebrated with an exhibition and conference in summer 2008. The source of inspiration for these two events was the Knitting Collections held by the University of Southampton Library.

The exhibition **In the loop: Highlights from the Montse Stanley Knitting Collection** was shown in the Special Collections Gallery in the Hartley Library. It was co-curated by Linda Newington of Winchester School of Art (WSA) Library, and Barbara Burman, Textile Conservation Centre (TCC), with support from a number of colleagues in Special Collections and the TCC. The opening of the exhibition was exceptionally well attended and buzzed with the conversation and excitement of academics, researchers, students, librarians

and knitters. Key figures in the field, including Professor Sandy Black, Dr Jo Turney and Jane Waller, came for the opening.

Montse Stanley (1942-99) was a knitter and historian who created a private collection focused solely on knitting, based in her Cambridge home before its acquisition by the University of Southampton Library. Her collecting started in a modest way with historic postcards on the theme of knitting which she acquired when attending postcard fairs with her husband, Thomas Stanley, who possessed one of the largest postcard businesses in the country.

The exhibition was arranged around five themes with the intention of revealing the scope of the collection within a cultural and social history context. For example, knitting instruction books were first printed

for wide consumption in the 1830s. These groundbreaking books represent a translation of a handcraft practice into written and visual form. A range of these was included from another related collection, the library of Richard Rutt, popularly known as the Knitting Bishop, which he generously donated to the University Library. These instruction books number in total about 100 items and are currently being copied by the Digitisation Unit based in the Hartley Library enabling students and researchers to access the full text and accompanying images through the Library online catalogue of printed books, WebCat.

The conference **In the loop: knitting past, present and future**, 15-17 July 2008, organised by Linda Newington and Dr Jessica Hemmings, was held at the University's Winchester School of Art and covered a range of approaches to



knitting, including the narratives of knitting, fashion and technology, the new wave knitters, collections and historical strands.

Twenty-eight speakers from the UK, Australia, Europe and North America took part in this three day, inter-disciplinary event which was attended by over 130 delegates. Subjects explored were as varied as chick knit lit, a term coined by Dr Jo Turney, to describe contemporary fiction with knitting as its central theme, inspiring collectors and their collections, and sportsmen and their sweaters. Sports historian Dr Martin Polley, of the University's School of Education, looked at how cultural historians may use knitting patterns to research materials and technology, disposable income and household economics, as well as the representation of sport in relation to class, identity and gender.

During the conference, the University of Southampton Library formally launched the Knitting Reference Library based at WSA. This comprises a rich and varied range of bibliographic resources, including an estimated 12,000 knitting patterns, covering the many facets of the history and practice of knitting. In addition the conference organisers provided a Knitting Lounge in the rotunda building at WSA where all ages met to knit and discuss the stimulating range of conference papers.

For further information about the Knitting Collections go to www.southampton.ac.uk/library/resources/collections/knitting/collections.html

Linda Newington

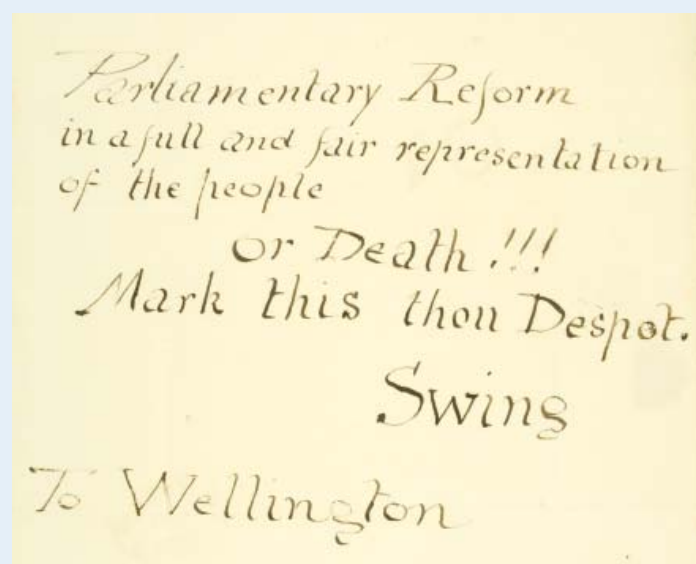


Item from the Knitting Reference Library

Wellington and his papers

The last exhibition of the year featured the papers of the first Duke of Wellington, as part of the autumn's events centred round the collection. The papers of the first Duke cover the whole of his career from 1790 until his death. They number some 100,000 items: while extensive, this is perhaps less than half the Duke's working archive, and it is both more and less than his papers once contained. It is less because there have been losses: in 1814, when his papers were brought back from the Peninsula, the ship on which they were carried was wrecked in the Tagus, and there are now gaps in the correspondence as a result. Also excluded is private, personal correspondence, of which in later life Wellington wrote a considerable amount. On the other hand, the archive now holds additional material. When the Duke had published a 13-volume edition of his *Dispatches* in 1834-9 — he was one of the first statesmen to publish his papers — lacunae were filled by acquisitions from other archives, many of which have remained in the collection. Wellington also gathered in papers of others as part of his work, ranging from materials relating to South and Central America, to sections on the rights of Roman Catholics.

The Duke's archive can be divided broadly into letters he received, and letters he wrote; and these last fall into two groups, original compositions and drafts in the Duke's hand on the one part, and the many copies that were taken of his correspondence for the purpose of managing information on the other. The manner in which the Duke worked, and the ways in which documentation from the first half of the nineteenth century functioned were central themes of the exhibition. Wellington's pencil drafts, press copies taken directly from his letters, secretarial copies, the Duke's use of small rectangles of paper in an attempt to limit the scale of his correspondence, his different letter papers and envelopes, and the use of printing all show us how he conducted business. His drafts for Cabinet or for public correspondence further reveal patterns of communication that are important for fully understanding the meaning of documentation and Wellington's role. As the Duke commented to Colonel Gurwood, the editor of his *Dispatches*, in 1838, on the publication of the final volume in the series: 'I did not believe it possible that a correspondence which I preserved at first solely as memoranda and for reference, and afterwards from idleness and the desire to avoid the trouble of looking over the papers to see which might be destroyed, could ever be turned to a purpose so useful to one profession and the public interests.'



Anonymous letter, signed [Captain] Swing, to the Duke of Wellington, threatening assassination, n.d. c. 8 November 1830 [MS 61 Wellington Papers 1/1159/114]

Fossils, fleas and flora: nature recorded

In this bicentenary year of Charles Darwin's birth, when the results of observation of nature are at the forefront of thinking, this exhibition showcased British material on natural science from the University's Special Collections. In the will of Henry Robinson Hartley, the benefactor of the nineteenth-century Hartley Institution, the University's predecessor, the proceeds of his estate were to be used to promote the study of, among other things, natural history and astronomy and for the formation of a botanical garden and observatory. £50 a year was put aside for building these. The Hartley Institution library collections on natural sciences grew from bequests and acquisitions of historical material, collections which have continued to expand over the subsequent decades. In the twenty-first century the Special Collections is embarking on a new venture – its historical river data archive – which builds upon this interest in natural science. Modern science is able to draw on these older works to provide historical depth to phenomena now recognised as observable only over long timescales.

Ranging from the sixteenth to the twentieth centuries, this exhibition reflects the aspects of natural science that the Hartley Institution wished to record, its range and, indeed, its limitations. It also shows changes in the pursuit of science, as a more systematic and analytical approach replaced an observational one, a development that paralleled the expansion of science and its growing impact on nineteenth-century British intellectual life.

The final exhibition of 2009 will focus on **nineteenth-century France**, its politics and culture.

The Special Collections Gallery is open weekdays 10am-4pm during exhibitions. **Fossils, fleas and flora: nature recorded** ran from 27 April until 19 June and again from 13 to 24 July 2009. In addition the exhibition opened 10am-4pm on Saturday 25 July as part of the Cultural Olympiad. The nineteenth-century France exhibition will be open from 12 October until 4 December 2009. For further information on exhibitions please see the calendar of events at www.southampton.ac.uk/archives/newsandevents/calendar.html



The flea from Robert Hooke *Microscopic Observations* (London, 1780)



Unreliable memories: documenting personal and official experience.

The first exhibition of 2009 brought together a diverse selection of items from across the Special Collections to examine how and why records are created. The exhibition focused on five areas of life: the personal and daily; travel and tourism; exploration and adventure; war; and business and official. The material, spanning the period 1794 to 1965, ranged from a very personal diary of a love affair to the official records of Parliament, encompassing in between recipe books, accounts of travels and holiday photographs, records of scientific analysis, letters sent home from the front line, documents

for household management, records of parliamentary committees and University minutes. Throughout the exhibition, the reliability and accuracy of the records exhibited was questioned as well as the ease (or otherwise) with which they could be read and understood. Among other issues, the exhibition examined the problems surrounding the survival of ephemeral or informal records which were never intended to be seen by anyone other than the creator. It also asked whether the business and official records selected for display provided a more factually accurate record than the personal accounts. The exhibition had a broad appeal due to its universal subject matter and the inclusion alongside text of visual records, such as photograph albums, sketch books and a commonplace book.



Lady's commonplace book



A sketch book of Louis Lucas

Robert Wintour & presentes nos Mathew Allen de Palmerston in comitatu Dublin armiger et
 baronatus Dordall de Athlone in comitatu Meth armiger tenent et firmiter obligari Thomas Waddinge de
 Donagh in comitatu Wexford armiger in octavo libro bone et legalis memorie Anglie Johanne videlicet Thoma
 Waddinge executoribus et assignatis suis ad eum et eorum libitum et voluntatem ad quam quidem solutionem bene
 et fideliter faciendam obligamus nos et heredes nostros et pro toto et in solis comitatu et in finibus hereditariis
 executoribus et administratoribus nostris presentibus et futuris in cuius rei testimonium sigilla nostra apposuimus
 dato Wexforde sexto die Novembris anno regni Regis nostri Karoli duodecimi

The condition of the above written obligation is such that where the above Thomas Mathew Allen by his deed Indue
 perfected hath for him and his heirs given and granted unto the above named Thomas Waddinge his heirs and assigns
 one annuity or yearly rent of forty pounds sterling English and have given power to the said Thomas Waddinge his heirs and assigns
 assignee to discontinue in the town and lands of Palmerston in the county of Dublin and in all other the town and lands
 whereof the said Mathew Allen is or hereafter shall be seised of and whereat there are other conditions covenants and articles
 in the said deed expressed as by the said deed bearing date the three and twentieth of November in the year of our Lord god
 one thousand five hundred thirty and six more at large it may and doth appear. If therefore the said Mathew Allen his
 heirs and assigns shall not and truly content satisfy and pay or cause to be content satisfied and paid the said
 annuity or yearly rent at the date in the said deed expressed without any disturbance or interruption of the said Mathew
 Allen his heirs or assigns or of any other person whatsoever and shall all so accomplish observe and fulfill all such conditions
 covenants and articles in the said deed expressed as are by him and them to be accomplished observed and fulfilled then the above
 written obligation to be void otherwise to stand in full force strength and virtue.

Mathew Allen
 Thomas Waddinge
 John Waddinge
 John Waddinge

Forthcoming events

On 10 November 2009, the annual **Wellington Lecture** will be given by Professor William Doyle of the University of Bristol on the theme of 'Revolutionary Napoleon'.

Wellington Congress 2010, the fourth in the University's series of congresses based around the career of the first Duke of Wellington, will be held between 8 and 11 July 2010. On this occasion the event is being organised in conjunction with the British Commission on Military History as part of its programme to mark the bicentenary of the Peninsular War. The Congress will have a special focus on the war, but there will also be papers on the whole span of Wellington's career as well as on the wider context in Britain, Ireland, the Empire and continental Europe, 1780 to 1850.

The deadline for the call for papers is 16 October 2009; registration will open at the start of 2010. For further information contact Archives@soton.ac.uk

Further information about the Library and its holdings can be obtained from this address, from the Special Collections website at www.southampton.ac.uk/archives or by contacting:

Printed collections:

Telephone +44(0)23 8059 3335;

E-mail: libenqs@soton.ac.uk

Archives and manuscripts:

Telephone +44(0)23 8059 2721;

E-mail: Archives@soton.ac.uk

Conservation:

Telephone +44 (0)23 8059 4754;
 +44 (0)23 8059 8544;

E-mail: Archives@soton.ac.uk

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