

Chronicle

The value of a research library is often measured by its actual size in terms of volumes. Equally important, however, is the rate of growth of its collection. Additions are made through acquisitions supported by books and periodicals budgets, endowed funds, grants and donations. During times of budget restraints and government cut-backs, donations from private donors, alumni, professors, librarians and benefactors are absolutely vital. To this must be added several special grants: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), IMASCO, the New York Chapter of the Friends of McGill University, and the McGill Associates.

The following list represents a selection of significant and unusual items acquired by McGill libraries, archives and museums during 1990. This array of interesting acquisitions gives an impression of not just the quantity, but, also the quality of the McGill collections.

The Blackader-Lauterman Library of Architecture and Art

One of the most notable acquisitions during the past year was the microfilm of the Fowler Collection of Early Architectural Books. This collection of rare primary source materials of master architects, from the major countries of Europe, documents the early influences of engineering and design in architecture. Beginning with Alberti's *De Re Aedificatoria* (1485)—the first printed book on architecture—this microfilm collection includes 482 works by many notable architects including Renaissance masters such as Vitruvius, Alberti, Vignolo, Scamozzi, Palladio and Serlio.

The collection covers works on architecture to the end of the 18th century (when revivals began to replace the Renaissance style of architecture); written descriptions are provided with illustrations to clarify the text. Volumes of plates and blockprints reviewing the more contemporary designs of buildings, temples, tombs, and gardens appeared toward the end of the 16th century, and are also present on the microfilm. In these cases, texts provide an identification and explanation of the visual material.

These 482 titles on microfilm represent the original Fowler Collection donated in 1945 to the Johns Hopkins University, as well as additional works. The collection will complement Blackader's extensive holdings of rare architectural treatises which form the core of McGill's graduate program in architectural history and theory.

Other important acquisitions include:

Law professor John Durnford donated drawings, specifications and correspondence by A. T. G. Durnford (1898-1973) for the Stairs House, Montreal.

Mrs. R. Affleck donated drawings by her husband, Raymond Affleck (1922-1989), one of the founders of the architectural firm ARCOP, and one of Montreal's best known architects. Among the works given to the archive are drawings for the Affleck House in Westmount; the Maritime Museum, Halifax, N.S.; St. George's School, Montreal; the Aldo House, Montreal; Place Ville Marie, Montreal; Place Bonaventure, Montreal; and Théâtre St. Denis, Montreal.

John N. Mappin donated material from the estate of Fred Taylor, Canadian artist and educator. Included in the donation are reproductions of Taylor's paintings, accounting records, and correspondence (primarily with art galleries and museums).

This year's donation to the Edward & W. S. Maxwell archive includes a colour photograph of the Shrine of the Bab, Haifa, Israel and a draughtman's book. These items further our understanding of the life and work of Edward & W. S. Maxwell.

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Arthur Erickson Architects Ltd. has donated additional material relating to their work in the Middle East. This new material includes slides, photographs and project reports from the following projects: the Sawaber Project (National Housing Authority, Kuwait), the Fintas Centre (Municipality of Kuwait, Kuwait), and the Islamic University of Madinah (Madinah, Saudi Arabia).

Professor B. Anderson of the School of Architecture has donated watercolours, sketches and drawings by architect Randolph C. Betts (1902-). He has also donated the original drawings for the Argyle School (Selwyn House), designed by architects C. R. Tetley (1886-1960) and H. Ross Wiggs (1895-1986).

Also of significance is the recent addition of material to the Gordon Webber collection housed in the Canadian Architecture Collection (CAC). Original paintings, drawings, sketches, colour slides and negatives by Gordon Webber, an artist and educator at McGill for twenty-five years, were donated to the CAC by Mr. Gilles Gagnon, MIRAC. Mr. Gagnon, an architect and friend of the late Mr. Webber, has kindly volunteered to help organize the material in the collection.

Moshe Safdie (1938-), architect, author, academic and one of McGill's most famous graduates, has recently signed an agreement with McGill which makes the University the sole depository for the Safdie collection. In February 1991, the CAC received the first in many shipments of the Safdie archive: sketchbooks, models, project files and correspondence relating to Habitat '67 and the National Gallery of Canada. (Notes and Comments, pp. 183-184.)

Alvaro Ortega (1920-), a pioneer in the field of low-cost housing and an educator, has donated his personal library, which consists of published material in English, Spanish and French on energy-efficient architecture, construction technology, and related topics. He has also donated project reports which he prepared as an advisor in low-cost housing for the United Nations.

The Blacker-Wood Library of Biology

The following major acquisitions have been made this year:

Grzimek's *encyclopedia of mammals* (2nd. ed., 5 vols.) New York, McGraw Hill, 1989.

Nardelli, Francesco. *The rhinoceros*. London, Basilisk, 1988.

Jones, Henry. *The wildfowl paintings of Henry Jones*. London, Harrap, 1987.

Robert, Leo Paul. *Les Oiseau de Chez Nous*. Neuchatel, 1929.

Hill, Robert. *Etchings of quadrupeds*. (9 vols, in 7) London, 1803-1816.

Department of Rare Books and Special Collections

Acquisitions by purchase:

Raymond Souster. *For What Time Slays*. Toronto: Contact Press, 1955. 1 of 25 copies printed.

Raymond Souster. *Walking Death*. Toronto: Contact Press, 1954. 1 of 25 copies printed.

Martin Grossman. *The Philosophy of Mesmerism*. Montreal: For the Author, 1844.

John Winthrop. *Relation of a Voyage from Boston to Newfoundland, For the Observation of the Transit of Venus*. Boston, 1761.

Ann McGarell. *Flora*. Mt. Horeb: Perishable Press, 1990.

Nicholas Monardes. *Joyful Newes Out of the New-found Worlde*. London, 1596.

A. P. Gasser. *Historiarum et chronicorum mundi*. Venice, 1533.

Fynes Morison. *An Itinerary Written by F. M.* London, 1617.

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Acquisitions by purchase using funds provided by SSHRC Hume grant:

Joseph Priestly. *Letters to a Philosophical Unbeliever*. Bath, 1780.

David Hume. *A True Account of the Behavior and Conduct of Archibald Stewart*. London, 1758.

David Hume. *Oeuvres philosophiques*. Londres, 1788.

David Hume. *La vie de David Hume*. Londres, 1777.

David Hume. *The History of England*. London, 1778.

With a "Fleeting Opportunities" grant from SSHRC, we acquired a collection of 26 pamphlets and broadsides relating to the Douglas Controversy, with which Hume was embroiled in 1757. (Notes and Comments, pp. 181-183.)

Gifts:

Mr. Gordon Russell donated a collection of 2,665 items relating to temperance during the period from 1830-1910.

Dr. Lewis Pyenson donated some additional material for the Einstein Collection which he gave to the Department of Rare Books in 1988.

Mr. Lionel J. Emond donated several 17th and 18th century books of theology.

Mrs. Frances A. MacLennan donated a collection of literature formerly belonging to novelist Hugh MacLennan.

Mr. Jeffrey Dwyer donated a copy of the Pennyroyal Press edition of Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking Glass*.

Bruce Whiteman donated his literary papers, including manuscripts, letters, research notes, etc.

Mrs. Judy Mappin donated a collection of Canadian poetry published by Contact Press in the 1950s and 1960s.

Mr. Harvey Shepherd donated a small collection of books that included a copy of *Double Persephone*, Margaret Atwood's first collection of poetry.

Quarry Press made a second donation of papers relating to the press's operations.

Dr. Lawrence Lande donated a fine collection of some 60 documents relating to whaling, 54 printed maps from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, all relating to North America, and some other prints and manuscript maps.

Education Library

The library received a gift of \$5,000 from the Education Undergraduate Society for the purchase of physical education materials.

We acquired numerous new titles in education generously donated to the library by professors of the Faculty of Education.

Islamic Studies Library

The Islamic Studies Library acquired the private collection of the German Indonesianist, Professor Otto Karow. Most of the items in this collection, rich in Indonesian literature, are covered in elegant batik. This acquisition was made through the Leiden booksellers E. J. Brill and funded by McGill Indonesia IAIN Development Project, itself financed by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

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The McLennan-Redpath Libraries

A selective list of major purchases and gifts:

- Halifax Chronicle Herald, 1953-1973 252 reels (Imasco)
- Calgary Herald, 1954-1964 (Imasco)
- the Clarissa Project (Critical edition of Richardson's novel), acquired by funds from the Arts Library Development Fund
- Martin Luther King Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement. Carlson Publishers 1989, 18 v., acquired by funds from Soldiers' Memorial Fund
- Retrospective Purchases in East European History and Culture (SSHRC)
- John Van der Feyst's gift of 300 books on East Asia
- Professor Peter Hoffmann's gift of books on German history
- Dr. Hans Möller's gift of books on Scandinavian Languages and Literature
- CD-ROM bibliographic databases: PsychLit, ERIC
- American Immigration and Ethnicity, Garland, 1990, 20 v.
- Inventarii dei manoscritti della biblioteche d'Italia, 1890-1988, 104 v. (SSHRC)
- Archivio storico per le provincie Napoletane, 1876-90, 15 v. (SSHRC)
- Le monete della Repubblica fiorentina, 1984-1985. (SSHRC)

Other important gifts:

Nina Pletnev, widow of Rostislav Pletnev, donated some 250 titles on Russian language and literature.

Marina Swoboda, Admissions Officer at McGill and part-time lecturer in the Department of Russian and Slavic Studies, donated 236 titles on Russian language and literature stressing Old Russian literature.

Viktor Greppl, representing the Czechoslovakian Ministry of Culture, donated 630 recent Czech and Slovak imprints on the occasion of the Salon International du Livre in Montreal in November 1990. The majority of these books were popular in nature and as such not suitable to an academic collection and therefore sent on to the Multilingual Biblioservice of the National Library. However, the gift did include several valuable and important titles such as the *Etnografický atlas slovenska*.

Other important acquisitions:

- Danske Klassikere. A series of 23 volumes consisting of reprints of classic Danish fiction (in Danish).
- Holberg-Ordbog, vol. 1-5. A scholarly dictionary of the language of Ludvig Holberg, 18th century playwright, historian, and essayist; considered the "father" of Danish language and literature.
- Ludvig Holberg's *Værker*. The latest edition of Holberg's works in twelve volumes (in Danish). In addition, a number of other books about Ludvig Holberg were acquired.
- Heinrich Bach Collection. The private research library of an important scholar of German and Scandinavian linguistics. The late Professor Bach was attached to Aarhus University, Denmark. This rich collection contains books on German literature of the medieval to early modern period, German and Scandinavian, especially Danish, linguistics including dialectology, philosophy and fiction.
- Archivum Coronae Regni Bohemiae / Archiv Česke Koruny 1158-1526. A facsimile edition published by the National Archives of Czechoslovakia. When completed, it will consist of 17 folios of facsimiles, a set of slides and nine volumes of text. We now have two text volumes and three folios of facsimiles.

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Law Library

A generous gift from the Class of '65 made it possible to acquire a CD-ROM workstation in this library, September 1990. The workstation consists of a cabinet, a Hewlett-Packard 386 microcomputer, Hitachi CD-ROM drive and the initial subscription to InfoTrac, the CD-ROM version of Current Law Index. It has proved to be an extremely useful and popular research tool.

Osler Library

Notable additions to this library include:

- Alpini, Prosper. *De medicina methodica libri tredecim ...* 2nd ed. Leyden: Boutesteiniana, 1719.
- Boerhaave, H. *Tractatus medico-practicus de lue aphrodisiaca continens huius affectionis historiam...* Venetiis: Novelli, 1765.
- Chirac, P. *Traité des fièvres malignes ...* Paris: J. Vincent, 1742.
- Grube, H. *Commentarius de modo simplicium medicamentorum ...* Copenhagen & Frankfort, 1669.
- Lampe, Heinrich. *Dissertatio historica juridica de honore, privilegii et iuribus singularibus medicorum ...* Groningae: Hajon Spandaw, 1736.
- Moles, Vincente. *De Morbis in Sacris Literis Pathologia*. Matriti: Joannis Sancii, 1642.
- Plocquet, Wilhelm Gottfried. *Commentarius medicus in processus criminales super homicidio, infanticidio et embryoctonia*. Argentorati: Amandi Koenig, 1787.
- Seidensticker, Peter. *Das Promptuarium Medicinae: ein schone arstedyge boeck van allerleye gebreck unnde pranckbeyden der mynschen*. Magdeburg: Bartholomaeus Ghotan, 1483.
- Tratado sobre os meyoys de preservacao da peste*. Lisbon, 1748.
- Trincavellius, Victor. *Echiridion medicum de cognoscendis curandisque tam externis, quam internis humani corporis morbis*. Basel, 1583.

University Archives

The University Archives received records of particular historical value from the Redpath Museum and Macdonald College. From the Redpath Museum came three registers and three catalogues documenting the development of its collections. Covering various periods between 1881 and 1946, these volumes record acquisitions and donations of specimens ranging from insects and mummies to fossils from Sir William Dawson and others.

From Macdonald College, through Helen Neilson, were acquired minutes, correspondence and photographs, mainly of the School of Household Science, ca. 1920-60, as well as papers relating to Neilson's book: *Macdonald College of McGill University, 1907-1988*.

Two organizations which assist McGill deposited correspondence and other records: the McGill Associates (covering the years 1938-76) and the Women Associates of McGill (1939-90).

The University Archives acquired the diaries for the years 1924-25 and 1939-89 of Montrealer Ethel Stevens Martin (1905-89).

From Mrs. J. D. Hopkins, the Archives received the records of the Snowdon Women's Club (1914-67); these complement the records of the Notre Dame de Grace Women's Club already in the Archives.

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The Archives also added to its holdings of the records of McGill graduates. Margery Trenholme gave letters and diplomas of her family, including N. W. Trenholme (Law 1865); E. F. De Rosia gave a student scrapbook of Laurence De Rosia (1922-24); Althea Douglas deposited her student notes (English, Red & White Revue, 1940s); and Alexander M. C. Wright presented course notes of History lectures (1977-81). Megan Davies deposited records of the Association of Graduate History Students. These and numerous other records documenting McGill student life will be described in a thematic guide being prepared with the help of a grant from the financial assistance programme of the Archives nationales du Québec.

In the area of McGill staff papers, the University Archives acquired the papers of Theodore E. M. Newton (M. A. McGill 1927) who taught in the McGill English Department from 1937 to 1943. Newton spent most of the next twenty years in the diplomatic service; his later postings were as Canadian Ambassador to Indonesia and to Columbia and Ecuador. The papers (notes, drafts, correspondence) reflect Newton's lifelong interest in the life and times of Daniel Defoe. As a Travelling Fellow in England, 1931-35, Newton discovered new sources documenting Defoe's earlier years. After his retirement in the 1960s from public service, Newton resumed and completed his long-interrupted work on Defoe. The highlight of the papers is a lively typescript: "The early life of Daniel Defoe," which will be of interest to all students of the period.

From Mrs. Marika Asimakopulos, the University Archives acquired lecture notes, drafts of articles, and correspondence of Economics Professor Athanasios (Tom) Asimakopulos (1930-90). These papers document Tom Asimakopulos' teaching, research and correspondence with other economists, such as Joan Robinson, over the course of his McGill career (1959-90).

Former Professor of Sociology Aileen Ross gave the University Archives correspondence, photographs, and lectures and other papers (ca. 1940-80) documenting her career, including a short memoir.

Professor John Herd Thompson contributed correspondence relating to his teaching in the History Department, 1970-89, while additions were received to the professional papers of Henry Mintzberg, Professor of Management.

McCord Museum of Canadian History

As the McCord Museum enters the final phase of preparations for the reopening of the building in 1992, many new acquisitions were made this year strengthening the diverse collections. It appears that the expansion project has helped to raise the interest of collectors and donors: an increasing number are contributing to our collections with items of a very high value. A total of 1,247 artifacts were donated or purchased over the last year.

Among the most significant additions to the Archives collection are the archives from the Shawinigan Club, 1883-1915, as well as two journals donated by Mrs. A. M. West from Fort Simpson, Hudson's Bay Company. Also letters and printed ephemera from William McFarlane, an important businessman in Montreal in the 19th century, were donated by Mrs. Allison Rolland.

Some 82 items were acquired for the Costume and Textiles collection. Major acquisitions include a donation by Corby's Inc. of a large wall-tapestry designed and woven by the eminent Quebec weaver, Mariette Rousseau-Vermette, whose works are housed in a number of important American museums. A rare evening-dress of embroidered silk gauze dated around 1815 was acquired, as well as a notable men's dressing gown of about 1880 fashioned from one or more paisley shawls. As well, a curious, but beautiful grey sharkskin purse, ca. 1912, with a scalloped and engraved silver frame was added to the collection.

The Decorative Arts collection was enlarged by 110 items. Outstanding among the additions was the purchase at Sotheby's of a pedestal table with painted top, made in the Montreal region

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in the early 1820s. A pair of maple and birch chairs made in Quebec in the early 19th century and previously published by Jean Palardy in *Early Furniture of French Canada* were donated. Within the toys collection, considered one of the best in Canada, several character dolls of superior quality were donated, and a complete miniature altar with all its accessories adds to the collection of toys for boys in early 20th century Quebec. A major addition to the Quebec folk art collection was the purchase of a 19th century miniature hearse with all its accoutrements.

Six objects were added to the Ethnology collection. Of particular note are the following: a whalebone mask-like sculpture made in the 1950s on St. Lawrence Island, Alaska; and a caribou-skin kayak built in a traditional way by William Koaha of Bathurst Inlet, ca. 1980, this latter being in an excellent condition and the only one in a Montreal museum.

The Notman Photographic Archives has seen 779 photographic documents added to its collection. Among the most significant additions were portraits, snapshot albums of rural Quebec and some framed photographs from the estate of Mrs. Helen Renouf. Mrs. Charlotte Millen has donated portraits made by Charles Aylette of Toronto and by Nakash of Montreal. A rare 8 x 10 folding camera was received from Mr. Mackenzie McMurray.

In the Paintings, Prints and Drawings collection, 231 items were added to the holdings during the year 1990-1991. These include four original Inuit drawings, one by Jessie Oonark titled "Inuit woman and child" and three by Pitseolak Ashoona. These are significant, since usually only prints by Inuit artists are acquired by southern collections. An oil on panel portrait of an Indian woman by Martin Somerville adds strength to our collection of mid-19th century artists working in Montreal. Two hundred original Aislin cartoons were added to the drawings collection, as part of an ongoing donation by Terry Mosher, which includes all the correspondence associated with the cartoons. The McCord Museum's collection of Canadian caricature is one of national significance comprising over 12,000 items spanning a period from the mid-18th century until the present. At a Sotheby auction the museum was also able to acquire the companion portrait of Mrs. James Ferrier which completes a set; the portrait of her husband, who was the first chancellor of McGill University, was already in the collection. (Notes and Comments, pp. 179-181.)

Redpath Museum

The following is a list of significant donations and acquisitions for 1990:

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| Ethnology | – 2 prayer wheels, Nepal, 20th century, received from McGill's Faculty of Religious Studies |
| | – 1 palm leaf manuscript (prayer), Burma, 20th century, received from McGill's Faculty of Religious Studies. |
| | – 19 Indian coins, pre-Moghal to 20th century, transferred from McGill's Department of Rare Books and Special Collections. |
| Geology | – Received from the heirs of William Jarand: 132 cabachon stones, 120 mineral specimens and 47 cut, real and synthetic minerals from world-wide localities. |
| | – Received from Dr. Donald Doell: 6,000 minerals (various) from the Francon Quarry, Montreal, Quebec. |
| | – Received from Robert Belcher: titanite crystal from Minas Gerais Brazil, Stokesite from Urucam Mine, and Rose Quartz crystals from Galiles, Minas Gerais Brazil. |
| Herpetology | – 709 specimens of amphibians including: |
| | – 18 Tetraploid Green toads, <i>Bufo danatensis</i> , from Kirghizia USSR, donated by Leo J. Borkin (Zoological Institute, Leningrad), |

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- 28 frogs, genus *Rana*, from Latvia and Leningrad, USSR, collected by D. M. Green and T. F. Sharbel,
 - 363 Whistling frogs, *Eleutherodactylus* spp., collected in the West Indies on the Islands of Barbuda, Bermuda, Dominca, Grenada, Guadeloupe, La Desirade, Marie-Galante, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barthelemy, Tobago and Trinidad, plus Guyana and Venezuela in South America, by H. Kaiser, H. Gray and H. Schwarten,
 - 33 Spotted frogs, *Rana pretiosa* from Millard Co. and Wasatch Co. Utah, collected by P. Hovingh of Salt Lake City, Utah.
- Invertebrate Zoology – Deep water hexactinellid (glass sponge) collected by T. Rice in 1170-1200 metres of water, SW of Ireland and donated to the Redpath Museum by the Institute of Oceanographic Studies in Wormley, Surrey, England.
- Vertebrate Zoology – Skull of Elk (Wapiti) *Cervus canadensis* male, doanted by André Turcotte, St. Luc, Quebec.
- Whistling Swan *Olor columbianus* (died in captivity) from Steven Crutcher, Apple Hill, Ontario, via Professor Roger Titman, Macdonald College.
 - Cervical vertebrae of African Elephant *Loxodonta africana* (picked up in the bush in Kenya). Anonymous donation.
 - A Red Fox *Vulpes vulpes* and a Raccoon *Procyon lotor* (road kills) donated by Tim Sharbel.

Visual Arts Collection

The Visual Arts Collection received a portrait of Ethel Stark, C.M., L.L.D., painted by Herman Heinlich and donated by his widow, Ethel Stark, who studied at McGill and was the “first woman to found and conduct a professional symphony orchestra of international acclaim composed entirely of women—the Montreal Women’s Symphony Orchestra. This was the first Canadian orchestra to play at Carnegie Hall in New York.” The portrait is hanging in the lobby at Pollack Hall.

Cataloguing

Any major research library has a backlog of cataloguing to cope with. While it is a high priority to add to the collections and continue to enrich them with quality material, there is never enough time or staff to sort, organize and catalogue everything. Recently, the Libraries were most gratified to accept a donation which allows us to catalogue one of our most rare and beautiful collections, the Joe Fishstein Collection of Yiddish Poetry. This donation came from the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Montreal. As a result, scholars and researchers will soon be able to have access to this unique collection of some 3,000 volumes of Yiddish poetry.

Library Publications

Fontanus: From the collections of McGill University, vol. III, Montreal 1990.

Osler Library Studies in the History of Medicine: McGill Medical Luminaries, by Edward H. Bensley, Montreal, 1990.

John S. Archibald and His Associates: Guide to the Archive. Irena Murray, general editor. Canadian Architecture Collection, Blackader-Lauterman Library of Architecture and Art, Montreal, 1990.

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What was thus by Chance Begun: The Napoleon Collection of McGill University; Selected Prints and Illustrated Books. Edited by Carol Solomon-Kiefer. Montreal, 1991.

Fontanus Monograph Series I: Arabic Manuscripts in the libraries of McGill University, Union Catalogue. Adam Gacek, Montreal 1991.