An Overview of Archives & Special Collections

5th Floor
Harriet Irving Library
http://www.lib.unb.ca/archives/
Introduction

Our department

- Acquires UNB records and NB literary and historical manuscripts
- Creates finding aids to make archival material accessible to researchers
- Acquires preservation copies of books dealing with New Brunswick and Maritime history
- Responds to requests for information and materials
- Balances requests for use with appropriate security and conservation measures
Holdings

- Book Collections (includes periodicals) - c. 50,000 items as of 2016
- Archival Material – over 6,600 linear feet
  - University Archives
  - Literary fonds
  - Historical fonds
- Photographs - c.60,000 found in various collections
Special Book Collections
Special Book Collections

- More than 20 book collections
- New Brunswick & Maritime History (SPECAR)
- Rare Books (SPECARB)
- UNB Theses (SPECAR)
- Hathaway - Canadian Literature (SPECH)
- Beaverbrook Rare Book (SPECBC)
- King’s College Library (SPECKC)
- Marguerite Vaughan - Limited Editions (SPECVA)
New Brunswick & Maritime History Collection (SPECAR)

- Includes books, pamphlets, and periodicals relating to New Brunswick and the Maritime provinces in general
- Includes local histories and books of regional interest often published in short runs which quickly go out-of-print
- Includes some 19th century material
Rare Book Collection (SPEC RB)

- Includes
  - Books published pre-1900 in or about Canada
  - Books autographed by famous or world figures
  - Books of intrinsic importance
  - Deluxe, fragile or easily mutilated editions
  - Fine bindings
  - Books valued at greater than $500 per volume
Vellum bindings, including the Rare Book Collection's sole incunabulum: the 1496 edition of Johannes Nider's *Preceptorium divini legis...*, published in Nurnberg.
UNB Theses (SPECAR)

- Archival copies of more than 9,500 dissertations, theses, and reports that have been accepted by UNB’s School of Graduate Studies
- Most are microfilmed and are available in the Microforms Department of this library
- Increasingly being made available digitally through UNB Libraries Scholar Research Repository
Rufus Hathaway Collection of Canadian Literature (SPECH)

- Includes books, periodicals, manuscripts, and clippings relating to the study of early Canadian literature, collected by the renowned bibliophile Rufus H. Hathaway.

- Features the complete works, including variant and special editions, of writers Bliss Carman, Charles G.D. Roberts, and Francis Sherman.
Rufus Hathaway Collection of Canadian Literature (SPECH)
First meeting between Bliss Carman (l) and Rufus H. Hathaway (r) at the University of Toronto, 1921
Selection of books by and about Carman, Roberts and Sherman; Sherman's *In Memorabilia Mortis* in foreground. Carman items shown include his 1928 Lorne Pierce Medal.
Beaverbrook Collection of Rare Books (SPECBC)

Beaverbrook’s bookplate
Beaverbrook Collection of Rare Books (SPECBC)

- Books purchased for UNB Library by Lord Beaverbrook and held separately, at his request

- Includes
  - First, autographed, and special editions
  - Bible commentaries, sermons, and theological treatises by John Calvin (1509-1564) and John Knox (1514-1572)
  - Early Canadiana eg. Marc Lescarbot’s *Histoire de la Nouvelle-France* (Paris, 1611)
A selection from more than 100 first editions by H.G. Wells (1866-1946) including *The door in the wall and other stories*; illustrated with photogravures from photographs by Alvin Langdon Coburn. London: Grant Richards Ltd., 1911. A **limited edition** of six hundred copies with types and decorations designed by Federic W. Goudy, set by Bertha S. Goudy and printed on French hand-made paper. This copy, **signed by Wells and Coburn** in 1915, is No. 7 of “sixty copies for the United Kingdom.”
King’s College Library (SPECKC)

King’s College bookplate
King’s College Library (SPECKC)

- Attempting to recreate the original King’s College Library 1829-1859
- Bibles, sermons and commentaries from Archdeacon Best
- Adding books which have the bookplate or handwritten inscription
- All will be pre-1859
The Cries of the Son of God.

Delivered at

Kingswood in Gloucestershire,

In the Year 1739.

By JOHN CENNICK.

Who in the Days of His Flesh offered up Prayers and Supplications with strong Cryings and Tears.

Heb. v. 7.

DUBLIN:
Printed by S. Powell, for the Author.
MDCCCLIV.
Marguerite Vaughan Collection (SPECVA)

Marguerite Vaughan’s bookplate
Marguerite Vaughan Collection (SPECVA)

- Includes a number of specially bound and illustrated editions eg. *Le grand silence blanc* (1928) illustrated by Clarence Gagnon
- Includes 101 books from Limited Editions Club
- Also includes facsimile editions of the
  - *Book of Kells*
  - *Domesday Book*
The Book of Kells

- A product of Irish monasticism, the *Book of Kells* is an illuminated manuscript of a Latin version of the four Gospels c. 800 A.D. It was named for the monastery at Kells, (30 miles NW of Dublin) where it was found buried in the 9th century.

- The facsimile was created by Faksimile-Verlag Luzern, of Switzerland in 1990.

- The facsimile edition may be viewed at any time; however, requests for group sessions or to view the accompanying videos must be made in advance with Archives staff.
"The work not of men but of angels..."
(Gialdus Cambrensis, c. 1150 AD)
Access to Book Collections

- Search through WorldCat to find **call number AND location code**
- Complete “**Archives’ Book Retrieval Form**” available at the Archives Information Desk
- Many books in our collection are also available in the main stacks of this library or branch libraries

**eg. Lady Rosamond’s Secret: a Fredericton Romance**
SPECH PS8451 .R558 L33 1878
Alternate Sources

- Canadiana.org
- Hathi Trust
- Internet Archive
- Microform
### Book/Special Collection Locations

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
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<td>HIL-SPECWR</td>
<td>Special Collections William C Roberts, 5th Floor</td>
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To limit to a location or collection type:
- kw:cogswell b8: hil-specar
- kw:cogswell b8:hil-spech
Archival Material
“Of all national assets, archives are the most precious; they are the gift of one generation to another and the extent of our care of them marks the extent of our civilization.”

Sir Arthur Doughty
Dominion Archivist, 1904-1935
Criteria

- **Evidential** value is the standard which determines if something is archival
- Original?
- Reliability of the source? Eye Witness? Participant?
- Age is **NOT** the determining factor - a document is archival when created
Archival Material

Collect ➔ Select ➔ Arrange ➔ Describe ➔ Finding Aid

*fonds* - all of the documents created and/or accumulated and used by a person, family, or corporate body in the course of that creator's activities or functions.

- University Archives
- Literary *fonds*
- Historical *fonds*
University Archives

- Includes UNB records and publications produced by
  - academic and administrative departments
  - university committees
  - student associations and clubs
  - faculty and staff

Without records, there can be no democracy or accountability. Without evidence of accountability, society cannot trust in its public institutions.

John MacDonald, Canadian Archivist, 1998, excerpted from Archives Power: Memory, Accountability, Social Justice, by Rand Jimerson
UNB Records

- Student records
- Correspondence
- Committee minutes
- Policy statements
- Photographs
- Audio tapes
- Electronic records
- Memorabilia
Literary fonds

- Includes a strong collection of literary papers of New Brunswick authors, for example
  - Charles G.D. Roberts, “the father of Canadian literature”
  - Fred Cogswell (*Fiddlehead*)
  - Louis Arthur Cunningham, prolific Saint John novelist
  - David Adams Richards, co-winner of the Giller Prize and twice winner of the Governor-General’s Award
  - David Walker, twice winner of the Governor-General’s Award
  - Stuart Trueman, humourist, winner of the Leacock Medal, and former editor-in-chief of the *Telegraph Journal*
  - Robert Gibbs, poet and retired faculty member
  - Nancy Bauer, novelist, teacher, editor, and mentor to writers
Literary fonds

Charles G.D. Roberts

Fred Cogswell

Louis Arthur Cunningham
Literary fonds

Nancy Bauer

David Adams Richards
Photo: Jerry Bauer

Stuart Trueman

David Walker

Robert Gibbs
Historical fonds

- Includes the papers of notable New Brunswickers R.B. Bennett (c. 600,000 items) and Lord Beaverbrook Canadian Correspondence (c. 90,000 items)
- Among the holdings from the loyalist period are the papers of the Winslow Family and the Saunders Family
- Also of note are the papers of
  - Robert Hazen (jurist and politician)
  - H.H. Stuart (social activist)
  - Lilian Maxwell (local historian)
  - E. Tappan Adney (ethnologist)
- Our focus is on university records and literary papers. Provincial Archives (PANB) focuses on NB government records, genealogical records, and general NB history
  - Institutions co-operate but do not duplicate
Historical fonds
Access to Archival Material

- **NOT** in WorldCat
- Requires on-site visit
  - A reference interview is usually needed
- Access by means of a **finding aid** prepared by Archives Staff

**Finding aids** - the tools (inventories, guides, indexes) which provide access to archival material.
Access to Archival Material

**Finding aids**

- Begin the search through the [The Gateway](http://www.lib.unb.ca/archives/)
- Some are accessible on the [web](http://www.lib.unb.ca/archives/) (c. 105)

- Also an "inventory" of archival holdings
  - Literary
  - Historical
  - University
Access to Archival Material

- Other online research tools
  - UNB Class Composite and Group Photographs
  - UNB Honorary Degrees
  - Benjamin Marston Diaries
  - Electronic Edition of the Winslow Papers
  - Wiki

[Wiki]

[UNB's History at a Glance]
Access Procedures

- Anyone is welcome to use the collections
- Use is by appointment only
- Make contact through archives@unb.ca
  - Give as much detail as possible
  - Provides contact information for follow-up
  - Appointments will be confirmed for times between 9-12 and 1-4 pm Monday-Friday

- Archival research takes time
  - Takes time for staff to gather
    - Information can come from several sources
  - Takes time to read through
    - Fonts can be unfamiliar
    - Handwriting needs deciphering
Access Procedures

- Material is requested at the Archives Information Desk and retrieved (from locked stacks) by Archives Staff
- Material must be used in Winslow Research Room only
- **NO** food or drink is permitted in public areas on the 5th floor
- Use pencils only for note-taking
- Researchers may be asked to wear gloves and/or be given special handling instructions
Photocopying / Scanning / Photographing

- Primary purpose of collection is preservation
- Limited copying / reproduction depends on:
  - condition of material
  - donor agreement
  - copyright restrictions
- Service is mostly provided by Archives Staff only
  - Various fees apply
- Now have a “self-serve” digital camera
  - Images watermarked
- Service is not available on demand
We hope you enjoyed this “virtual introduction” to Archives & Special Collections.

Any questions/comments?
“Knowledge is of two kinds. We know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information on it.”

Samuel Johnson (1709-1784), quoted in Boswell's *The Life of Samuel Johnson*
The End